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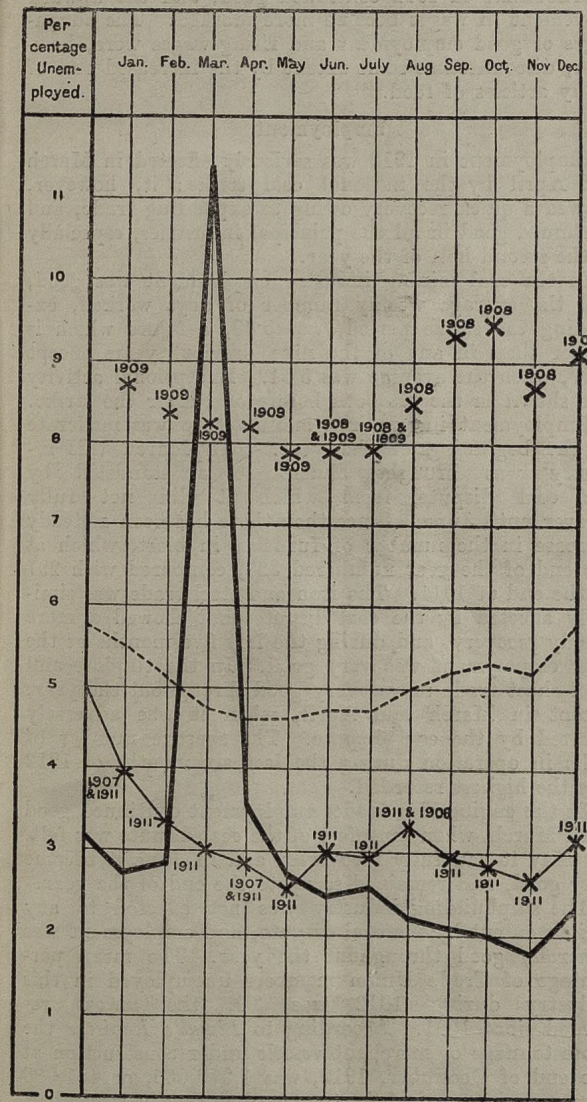
[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

**EMPLOYMENT CHART.**

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve = 1912. — Thin Curve = 1911.  
----- Dotted Curve = Mean of 1902-1911.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1902-1911.



NOTE TO CHART.  
The above Chart is based solely on Returns furnished direct to the Labour Department by various Trade Unions which pay unemployed benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked-out, sick or superannuated, are excluded from the figures.

**STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN DECEMBER.**

EMPLOYMENT continued good in December. In the engineering and some other trades it was affected by the usual holiday suspensions, and in the North of England there was some interruption arising from the strike on the North-Eastern Railway, especially in coal and iron mining and in the iron and steel industries. There was a seasonal decline in the building, woodworking, and printing trades.

It is reported by the Labour Exchanges that there was a continuance of the large demand by employers for workmen of all classes in the shipbuilding trade, and that in the engineering and metal trades there was still a scarcity of workers in some districts. In the case of women the demand exceeded the supply in the cotton, woollen and worsted trades, and in laundry work.

The upward movement in wages continued. Compared with a year ago, there was an improvement in nearly all the principal industries, and especially in the pig iron, iron and steel, engineering, printing, and brick trades.

**TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.**  
(Based on 3,073 Returns.)

Trade unions with a net membership of 894,297 reported 20,938 (or 2.3 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of December, 1912, compared with 1.8 per cent. at the end of November, 1912, and 3.1 per cent. at the end of December, 1911.

Trade.	Membership of Unions reporting.	Percentage Unemployed at end of Dec., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
Building	72,907	4.2	+ 1.3	- 0.7
Coal Mining*	164,351	0.6	+ 0.2	- 0.2
Iron and Steel	31,676	4.2	+ 2.4	- 2.7
Engineering	209,656	2.2	+ 0.4	- 1.0
Shipbuilding	71,058	3.8	+ 0.3	- 0.2
Miscellaneous Metal...	31,318	1.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Textiles* :-				
Cotton	82,481	1.5	...	- 1.3
Woollen and Worsted	7,901	0.9	- 2.0	- 1.7
Other	48,891	1.0	+ 0.1	- 0.7
Paper, Printing and Bookbinding.	62,756	4.8	+ 2.1	- 1.0
Furnishing and Woodworking.	44,924	3.8	+ 1.1	- 0.5
Clothing	54,056	2.0	..	- 0.4
Leather	3,078	4.8	+ 0.9	- 0.4
Glass	976	0.4	+ 0.1	...
Pottery	6,272	0.9	+ 0.4	- 0.1
Tobacco	2,096	5.3	+ 1.9	- 0.5
<b>Total...</b>	<b>894,297</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>+ 0.5</b>	<b>- 0.8</b>

\* In addition to the ordinary short time which occurs in all trades, it should be noted that in the mining and textile industries a contraction in the demand for labour is more generally met by a reduction in the time worked per week by a large number of workpeople than by the discharge of a smaller number.

## EMPLOYERS' RETURNS OF WORKPEOPLE EMPLOYED AND WAGES PAID.

(Based on 2,005 Returns.)

Returns from firms employing 438,090 workpeople in the week ended December 21st, 1912, showed an increase of 0.1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 1.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 1.7 per cent. in the number employed, and of 4.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Trade.	Number Employed.				Wages Paid.			
	Week ended 21st Dec. 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 21st Dec. 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		per cent.	per cent.
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*		
Cotton	120,233	+0.2	+0.8	125,002	+2.0	+3.7		
Woolen	27,584	-0.1	+1.3	27,479	+0.6	+3.8		
Worsted	42,513	+0.0	+1.2	34,087	+0.8	+5.6		
Linen	45,708	+0.5	+0.7	29,497	+4.0	+5.6		
Jute	14,812	+0.1	+1.1	11,720	+0.5	+8.4		
Hosiery	18,209	-0.3	+2.9	14,835	-2.5	+4.4		
Lace	6,153	-1.0	-1.0	6,362	-0.0	+4.1		
Other Textiles	16,987	-0.0	+1.3	13,722	+0.5	+2.5		
Bleaching, Dyeing, etc.	31,906	-0.0	+3.1	39,571	+1.9	+5.2		
Boot and Shoe	69,149	+0.4	+3.8	70,885	+3.5	+5.9		
Shirt and Collar	6,301	-0.4	+0.6	4,103	+0.5	-0.4		
Pottery	19,473	-0.2	+1.6	19,594	+1.6	+3.5		
Brick	8,239	-0.3	+6.0	10,862	+0.7	+4.7		
Glass	10,763	-0.8	-0.9	12,590	-0.5	+12.3		
<b>Total</b>	<b>438,090</b>	<b>+0.1</b>	<b>+1.7</b>	<b>420,309</b>	<b>+1.7</b>	<b>+4.8</b>		

\* In some cases the comparison with a year ago is affected by increases in the rate of wages. This is especially the case as regards the cotton, linen, jute and glass trades.

## OTHER EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

(Based on 863 Returns.)

The following Table summarises the returns from firms employing 869,889 workpeople in December in the industries mentioned:—

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for Dec., 1912.	December, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
			Days.	Days.
Coal Mining	691,440	5.52	-0.05	-0.02
Iron	16,651	5.24*	-0.59	-0.53
Shale	3,567	5.71	...	+0.02
Pig Iron	24,000	No. of Furnaces in Blast. 325	-6	+28
Tinplate & Steel Sheet	29,150	Mills Working. 583 Shifts Worked (One Week). 589,888	-2	+18
Iron and Steel	105,081	Per cent. 589,888	-0.8	+5.0

\* This average was affected by the closing of mines in the Cleveland district during the North-Eastern Railway disputes.

**Changes in Rates of Wages.**—The changes in rates of wages taking effect in December were all increases, and affected nearly 47,000 workpeople, whose wages were advanced by £3,000 per week. The most important changes affected 3,650 colliery deputies, mechanics, &c., in Northumberland, 26,400 ironworkers in the North of England, the Midlands, and the West of Scotland, and 5,300 ironmoulders in Scotland.

**Trade Disputes.**—The most important dispute occurring in December was that involving about 8,500 railwaymen on the North-Eastern Railway. In all 51 disputes began in December, and the total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress during the month was 30,685, as compared with 32,289 in November, 1912, and 181,201 in December, 1911. The estimated number of working days lost by disputes during the month was 232,100, as compared with 297,400 in the previous month, and 701,100 in the corresponding month of last year.

**Conciliation and Arbitration.**—Cases reported during the month include shipwrights and joiners,

Belfast; pottery workers, Glasgow; painters, Burnley; and carpenters and joiners, Leicester. A number of further appointments were made in connection with the revised railway conciliation scheme, and in certain cases awards were issued by chairmen of boards.

**Work of Labour Exchanges.**—The total number of workpeople's applications on the General Register of the Board of Trade Labour Exchanges at December 27th, 1912, for the 260 Exchanges which have been open for a year or more, was 45,754, as compared with 80,235 at November 22nd, 1912, and with 62,481 at December 29th, 1911.

The number of vacancies notified to the same Exchanges during the five weeks ended December 27th, 1912, was 70,316, and the number of vacancies filled was 56,920. The corresponding figures for a month ago and a year ago are, in the case of notifications of vacancies, 70,697 and 66,229, and in the case of vacancies filled 55,328 and 50,200 respectively.

Comparisons with a month ago are affected by the Christmas Holidays.

## EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, PRICES AND DISPUTES IN 1912.\*

EMPLOYMENT in 1912 continued good, and the upward movement in wages became more marked. The advantages of good employment and rising wages were, however, discounted to some extent by the increased cost of many articles of food.

## Employment.

Employment in 1912 was seriously affected in March and April by the national coal strike; it, however, showed a quick recovery owing to expanding trade, and continued good in all the principal industries, especially in the second half of the year.

In the coal mining industry employment was good, and the average weekly number of days worked, excluding the strike period, was 5.49, a figure which is higher than in any of the nine previous years except 1907, when the average was 5.51. Exceptional activity was shown in the pit both before and after the strike.

Employment in pig iron manufacture was moderate at the beginning of the year. In March this industry was brought almost to a standstill by the coal dispute, from which it did not fully recover until June. Since then there has been a steady increase in the number of furnaces in blast, which at the end of the year numbered 325, compared with 297 at the end of 1911. The iron and steel trade was similarly affected by the coal dispute, but showed a more speedy recovery, and during the last five months of the year employment was very good. In the tinplate and steel sheet trade it was very good throughout the year, except in March and April, when it was adversely affected by the coal dispute. The average number of mills in operation during the last six months of 1912 was the highest recorded.

In the engineering trades employment continued good until March, when the effect of the coal dispute was felt. By May it had fully recovered, and in June it became very good, and remained so up to the end of the year.

The shipbuilding industry was not affected to any serious extent by the coal dispute, and employment was generally good throughout the year. The mean percentage of Trade Union members unemployed in this industry during 1912 was 3.9, the lowest recorded since 1901. According to *Lloyd's Register* the gross tonnage of merchant vessels under construction at the end of December, 1912, was 1,970,065, or 451,000 tons gross in excess of the tonnage building in December, 1911. The present figures are the highest ever recorded in this series of Returns.

Employment in the cotton industry was seriously affected at the beginning of the year by a dispute in the weaving branch, involving 150,000 workpeople, which began on December 21st, 1911, and continued till January, 20th, 1912. Owing to this dispute most of the

spinning mills could only work half time. Further trouble was caused at the end of March and the beginning of April by the coal dispute, and some mills were temporarily closed. Apart from these adverse circumstances employment was good, and better than in the previous year. The price of raw cotton continued to rise throughout the year, but the average price for the year was lower than in 1910 and 1911.

In the woollen and worsted, jute, hosiery, carpet and bleaching and dyeing trades employment continued good generally during the year. In the linen trade an improvement was shown, and employment on the whole was fairly good. In the silk trade it continued fairly good, and in the lace trade fair.

In the boot and shoe trades employment was fairly good, and better than in the previous year. In the printing and bookbinding trades there was some improvement during the latter part of 1912 compared with 1911. The glass and pottery trades, apart from the serious interruption caused by the coal dispute, were busy throughout the year, and on the whole showed an improvement compared with the previous year. Employment in the furnishing and woodworking trades improved and was fairly good in the latter half of the year; in the coachmaking branch it was very good for a considerable portion of the year. In the building trades employment was fair on the whole, and showed an improvement on the previous year; the percentage of trade union carpenters and plumbers unemployed was the lowest since 1902. In the brickmaking industry employment was fair.

Returns relating to about 850,000 members of Trade Unions show that the mean of the percentages of members returned as unemployed at the end of each month of 1912 was 3.2, compared with 3.0 in 1911, 4.7 in 1910 and 7.7 in 1909. It must be noted, however, that the figure for 1912 is inflated by the high percentage recorded in March (11.3), when many industries were more or less affected by the coal dispute. The fluctuations in the percentages of unemployed in the period 1903-1912 are as follows:—

1903	...	4.7	1908	...	7.8
1904	...	6.0	1909	...	7.7
1905	...	5.0	1910	...	4.7
1906	...	3.6	1911	...	3.0
1907	...	3.7	1912	...	3.2

The following Table shows the percentages unemployed at the end of each month in the years 1908-12, with the increases and decreases in 1912, compared with the four previous years:—

	Percentage unemployed at end of each month in					Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1912 as compared with			
	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1908	1909	1910	1911
	January	5.8	8.7	6.8	3.9	2.7	-3.1	-6.0	-4.1
February	6.0	8.4	5.7	3.3	2.8	-3.2	-5.6	-2.9	-0.5
March	6.4	8.2	5.2	3.0	11.3	+4.9	+3.1	+6.1	+8.3
April	7.1	8.2	4.4	2.8	3.6	-3.5	-4.8	-0.8	+0.8
May	7.4	7.9	4.2	2.5	2.7	-4.7	-5.2	-1.5	+0.2
June	7.9	7.9	3.7	3.0	2.5	-5.4	-5.4	-1.2	-0.5
July	7.9	7.9	3.8	2.9	2.6	-5.3	-5.3	-1.2	-0.3
August	8.5	7.7	4.0	3.3	2.2	-6.3	-5.5	-1.6	-1.1
September	9.3	7.4	4.3	2.9	2.1	-7.2	-5.3	-2.2	-0.8
October	9.5	7.1	4.4	2.8	2.0	-7.5	-5.1	-2.4	-0.8
November	8.7	6.5	4.6	2.6	1.8	-6.9	-4.7	-2.3	-0.8
December	9.1	6.6	5.0	3.1	2.3	-6.8	-4.3	-2.7	-0.8
Mean	7.8	7.7	4.7	3.0	3.2	-4.6	-4.5	-1.5	+0.2

## Changes in Rates of Wages.\*

The upward movement in wages, which was not very marked in 1911—except in the case of railwaymen, seamen and other transport workers—continued to be only slight in the first three months of 1912, but became more pronounced in the period April-December. The result of all the changes during the year was a net increase of £131,611, an amount which has been exceeded only twice (in 1900 and 1907) since 1893. Of the total number affected by changes in 1912, 1,712,242 received a net increase of £131,617 per week and 57 sustained a net decrease of £6 per week, whilst 11,750 had upward and downward changes which left their wages at the same level at the end as at the beginning of the year.

In every group of trades the changes showed a net increase, the largest being in coal mining, textile trades,

engineering and shipbuilding trades, building trades, and iron and steel manufacture. As in previous years, coal mining accounted for the largest proportion of the number of workpeople affected.

The number of workpeople affected by changes reported to the Department and the net results on their weekly wages are classified by trades in the following Table:—

Groups of Trades.	Number of Workpeople whose rates of wages were changed in		Net Amount of Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in the Weekly Wages of those affected as compared with the preceding year.	
	1911.	1912.*	1911.	1912.*
Building	16,891	90,674	+ 1,609	+ 8,481
Coal Mining	390,793	929,635	- 9,553	+ 75,923
Iron, &c., Mining	10,309	20,618	- 392	+ 2,439
Quarrying	6,914	3,416	+ 199	+ 299
Pig Iron Manufacture	15,962	18,023	- 605	+ 2,552
Iron and Steel Manufacture	43,583	53,945	+ 1,795	+ 7,488
Engineering and Shipbuilding	209,484	151,157	+ 15,822	+ 10,539
Other Metal Trades	9,914	16,045	+ 1,530	+ 2,109
Textile Trades	19,351	334,391	+ 1,094	+ 14,992
Clothing Trades	3,162	4,307	+ 237	+ 374
Transport Trades†	99,746	23,235	+ 15,513	+ 2,707
Printing, &c., Trades	4,904	5,225	+ 456	+ 351
Glass, &c., Trades	14,475	13,674	+ 1,464	+ 911
Other Trades	24,931	17,245	+ 2,161	+ 1,525
Employees of Public Authorities.	17,112	12,459	+ 1,003	+ 921
<b>Total</b>	<b>887,590</b>	<b>1,724,049</b>	<b>+ 32,433</b>	<b>+ 131,611</b>

\* The figures for 1912 are preliminary and subject to revision in the Annual Report.

† Exclusive of seamen and railway servants.

In the following Table the number of workpeople and the net amount of the change are shown for each of the years 1896-1912. It will be seen that over the whole period the aggregate of the net increases recorded exceeds that of the net decreases by £506,241 per week.

Year.	Number of Workpeople reported as affected by Changes in Rates of Wages.	Computed Amount of Change in Weekly Wages as compared with each preceding year.	
		Net Increase per week.	Net Decrease per week.
1896	598,865	£ 26,152	£ —
1897	582,333	30,494	—
1898	1,010,057	80,572	—
1899	1,165,478	89,816	—
1900	1,110,081	206,772	—
1901	907,189	—	77,902
1902	883,191	—	72,865
1903	892,922	—	38,567
1904	799,959	—	39,278
1905	664,777	—	4,087
1906	1,095,601	56,728	—
1907	1,244,739	200,820	—
1908	909,538	—	61,683
1909	1,151,762	—	69,120
1910	546,526	14,335	—
1911	887,590	32,433	—
1912*	1,724,049	131,611	—
<b>Net increase in the seven years 1896-1912*</b>		<b>506,241</b>	<b>—</b>

\* The figures for 1912 are preliminary and subject to revision in the Annual Report.

† It will be understood that although the net increase in wages is shown once in each year many of them appear in several years, and an aggregate total can be made for the seventeen years 1896-1912.

## Changes in Hours of Labour.

The changes in weekly hours of labour taking effect in 1912 affected 72,607 workpeople. Of these, 701 had their hours increased by 366 per week, and 71,366 had reductions amounting to 175,068 hours per week.

## Wholesale Prices.

The rise in wholesale prices which has been a feature of recent years continued at an accelerated rate in 1912, and the Board of Trade Index Number, based chiefly on import and export average values, showed an increase in that year of 5.2 per cent. compared with the previous year, and of 15 per cent. compared with 1900. The index number for 1912 (115.0) was the highest recorded since 1883.

The movement in wholesale prices was of a varying character. In the case of the coal and metal group prices rose until May, and then fell slightly until August, from September to the end of the year they were at a high level, and the index number for the year showed an increase of 13.7 per cent. over that for 1911. Textiles

(raw materials) showed considerable fluctuation, prices falling slightly in the first three months, rising during the next four months, again falling in the next three months, followed by a marked rise in November and December, when prices were much higher than at the beginning of the year. On the whole the high prices of the previous year were not maintained, and the index number for this group showed a fall of 7.2 per cent. compared with 1911.

In the case of articles of food and drink in 1912 there was a rise of 7.5 per cent. over the wholesale prices of the previous year. For the first four months of the year these prices rose; a steady decline then set in until October, but in November and December they were again at a comparatively high level.

The Table below gives the index numbers indicating the changes in wholesale prices during the period 1871-1912, each year of the period being compared with 1900, which is taken as the base year:—

1900=100.

Year.	Index No.	Year.	Index No.	Year.	Index No.
1871	136.0	1885	107.7	1899	92.2
1872	145.6	1886	101.6	1900	100.0
1873	152.5	1887	93.5	1901	96.9
1874	147.9	1888	102.5	1902	96.6
1875	141.5	1889	104.0	1903	97.0
1876	138.1	1890	103.9	1904	98.3
1877	141.5	1891	107.4	1905	97.6
1878	132.4	1892	101.9	1906	100.5
1879	126.5	1893	100.0	1907	105.8
1880	129.6	1894	94.2	1908	102.8
1881	127.3	1895	90.9	1909	104.0
1882	128.4	1896	83.1	1910	103.7
1883	126.7	1897	90.1	1911	109.3
1884	114.6	1898	93.2	1912	115.0

Compared with 1911 there was an increase more or less pronounced in the prices of 34 of the 45 articles included in the Index Number, and a decline in the price of 11 articles.

The greatest proportionate increases in prices, arranged in descending order, were as follows:—

	Per cent.		Per cent.
Lead	28.2	British Oats	14.2
Copper	25.8	Petroleum	14.1
Rice	21.5	Mutton	13.4
Coffee	19.6	British Barley	12.8
Imported Oats	17.5	Beef	11.9
Rum	17.1	Maize	11.5
Imported Barley	16.1	Hewn Fir	11.8
Pig Iron	14.8	Coal	11.1

The principal articles showing a decline in price were olive oil (14.8 per cent.), raw cotton (11.4 per cent.), linseed (9.7 per cent.), palm oil (5.8 per cent.), British wool (5.5 per cent.), and flax (5.2 per cent.).

## Retail Prices.

The retail prices of food in 1912 showed a marked advance, and the index number for the year was 5.1 per cent. higher than for 1911, the greatest increase in any year for which statistics are available. Compared with 1900 the prices of 1912 showed an increase of 14.9 per cent. The high prices prevailing at the end of 1911 continued for the next five months, those for March—the month of the coal dispute—reaching an unusually high level; in June there was a slight decline, but in the following month prices again began to rise, and continued their upward movement until November, when they reached their highest point. The year closed with a slight fall, but prices were still nearly 2 per cent. higher than at the commencement of the year. The following Table shows, for the years 1895-1912, the index numbers constructed on the weighted retail prices of 23 of the principal articles of food in London:—

1900 = 100.

Year.	Index No.	Year.	Index No.
1895	93.2	1904	104.3
1896	92.0	1905	103.7
1897	96.2	1906	103.2
1898	100.8	1907	105.6
1899	96.4	1908	105.4
1900	100.0	1909	108.2
1901	101.9	1910	109.9
1902	101.6	1911	109.3
1903	103.2	1912	114.9

Compared with 1911 there was an increase in the price of 16 articles. These increases, arranged in descending order, were as follows:—

	Per cent.		Per cent.
Tapioca	18.6	Flour	5.5
Oatmeal	15.2	Bacon	5.3
Marmalade	14.9	Butter	4.7
Rice	11.2	Mutton	3.9
Sugar	10.5	Eggs	3.3
Cheese	9.9	Raisins	2.3
Bread	9.1	Pork	1.5
Beef	7.5	Potatoes	0.9

Although the average price of sugar in 1912 was considerably higher than in the previous year, the price has been lower since June, and at the end of the year was 11.1 per cent. lower than at the end of 1911. The rise in the price of cheese was confined to the first seven months of the year, and at the end of 1912 prices were at the same level as at the end of the previous year. In the case of English beef there was a rise of 5.1 per cent.; for foreign beef the advance amounted to 9.8 per cent. The price of bacon showed a steady rise until December, when a slight fall was recorded. English mutton showed an increase of 6.6 per cent., and imported mutton 1 per cent. only.

Two articles showed a decrease—viz., currants (11.9 per cent.) and milk (1.0 per cent.). In the case of tea, coffee, cocoa, jam and treacle there was no change in the level of prices.

**Bread.**—According to the particulars obtained monthly as to the price of bread in London and 26 of the principal towns of the United Kingdom, there was in 1912 an average rise of 4.9 per cent. in the price in these towns as compared with 1911. At the end of December, 1912, the price was higher than in December, 1911, in 15 of the towns generally by  $\frac{1}{2}$  d. per 4 lbs.; in the remaining 12 towns there was no change. Returns received from Co-operative Societies each quarter show that the average price during 1912 was 3.9 per cent. higher than during 1911.

**Coal.**—The price of coal in London during the first half of 1912 was affected by the national coal dispute. In February there was an advance of 3s. per ton, followed by a further rise of 2s. at the beginning of March. At the beginning of April the price had advanced by from 16s. to 18s. per ton over the price at the beginning of the year. On the termination of the dispute prices fell rapidly, though during June-October they were still somewhat in excess of those obtaining in the corresponding months of 1911; during November and December, 1912, the prices were the same as in 1911. At the end of the year the price was higher than in 1908, 1909, and 1910, and the same as in 1907.

## Trade Disputes.

The industrial unrest which characterised 1911 continued into 1912. The number of disputes causing a stoppage of work recorded as beginning during the year was 821, while the number of workpeople involved in these disputes (1,437,032), and the aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress (40,346,400), were the highest ever recorded by the Department. In addition 40 disputes which began before 1912, involving 168,940 workpeople, were in progress for varying periods during that year. In the following Table comparison is made between 1912 and the ten previous years:—

Year.	No. of Disputes beginning in each year.	Total No. of Workpeople involved in Disputes beginning in each year.	Aggregate duration in working days of all Disputes in progress in each year.
1902	442	256,667	3,479,255
1903	387	116,901	2,338,968
1904	355	87,208	1,484,220
1905	358	93,503	2,470,189
1906	486	217,773	3,028,816
1907	601	147,498	2,162,151
1908	399	295,507	10,834,189
1909	435	300,819	2,773,986
1910	531	515,165	9,894,831
1911	503	961,980	10,319,591
Average for 10 years	490	299,302	4,878,580
1912*	821	1,437,032	40,346,400

\* The figures for 1912 are preliminary and subject to revision in the Annual Report.

## RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES.

## Shipwrights and Joiners, Belfast.

A DIFFERENCE having arisen between the shipwrights and joiners at Belfast on questions of demarcation of work, on December 7th joint application was made for the appointment of an arbitrator to decide the following points:—

- (1) Bulkhead in emigrants' quarters and cargo space.
- (2) Chocking of pipes in evaporating room.
- (3) Dough-mixing and knife-cleaning machines in galleys.

Mr. G. N. Barnes, M.P., the arbitrator appointed, heard the parties on December 21st, deciding that points (1) and (2) were joiners' work. On the third point, during the proceedings the shipwrights withdrew their claim as regards the knife-cleaning machines, but the arbitrator decided that they had sustained their claim to the laying and bolting of all foundations of the dough-mixing machines, the "foundations" to include all packing.

## Pottery Workers, Glasgow.

Professor Richard Lodge, the arbitrator appointed to deal with certain matters upon which the Scottish Rockingham-ware Conciliation Board were unable to agree (see LABOUR GAZETTE, December, p. 495), met representatives of the parties on December 13th. At the outset of the proceedings the parties concurred

"in asking the arbiter to treat the men's claim as an application for a general advance in wages of 15 per cent., and an advance to turners on the low-paid teapot-covers which shall be in future  $\frac{3}{4}$  d. for deep and 3d. for shallow covers. The general advance to apply to throwers, jiggerers, spoutmakers and handlers, and to be based upon the present customs of use and wont in the Scottish potteries. The men's claim is otherwise withdrawn, except with regard to the kilnmen's claim."

Later in the proceedings the last claim was settled by an agreement in the following terms:—

"It is agreed to meet the kilnmen by the Caledonian Pottery Co. giving 5s. per kiln advance, the men guaranteeing the filling of the kilns to the company's satisfaction, thus bringing the Caledonian into line with the Eagle Pottery, to date from to-day, December 13th, 1912."

Having heard the parties on the remaining points, the arbiter decided—

1. That there shall be an advance of wages to throwers, jiggerers, turners, spoutmakers, and handlers of 5 per cent.
2. That the above advance shall apply only to Rockingham ware, and not to jet, Samian, or any other ware.
3. That the above advance shall be made on the first pay-day in January, 1913, and thenceforward.
4. That, apart from the above advance, there shall be no change in the payments to turners for teapot covers, and that the payments shall be 2d. for shallow and 3d. for deep covers.

## Painters, Burnley.

The operative painters of Burnley having in June, 1912, given notice for an advance in the rate of wages from 8d. to 9d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules, meetings took place between representatives of employers and workpeople, but no settlement was arrived at, and it was agreed to refer the matter to arbitration.

In response to an application from the parties, Mr. A. A. Hudson, K.C., was appointed, on January 2nd, to act in the desired capacity.

## Carpenters and Joiners, Leicester.

In response to a joint application, Mr. Alderman T. Smith has been appointed to preside at a meeting of representatives of the Leicester and District Building Trades Employers' Association and their workpeople with the object of arriving at a settlement of a dispute affecting carpenters at Leicester.

## RAILWAY CONCILIATION SCHEME.

During the month awards in connection with Conciliation Boards have been issued by the Rt. Hon. Sir David Harrel, K.C.B., for Board C of the Cheshire Lines Committee; by Sheriff-Principal A. O. M. Mackenzie, K.C., for Board IV. of the North British Railway in regard to marshmen, yardsmen, goods guards, goods and locomotive shunters, &c.; and by His Honour Judge Austin for the Locomotive and Traffic Boards of the Taff Vale Railway.

The extraordinarily large number of workpeople involved in disputes and the high aggregate duration were mainly due to the national strike in the coal mining industry, which began on March 1st, and ended early in April, involving about 1,000,000 workpeople, and accounting for an aggregate duration of rather more than 30,000,000 working days. The highest aggregate duration previously recorded was that for 1893, when 30,400,000 working days were lost, a year in which there was a prolonged strike of coal miners.

Apart from the coal strike in 1912, the number of workpeople involved in disputes beginning during the year, although much less than in 1911, was considerably in excess of the average for the period 1902-1911. The aggregate duration of all disputes other than the coal strike was more than double the average for the previous ten years, the high total being largely due to (1) the lock-out in the cotton trade which began at the end of 1911, involving 160,000 workpeople and accounting for a loss of 2,500,000 working days in 1912, and (2) the transport workers' dispute in London (and for a few days at other ports), which involved about 90,000 workpeople and accounted for 2,300,000 working days.

The following Table summarises by trades the number of disputes, the number of workpeople involved, and the aggregate duration of the disputes in working days for 1911 and 1912 respectively:—

TRADES.	1911.			1912.*		
	No. of Disputes beginning in the year.	Number of Workpeople involved in disputes beginning in the year.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes beginning in the year.	Number of Workpeople involved in disputes beginning in the year.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Building	27	2,789	74,962	59	5,704	107,700
Coal Mining	170	139,212	4,064,983	142	1,106,503	31,604,900
Other Mining and Quarrying.	9	1,596	36,293	7	837	31,800
Engineering and Ship-building.	194	79,535	1,198,066	171	66,781	1,183,400
Other Metal Trades	61	14,248	123,849	53	11,808	146,400
Textile	133	221,433	1,434,068	127	55,665	3,696,100
Clothing	46	9,310	94,447	60	26,436	495,900
Transport	99	448,618	2,729,633	75	140,801	2,682,400
Other Trades	164	44,739	563,290	127	23,477	417,800
Total	903	961,980	10,319,591	821	1,437,032	40,346,400

\* The figures for 1912 are preliminary, and subject to revision in the Annual Report.

The number of workpeople involved in the national coal strike and the aggregate duration of the strike in working days were far in excess of those for all other trades. Sectional disputes in the coal industry, however, showed a considerable diminution when compared with the three previous years. In the transport trades the number of disputes was high as compared with the average for the ten previous years, but the number of workpeople involved was only about one-third of that for 1911; the high aggregate duration was due almost entirely to the prolonged strike in London. The high aggregate duration of disputes in the textile trades was largely due to the lock-out in the cotton industry, which commenced in December, 1911; while about one-half of the workpeople affected by disputes in these trades beginning in 1912 were involved in a dispute which occurred in the jute industry at Dundee. In the engineering and shipbuilding trades the number of disputes in 1912 was much above the average, although the number of workpeople involved was not quite so high as in 1911. In clothing trade disputes the number of workpeople involved and the aggregate duration were the highest recorded since 1895, this being mainly due to disputes in the London tailoring trade, involving about 16,000 workpeople. The number of disputes in the building trades was considerably higher than in 1911, and was also above the average for the ten years 1902-1911.

The proportion of the total number of persons engaged in industrial occupations (exclusive of agricultural labourers) who were involved in disputes in 1912 was about 11 per cent., and the amount of working time lost by disputes at the works immediately affected would have been about four days per head if spread over the whole industrial population.

In accordance with paragraph 41 of the revised scheme, the Board of Trade have appointed His Honour Judge Parry, who had been selected by the parties, to preside at a further meeting of Conciliation Board A of the Hull and Barnsley Railway, to deal with matters upon which the Conciliation Board were unable to agree. The Board have also intimated that should the services of a chairman be required, they will be prepared to appoint His Honour Judge Austin, who had been selected by the parties, to act as chairman of a Board of the Somerset and Dorset Joint Railway.

### TRADE BOARDS ACT, 1909.

#### PAPER BOX-MAKING TRADE (IRELAND).

##### Proposal to Fix Minimum Time Rates of Wages for Male Workers.

The Trade Board established in Ireland for the trade of making boxes or parts thereof, made wholly or partially of paper, cardboard, chip or similar material, have issued a notice, dated January 1st, 1913, announcing that they propose to fix a minimum time-rate of wages for all male workers (other than learners, as defined by the Trade Board) of 6d. per hour.

For male learners (as defined by the Trade Board) it is proposed to fix minimum time-rates of wages ranging from 4s. 6d. per week for persons under 15 years of age to 24s. per week for persons between 23 and 24 years of age.

Any person likely to be affected by the proposed rates can obtain further information about them on application to the Secretary of the Paper Box Trade Board (Ireland), Old Serjeants' Inn Chambers, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

The Trade Board will consider any objections to the proposed rates which may be lodged with them on or before April 6th, 1913.

### CENSUS OF PRODUCTION.—FINAL REPORT.

The Final Report\* on the First Census of Production of the United Kingdom (1907) has been issued by the Census of Production Branch of the Board of Trade.

As the nine Reports previously issued, containing Preliminary Tables summarising the information furnished by firms and companies making returns, were severally noticed in the LABOUR GAZETTE at the time of their publication, it will suffice, so far as the general statistics of production are concerned, to show the final results of the Census in summary form:—

1. Gross Output—Selling value or value of Work done	£	1,765,366,000
2. Materials used—Cost	£	1,028,346,000
3. Work given out—Amount paid to other firms...	£	24,885,000
4. Net Output—Excess of (1) over (2) and (3)	£	712,135,000
5. Persons Employed (except Outworkers)—Average number	Number.	6,984,976
6. Net Output per person employed (excluding Outworkers)	£	102
7. Horse-power of Engines at Factories, Mines, &c.	H.P.	10,755,009

The above figures are exclusive of the particulars relating to Agriculture and Fisheries.

#### PERSONS EMPLOYED.

According to the Population Census of 1901, the number of persons in the United Kingdom describing themselves as engaged in the trades (other than agriculture and fisheries) covered by the Census of Production was 8,629,102, to which should be added a proportion of the "commercial or business clerks" (439,972). Allowing for the growth of population, the total number of persons (apart from those engaged in agriculture and fisheries) coming within the scope of the Census of Production in 1907 may be estimated at about 9,250,000 persons.

The returns made to the Census of Production Office relate to firms and companies employing an average of about 7,100,000 persons in the year 1907, and a maxi-

\* Cd. 6320, price 7s. 6d.

imum of about 7,250,000. About 500,000 of these were salaried persons (including principals), and about 100,000 were outworkers.

After making due allowance for those unemployed owing to sickness or other causes, it appears reasonable to estimate that, if complete returns had been received with regard to the production carried on in 1907, about 8½ to 8½ million persons would have been recorded as employed in the trades coming within the scope of the Census of Production, excluding those engaged in agriculture and fisheries; while the output of about 7,250,000 of these is accounted for in the returns made to the Census of Production Office. The remaining 1 to 1¼ million persons were engaged chiefly in the clothing, boot and shoe, laundry, and building trades; and over 300,000 of them were women. In the main, they consisted of persons working on their own account, and their net output cannot be put at more than £50,000,000, which amount should be added to the aggregate net output (£712,000,000) shown above.

Taking all trades together, 93·0 per cent. of the persons employed were wage-earners, and 7·0 per cent. were salaried persons (including principals).

Of the wage-earners, 74·4 per cent. were males and 25·6 per cent. were females; and of the salaried persons, 85·8 per cent. were males and 14·2 per cent. were females.

Of the total number employed other than in mining and quarrying 12·6 per cent. of the male wage-earners and 24·8 per cent. of the female wage-earners were under 18 years of age; and 8·6 per cent. of the male salaried persons and 14·6 per cent. of the female salaried persons were under 18 years of age.

In addition, voluntary inquiries conducted by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries and by the Irish Department of Agriculture, by arrangement with the Census of Production Office, showed about 2,824,000 persons engaged in agriculture, and about 107,000 persons engaged in fishing, making a total of from 11 to 11½ million persons altogether. Some deduction should, however, be made from this total in respect of persons occasionally engaged in agriculture or fishing and also recorded as employed in other industries.

#### NET OUTPUT PER HEAD OF PERSONS EMPLOYED.

As the net output is the fund out of which all charges on industry, except the cost of materials as delivered at the works, are met, it will naturally vary with the amount of these charges. The extremes of variation in the average net output per head of persons employed are represented by £19 in the flax scutching trade and £354 in the spirit compounding trade.

The several reasons for this variation are discussed at length in the General Report, which points to differences in the amount of wages, capital expenditure, and sales expenses as among the chief causes of difference in the net output in the several trades.

With regard to the first of these considerations (wages), the net output is affected not merely by the absolute level of men's wages, but also by the proportion of men to women employed in the respective industries, and by the fact that in certain trades employment is seasonal.

A large average net output per head is usually associated with high average wages, and, therefore, is more generally found in men's trades than in women's trades. Thus, the net output of textile factories, in which the proportion of female labour was 62 per cent., was £73 per head; while in the iron and steel, engineering, and shipbuilding group, where the proportion of female labour is less than 3 per cent., the average net output was £109. Within the textile trades themselves the net output varies both with the level of men's wages in the respective trades, and also with the ratio of females to males. Thus, if we compare the cotton trade with the woollen and worsted trades, though the cotton trade has a slightly higher proportion of female workers, the average level of earnings is decidedly higher than in the woollen and worsted trades (£48 against £40), and the average net output is correspondingly greater (£79 against £70). On the other hand, if we compare any of the textile trades proper with the allied industries of

bleaching, dyeing, &c., which are mainly men's industries, we find the net output per head to be £101 in the latter, as against an average of £73 in the textile group as a whole.

A high output per head is also associated with heavy capital expenditure, and thus it will generally be higher in trades in which the need for expensive equipment throws the trade mainly into the hands of large firms than in those in which small firms predominate. Thus, if we compare iron and steel works (smelting, rolling, and founding), which are mostly carried on by large employers with an expensive plant, with the cutlery trade, which is mainly carried on by small firms, we find an average net output of £115 per head in the first case, and of only £73 in the second. Similarly, if we compare milling with the bakery trade, we find a net output of £178 as against £104 per head.

Similarly, where the output consists chiefly of patented or proprietary articles, or of articles protected by trade-marks, or by the reputation of the makers, and there is a heavy expenditure by the manufacturers on advertising and other sales expenses, a large net output per head is found: spirit distilling, paint and varnish making, and the tobacco trades are examples of such industries. The net output per head will vary also with the magnitude of other establishment charges. Where the raw material—e.g., copper and tin—is subject to speculative changes in price, the net output will be affected, being high where the manufacturer has been able to purchase materials on favourable terms and sell on a rising market, and low where he has had to buy his materials at a high price and sell his goods in a falling market. Where the trade for the year has been bad the net output may be expected to fall below the average of similar trades. Again, where work is intermittent or limited to one season of the year—e.g., fish-curing—the net output will be low compared with that in trades which are active for the whole of the year.

It must be remembered that these different types of variations in the net output are seldom found in isolation, and that one influence may conflict with and neutralise another, or, on the other hand, may reinforce its effect. It will be evident, therefore, that the average net output per head gives a somewhat fictitious representation of the condition of a trade. It should also be noted that the net output per head fails to register the true condition of a trade in those cases where the average number of persons employed on the days for which returns were made (on which the figures for net output are based) does not give the true average for the year.

Accordingly, it must always be borne in mind, in dealing with the net output figures of the Census, that, while for the respective trades the net output represents a fact—i.e., the value added to materials by capital and labour—the average net output per head of persons employed is only a rough measure by which to compare different trades, and should even for this purpose be used with great caution.

### PROHIBITION OF NIGHT WORK FOR WOMEN IN SPAIN.\*

By an Act dated July 11th, 1912\*, the employment of women during the night-time in factories or workshops is declared to be illegal in Spain. "Night-time," within the meaning of the Act, covers a period of not less than eleven consecutive hours, in which must be comprised the time between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. The foregoing prohibition does not apply (a) in cases of *force majeure*, (b) in agricultural enterprises, or in trades in which perishable materials are used, provided, as regards the latter, that their loss cannot be avoided without resort to night work. The date for the coming into force of the law is fixed for the 14th January, 1914, except as regards single women and childless widows employed in textile trades. With regard to these it is provided that the number employed at night shall be reduced by not less than 6 per cent. each year up to January 14th, 1920,

\* Boletín del Instituto de Reformas Sociales (Journal of the Spanish Labour Department), July, 1912.

after which their employment at night shall absolutely cease.

Infractions of the Act are punishable by fines of 20 to 250 pesetas (16s. to £10) for a first offence, and of 40 to 500 pesetas (32s. to £20) for a second offence committed within a year.

### WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.

THE Home Office have issued a Report\* which gives statistics of compensation and proceedings under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, and the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, during the year 1911.

Returns have been collected, as in previous years, from the seven great groups of industries—mines, quarries, railways, factories, harbours and docks, constructional works, and shipping. The number of employers included in the Returns for these industries was 139,884; and the number of workpeople employed by them, coming under the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act, was over 7¼ millions, of whom nearly 5¼ millions were in factories. Compensation was paid in 4,021 cases of death and 419,031 cases of disablement in these industries in the year 1911, showing increases of 511 and 40,691 respectively as compared with 1910. The average payment of compensation was £154 in cases of death and £5 16s. in cases of disablement, showing slight increases as compared with the previous year.

The following table gives particulars of the compensation paid in 1911 in the several groups of industries:—

Industry.	No. employed.	Accidents.		Industrial Diseases.			
		Fatal Cases.	Disablements.	Fatal Cases.	Disablements.		
		No.	Am't of Compensation.	No.	Am't of Compensation.		
Shipping	249,758	501	79,417	8,109	98,861	—	—
Factories	5,214,940	998	137,479	175,436	1,021,926	28	3,862
Docks	138,359	196	32,953	15,249	117,339	1	207
Mines	1,059,642	1,711	281,183	178,466	905,996	1	24
Quarries	91,967	83	11,177	5,817	38,274	—	—
Constructional Work	99,889	102	14,638	6,707	52,362	—	6
Railways	451,452	396	58,605	23,450	118,456	3	610
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,305,997</b>	<b>3,988</b>	<b>618,452</b>	<b>413,234</b>	<b>2,353,290</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>4,703</b>
Total for 1910	7,025,074	3,474	532,845	375,902	2,108,185	36	4,950
							4,438
							54,345

The annual charge for compensation, taking the seven groups of industries together, averaged 8s. 5d. per person employed. It was lowest in the case of persons employed in factories, being only 4s. 6d. per person; in the case of railways it was 7s. 11d.; it rose to 10s. 9d. in quarries, to 13s. 5d. in constructional work, and to 14s. 3d. in shipping. It was highest in docks, 21s. 9d., and in mines, 23s. 8d. In the coal mining industry the charge arising under the Act works out at about 1·1d. per ton of coal raised.

The total amount of compensation paid under the Workmen's Compensation Act in the seven groups of industries covered by the Report amounted to £3,056,404 in 1911, compared with £2,700,325 in 1910, and with £2,274,238 in 1909. When to this are added the costs of management, commission, legal and medical expenses, &c., the total charge borne by the seven industries in 1911 probably amounts to considerably more than £4,000,000.

The foregoing figures include, in addition to accidents, cases of the various industrial diseases (now 24 in number) included under the Workmen's Compensation Act. Compensation was paid, in the seven groups of industries, in 33 cases of death from disease, and in 5,737 cases of disablement. The number of deaths shows little change as compared with previous years; the cases of disablement continue to increase. The bulk of the latter, 87·6 per cent. of the total, occurred in the mining industry, and were due mainly to nystagmus, beat hand, beat knee, and beat elbow. The figures for nystagmus and beat knee again show large increases. Of the re-

\* Cd. 6493; price 6½d.

mainder, 554 were cases of lead poisoning. There were no cases of phosphorus poisoning during the year.

The following table classifies the accident disablement cases according to the period for which the disablement lasted. The figures relate only to cases terminated during 1911, whether they began in that or previous years. Cases terminated by means of a lump sum payment, however, are not included, as such cases do not represent the real total period of disablement:—

Industry.	Cases in which Compensation had lasted						Total.
	Less than 2 weeks.	2 weeks but less than 3.	3 weeks but less than 4.	4 weeks but less than 13.	13 weeks but less than 26.	26 weeks and over.	
Shipping .. ..	361	1,186	921	2,729	516	248	5,961
Factories .. ..	14,609	42,832	29,474	47,206	4,454	1,267	139,902
Docks .. ..	1,030	2,448	1,622	4,435	524	235	10,594
Mines .. ..	9,588	55,446	30,611	54,189	5,606	2,484	157,933
Quarries .. ..	395	1,504	903	1,908	197	67	4,974
Constructional Work	825	1,245	908	1,924	189	70	5,161
Railways .. ..	3,315	5,980	3,614	6,580	831	387	20,707
Total .. ..	30,133	110,701	68,353	118,971	12,316	4,758	345,232

The fourth group (4 to 13 weeks) is the largest single group, taking all industries together; the second group (2 to 3 weeks) is but little smaller, and is actually the largest group in the case of mines. The last three years have shown a progressive increase in the percentage of short-period disablements, and a decrease in the long periods, as will be seen from the following statement:—

Duration.	1909.	1910.	1911.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Less than 2 weeks .. ..	9.75	8.66	8.73
2 to 3 weeks .. ..	28.91	29.82	32.96
3 to 4 weeks .. ..	18.61	19.42	19.80
4 to 13 weeks .. ..	37.04	36.68	34.46
13 weeks and over .. ..	5.69	5.42	4.95

During the year 1911 there were 21,923 cases in which accident claims were settled by payment of a lump sum, either immediately or after a preceding period of weekly payments. The total compensation so paid during the year amounted to £705,500.

The Report shows that, as in previous years, only a very small proportion of claims under the Workmen's Compensation Act came before the Courts; in fact, only 1,971 fatal cases and 5,553 disablement cases were so dealt with, and many even of these were withdrawn, or settled out of Court.

The total number of cases under the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, taken into Court during the year was 223. There has been a progressive decline in the number of actions taken under this Act for many years past.

## TRADE UNIONS IN GERMANY IN 1911.

ACCORDING to the current issue of the Statistical Year-book of the German Empire,\* the total membership of trade unions in Germany at the end of 1911 was 3,791,665, as compared with 3,399,010† at the end of the preceding year, showing an increase of 11.6 per cent. Of the aggregate membership in 1911, 2,400,018 (or 63.3 per cent.) belonged to unions affiliated to the National Federation of *Gewerkschaften*, which are avowedly militant organisations, and are identified with the Social Democratic movement. Other national federations comprised in the above total are those of the "Christian" unions, with 350,574 members, and the "Hirsch-Duncker" unions, with 107,743 members. Of the unions not organised in national federations, but whose members are also comprised in the above total, those styled "independent" are numerically the strongest, having 763,925 members.

In the case of the non-federated unions statistics of membership are available only from 1904 onwards. The

\* *Statistisches Jahrbuch für das deutsche Reich, 1912.* Compiled by the German Imperial Statistical Office. Published by Puttkammer und Mühlbrecht, Berlin. Price 2s.

† This total relates to the end of the year, and consequently (apart from certain minor revisions) differs somewhat from the figure given on page 408 of the BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for November, 1911, some of the component totals of which represent mean membership for the year.

growth of the trade union movement in Germany during the last ten years may, however, be judged from the following table, showing the membership of the unions affiliated to one or other of these national federations, which in 1911 comprised between them some 73 per cent. of all trade unionists in the country.

Year.	Total Membership of Unions* affiliated to National Federations.			
	Gewerkschaften (Social Democratic.)	Christian.	Hirsch-Duncker.	Total.
1902 .. ..	733,206	84,652	102,851	920,709
1903 .. ..	887,698	91,440	110,215	1,089,353
1904 .. ..	1,052,108	107,566	111,889	1,271,563
1905 .. ..	1,344,803	188,106	117,097	1,650,006
1906 .. ..	1,689,709	247,116	118,508	2,055,333
1907 .. ..	1,865,506	274,323	108,889	2,248,718
1908 .. ..	1,831,731	264,519	105,633	2,201,883
1909 .. ..	1,832,667	270,751	108,028	2,211,446
1910 .. ..	2,017,288	295,123	122,571	2,434,988
1911 .. ..	2,320,986	340,957	107,743	2,769,686

Taking the three federations together, their aggregate membership has trebled between 1902 and 1911, having risen from 920,709 in the former to 2,769,686 in the latter year. The only interruption in this upward movement was between 1907 and 1908, the period of the last great trade depression. Of the three national federations, that of the "Hirsch-Duncker" unions alone shows little or no increase.

The following table gives a rough grouping, according to trades, of the membership in 1911 of the three national federations, both singly and in the aggregate.

GROUP OF TRADES.	Total Membership in 1911.*			
	Social-Democratic.	Chris-tian.	Hirsch-Duncker.	Total.
Building .. ..	432,814	43,985	1,296	478,095
Mining .. ..	120,975	83,588	3,945	208,508
Metal, Engineering and Ship-building .. ..	518,732	41,253	43,710	603,695
Textile .. ..	126,547	42,397	6,138	175,082
Clothing .. ..	101,897	4,293	9,550	115,540
Transport, Warehousing and Commercial .. ..	184,198	52,242	9,200	245,640
Printing .. ..	127,278	4,695	1,673	133,646
Woodworking .. ..	185,571	15,462	5,446	206,479
Food and Tobacco .. ..	112,837	10,517	4,617	127,971
Factory Operatives (Trades not distinguished) .. ..	182,902	..	18,218	201,120
Other Occupations .. ..	227,435	42,525	3,950	273,910
Total .. ..	2,320,986	340,957	107,743	2,769,686

The figures relating to the Social Democratic unions show for 1911 total receipts to the amount of £3,544,275, an expenditure of £2,951,233, and at the end of the year accumulated funds amounting to £3,053,536. In the case of the "Christian" unions these totals were respectively £306,979, £260,573, and £348,245; while in the case of the "Hirsch-Duncker" they were £128,975, £113,294, and £210,107. Upon payment of benefit to unemployed members (including allowances to those travelling in search of work) the Social Democratic unions spent £362,308, the "Christian" unions £9,109, and the "Hirsch-Duncker" unions £10,848. Under the head of strike pay and allowances in support of "victimised" members, the three federations recorded expenditures of £894,777, £58,980, and £16,352 respectively during the year.

## MUNICIPAL SUBSIDIES TO UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT FUNDS IN BELGIUM IN 1911.†

IN THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for August, 1911, p. 287, some account was given of the various methods adopted by municipal unemployment funds in Belgium in distributing sums of money for the encouragement of collective or individual effort to provide against the effects of loss of employment. In practice almost the whole of the subsidies take the form of grants to unemployed workpeople who are members of trade

\* The totals show the mean membership during the year in the case of the Social-Democratic and Christian Unions, while in the case of the Hirsch-Duncker they relate to the membership at the end of the year.

† *Revue du Travail* (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department), July 31st, 1912.

unions or of other organisations of employees which pay unemployed benefit. For that purpose the organisations are affiliated to the municipal funds, and the grants represent a proportional addition to the benefits drawn by unemployed members from the unions or other organisations. Each of the twenty-five municipal funds, except those of Liège and Huy, made grants on this basis in 1911.

The following Table furnishes certain particulars covering the period 1907-11 with regard to the operations of the municipal funds which paid grants upon this system:—

	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.
Number of trade unions participating.	284	346	350	346	359
Unemployed benefit paid by unions.	£6,398	£12,231	£9,322	£7,857	£11,556
Amount of municipal subventions.	£2,968	£5,236	£4,560	£3,449	£4,583
Percentage of subventions to benefits.	46.4	42.8	48.9	43.9	39.7
Number of unemployed receiving subventions.	9,750	17,348	18,909	16,315	22,405
Number of days in respect of which subventions were allowed.	113,726	208,428	180,772	143,929	183,110

The system of direct subvention of trade unions (as distinct from the above method of grants to individual members) was confined in 1911 to the municipal funds Liège and Huy. No subsidies were granted by these towns under this head during the first two years of the period 1907-1911; in 1909 the sums so granted amounted to £91, in 1910 to £103, and in 1911 to £294, this last sum being allotted to thirty-seven unions, in respect of 1,554 unemployed members and 5,601 days of unemployment.

The system of grants to unemployed workpeople who have made no provision against loss of work may be considered as definitely abandoned by the municipal unemployment funds.

The total subventions of all kinds accorded by the municipal funds and the costs of administration in each of the years since their inception are shown in the following Table:—

Year.	Amount of Subventions.	Cost of Administration.	Total.	Year.	Amount of Subventions.	Cost of Administration.	Total.
1901	£ 250	£ 64	£ 334	1907	£ 3,178	£ 415	£ 3,593
1902	1,167	202	1,369	1908	5,399	592	5,991
1903	1,583	191	1,774	1909	4,713	684	5,397
1904	1,988	231	2,229	1910	3,592	635	4,227
1905	1,676	191	1,867	1911	5,053	703	5,756
1906	2,102	302	2,404				

Of the amount (£782) disbursed by the State on unemployment benefit schemes in 1911 only £134 was assigned to municipal funds; £579 went directly to unemployment benefit funds affiliated to municipal funds, and £69 to trade union unemployment benefit funds not so affiliated.

## EMPLOYMENT IN THE COLONIES.

Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 34, Broadway, Westminster, London, S.W., from the latest official and other reports, newspapers, &c.\*

### Canada.

ALL emigrants landing in Canada between March 1st and October 31st must possess \$25 (£5 4s.), and children \$12.50 (£2 12s.) each, and between November 1st and last day of February \$50 (£10 8s.) and \$25 (£5 4s.) respectively, and sufficient travelling money, except that the following need have sufficient travelling money only: (1) Farm labourers and female servants, if going to assured employment as such; and (2) certain relatives of residents in Canada. All emigrants pecuniarily assisted to Canada by British charitable societies or public funds must obtain certificates from the Canadian Emigration Authorities, Charing Cross, London.

\* Handbooks (with maps) on the different British Dominions Oversea may be obtained from the Emigrants' Information Office at a penny each post free.

The demand for farm labourers, railway navvies, and mechanics ceases during the winter; the demand for female servants both in towns and on farms continues always. There are strikes of tailors at Toronto, of miners at Porcupine (Ont.), and of coalminers on Vancouver Island.

### Australia.

*Passages.*—Assisted or nominated passages are granted—mainly to agriculturists and female servants—by the Governments of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania; the fares have been raised.

*New South Wales.*—In Sydney and suburbs the building (except stonemasons), furniture, iron, and clothing trades have been fairly well employed; competent carpenters, joiners, chair-makers, plasterers, tailors (not cutters), and strong railway labourers are in demand; the demand in the boot trade is poor. Miners at Broken Hill and at Newcastle are very busy. There is a good demand for female servants and for tailoresses (factory). In country districts there is a good demand for farm labourers and lads.

*Victoria.*—There is a good opening for farmers, farm labourers, generally useful men, female servants, and female operatives in factories. There has been a good demand for bricklayers, carpenters, and plasterers; but no demand in the engineering trades, or for miners.

*South Australia.*—The Superintendent of the Government Labour Exchange, in his report for the week ended November 29th, states that employment has been offering in many branches of the building trade, but in most instances the supply was equal to the demand. Several plasterers can be placed, and all brickmakers, masons (wallers), painters, and joiners and bench hands available are fully employed. The demand for carpenters, cabinet-makers, and bricklayers is not quite so strong; plumbers and ironworkers are fairly well employed; but the demand for stonecutters is very quiet. Carriage-trimmers are all fully employed, but carriage-makers are not in great request. In the engineering trades a good demand exists for boiler-makers and brassfinishers, but not any are available; several tinsmiths are required, and copper-smiths appear fully employed. Shoeing, general, and agricultural smiths are not in great request; and several moulders and fitters and turners are on the books. Experienced farm hands and farm youths are in fair demand, and wattle-strippers are still needed. All requirements as regards unskilled labour have been met.

*Queensland.*—There is a good demand for farm labourers, dairymen, married couples on farms and stations, and strong men for railway construction work. The demand for mechanics and miners is fairly well met locally.

*Western Australia.*—There is a good demand for farmers, farm labourers, dairymen, fencers, clearers, orchardists, and female servants, but not much demand for more mechanics.

*Tasmania.*—There is a demand for experienced sawmill hands, who would be suitable for bushwork—such as sawsharpeners, bush engine drivers, and general mill and bush work hands.

### New Zealand.

Very few competent mechanics are out of work, but there does not appear to be any special demand for more men, except in some places for plumbers and gasfitters. There is a good demand for domestic servants, for dress-makers, and for women in the woollen and hosiery mills, and in the tailoring, biscuit, confectionery, printing and laundry establishments. There is a good demand for farm labourers and dairy hands from October to March.

### Union of South Africa.

The building trades of Johannesburg continue to be active in most branches; the engineering and printing trades are dull; practical miners can get work. There is no demand for more labour at Pretoria. At Cape Town there is no demand except for a few skilled plumbers, plasterers, and joiners. At Durban there is a demand for a few skilled bricklayers, carpenters, tailors, painters, and wagon-makers.

## LABOUR ABROAD.

[NOTE.—The following reports include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment in foreign countries, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in these countries are, however, not the same as those for the United Kingdom, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 1-2 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that in foreign countries. (For further information on the subject of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries, see pp. xxiv.-xxvi. and 8-20 of the Fourth Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics, Cd. 5415 of 1911.)]

## FRANCE.\*

*Employment in November.*—In the building trades there was practically no change in employment as compared with October. Employment was satisfactory in the metal trades, and the textile trades showed a slight improvement, particularly in the Nord department. There was a revival of activity in the printing trades as compared with October. The percentage of persons out of work in the leather trades showed a tendency to increase, without, however, reaching the level of November, 1911. Owing to the resumption of work on the vines (pruning and fumigating) unemployment among vineyard workers in the South of France decreased as compared with October. Engagements for winter work in the forests had not yet begun, and the percentage of woodcutters unemployed was higher than in October. Gardeners in and near Paris continued well employed.

Returns showing the number of members unemployed at the middle of the month were received by the French Labour Department from 754 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 204,673. Excluding returns from the miners' unions in the Pas-de-Calais department, 6.0 per cent. of the members were unemployed in November, as compared with 5.2 per cent. in the previous month, and 7.6 per cent. in November, 1911.†

*Coal Mining in November.*—The average number of days worked per week by persons employed underground was 6.62 in November, as compared with 5.99 in the previous month and 6.00 in November, 1911. Taking surface and underground workers together, 97.72 per cent. worked full time (6 days or over per week) and 2.05 per cent. from 5 to 6 days. In the previous month the corresponding percentages were 98.5 and 1.46, and in November, 1911, 98.5 and 1.45.

*Labour Disputes in November.*—Fifty-nine labour disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in November, as compared with 71 in the previous month and 74 in November, 1911. In 53 of the new disputes 4,374 workpeople took part, as compared with 8,716 who took part in 64 disputes in the previous month, and 6,676 who took part in 62 disputes in November, 1911. The groups of trades in which disputes were most frequent were building (8 disputes), textile (8), transport (8), woodworking (7), and metal (7). Of 58 new and old disputes reported to have terminated, 7 ended wholly in favour of the workpeople and 27 wholly in favour of the employers, while 24 were compromised.

*Conciliation and Arbitration in November.*—Three cases of recourse to the law of 1892 on conciliation and arbitration were reported to the French Labour Department during November, the initiative being taken in 2 cases by the workpeople, and in the third case by a Justice of the Peace. In one case the employers declined to take part in the proceedings, while in the remaining two cases committees of conciliation were formed, resulting directly in the settlement of one dispute, a collective agreement being signed, and in the decision to submit the second to arbitration by the Justice of the Peace.

## GERMANY.

*Employment in November.*—According to the *Reichsarbeitsblatt* the state of the labour market in November was, on the whole, satisfactory, although in some respects

less favourable than in the corresponding month of 1911. It was in many cases affected somewhat adversely by the cessation of exports to the Balkan Peninsula, as well as by the disturbed political situation and the consequent tightness of the money market.

Returns relating to unemployment were furnished to the Imperial Labour Department by 49 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 2,145,050. Omitting branches which failed to make returns, the membership covered was 2,069,216, of whom 38,240, or 1.8 per cent., were stated to be unemployed at the end of November, as against 1.7 per cent. at the end both of the previous month and of November, 1911.\* Particulars for each of the principal unions that contributed to make up these general percentages are given below:—

UNION.	Member-ship reported on at end of November, 1912.	Percentage of Member-ship employed at end of month.*		
		Nov., 1912.	Oct., 1912.	Nov., 1911.
<b>All Unions making Returns ..</b>	<b>2,069,216</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.7</b>
<b>PRINCIPAL UNIONS:—</b>				
Miners .. .. .	114,922	0.0	0.1	0.3
Metal Workers (Soc. Dem.) .. ..	555,039	1.5	1.4	1.3
Engineers and Metal Workers .. ..	25,103	1.3	1.4	1.2
(Hirsch-Duncker)				
Metal Workers (Christian) .. ..	42,023	0.7	0.8	0.6
Textile Workers (Soc. Dem.) .. ..	139,833	0.6	0.6	0.6
Textile Workers (Christian) .. ..	37,054	2.5	1.4	0.9
Boot and Shoe Makers .. .. .	44,197	1.4	1.4	1.8
Transport Workers .. .. .	223,499	1.6	1.3	1.5
Printers .. .. .	66,276	3.6	6.2	2.8
Bookbinders .. .. .	32,983	2.0	1.8	2.0
Woodworkers .. .. .	193,725	3.5	3.1	2.5
Bakers .. .. .	28,186	5.5	6.0	7.1
Brewery and Corn Mill Workers .. ..	47,866	1.6	1.0	2.3
Tobacco Workers .. .. .	35,592	1.9	1.7	1.6
Factory Workers (irrespective of trade)	196,205	1.4	0.9	1.5
State and Municipal Workers .. ..	49,855	0.5	0.4	0.6

The majority of returns furnished from the employers' side reported employment as satisfactory. This was the case with coal mining in the Ruhr district and in Upper and Lower Silesia, as also with lignite mining in Central Germany and in Niederlausitz (Western Silesia); output and deliveries were, however, impeded to a considerable degree by interruptions in transport and consequent scarcity of wagons. At blastfurnaces the satisfactory conditions previously reported continued in November, but indications of weakness were apparent at times. Employment was good generally in the metal, general engineering, electrical, and chemical trades. It continued good in the textile trades, especially in spinning mills, as also in the paper trades. For the time of year it was, on the whole, satisfactory in the building trades.

*Dispute in Dyeing Industry, Saxony-Thuringia.*—Despatches from H.M. Vice-Consul at Leipzig, dated November 27th to December 17th, report that on the former date a lock-out of some 10,000 workpeople was declared by members of the Employers' Association in the dyeing industry of Saxony-Thuringia, mainly in the Glauchau-Greiz district. The dispute originated in the demand of a few men in a single mill that their rate of wages for overtime should be raised from 4½d. to 4¾d. per hour. On the employer declining to accede to this, the men refused to do overtime work, and were dismissed. Other refusals and dismissals followed, and the dispute was taken up by the Federation of Textile Workers, who declared a boycott of the firm, a general lock-out in the branch being the reply of the employers. The dispute terminated on December 16th, the increase demanded being conceded, and a general resumption of work took place on the following day.

## HOLLAND.†

*Employment in November.*—Returns relating to unemployment in November were received by the Dutch Government Statistical Office from trade unions and municipal unemployment funds with 58,041 members entitled to benefit. The percentage of members out of

work during the month was 4.8, as compared with 2.4 in the preceding month, and 2.8 in November, 1911.\* This percentage is obtained by taking, for each of the four (or five) weeks under consideration, the number of persons unemployed on one or more days of the week. The proportion of the average of these four (or five) numbers to the number of members entitled to benefit gives the percentage.

The following Table shows the above percentages, and also the average number of working days lost per week by each member unemployed in November, as compared with the previous month and with November, 1911:—

Group of Trades.	Number of Members entitled to Benefit in Nov., 1912.	Percentage unemployed.*			Average Days lost per Week per Member unemployed.		
		Nov., 1912.	Oct., 1912.	Nov., 1911.	Nov., 1912.	Oct., 1912.	Nov., 1911.
<b>All Unions and Municipal Unemployment Funds making returns.</b>	<b>58,041</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>5.6</b>
<b>PRINCIPAL TRADES:—</b>							
Diamond Workers .. .. .	10,464†	19.7†	8.3†	4.3†	6.0†	6.0†	6.0†
Printing Trades .. .. .	6,434	0.6	0.9	1.0	5.9	6.0	5.9
Building Trades .. .. .	11,577	4.8	2.0	7.0	5.1	4.9	5.3
Bricklayers and Masons .. .. .	1,074	2.1	1.0	2.2	4.5	4.4	4.0
Painters .. .. .	2,115	12.9	4.4	21.6	5.7	5.5	5.7
Carpenters .. .. .	5,008	2.8	1.5	3.0	4.9	4.5	4.9
Mining (Metal and Coal) and Peat-getting.	2,180	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding.	6,646	0.3	0.4	0.8	5.6	5.5	5.7
Textile Trades .. .. .	2,670	0.2	0.9	0.1	5.0	3.9	6.0
Tobacco Workers and Cigar Makers.	7,681	0.4	0.4	1.3	5.6	5.5	5.5

## SWEDEN.

*Employment, July-September, 1912.*—The statistics in the following Table relating to unemployment among members of trade unions making returns to the Swedish Labour Department are compiled from *Sociala Meddelanden* (the journal of that Department). They show the percentage of members unemployed in all unions taken together and in each of the principal unions on the first day of each of the three months, July, August, and September, 1912:—

Union.	Member-ship reporting on Sept. 1st, 1912.	Percentage Unemployed on 1st of Month.*			
		July, 1912.	Aug., 1912.	Sept., 1912.	
<b>All Unions making Returns .. ..</b>	<b>50,927</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>2.7</b>	
<b>Principal Unions:—</b>					
Stonecutters .. .. .	2,907	1.5	0.5	2.1	
Bricklayers and masons .. .. .	1,222	2.4	0.6	1.8	
Founders .. .. .	2,285	2.4	1.0	1.4	
Triplate workers .. .. .	1,380	1.9	1.3	2.8	
Engineering and metal workers .. ..	17,251	2.9	2.6	2.5	
Bakers and confectioners .. .. .	1,244	4.4	2.6	3.1	
Brewery workers .. .. .	1,438	0.5	0.1	0.3	
Sawmill workers .. .. .	1,851	1.6	1.6	1.4	
Woodworkers .. .. .	3,141	2.7	1.6	1.4	
Municipal workers .. .. .	2,027	0.5	1.8	0.6	
General labourers and factory operatives (trades not distinguished)	7,740	9.0	8.8	6.7	

## DENMARK.†

*Employment in October.*—According to returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Office, 4.4 per cent. of the 102,700 members of trade unions reporting were unemployed at the end of October, as compared with 3.7 per cent. at the end of the preceding month, and 5.5 per cent. at the end of October, 1911.\* The average number of days lost through unemployment during October was 0.9 per member of the unions reporting, as compared with 0.8 per member a month ago, and 1.0 in October, 1911.

## RUSSIA.

*Strike at Engineering Works at Kharkhov.*—In a despatch dated December 31st, H.M. Consul-General at Odessa reports that the operatives at the local engineering works at Kharkhov, employing 2,800 men, had been on strike for increased wages during the four weeks preceding that date.

\* These figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentages for the United Kingdom shown on pp. 1-2. For reasons see Fourth Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics.  
† Relates only to persons unemployed throughout the whole week.  
‡ Statistiske Efterretninger (Journal of the Danish Statistical Office).

## REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES DURING DECEMBER.

## COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT continued good during December, and was about the same as a year ago.

Returns relating to 1,250 pits, employing 691,440 workpeople, showed that the average number of days\* worked per week during the fortnight ended December 21st, 1912, was 5.52, compared with 5.57 a month ago and 5.54 a year ago.

Of the 691,440 workpeople covered by the returns 624,366 (or 90.3 per cent.) were employed at pits working 10 or more days during the fortnight ended December 21st, 1912; while 525,696 (or 76 per cent. of the total) were employed at pits working 11 days or more.

The highest average was in South Wales and Monmouthshire (5.92 days), and the lowest averages were in Ireland (4.35 days) and Northumberland (4.50 days).

The following Table shows the average number of days worked per week during the fortnight ended December 21st, 1912, together with the figures for corresponding periods in November, 1912, and December, 1911. Collieries at which there were disputes causing stoppage of work are excluded from the figures:—

Districts.	No. of Work-people employed in Dec., 1912, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in the Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in December, 1912, as compared with a	
		Dec. 21st, 1912.	Nov. 23rd, 1912.	Dec. 23rd, 1911.	Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.</b>		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland .. .. .	51,053	4.50	5.43	5.45	- 0.93	- 0.95
Durham .. .. .	125,620	5.23	5.50	5.50	- 0.27	- 0.27
Cumberland .. .. .	3,711	5.33	5.52	5.57	+ 0.31	+ 0.25
South Yorkshire .. .. .	83,380	5.86	5.74	5.74	+ 0.12	+ 0.12
West Yorkshire .. .. .	27,824	5.85	5.39	5.59	+ 0.26	+ 0.06
Lancashire and Cheshire .. ..	60,538	5.53	5.38	5.50	+ 0.15	+ 0.03
Derbyshire .. .. .	47,317	5.69	5.58	5.46	+ 0.11	+ 0.23
Nottingham and Leicester .. ..	38,636	5.35	5.30	5.08	+ 0.05	+ 0.27
Staffordshire .. .. .	30,956	5.67	5.61	5.31	+ 0.06	+ 0.36
Warwick, Worcester and Salop.	9,305	5.72	5.43	5.45	+ 0.29	+ 0.27
Gloucester and Somerset .. ..	7,556	5.39	5.03	5.04	+ 0.36	+ 0.35
North Wales .. .. .	11,150	5.85	5.93	5.88	- 0.04	0.03
South Wales and Mon. .. ..	135,049	5.92	5.89	5.76	+ 0.03	+ 0.16
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES</b>	<b>634,095</b>	<b>5.54</b>	<b>5.59</b>	<b>5.55</b>	<b>- 0.05</b>	<b>- 0.01</b>
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
West Scotland .. .. .	24,360	5.20	5.19	5.40	+ 0.01	- 0.20
The Lothians .. .. .	3,571	5.42	5.46	5.62	- 0.04	- 0.20
File .. .. .	29,141	5.45	5.39	5.53	+ 0.06	- 0.08
<b>SCOTLAND</b>	<b>57,072</b>	<b>5.34</b>	<b>5.31</b>	<b>5.48</b>	<b>+ 0.03</b>	<b>- 0.14</b>
<b>IRELAND .. .. .</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>4.35</b>	<b>5.69</b>	<b>5.58</b>	<b>- 1.34</b>	<b>- 1.23</b>
<b>United Kingdom .. .. .</b>	<b>691,440</b>	<b>5.52</b>	<b>5.57</b>	<b>5.54</b>	<b>- 0.05</b>	<b>- 0.02</b>

In Northumberland and Durham the average number of days worked was reduced somewhat on account of the dispute on the North-Eastern Railway, but, apart from this, employment was fairly good generally, and about the same as a year ago. In Cumberland and in South Yorkshire employment was very good, and better than both a month ago and a year ago. In West Yorkshire, in Lancashire and Cheshire and in Derbyshire employment was good. In Nottingham and Leicester it was fairly good. In Staffordshire it was good in both the Pelsall and Cannock Chase districts, and much better than a year ago. In Warwick, Worcester and Salop, and in Gloucester and Somerset employment showed a considerable improvement on both a month ago and a year ago; at house coal pits in the Forest of Dean, however, there was still some time lost. In North Wales and in South Wales and Monmouthshire employment continued very good. In Scotland employment continued good generally, but showed a decline on a year ago.

The following Table shows the numbers employed and the average number of days worked, distributed accord-

\* The figures in this article only show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal was hewn and wound at the collieries included in the returns received. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons employed at these collieries worked the whole number of days.

\* Bulletin de l'Office du Travail (Journal of the French Labour Department).  
† These figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentages for the United Kingdom shown on pp. 1-2. For reasons see Fourth Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics.  
‡ Revised figure.  
§ The Journal of the German Labour Department.

\* These figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentages for the United Kingdom shown on pp. 1-2. For reasons see Fourth Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics.  
† Maandochrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek (Journal of the Dutch Government Statistical Office).

ing to the principal kind of coal produced at the pits at which the workpeople were engaged:—

Description of Coal.	No. of Work-people employed in Dec., 1912, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Pits in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
		Dec. 21st, 1912.	Nov. 23rd, 1912.	Dec. 23rd, 1911.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Anthracite .. ..	6,885	5.64	5.35	5.85	+ 0.29	- 0.21
Coking .. ..	35,236	5.43	5.63	5.57	- 0.20	- 0.14
Gas .. ..	47,251	5.41	5.49	5.47	- 0.08	- 0.06
House .. ..	85,621	5.51	5.35	5.33	+ 0.16	+ 0.18
Steam .. ..	269,288	5.55	5.71	5.62	- 0.16	- 0.07
Mixed .. ..	246,419	5.51	5.51	5.54	..	- 0.03
<b>All Descriptions ..</b>	<b>691,440</b>	<b>5.52</b>	<b>5.57</b>	<b>5.54</b>	<b>- 0.05</b>	<b>- 0.02</b>

Compared with a month ago there was some improvement at pits producing anthracite and house coal, and a decline at pits producing coking, steam and gas coal. Compared with a year ago there was an improvement at house coal pits and a decline at all other pits; the decline was most marked at pits producing anthracite coal.

The Exports of coal, coke, and manufactured fuel during December, 1912, amounted to 5,966,177 tons, or 498,894 tons less than in November, 1912, and 74,602 tons less than in December, 1911.

## IRON, SHALE AND OTHER MINING, AND QUARRYING.

EMPLOYMENT continued good in iron mines, but was affected in Cleveland by the North-Eastern Railway strike. Employment continued fairly good in shale mines, and was rather better than a year ago. It was fairly good, and better than a month ago and a year ago, in tin mines, and continued good and was better than a year ago in lead mines. Employment was fairly good, on the whole, in and about quarries, and was about the same as a month ago and better than a year ago.

### Mining.

*Iron Mining.*—During the fortnight ended December 21st the weekly average number of days worked by all mines and open works included in the Returns was 5.24, as compared with 5.83 a month ago and 5.77 a year ago; the average for December, 1912, however, is reduced on account of the North-Eastern Railway strike, which considerably affected employment in the Cleveland district.

The following Table shows the average number of days worked per week during the fortnight ended December 21st, together with the figures for the corresponding periods in November and December, 1911.

Districts.	Work-people employed in Dec., 1912.	Average Number of Days worked per week by Mines in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
		Dec. 21st, 1912.	Nov. 23rd, 1912.	Dec. 23rd, 1911.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Cleveland .. ..	7,725	4.48	5.81	5.85	- 1.33	- 1.37
Cumberland and Lancashire .. ..	5,345	5.38	5.83	5.75	+ 0.05	+ 0.13
Scotland .. ..	1,061	5.80	5.81	5.81	- 0.01	- 0.01
Other Districts .. ..	2,520	5.94	5.90	5.62	+ 0.04	+ 0.32
<b>All Districts .. ..</b>	<b>16,651</b>	<b>5.24</b>	<b>5.83</b>	<b>5.77</b>	<b>- 0.59</b>	<b>- 0.53</b>

Of the total number of workpeople covered by the Returns 57.5 per cent. worked 11 days or more during the fortnight ended December 21st, as compared with 95.6 per cent. in November and 93.0 per cent. in December, 1911.

*Shale Mining.*—According to the Returns received, there were 3,567 workpeople employed in the fortnight ended December 21st, who worked on an average 5.71 days per week. This was also the average time worked in November, when 3,562 workpeople were employed. In December, 1911, 3,394 workpeople worked an average of 5.69 days per week.

*Tin Mining.*—Employment in Cornwall generally improved upon a month ago, and was fairly good in the

Camborne, Marazion, St. Just, and St. Ives districts; no improvement, however, was reported in the Calstock district, where employment was reported as dull. Employment was good in the Dartmoor mines.

*Lead Mining.*—Employment generally continued good in the Matlock and Weardale districts, and in North Wales.

### Quarrying.

*Slate.*—Employment generally continued slack in North Wales, and was worse than a year ago; in the Festiniog quarries it was reported fair. It continued very good at Delabole (Cornwall).

*Granite.*—Employment continued fair in the Aberdeen district, and was about the same as a year ago. It continued good in Leicestershire and fair in Cornwall, and was better than a year ago in both districts.

*Limestone.*—Employment was fairly good in Weardale, though somewhat affected by the North-Eastern Railway strike. It continued good, but was hindered by bad weather, at Buxton. In the Plymouth district it was dull, and not so good as a month ago.

*Other Stone.*—Chert quarrymen continued well employed at Bakewell. Employment was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago, in road-material (basalt) quarries in the Clee Hill district. It was slack with quarrymen at Barnsley and fair at Normanton. Employment was still bad in sandstone quarries in Forfarshire. It continued fair in freestone quarries on the Tyne, and good in whinstone quarries in Upper Weardale.

*Settmaking, &c.*—Employment generally continued good with settmakers in Scotland, though affected by bad weather. It also continued good in Leicestershire, and was good in the Penmaenmawr district in North Wales. Employment was fair with monumental masons in the Aberdeen district, and showed an improvement on a year ago.

*China Clay.*—Employment continued good in the St. Austell district. It was also good in the Leigh Moor and Shaugh districts.

## PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry during December was affected by the North-Eastern Railway strike, but at the end of the month was better than a year ago.

The returns show that 325 furnaces were in blast at the end of December, compared with 331 at the end of November, 1912, and 297 at the end of December, 1911. During December eight furnaces were relit (4 in Cumberland, and 1 each in Lancashire, Derbyshire, Staffordshire, and Ayrshire), while 14 were either damped down or blown out (6 in Cumberland, 2 each in Lancashire, Staffordshire, and the Cleveland district, and 1 each in Derbyshire and Flintshire).

The number of workpeople employed at the end of December was about 24,000; an increase of 9.9 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

The following Table shows the number of furnaces returned as in blast at the end of December, 1912, together with the increases and decreases as compared with a month ago and a year ago.

District.	Number of Furnaces, included in the Returns, in Blast at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
	Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	A Month ago.	A Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES—					
Cleveland .. ..	87	89	78	- 2	+ 9
Cumberland & Lancashire .. ..	28	31	26	- 3	+ 2
S. and S.W. Yorks .. ..	12	12	10	..	+ 2
Derby & Nottingham .. ..	40	40	33	..	+ 7
Leicester, Lincoln, & Northampton .. ..	31	31	28	..	+ 3
Stafford & Worcester .. ..	35	36	34	- 1	+ 1
S. Wales & Monmouth .. ..	12	12	11	..	+ 1
Other districts .. ..	4	5	6	- 1	- 2
<b>England &amp; Wales .. ..</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>- 7</b>	<b>+ 23</b>
Scotland .. ..	76	75	71	+ 1	+ 5
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>- 6</b>	<b>+ 28</b>

The Imports of iron ore in December, 1912, amounted to 671,354 tons, or 168,495 tons more than in November, 1912, and 174,921 tons more than in December, 1911.

The Exports of pig iron from the United Kingdom in December, 1912, amounted to 82,935 tons, or 5,071 tons less than in November, 1912, and 50,944 tons less than in December, 1911.

## IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works continued very good during December, but, mainly owing to the dispute on the North-Eastern Railway, it showed a slight decline on a month ago. It was better than a year ago. According to returns from employers relating to 105,081 workpeople, the aggregate number of shifts worked during the week ended December 21st, 1912, was 589,888, a decrease of 4,515 (or 0.8 per cent.) on a month ago, but an increase of 28,337 (or 5 per cent.) on a year ago.

Departments.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.		Aggregate number of shifts worked.			
	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month ago.	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month ago.	Per cent.	
					Month ago.	Year ago.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces .. ..	10,133	+ 0.2	58,650	- 0.9	+ 8.1	
Crucible Furnaces .. ..	546	- 3.7	3,161	- 1.6	- 3.0	
Bessemer Converters .. ..	1,703	- 6.8	8,852	- 6.3	- 2.2	
Puddling Forges .. ..	9,198	- 0.3	48,550	- 0.6	+ 1.6	
Rolling Mills .. ..	33,313	- 1.2	178,345	- 2.2	+ 0.1	
Forging and Pressing .. ..	4,831	+ 0.2	27,318	+ 0.3	+ 12.0	
Founding .. ..	12,808	+ 0.3	74,151	- 0.6	+ 6.6	
Other Departments .. ..	14,066	+ 0.6	82,008	+ 0.9	+ 6.8	
Mechanics, Labourers .. ..	18,495	+ 0.6	108,853	+ 0.6	+ 10.6	
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>105,081</b>	<b>- 0.3</b>	<b>589,888</b>	<b>- 0.8</b>	<b>+ 5.0</b>	
<b>Districts.</b>						
Northumberland & Durham .. ..	11,783	- 2.6	65,145	- 5.9	- 0.4	
Cleveland .. ..	8,886	- 0.1	48,019	- 4.1	- 6.3	
Sheffield and Rotherham .. ..	21,359	+ 0.3	123,374	+ 1.5	+ 10.1	
Leeds, Bradford, &c. .. ..	4,838	+ 0.4	27,358	- 0.1	+ 5.9	
Cumberland, Lancs., and Cheshire .. ..	8,224	- 9.6	50,969	- 8.6	- 4.6	
Staffordshire .. ..	9,540	+ 1.1	53,224	+ 1.5	+ 3.2	
Other Midland Counties .. ..	5,499	+ 3.6	31,497	+ 4.7	+ 18.1	
Wales and Monmouth .. ..	13,718	+ 0.1	75,942	- 0.2	+ 3.4	
<b>Total England &amp; Wales .. ..</b>	<b>84,887</b>	<b>- 0.9</b>	<b>475,528</b>	<b>- 1.5</b>	<b>+ 3.5</b>	
Scotland .. ..	20,194	+ 2.3	114,360	+ 2.3	+ 12.2	
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>105,081</b>	<b>- 0.3</b>	<b>589,888</b>	<b>- 0.8</b>	<b>+ 5.0</b>	

Compared with a month ago, the volume of employment showed a decline in Northumberland and Durham, in Cleveland, and in Cumberland, Lancashire, and Cheshire; this decline was due principally to stoppage of work on account of the North-Eastern Railway dispute. There was some improvement in the Sheffield and Rotherham district, in Staffordshire, in other Midland counties, and in Scotland; while in the other districts there was not much change. All the principal departments were affected by the decline except the forging and pressing; the decline was most marked at Bessemer converters and at rolling mills. The total number of workpeople employed decreased by 329 (0.3 per cent.), and the average number of shifts worked per man by 0.03 of a shift.

Compared with a year ago, the volume of employment showed a large increase in the Sheffield and Rotherham district, in "other Midland counties," and in Scotland; in the Leeds and Bradford district, Staffordshire, and in Wales and Monmouth, there was also some increase. In Cleveland and in Cumberland, Lancashire and Cheshire there was a decrease. In the departments the increase was most marked at open hearth melting furnaces and the forging and pressing. The total number of workpeople increased by 5,551 (5.6 per cent.), and the average number of shifts worked decreased by 0.03 of a shift.

The Imports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof during December, 1912, amounted to 187,389 tons, or 1,477 tons less than in November, 1912, and 27,002 tons more than in December, 1911.

The Exports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof (excluding pig and puddled iron and tinned plates and black plates) during December, 1912, amounted to 255,255 tons, or 21,980 tons less than in November, 1912, but 17,302 tons more than in December, 1911.

## TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT continued very good, and was better than a year ago. There was still a demand for millmen.

At the end of December 510 tinplate mills were in operation, an increase of 2 on a month ago, and of 12 on a year ago. The steel sheet mills working numbered 73 in December, 1912, compared with 77 in the previous month and 67 a year ago.

The works to which these figures relate are principally in South Wales and Monmouthshire, and employ about 29,150 workpeople.

The following Table shows the number of works open and the number of mills in operation at the end of December, 1912, together with the increase or decrease on a month ago and a year ago:—

Works	Number of Works open			Number of Mills in operation		
	At end of Dec., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	At end of Dec., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Tinplate Works .. ..	81	+ 1	+ 2	510	+ 2	+ 12
Steel Sheet Works .. ..	10	..	+ 1	73	- 4	+ 6
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>+ 1</b>	<b>+ 3</b>	<b>583</b>	<b>- 2</b>	<b>+ 18</b>

### Exports.

To	Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets.					
Tons.					
To United States .. ..	307	144	364	+ 163	- 57
British East Indies .. ..	4,390	5,870	4,796	- 1,490	- 416
Germany .. ..	2,973	3,627	3,592	- 654	- 619
France .. ..	1,759	2,096	2,767	- 337	- 1,008
Netherlands .. ..	3,391	5,065	3,964	- 1,674	- 573
Russia .. ..	943	1,063	1,577	- 129	+ 786
Norway .. ..	1,750	3,714	2,280	- 1,964	- 530
Belgium .. ..	615	3,801	893	- 3,186	- 278
Portugal .. ..	1,255	1,664	1,173	- 409	+ 82
Italy .. ..	883	1,051	898	- 168	- 15
Roumania .. ..	88	872	405	- 784	- 317
China and Japan .. ..	4,901	4,176	2,081	+ 725	+ 2,820
Australia .. ..	3,042	1,468	2,000	+ 1,574	+ 1,042
Canada .. ..	653	490	768	+ 173	- 115
Argentina .. ..	1,431	1,548	851	- 1,117	+ 480
Other Countries .. ..	7,549	8,896	6,712	- 1,346	+ 837
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>35,920</b>	<b>45,534</b>	<b>33,801</b>	<b>- 9,614</b>	<b>+ 2,119</b>

### Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets.

To	Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Tons.					
To United States .. ..	307	144	364	+ 163	- 57
British East Indies .. ..	4,390	5,870	4,796	- 1,490	- 416
Germany .. ..	2,973	3,627	3,592	- 654	- 619
France .. ..	1,759	2,096	2,767	- 337	- 1,008
Netherlands .. ..	3,391	5,065	3,964	- 1,674	- 573
Russia .. ..	943	1,063	1,577	- 129	+ 786
Norway .. ..	1,750	3,714	2,280	- 1,964	- 530
Belgium .. ..	615	3,801	893	- 3,186	- 278
Portugal .. ..	1,255	1,664	1,173	- 409	+ 82
Italy .. ..	883	1,051	898	- 168	- 15
Roumania .. ..	88	872	405	- 784	- 317
China and Japan .. ..	4,901	4,176	2,081	+ 725	+ 2,820
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Canada .. ..	653	490	768	+ 173	- 115
Argentina .. ..	1,431	1,548	851	- 1,117	+ 480
Other Countries .. ..	7,549	8,896	6,712	- 1,346	+ 837
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>35,920</b>	<b>45,534</b>	<b>33,801</b>	<b>- 9,614</b>	<b>+ 2,119</b>

### Black Plates for Tinning.

<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>5,330</b>	<b>6,947</b>	<b>4,334</b>	<b>- 1,617</b>	<b>+ 996</b>
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## SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good, and showed little change compared with both a month ago and a year ago. It was very good on the Clyde, at Belfast, and on the South Coast, but it was slack on the Thames and on the Bristol Channel.

Trade Unions with a membership of 71,058 reported 3.8 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of December, compared with 3.5 per cent. in November, and 4.0 per cent. in December, 1911.

District.	No. of Members * at end of Dec., 1912.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
		Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Tyne and Blyth .. ..	11,079	3.1	3.8	4.4	- 0.7	- 1.3
Wear .. ..	5,904	3.4	2.8	3.3	+ 0.6	+ 0.1

Compared with a month ago the most noticeable changes were the increases in the percentage unemployed on the Thames, and in the East of Scotland. Compared with the previous year there were considerable increases in the percentage unemployed in the same two districts; in the Tees and Hartlepool district, however, and on the Humber, there were marked decreases.

Employment on the Tyne, Wear and Tees continued good on the whole, and was better than a year ago. With shipwrights it was very good, and much overtime was reported. On the Humber employment was good generally, especially on new work; but it was dull at Goole.

On the Thames employment was slack, and much worse than both a month ago and a year ago. With barge-builders employment was very good. Employment on the Medway and on the South Coast was very good, and better than in the previous month. On the Bristol Channel it was still slack, but on repair work at the South Wales ports it improved and was fairly good.

Employment was fair on the Mersey, and good at Barrow, where a shortage of riveters was again reported.

Employment on the Clyde was very good, and overtime was fairly general. On the East of Scotland it was fairly good on the whole, except at Leith, where it was slack.

Employment at Belfast continued very good.

#### Tonnage under Construction.

According to *Lloyd's Register* there was at the end of December, 1912, an increase in the tonnage of merchant vessels under construction of 123,236 tons gross (or 6.7 per cent.), compared with the end of September, 1912, and of 451,013 tons gross (or 29.7 per cent.), compared with the end of December, 1911. The figures for December, 1912 (nearly 2 millions tons gross) are the highest ever recorded in the quarterly returns issued by *Lloyd's*. The war vessels under construction showed increases of 2,337 tons displacement, and 88,120 tons displacement respectively, compared with September, 1912, and December, 1911.

District.	Merchant Vessels.			War Vessels.		
	End of Dec., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a		End of Dec., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
		Sept., 1912.	Dec., 1911.		Sept., 1912.	Dec., 1911.
	Tons, gross.	Tons, gross.	Tons, gross.	Tons, Displacement.	Tons, Displacement.	Tons, Displacement.
Clyde .. .. .	767,406	+ 58,682	+177,519	118,952	- 27,444	+ 6,116
Belfast .. ..	326,740	+ 11,190	+ 24,090	98,610	+ 2,461	+ 7,845
Tyne .. .. .	312,763	- 8,080	+ 71,850	—	—	—
Wear .. .. .	232,180	+ 22,075	+ 37,532	—	—	—
Hartlepool and Whitby .. ..	98,844	+ 1,119	+ 34,491	—	—	—
Middlesbro' and Stockton .. ..	108,403	+ 17,207	+ 40,046	—	—	—
Hull .. .. .	27,789	+ 269	+ 13,765	—	—	—
Barrow, Maryport and Workington .. ..	2,345	+ 85	- 1,325	86,070	—	+ 334
Liverpool .. ..	35,547	+ 8,107	+ 20,753	23,941	- 5,388	- 6,151
Other Districts .. ..	58,048	+ 12,582	+ 32,292	14,462	+ 108	- 13,774
Royal Dockyards .. ..	—	—	—	154,840	+ 32,600	+ 83,750
<b>TOTAL .. .. .</b>	<b>1,970,065</b>	<b>+123,236</b>	<b>+451,013</b>	<b>496,875</b>	<b>+ 2,337</b>	<b>+ 88,120</b>

**Merchant Vessels.**—Compared with the end of September, 1912, the only decrease was on the Tyne (8,080 tons gross); the other districts showed increases, which on the Clyde amounted to nearly 59,000 tons gross; on the Wear to over 22,000 tons gross, and in the Middlesbro' and Stockton district to over 17,000 tons gross. Compared with December, 1911, there were large increases on the Clyde (over 177,000 tons gross), on the Tyne (nearly 72,000 tons gross), and in the Middlesbro' and Stockton district (over 40,000 tons gross). The only decrease was in the Barrow, Maryport, and Workington district.

**War Vessels.**—Compared with September, 1912, there were decreases on the Clyde and in the Liverpool district, and an increase at the Royal Dockyards. Compared with December, 1911, there was an increase of nearly 94,000 tons displacement at the Royal Dockyards.

## ENGINEERING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT during December was generally good. It was not quite so good as in November, but was better than a year ago.

Returns from Trade Unions with a net membership of 209,556 show 2.2 per cent. unemployed at the end of December, compared with 1.8 per cent. at the end of November, and 3.2 per cent. at the end of December, 1911. Compared with a month ago most districts showed slight increases in the percentage unemployed, and the only decrease which exceeded 1 per cent. occurred in the Oldham, Bolton and Blackburn and the South Wales and Bristol districts. Compared with a year ago the Manchester and Liverpool and the London districts showed practically no change, while all the other districts showed decreases, the most marked of which (6.0 per cent.) was in the East of Scotland district.

District.	No. of Members* of Unions at end of Dec., 1912.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
		Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Month ago.	Year ago.
North-East Coast District	16,510	2.4	1.8	3.7	+ 0.6	- 1.3
Manchester and Liverpool	21,315	2.7	1.5	2.6	+ 1.2	+ 0.1
Oldham, Bolton, and Blackburn District	12,682	5.3	6.4	6.3	- 1.1	- 1.0
West Riding Towns .. ..	13,977	2.7	1.6	4.4	+ 1.1	- 1.7
Hull and Lincolnshire District	5,096	2.0	1.1	3.0	+ 0.9	- 1.0
Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Coventry District	9,221	1.9	1.2	2.7	+ 0.7	- 0.8
Notts, Derby, and Letchworth District	4,986	1.9	1.5	3.1	+ 0.4	- 1.2
London and neighbouring District	12,878	2.1	1.7	2.1	+ 0.4	..
South Coast .. .. .	5,006	0.8	0.9	2.6	- 0.1	- 1.8
South Wales and Bristol District	7,250	2.0	3.3	2.7	- 1.3	- 0.7
Glasgow and District .. ..	18,791	2.8	1.8	3.9	+ 1.0	- 1.1
East of Scotland .. .. .	4,373	2.1	2.4	8.1	- 0.3	- 6.0
Belfast and Dublin .. ..	4,042	3.3	2.1	4.9	+ 1.2	- 1.6
Other Districts .. .. .	6,701	1.1	0.9	2.4	+ 0.2	- 1.3
<b>United Kingdom (Including certain Unions for which District figures are not available)</b>	<b>209,556</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>- 1.0</b>

Employment generally was good on the North-East Coast, and much overtime was worked. Short time was, however, still worked in railway shops at Gateshead.

Employment continued good, with much overtime, and was better than a year ago in Lancashire and Cheshire. In textile machinery shops at Oldham employment was bad, but improved after the termination of the dispute involving moulders. Engineers were only moderately well employed at Birkenhead, as were iron-moulders at Blackburn. At Bolton employment generally was only fair.

Employment in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire continued good, especially in the West Riding. Much overtime was worked. There was an improvement at Lincoln, and some overtime was reported. At Grimsby employment with engineers was reported as dull.

Employment was generally good in the Midland Counties; in the motor industry it was very good. Employment was still only moderate on the whole at Nottingham, but toolmakers were well employed, and some overtime was worked in hosiery machine shops. A good deal of overtime continued to be worked in the Eastern Counties.

Employment was fairly good in London, but showed some decline. Employment continued very good at Erith and on the Medway, with much overtime; with patternmakers at Erith, however, employment showed a decline. It continued very good on the South Coast.

Employment was fair and better than a month ago in South Wales, but at Bristol it showed a slight decline. It was moderate at Swindon.

Employment continued very good at Glasgow, where overtime was fairly general. It was generally good elsewhere in Scotland, and better than a year ago; much overtime was again reported at Dundee, where employment was better than a month ago, but at Falkirk some short time was reported, and there was some decline at Edinburgh.

\* Exclusive of Superannuated Members.

Employment continued good on the whole at Belfast and Dublin. It was very good with ironfounders at Belfast, and with brassfounders at Dublin.

The Imports of machinery in December, 1912, amounted to £614,619, or £54,317 more than in November, 1912, and £160,901 more than in December, 1911.

The Exports of machinery in December, 1912, amounted to £2,743,334 or £172,849 less than in November, 1912, and £92,431 more than in December, 1911.

## MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good, and was about the same as a year ago. Trade unions with 31,318 members reported 1.4 per cent. unemployed at the end of December, 1912, as compared with 1.3 per cent. in both the previous month and in December, 1911.

**Brasswork, Bedsteads, &c.**—Employment with brassworkers was very good at Birmingham; some overtime being worked; it was also described as very good at Manchester and at Nottingham; it was generally good at other places. With bedstead makers at Birmingham it was moderate.

**Nuts, Bolts, Nails, &c.**—Employment in these trades was good generally; on the Tyne it was better than in the previous month.

**Wire.**—Employment generally continued good in this group of trades, and better than a year ago. Wire-drawers at Manchester reported an improvement, short time having ceased.

**Locks, Keys, and General Hardware.**—Employment was good with lock and latch makers at Wolverhampton and Willenhall. It was also good at Wolverhampton in the galvanised iron trade, and showed an improvement with hollow-ware tanners and turners. At West Bromwich hollow-ware makers reported employment as fair. At Wednesbury employment was good in all branches of constructional and coach iron work.

**Stoves, Grates, &c.**—Employment was generally fairly good, and in the Sheffield district there was an improvement, and some overtime was worked. At Falkirk, however, employment showed a decline, and short time was prevalent; there was also some short time at Leeds.

**Cutlery, Tools, Bits, Stirrups, &c.**—At Sheffield employment in the cutlery and tool trades continued good, with some overtime; several branches of the cutlery trade reported an improvement as compared with November, but short time was still reported in the sheep-shear trade. Employment at Birmingham and at Wednesbury in the tool trade was good. At Walsall employment continued very good in the buckle, cart gear, and motor chain trades, and fair in the bit and stirrup trade; it was slack in the harness and saddlery furniture trades. At Redditch the needle, fishing tackle, and fish hook trades were all busy, the last-named reporting an improvement as compared with the previous month.

**Tubes.**—In South Staffordshire employment was good, and an improvement was reported as compared with the preceding month. It was also good at Birmingham in the brass and copper tube trades; bedstead tube makers reported it as moderate.

**Chains, Anchors, Springs, &c.**—Employment with chain makers continued very good at Cradley, and was fair on the Tyne. In the anchor trade it was fair at Cradley, good on the Tyne, with some overtime, and fair on the Wear. In the anvil and vice trade at Dudley employment was described as very brisk. Employment continued fairly good with spring makers at West Bromwich; and it was good at Wednesbury in the railway spring trade.

**Sheet Metal Workers.**—Employment continued good generally with ironplate, tinsplate, and sheet metal workers, and showed on the whole some improvement as compared with a year ago. Some short time continued to be worked by tinsplate workers at Oldham.

**Gold, Silver, and Britannia Metal.**—At Birmingham jewellers reported employment as good, but not quite so busy as usual for the time of year. Silversmiths and electroplaters were working overtime at the beginning of December, but employment was quiet at the end of the month. Employment with Britannia metal workers continued fair. Employment was fair with goldsmiths and jewellers in London.

**Farriers.**—Employment was good generally, but at Dublin it was bad, and worse than in the previous month.

#### Imports and Exports.

The following Table shows the imports and exports of cutlery and hardware for the months specified:—

Description.	Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Imports:—</b>	£	£	£	£	£
Cutlery .. .. .	15,376	14,397	16,313	+ 979	- 937
Hardware .. .. .	114,854	119,725	99,954	- 4,871	+ 14,900
<b>Exports:—</b>	£	£	£	£	£
Cutlery .. .. .	76,395	79,307	76,403	- 2,912	- 8
Hardware .. .. .	218,288	246,976	225,983	- 28,688	- 7,685
Implements and Tools ..	222,335	244,309	222,284	- 21,974	+ 51

## COTTON TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued good both in the spinning and in the weaving branches, and was rather better than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 120,293 workpeople in the week ended December 21st, 1912, showed an increase of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 0.8 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Departments.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing .. .. .	14,755	- 0.4	+ 0.9	13,709	- 0.7	+ 1.8
Spinning .. .. .	24,588	+ 0.2	+ 1.7	24,621	- 0.4	+ 2.3
Weaving .. .. .	58,758	+ 0.1	+ 0.2	59,227	+ 3.5	+ 4.9
Other .. .. .	9,869	+ 1.3	+ 3.1	11,915	+ 2.6	+ 3.4
Not specified .. .. .	14,323	+ 0.3	+ 0.3	15,530	+ 2.1	+ 3.4
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>120,293</b>	<b>+ 0.2</b>	<b>+ 0.8</b>	<b>125,002</b>	<b>+ 2.0</b>	<b>+ 3.7</b>
<b>Districts.</b>						
Ashton .. .. .	5,987	+ 0.3	+ 0.7	6,220	+ 1.4	+ 2.2
Stockport, Glossop, and Hyde .. .. .	6,138	+ 0.7	+ 2.1	6,035	+ 0.3	+ 0.2
Oldham .. .. .	13,047	+ 0.1	+ 1.7	14,254	+ 0.0	+ 1.0
Bolton and Leigh .. ..	15,191	+ 0.2	+ 1.0	14,640	+ 0.4	+ 2.9
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden, & Todmorden .. ..	9,514	- 0.1	+ 3.0	9,824	- 0.0	+ 6.6
Manchester .. .. .	9,969	- 0.0	- 0.4	8,695	+ 0.4	+ 2.7
Preston and Chorley .. ..	12,613	+ 0.5	- 0.4	13,032	+ 6.2	+ 6.8
Blackburn, Accrington, & Darwen .. .. .	17,106	+ 0.2	+ 1.2	19,173	+ 4.6	+ 6.2
Burnley, Padiham, Colne, and Nelson .. .. .	13,761	- 0.0	- 0.3	17,532	+ 2.3	+ 2.9
Other Lancashire Towns ..	4,778	+ 0.0	- 0.3	4,297	- 0.3	+ 4.4
Yorkshire Towns .. .. .	4,882	+ 1.0	+ 0.1	4,717	+ 1.7	+ 1.4
Other Districts .. .. .	7,307	- 0.0	+ 2.0	6,583	+ 2.6	+ 4.5
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>120,293</b>	<b>+ 0.2</b>	<b>+ 0.8</b>	<b>125,002</b>	<b>+ 2.0</b>	<b>+ 3.7</b>

Compared with a month ago, there was an increase in the wages paid in the weaving and "other" departments. Comparison with a year ago is affected by a recent increase in rates of wages.

In the Oldham and Bolton districts employment continued good; in the former district it was affected by a spinners' dispute at certain mills. In the Bury district there was an improvement compared with a year ago. In the Manchester district spinners reported employment as very good, but with power loom weavers it was only fair, and not so good as a month ago. In the Preston district employment was better than a month ago and a year ago, especially in the weaving branch. In the Blackburn and Burnley districts there was an improvement compared with a month ago; weavers at Rossendale and Bacup reported employment as very good. In Yorkshire employment was good, and rather better than a month ago.



## Prices of Raw Cotton at Liverpool.

The following Table shows the average prices of "Middling American" and "Good Fair Egyptian" cotton during December, 1912, together with the highest and lowest prices during the month. These particulars are compared with the corresponding figures for a month ago and a year ago.

Description	Dec., 1912.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in December, 1912, on a	
	Month ago	Year ago	Month ago	Year ago	
<b>Middling American:</b>					
Monthly average of Daily Quotations	7.07	+ 0.21	+ 2.05		
Highest Price on any one day	7.18	+ 0.09	+ 2.07		
Lowest " " "	6.90	+ 0.27	+ 1.98		
<b>Good Fair Egyptian:</b>					
Monthly average of Daily Quotations	9.79	+ 0.05	+ 1.01		
Highest Price on any one day	9.90	- 0.05	+ 1.02		
Lowest " " "	9.75	+ 0.33	+ 1.12		

The visible supply of American cotton for the United Kingdom on January 3rd, 1913, was estimated by the Liverpool Cotton Association to be 1,531,230 bales, as compared with 1,102,610 bales on January 5th, 1912.

## Cotton forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns.

The Table below gives particulars of the various descriptions of cotton forwarded from ports to inland towns during the months specified:—

Description of Cotton.	Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
				Month ago	Year ago
American	298,730	304,067	280,256	+ 5,337	+ 13,474
Brazilian	11,396	12,113	7,987	+ 222	+ 3,399
East Indian	2,576	3,486	1,150	+ 921	+ 1,425
Egyptian	56,047	40,643	43,477	+ 15,404	+ 12,570
Miscellaneous	12,775	14,815	8,194	+ 2,040	+ 4,581
<b>Total</b>	<b>381,523</b>	<b>375,139</b>	<b>341,074</b>	<b>+ 6,384</b>	<b>+ 40,449</b>

## Exports of Cotton Goods.

The Table below shows the quantity of cotton yarn and thread and cotton piece goods exported during the months mentioned:—

Description.	Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
				Month ago	Year ago
<b>Cotton Yarn and Twist—</b>					
Grey	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	+ 264	+ 555
Bleached and Dyed	15,221	14,957	15,776	+ 26	+ 238
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,315</b>	<b>18,025</b>	<b>18,632</b>	<b>+ 290</b>	<b>+ 317</b>
<b>Cotton Thread for Sewing..</b>	1,693	1,872	1,877	- 179	- 184
<b>Cotton Piece Goods—</b>					
Grey or Unbleached	184,741 yds.	184,957 yds.	161,556 yds.	+ 216	+ 23,385
Bleached	164,214	170,164	149,285	+ 5,950	+ 14,929
Printed	97,002	99,737	96,133	+ 2,735	+ 869
Dyed or Manufactured of Dyed Yarn	108,412	114,088	110,429	+ 5,676	+ 2,017
<b>Total</b>	<b>554,369</b>	<b>568,946</b>	<b>517,203</b>	<b>+ 14,577</b>	<b>+ 37,166</b>

## WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

## Woollen Trade.

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

Returns from firms employing 27,584 workpeople in the week ended December 21st showed a decrease of 0.1 per cent. in the number employed, and an increase of 0.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 1.3 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

In the Huddersfield district employment was good, and overtime was reported, but in the weaving branch there was a slight decline in employment as compared with a year ago. In the Leeds district and in the Dewsbury and Batley district employment was good, and much better than a year ago, an improvement being shown in every branch. In Scotland there was a slight decline in

\* The quotations of Egyptian cotton for November and December, 1912, are for cotton sold—new terms, i.e., without discount.

spinning and weaving compared with a month ago, but employment on the whole was good, and slightly better than a year ago.

Departments.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Wool Sorting .. ..	787	+ 0.4	+ 1.0	901	+ 1.3	+ 7.0
Spinning .. ..	5,686	+ 0.4	+ 3.4	5,581	+ 0.6	+ 5.6
Weaving .. ..	11,525	+ 0.3	+ 0.8	10,880	+ 1.5	+ 4.5
Other Departments ..	7,737	- 1.4	+ 0.6	8,341	+ 0.2	+ 3.4
Not specified .. ..	1,839	+ 1.3	+ 0.7	1,776	- 3.5	- 4.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,584</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>+ 1.3</b>	<b>27,479</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>	<b>+ 3.8</b>

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Huddersfield District ..	4,004	- 0.1	+ 0.1	4,593	+ 0.2	- 0.1
Leeds District .. ..	2,835	+ 1.0	+ 4.2	2,903	+ 2.4	+ 10.9
Dewsbury & Batley District	4,394	- 0.2	+ 1.8	4,820	+ 2.5	+ 7.7
Other Parts of West Riding	2,399	+ 0.7	+ 4.3	2,552	+ 2.2	+ 7.1
<b>Total, West Riding</b>	<b>13,632</b>	<b>+ 0.2</b>	<b>+ 2.2</b>	<b>14,848</b>	<b>+ 1.7</b>	<b>+ 5.7</b>
Scotland .. ..	7,412	- 0.3	+ 0.8	7,220	- 0.4	+ 0.7
Other Districts .. ..	6,540	- 0.5	+ 1.4	5,411	- 1.2	+ 3.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,584</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>+ 1.3</b>	<b>27,479</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>	<b>+ 3.8</b>

## Worsted Trade.

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

Returns from firms employing 42,513 workpeople in the week ended December 21st showed no change in the number employed, and an increase of 0.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 1.2 per cent. in the number employed, and of 5.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Departments.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Wool Sorting & Combing ..	5,515	- 1.8	+ 4.1	5,972	- 2.4	+ 8.1
Spinning .. ..	22,051	+ 0.2	- 0.2	13,631	+ 1.6	+ 4.0
Weaving .. ..	8,932	+ 0.8	+ 1.8	8,360	+ 2.0	+ 5.7
Other Departments .. ..	4,195	- 0.5	- 0.1	4,588	+ 0.6	+ 4.4
Not specified .. ..	1,820	+ 0.2	+ 10.4	1,536	- 0.3	+ 13.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>42,513</b>	<b>+ 0.0</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>	<b>34,087</b>	<b>+ 0.8</b>	<b>+ 5.6</b>

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Bradford District .. ..	22,079	- 0.3	+ 1.5	17,975	+ 0.2	+ 6.2
Keighley District .. ..	6,953	+ 0.5	- 0.3	5,467	+ 1.7	+ 5.1
Halifax District .. ..	3,789	+ 1.0	+ 2.2	3,025	+ 1.0	+ 9.2
Huddersfield District ..	4,190	- 0.2	+ 4.9	3,806	+ 1.2	+ 4.8
Other Parts of West Riding	2,858	+ 0.4	- 1.4	1,965	+ 1.9	+ 3.6
<b>Total, West Riding</b>	<b>39,869</b>	<b>+ 0.0</b>	<b>+ 1.4</b>	<b>32,238</b>	<b>+ 0.8</b>	<b>+ 5.9</b>
Other Districts .. ..	2,644	- 0.5	- 2.4	1,849	+ 0.7	- 0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>42,513</b>	<b>+ 0.0</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>	<b>34,087</b>	<b>+ 0.8</b>	<b>+ 5.6</b>

In the Bradford district employment was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago in every department except wool combing and sorting, which showed a decline compared with a month ago. In the Keighley district employment was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago in every branch. In the Halifax and Huddersfield districts employment continued good, and was better than a year ago, especially in the Halifax district, where there was a considerable improvement in the spinning department.

## Imports and Exports.

Description.	Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports .. 1,000 lbs.	63,749	46,909	74,528	+ 16,840	+ 10,779
British Exports ..	2,446	4,067	3,203	- 1,821	- 757
Re-Exports of Imported Wool .. 1,000 lbs.	23,569	11,489	29,985	+ 12,080	- 6,426

Imports and Exports of Raw Wool (SHEEP OR LAMBS).					
Description.	Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports .. 1,000 lbs.	63,749	46,909	74,528	+ 16,840	+ 10,779
British Exports ..	2,446	4,067	3,203	- 1,821	- 757
Re-Exports of Imported Wool .. 1,000 lbs.	23,569	11,489	29,985	+ 12,080	- 6,426
<b>British and Irish Manufactures Exported.</b>					
Yarn:					
Woolen .. 1,000 lbs.	472	526	473	- 54	- 1
Worsted .. ..	4,453	4,709	4,498	- 256	- 45
Alpaca and Mohair ..	1,345	1,359	1,043	- 14	+ 302
<b>Total, Yarn</b>	<b>6,270</b>	<b>6,594</b>	<b>6,014</b>	<b>- 324</b>	<b>+ 256</b>
Piece Goods:					
Woolen .. 1,000 yds.	8,931	7,261	7,964	+ 1,670	+ 867
Worsted .. ..	6,611	5,535	6,638	+ 1,076	- 27
<b>Total Piece Goods</b>	<b>15,542</b>	<b>12,796</b>	<b>14,602</b>	<b>+ 2,746</b>	<b>+ 940</b>

## Prices of Raw Wool.

The average prices and the course of prices of Lincoln hogs, crossbred tops, and Botany tops in Bradford are shown below for the months specified:—

Description.	Dec., 1912.			Nov., 1912.			Dec., 1911.		
	Pence per lb.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Pence per lb.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Pence per lb.	Per cent.	Per cent.
<b>Average Prices:</b>									
Lincoln Hogs .. ..	11 3/4	- 0.4	+ 2.0	11 1/4	+ 0.8	+ 0.5	13 3/4	+ 0.9	+ 11.3
40's Crossbred tops ..	16	+ 0.4	+ 1.5	15 1/2	+ 0.4	+ 1.5	2 1/2	+ 0.5	+ 9.3
60's Super Botany tops ..	29 1/2	+ 0.7	- 0.3	28 3/4	+ 0.7	- 0.3	26	+ 0.1	+ 7.4
<b>Course of Prices:</b>									
Lincoln Hogs .. ..	11 1/4	11 1/2	11 3/4	11 1/4	15, 16	13 3/4	9 3/4	+ 0.8	+ 6.1
40's Crossbred tops ..	16	16	16	15, 16	15, 16	13 3/4	2 1/2	+ 0.5	+ 9.3
60's Super Botany tops ..	29 1/2	29 1/2	29 1/2	28, 29 1/2	28, 29 1/2	26	26	+ 0.1	+ 7.4

## LINEN TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 45,708 workpeople in the week ended December 21st showed an increase of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed and of 4.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 0.7 per cent. in the number employed and of 5.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Departments.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Preparing .. ..	5,991	+ 1.1	+ 3.6	3,510	+ 2.5	+ 6.7
Spinning .. ..	10,573	+ 0.5	- 1.7	5,474	+ 2.2	+ 4.8
Weaving .. ..	16,432	+ 0.4	+ 0.6	11,245	+ 6.2	+ 3.6
Other .. ..	6,722	+ 0.2	+ 1.5	5,485	+ 2.2	+ 6.9
Not specified .. ..	5,990	+ 0.2	+ 1.5	3,783	+ 4.2	+ 9.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>45,708</b>	<b>+ 0.5</b>	<b>+ 0.7</b>	<b>29,497</b>	<b>+ 4.0</b>	<b>+ 5.6</b>

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Belfast .. ..	17,065	+ 0.9	+ 3.2	11,313	+ 5.7	+ 10.0
Other Places in Ireland ..	14,929	+ 0.5	+ 0.6	8,980	+ 5.9	+ 3.4
<b>Total, Ireland</b>	<b>31,994</b>	<b>+ 0.7</b>	<b>+ 1.9</b>	<b>20,293</b>	<b>+ 5.8</b>	<b>+ 7.0</b>
Fifehire .. ..	6,319	+ 0.0	- 2.0	4,212	+ 0.2	+ 1.2
Other Places in Scotland ..	6,329	- 0.1	- 1.7	4,251	- 0.3	+ 5.6
<b>Total, Scotland</b>	<b>12,648</b>	<b>- 0.0</b>	<b>- 1.9</b>	<b>8,463</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>+ 3.3</b>
England .. ..	1,066	- 1.1	- 5.7	741	+ 2.9	- 6.7
<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>45,708</b>	<b>+ 0.5</b>	<b>+ 0.7</b>	<b>29,497</b>	<b>+ 4.0</b>	<b>+ 5.6</b>

In the Belfast district employment continued good, and was better than a year ago when short time was reported in the preparing and spinning departments; flax dressers reported it as very good. In other parts of Ireland there was an improvement compared with both a month ago and a year ago. In Scotland employment continued good, and was better than a year ago. A scarcity of women workers, principally weavers, was again reported in both Scotland and Ireland.

## Imports and Exports.

Description.	Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Flax (Dressed and Undressed, Tow or Codilla) .. .. tons	11,730	4,105	7,404	+ 7,625	+ 4,326
Exports:					
Linen Yarn 100 lbs.	14,359	11,692	13,466	+ 2,667	+ 893
Linen Piece Goods 100 yds.	200,499	175,326	186,940	+ 25,173	+ 13,559

## JUTE TRADE.

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

Returns from firms employing 14,812 workpeople in the week ended December 21st showed an increase of 0.1 per cent. in the number employed and of 0.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 1.1 per cent. in the number employed and of 8.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Departments.	Workpeople.		
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## LACE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued fair, and was better than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 6,153 workpeople in the week ended December 21st showed a decrease of 1.0 per cent. in the number employed, and no change in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 1.0 per cent. in the number employed, and an increase of 4.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Branches.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Levers .. .. .	1,451	- 0.6	+ 6.1	2,051	+ 1.4	+ 7.2
Curtain .. .. .	2,510	- 1.1	+ 1.4	2,612	- 1.0	+ 3.3
Plain Net .. .. .	1,523	- 1.0	- 7.2	1,232	+ 3.1	- 4.2
Others .. .. .	664	- 1.3	- 3.2	467	- 7.9	- 6.2
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>6,153</b>	<b>- 1.0</b>	<b>- 1.0</b>	<b>6,362</b>	<b>- 0.0</b>	<b>+ 4.1</b>
<b>Districts.</b>						
Nottingham City .. .. .	1,540	- 2.7	- 3.6	1,440	- 6.3	- 4.4
Long Eaton and other outlying districts	1,102	+ 0.2	+ 6.7	1,582	+ 3.3	+ 15.6
Other English districts .. .. .	1,808	- 0.3	- 2.9	1,622	+ 3.4	+ 0.6
Scotland .. .. .	1,703	- 0.9	- 1.2	1,718	- 0.5	+ 5.9
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>6,153</b>	<b>- 1.0</b>	<b>- 1.0</b>	<b>6,362</b>	<b>- 0.0</b>	<b>+ 4.1</b>

At Nottingham employment continued bad, with short time in the levers section, but was better than a year ago; in the curtain section it showed a decline compared with a month ago, but was reported as good; in the plain net section it was fair. In the Long Eaton district employment was good, and much better than a year ago. In the West of England it continued fair, and was about the same as a year ago. In Scotland employment in the curtain branch was good, and better than a year ago.

## Imports and Exports.

Description.	Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Imports:</b>	£	£	£	£	£
Cotton Lace .. .. .	213,594	159,021	236,098	+ 54,573	- 22,504
Silk Lace .. .. .	24,888	19,365	13,782	+ 5,523	+ 11,106
<b>Exports:</b>	£	£	£	£	£
Cotton Lace .. .. .	353,451	315,400	365,481	+ 38,051	- 12,030
Silk Lace .. .. .	1,920	2,106	4,514	- 186	- 2,894

## SILK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good generally, but showed some decline on a month ago. It was better than a year ago in the weaving department.

Returns from firms employing 8,798 workpeople in the week ended December 21st showed a decrease of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed and of 1.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 0.7 per cent. in the number employed, and an increase of 1.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Branches.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Throwing .. .. .	1,025	- 2.5	- 5.1	480	- 1.3	- 1.6
Spinning .. .. .	2,525	- 0.2	- 4.9	2,004	- 1.4	- 1.7
Weaving .. .. .	3,825	- 2.6	+ 4.3	2,669	- 1.3	+ 3.7
Other .. .. .	629	- 2.9	- 2.8	514	- 4.3	..
Not specified .. .. .	792	+ 2.2	- 1.6	600	- 1.5	+ 1.0
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>8,798</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>- 0.7</b>	<b>6,267</b>	<b>- 1.6</b>	<b>+ 1.0</b>
<b>Districts.</b>						
Lancashire and W. Riding of Yorkshire	3,226	- 0.9	- 2.0	2,615	- 2.1	- 1.1
Macclesfield, Congleton and District	1,223	- 2.8	+ 3.7	870	- 2.8	+ 2.6
Eastern Counties .. .. .	2,590	+ 1.1	- 2.4	1,655	- 1.0	+ 0.8
Other Districts, including Scotland and Leek	1,759	- 0.2	+ 1.6	1,127	- 0.5	+ 4.8
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>8,798</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>- 0.7</b>	<b>6,267</b>	<b>- 1.6</b>	<b>+ 1.0</b>

At Macclesfield employment with silk throwsters and spinners was fair; with hand and power loom weavers it was bad, and worse than a month ago. At Leek there was some decline in the throwing and spinning branches, and employment was only moderate; with trimming weavers it was fair. At Congleton employment was good, except with trimming weavers, who reported it as bad. In the Bradford and Halifax district employment continued fairly good generally, and was about the same as a year ago. In the Eastern Counties employment was good.

## Imports and Exports.

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

Description.	Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Imports:—</b>					
Raw Silk .. .. . lbs	47,695	91,290	70,813	- 43,595	- 23,118
Thrown Silk .. .. . lbs	47,928	36,235	46,061	+ 11,633	+ 1,867
Spun Silk Yarn .. .. . lbs	59,466	49,087	56,854	+ 10,379	+ 2,612
Silk Broad-Stuffs .. .. . yds	6,002,015	5,651,176	5,739,219	+ 350,839	+ 262,796
<b>Exports:—</b>					
Thrown Silk .. .. . lbs	6,591	8,934	5,994	- 2,343	+ 597
Spun Silk Yarn .. .. . lbs	76,055	67,837	102,857	+ 8,218	- 26,802
Silk Broad-Stuffs .. .. . yds	383,208	317,913	378,189	+ 65,295	+ 5,019

## CARPET TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during December continued good, and was better than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 8,189 workpeople, and paying £7,455 in wages, in the week ended December 21st, 1912, showed an increase of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 3.5 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

In the Kidderminster district power loom weavers reported an improvement in employment as compared with a month ago; some short time, however, was still worked. In Scotland employment was, on the whole, fairly good.

## BLEACHING, PRINTING, DYEING AND FINISHING.

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

Returns from firms employing 31,906 workpeople in the week ended December 21st showed no change in the number employed, and an increase of 1.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 3.1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 5.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Trades:—	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Bleaching .. .. .	3,585	+ 0.5	+ 3.6	3,741	- 0.7	+ 6.0
Printing .. .. .	857	+ 0.5	- 1.4	1,108	+ 1.1	- 0.4
Dyeing .. .. .	16,324	- 0.4	+ 4.0	22,430	+ 2.8	+ 6.0
Trimming, Finishing, and Other Departments	10,615	+ 0.3	+ 2.0	11,652	+ 1.2	+ 4.2
Not specified .. .. .	525	- 0.9	- 0.4	640	- 0.2	+ 2.2
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>31,906</b>	<b>- 0.0</b>	<b>+ 3.1</b>	<b>39,571</b>	<b>+ 1.9</b>	<b>+ 5.2</b>
<b>Districts:—</b>						
Yorkshire .. .. .	14,273	- 0.0	+ 4.9	19,875	+ 3.2	+ 7.0
Lancashire .. .. .	10,553	- 0.2	+ 1.5	12,715	+ 0.5	+ 3.4
Scotland .. .. .	3,521	- 0.3	+ 1.6	3,160	- 1.5	+ 2.5
Ireland .. .. .	824	..	+ 4.0	753	+ 3.8	+ 3.3
Other Districts .. .. .	2,735	+ 0.9	+ 1.6	3,068	+ 2.7	+ 4.7
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>31,906</b>	<b>- 0.0</b>	<b>+ 3.1</b>	<b>39,571</b>	<b>+ 1.9</b>	<b>+ 5.2</b>

Bleaching.—Employment with cotton bleachers in Lancashire was moderate, and worse than a month ago and a year ago; about 20 per cent. of the trade union

## BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT was fairly good, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 69,149 workpeople in the week ended December 21st showed an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 3.8 per cent. in the number employed and of 5.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

District.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.</b>						
London .. .. .	2,703	- 0.6	- 0.5	3,049	+ 1.8	- 0.7
Leicester .. .. .	13,286	+ 1.0	+ 4.3	15,175	+ 5.1	+ 6.1
Leicester Country District	3,200	+ 0.4	+ 2.6	3,232	+ 4.4	+ 4.2
Northampton .. .. .	11,325	+ 0.3	+ 3.2	11,576	+ 0.5	+ 5.8
Northampton Country District	9,649	+ 1.3	+ 8.6	9,750	+ 4.1	+ 8.9
Kettering .. .. .	3,951	- 0.7	+ 0.9	4,084	+ 3.9	+ 2.2
Stafford & District .. .. .	2,909	+ 0.1	+ 9.7	3,099	+ 8.4	+ 19.1
Norwich & District .. .. .	4,823	+ 0.5	+ 6.2	4,256	+ 1.5	+ 5.2
Bristol & District .. .. .	1,457	+ 1.2	+ 1.3	1,375	+ 1.6	+ 15.9
Kingswood .. .. .	1,928	- 0.1	+ 1.0	2,073	+ 7.4	+ 7.7
Leeds & District .. .. .	2,329	+ 0.9	+ 4.5	2,373	+ 6.3	+ 14.0
Manchester & District .. .. .	3,250	- 1.0	- 0.3	2,891	- 3.8	- 6.2
Birmingham & District .. .. .	899	- 0.4	+ 5.0	770	+ 0.3	+ 6.1
Other parts of England and Wales	3,522	+ 0.6	+ 3.3	3,285	+ 6.5	+ 3.5
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES .. .. .</b>	<b>65,231</b>	<b>+ 0.5</b>	<b>+ 4.1</b>	<b>66,968</b>	<b>+ 3.4</b>	<b>+ 6.0</b>
SCOTLAND .. .. .	3,532	- 0.4	- 0.5	3,644	+ 4.4	+ 4.3
IRELAND .. .. .	386	..	- 4.2	273	+ 11.4	+ 1.9
<b>UNITED KINGDOM .. .. .</b>	<b>69,149</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>+ 3.8</b>	<b>70,885</b>	<b>+ 3.5</b>	<b>+ 5.9</b>

At Leicester employment was fairly good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. At Northampton and Kettering employment on the whole was fair, and better than a year ago; with army bootmakers in Northamptonshire it was reported as very good. At Norwich employment continued fairly good, and was better than a year ago. The trade union lasters and finishers reported employment as slack at Bristol, and as moderate at Leeds, but employment at both these centres was much better than a year ago. At Kingswood there was a considerable amount of overtime. In Scotland employment was fairly good, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

## Imports and Exports of Boots and Shoes.

Description.	Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Imports (less re-exports):</b>					
Leather .. doz. pairs	16,787	16,334	14,704	+ 453	+ 2,083
.. value £	54,105	66,427	51,317	- 12,322	+ 2,788
Rubber .. doz. pairs	1,124	5,027	3,071	- 3,903	- 1,947
.. value £	2,567	7,016	4,973	- 4,449	- 2,406
Other materials doz. pairs	8,434	17,645	11,985	- 9,211	- 3,551
.. value £	7,303	14,941	8,664	- 7,638	- 1,361
<b>Exports (British &amp; Irish):</b>					
Leather .. doz. pairs	107,062	132,230	98,356	- 25,168	+ 8,706
.. value £	318,102	368,335	285,543	- 50,233	+ 32,559
Rubber .. doz. pairs	8,068	8,078	14,753	- 10	- 6,685
.. value £	8,716	9,080	16,995	- 364	- 8,279
Other materials doz. pairs	8,486	5,859	7,540	+ 2,627	+ 946
.. value £	6,087	5,377	5,341	+ 710	+ 746

## TAILORING TRADE.

## Bespoke Branch.

London.—Employment during December showed the usual seasonal decline, but was slightly better than a year ago.

Returns from firms paying £10,478 to their workpeople (indoor workers and outworkers) during the four weeks ended December 21st showed a decrease of 13.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago, and an increase of 2.9 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Other Centres.—Employment was reported as quiet at Manchester and Liverpool, fair at Glasgow, dull at Dublin, and good at Belfast.

## Ready-made Branch.

London.—Employment was fairly good, slightly better than a month ago, and about the same as a year ago. The trade union cutters reported it as fair.

bleachers and dyers were on short time. At Basford and Bulwell employment was good. At Dundee it was fair.

Printing.—Employment with machine calico printers in England was good, and about the same as a year ago; in Scotland it continued bad. In Derbyshire and in Scotland engravers to calico printers reported employment as good.

Dyeing.—Employment with woollen and worsted dyers in the West Riding continued good, and was better than a year ago; about 60 per cent. of the trade union dyers worked overtime, and about 6 per cent. worked short time. With cotton dyers in Yorkshire employment was good, and better than a year ago; in Lancashire it was fair. With silk dyers employment was good at Macclesfield and Congleton, and better than a month ago; at Leek it was fair. With lace dyers at Nottingham it was good.

Trimming, Finishing, &c.—Employment with hosiery trimmers, &c., was fair at Leicester; at Hinkley and Loughborough it was good; at Basford and Bulwell it was fair. With calender workers at Dundee it was good.

## LEATHER TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT was fair on the whole, though generally only moderate in the saddlery trade; it showed a decline on the previous month, and was about the same as a year ago. Trade unions with a membership of 3,078, reported 4.8 per cent. unemployed at the end of December, compared with 3.9 per cent. a month ago, and 5.2 per cent. a year ago.

Skinner, Tanners, Curriers, Dressers, &c.—With skinner employment was good at Leeds, but quiet at Birmingham; in London it was fair, and slightly better than a month ago. With curriers employment continued fairly good at Birmingham, where, however, some short time was worked, and was bad and worse than a month ago in London; at Walsall it was quiet. Employment continued good with curriers at Glasgow and Doncaster, and fair at Edinburgh and Leeds. Grounders and skinner reported employment as fair, the same as a month ago, and better than a year ago. With general leather workers employment continued good at Northampton and Manchester, and fair at Bolton, Bury, and Wigan.

Saddle and Harness Makers.—At Walsall employment was fair with brown saddlers and harness makers, but quiet with horse collar makers and bridle cutters; much short time was worked by gig saddlers. Employment was quiet in the saddlery trade generally at Birmingham. It was quiet, and worse than a month ago, at Dublin, and fair at Edinburgh. It continued quiet with brown saddlers and harness makers in London.

Miscellaneous.—With portmanteau and trunk makers employment was fair, and rather better than a month ago, in London, and good and better than a month ago at Manchester. With fancy leather makers it was generally good, and much overtime was reported.

## Imports and Exports.

Description.	Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Imports:</b>					
Hides, raw, and pieces thereof, dry .. cwts.	49,268	62,306	40,855	- 13,038	+ 8,413
Ditto, wet .. .. .	71,372	84,730	65,301	- 13,358	+ 6,071
<b>Total Hides, dry and wet .. cwts.</b>	<b>120,640</b>	<b>147,036</b>	<b>106,156</b>	<b>- 26,396</b>	<b>+ 14,484</b>
Goat skins, undressed, No. Sheep skins .. (value) £	984,854	813,030	1,009,563	+ 171,824	- 24,709
.. .. .	204,795	290,060	181,564	- 85,265	+ 23,151
<b>Leather* .. .. .</b>	<b>109,320</b>	<b>115,3</b>			

**Leeds.**—Returns from firms employing 8,844 workpeople in their factories (in addition to persons employed on work for them in workshops) in the week ended December 21st showed a decrease of 0.3 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 2.8 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment in this branch was fair. The Jewish operatives were fairly well employed during the early part of the month owing to a demand for "specials" for the holiday season.

**Other Centres.**—At Bristol employment continued fair, and was about the same as a year ago; at Manchester it was fair, but not so good as a year ago. At Norwich employment continued good. At Glasgow there was a decline compared with a month ago, but employment was fairly good and better than a year ago.

The **Imports** of apparel, not waterproofed, in December 1912, were valued at £255,492, as compared with £280,969 in November, 1912, and £212,578 in December, 1911; and the **Exports** for the same months at £601,777, £709,586, and £634,765 respectively.

### HAT TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during December in the *silk* hat trade continued quiet, and showed little change compared with a year ago.

In the *felt* hat trade employment continued good, and was slightly better than a year ago. The percentage of trade union members unemployed at the end of December was 1.3, compared with 1.3 a month ago and 2.4 a year ago. At Denton, Stockport, and in Warwickshire employment was reported as good.

#### Imports and Exports.

Description.	December, 1912.	November, 1912.	December, 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Imports:</b>					
Hats, Felt.. ..dozens	8,296	20,537	5,455	- 12,241	+ 2,841
" Straw .. .."	13,676	5,736	4,403	+ 7,940	+ 2,273
" Other sorts .. .."	99,850	80,635	49,078	+ 19,045	+ 50,802
Total .. ..	121,852	107,108	58,938	+ 14,744	+ 62,916
<b>Exports:</b>					
Hats, Felt .. ..	54,935	46,643	56,722	+ 8,292	- 1,787
" Straw .. .."	43,382	38,387	45,485	+ 5,015	- 2,103
" Other sorts .. .."	18,744	17,785	14,125	+ 959	+ 4,619
Total .. ..	117,061	102,795	116,332	+ 14,266	+ 729

### OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

Employment in London in the dressmaking trades was moderate with retail firms and quiet with court and private dressmakers; in both branches there was a decline compared with a year ago; in the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, &c., trades employment was fair. Employment generally was fair in the shirt and collar trade and in the corset trade.

**Dressmaking, Millinery and Mantle Trades.**—Returns from retail firms in London, chiefly in the West End, employing 1,950 dressmakers in the week ended December 21st showed a decrease of 4.8 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 3.8 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment during the month was moderate. Court and private dressmakers employing 1,000 workpeople in the week ended December 21st showed a decrease of 6.4 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 10.9 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment during the month was quiet. With milliners in the West End employment was moderate.

In the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, under-clothing and millinery trades, firms in London employing 3,002 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended December 21st showed an increase of 2.6 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 5.3 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was fair.

In Manchester employment in the mantle trade was moderate, slightly worse than a month ago, but rather better than a year ago. In the costume, skirt and blouse trades firms employing 2,285 workpeople in the week

ended December 21st showed an increase of 1.2 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 0.4 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment was fair.

In Glasgow employment in the mantle trade was moderate, but slightly better than a year ago.

**Shirt and Collar Trade.**—Returns from shirt and collar manufacturers in England, Scotland and Ireland employing 6,301 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers), and paying £4,314 in wages to indoor workers and outworkers in the week ended December 21st showed an increase of 0.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 2.3 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment generally was fair.

**Corset Trade.**—Returns from corset manufacturers employing 5,543 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended December 21st showed a decrease of 0.9 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 2.3 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment on the whole was fair.

### PAPER, PRINTING AND BOOK-BINDING TRADES.

#### PAPER TRADES.

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

Returns from firms employing 19,508 workpeople in the last week of the month showed practically no change in the total number of workpeople employed by them as compared with a month ago, and an increase of 1.1 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Description.	Workpeople paid Wages in last week of Dec., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Machine-made Paper and Milled Boards:</b>			
Northern Counties .. ..	5,727	+ 0.1	+ 0.6
Midlands, Wales and Ireland .. ..	1,416	- 0.0	+ 0.9
Southern Counties .. ..	6,998	- 0.0	+ 2.3
Scotland .. ..	4,547	- 0.1	+ 0.8
<b>Total, Machine-made Paper, &amp;c.</b>	18,688	+ 0.0	+ 1.3
<b>Hand-made Paper .. ..</b>	820	- 0.1	- 4.2
<b>Total .. ..</b>	19,508	+ 0.0	+ 1.1

Trade Unions in the *machine-made paper* trade with 3,950 members had 1.0 per cent. unemployed at the end of December, as compared with 0.6 per cent. a month ago and 1.7 per cent. a year ago. In the *hand-made paper* trade Trade Unions with 528 members had 5.5 per cent. unemployed at the end of December, as compared with 5.1 per cent. in November and 2.3 per cent. in December, 1911.

The **Imports** of paper in December, 1912, were valued at £665,566, as compared with £610,638, in November, 1912, and £601,040, in December, 1911; and the **Exports** for the same months were valued at £291,921, £331,283, and £279,789 respectively.

#### PRINTING TRADES.

Employment continued good with letterpress printers and fair with lithographic printers. At the end of the month the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed showed a seasonal increase as compared with the end of November. Compared with December, 1911, however, a decrease was shown.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Dec., 1912.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London .. ..	21,423	7.4	3.8	9.4	+ 3.6	- 2.0
Northern Counties and Yorkshire .. ..	5,753	3.8	0.9	4.3	+ 2.9	- 0.6
Lancs. and Cheshire .. ..	7,253	4.6	3.0	5.2	+ 1.6	- 0.5
East Midland and Eastern Counties .. ..	2,672	1.6	0.5	3.0	+ 1.1	- 1.4
West Midlands .. ..	2,768	2.9	2.0	4.0	+ 0.9	- 1.1
S. & S.W. Counties and Wales .. ..	4,089	3.6	1.4	2.6	+ 2.2	+ 1.0
Scotland .. ..	5,235	4.4	2.9	3.3	+ 1.5	+ 1.1
Ireland .. ..	2,551	5.8	5.3	6.7	+ 0.5	- 0.9
<b>United Kingdom .. ..</b>	<b>51,744</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>+ 2.5</b>	<b>- 0.9</b>

**London.**—Employment with letterpress printers was reported as good, rather better than a month ago, and better than a year ago, though at the end of the month a large number of Trade Union compositors were out of employment. With lithographic printers employment was fair, not so good as a month ago, but better than a year ago.

**Other Centres.**—Employment continued good generally with letterpress printers and fair with lithographic printers, showing little general change compared with a month ago and a year ago. As usual at this time of the year, however, the percentage of men unemployed increased at the end of the month.

#### BOOKBINDING TRADES.

Employment continued good generally, and was better than a year ago. Compared with a month ago there was a decline in London, and a slight improvement in the provinces. At Dublin employment continued slack.

Description.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Dec., 1912.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London .. ..	3,424	3.1	1.8	5.7	+ 1.3	- 2.6
Other Districts .. ..	3,110	2.0	2.1	2.2	- 0.1	- 0.2
<b>United Kingdom .. ..</b>	<b>6,534</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>	<b>- 1.3</b>

### FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades showed a seasonal decline, but was better than in December, 1911. Trade unions with a total membership of 44,924 reported 3.8 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 2.7 per cent. a month ago and 4.3 per cent. a year ago.

#### Furnishing Trades.

Employment in December was fair; it was not so good as in November, but showed some improvement on a year ago. Trade unions reported 5.6 per cent. of their membership as out of work at the end of the month, the corresponding percentages for a month ago and a year ago being 3.4 and 6.0. In London employment was quiet, at Leeds bad, at Nottingham slack, and at Glasgow, Sheffield, Newcastle and Dublin good. It was bad with french polishers in London.

The **Imports** of furniture and cabinet ware in December 1912, were valued at £36,965, as compared with £35,870 in November, 1912, and £36,194 in December, 1911; and the **Exports** for the same months were valued at £117,739, £137,782, and £118,865 respectively.

#### Mill Sawyers and Woodcutting Machinists.

Employment continued fairly good and about the same as in November, but was better than a year ago. Trade unions reported 2.6 per cent. of their members as out of employment at the end of December, the same figure as for November; a year ago the percentage was 4.1. At Hull employment was described as moderate, at Nottingham as quiet, and at Belfast as dull.

#### Imports.

Description.	Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Timber, hewn .. ..</b>	<b>Loads.</b>	<b>Loads.</b>	<b>Loads.</b>	<b>Loads.</b>	<b>Loads.</b>
" sawn .. ..	219,062	309,969	231,163	- 90,907	- 12,101
	363,655	457,783	321,044	- 94,128	+ 42,611
<b>House Frames, Fittings and Joiners' Work (value)</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	10,621	12,970	20,925	- 2,349	- 10,304

#### Coopers.

With coopers employment was on the whole dull, and worse than a month ago. At Hull, Edinburgh and Dublin, however, it was good.

#### Coachbuilding.

Employment was fairly good, although somewhat below the level of the previous month; it was better

than a year ago. Trade unions reported 2.5 per cent. of their members as unemployed at the end of the month, as against 2.4 per cent. a month ago and 3.2 per cent. a year ago. In London it was stated to be good for the period of the year; it was also good at Glasgow and Manchester; while at Liverpool and Cork it was moderate, at Belfast quiet, and at Dublin bad.

#### Miscellaneous.

**Brushmaking.**—Employment was fair generally and showed a decline on a month ago. It was better than a year ago. Trade unions reported 6.7 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of December, compared with 2.4 per cent. a month ago and 9.1 per cent. a year ago.

The **Imports** of brushes and brooms in December, 1912, were valued at £35,032 as compared with £37,792 in November, 1912, and £36,040 in December, 1911; the **Exports** for the same months were valued at £19,776, £21,126, and £20,462, respectively.

**Other Trades.**—Employment continued moderate with general wheelwrights and smiths. Packing case makers were well employed in London and at Manchester and Bradford, and fairly so at Bolton and Wigan. Employment was fair with skip and basket makers at Oldham, and moderate with cane workers at Basford (Notts).

### BUILDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT on the whole continued fair during December. It showed a decline as compared with November, but was better than a year ago.

Returns received from 902 firms, employing 52,554 workpeople at the end of December, show that in the case of skilled tradesmen there was a decrease in the total number employed of 3.3 per cent. compared with a month ago and an increase of 4.1 per cent. compared with a year ago; while in the case of labourers there was a decrease of 6.6 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 13.2 per cent. compared with a year ago.

District.	No. paid on last pay-day in Dec., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		No. paid on last pay-day in Dec., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		<b>Skilled Tradesmen.</b>		<b>Labourers.</b>		
London .. ..	7,382	..	+ 369	5,477	+ 15	+ 870
Northern Counties & Yorks.	2,857	- 211	+ 162	2,296	- 134	+ 407
Lancashire and Cheshire .. ..	4,470	- 225	+ 353	4,095	- 563	+ 725
Midland & Eastern Counties .. ..	3,737	- 149	+ 376	3,123	- 247	+ 504
S. & S.W. Counties & Wales .. ..	4,854	- 312	+ 151	3,441	- 167	+ 465
Other Districts .. ..	728	..	+ 47	523	- 11	+ 24
<b>England and Wales .. ..</b>	<b>24,028</b>	<b>- 897</b>	<b>+ 1,458</b>	<b>18,961</b>	<b>- 1,107</b>	<b>+ 2,995</b>
Scotland .. ..	3,055	+ 66	- 270	1,913	- 176	- 263
Ireland .. ..	626	- 127	- 106	395	- 220	- 258
<b>United Kingdom .. ..</b>	<b>27,709</b>	<b>- 958</b>	<b>+ 1,082</b>	<b>21,269</b>	<b>- 1,503</b>	<b>+ 2,474</b>
		<b>Lads and Boys.</b>		<b>Total.</b>		
London .. ..	419	- 4	- 16	13,273	+ 11	+ 1,223
Northern Counties & Yorks.	436	- 20	- 11	5,589	- 365	+ 658
Lancashire and Cheshire .. ..	840	- 27	- 48	9,405	- 315	+ 1,030
Midland & Eastern Counties .. ..	408	- 7	+ 3	7,285	- 403	+ 883
S. & S.W. Counties & Wales .. ..	631	+ 3	..	8,926	- 476	+ 616
Other Districts .. ..	50	..	..	1,307	- 11	+ 71
<b>England and Wales .. ..</b>	<b>2,781</b>	<b>- 55</b>	<b>- 72</b>	<b>45,770</b>	<b>- 2,059</b>	<b>+ 4,381</b>
Scotland .. ..	677	- 8	- 53	5,645	- 118	- 586
Ireland .. ..	118	..	- 20	1,139	- 347	- 384
<b>United Kingdom .. ..</b>	<b>3,576</b>	<b>- 63</b>	<b>- 145</b>	<b>52,554</b>	<b>- 2,524</b>	<b>+ 3,411</b>

The percentage of Trade Union carpenters and joiners unemployed at the end of December was 4.0, as compared with 2.5 a month ago and 4.7 a year ago. The corresponding percentages for plumbers were 4.7 for December and November, 1912, and 4.9 for December, 1911. In the case of both carpenters and plumbers less than 2 per cent. were unemployed in Scotland, where many of the Trade Union members are engaged in shipbuilding.

For London the Trade Union returns show that the percentage of carpenters and joiners unemployed was 6.0, as compared with 5.6 a month ago and 4.4 a year

ago. The corresponding percentages for plumbers were 12·8, 15·6, and 10·0.

The principal exceptions to the general state of employment in the provinces are as indicated below:—

Employment was slack with masons and plasterers on the Tyne and with slaters at Sunderland, bricklayers at Stockton, masons at Bolton, plumbers at Liverpool and Birkenhead, and carpenters at Warrington, Blackpool, and Blackburn. It showed an improvement with bricklayers and labourers at Manchester. With painters in the Northern Counties and Yorkshire it was slack in most centres.

Employment at Birmingham was slack with painters and plumbers; with plasterers it was dull, but showed an improvement. At Leicester an improvement was reported by carpenters and plasterers. At Nottingham employment was slack with carpenters, painters and bricklayers. It was also slack with painters and carpenters at Wolverhampton, with painters at Derby, with bricklayers and carpenters at Burton, with masons at Oxford and Cambridge, and with plasterers at Coventry.

At Bristol employment was slack with plumbers, plasterers and painters, and at Cheltenham with bricklayers, plasterers and painters. Employment was also slack with bricklayers at Brighton, Southampton and Newport, and with plasterers at Portsmouth, Plymouth and Swansea, with plumbers at Southampton, and with carpenters at Bournemouth, Oxford and Watford.

At Edinburgh employment was slack with masons and painters; with carpenters and joiners an improvement was reported. At Dundee it was slack with painters and plasterers. At Aberdeen it improved with masons, and was dull with plasterers.

Employment at Belfast was dull on the whole. It was slack with painters, bricklayers and slaters at Dublin, and with painters and plasterers at Cork.

### GLASS TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in December continued good.

Returns from firms employing 8,239 workpeople in the week ended December 21st showed a decrease of 0·3 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 0·7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 6·0 per cent. in the number employed, and of 4·7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Branches.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Glass Bottle .. ..	5,783	- 0·1	+ 8·4	7,877	+ 0·3	+ 6·5
Flint Glass Ware (not bottles)	1,820	- 0·6	+ 0·6	2,242	+ 1·6	- 0·4
Other Branches .. ..	636	- 0·5	+ 0·8	743	+ 1·3	+ 2·3
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>8,239</b>	<b>- 0·3</b>	<b>+ 6·0</b>	<b>10,862</b>	<b>+ 0·7</b>	<b>+ 4·7</b>
<b>Districts</b>						
North of England .. ..	827	- 3·6	.. ..	1,141	+ 1·2	- 1·3
Yorkshire .. ..	4,771	- 0·3	+ 10·2	6,406	- 0·0	+ 7·9
Lancashire .. ..	559	+ 1·5	- 2·5	673	- 0·9	- 6·7
Worcestershire and Warwickshire	950	+ 0·9	+ 2·5	1,241	+ 4·5	+ 4·6
Scotland .. ..	757	+ 0·7	- 1·9	1,006	+ 1·6	+ 0·7
Other parts of the United Kingdom	365	+ 1·1	+ 9·6	390	- 0·5	+ 7·1
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>8,239</b>	<b>- 0·3</b>	<b>+ 6·0</b>	<b>10,862</b>	<b>+ 0·7</b>	<b>+ 4·7</b>

Employment with glass bottle makers was good generally, and better than a year ago. Compared with a month ago a slight decline was reported in Yorkshire. At St. Helens employment was fair with sheet glass flatteners and good with sheet glass workers. At Birmingham it was fair with flint glass makers; with flint glass cutters and plate glass bevellers it continued good, with overtime. At Wordsley and Stourbridge it continued good with flint glass makers and very good with flint glass cutters. Pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear reported it as fair, but not so good as a month ago; with glass blowers in London employment was good.

### Imports and Exports.

Description.	Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Imports:</b>					
Window and German sheet glass, including shades, &c.	127,214	132,470	121,825	- 5,256	+ 5,389
Plate .. ..	37,784	28,985	24,534	+ 8,799	+ 13,250
Flint, plain, cut or ornamental, &c.	80,581	83,755	81,456	- 3,174	- 875
Manufactures, other sorts	433	1,027	1,244	- 594	- 811
Bottles .. ..	168,961	150,417	155,110	+ 18,544	+ 13,851
<b>Exports:</b>					
China .. ..	23,088	20,334	15,546	+ 2,754	+ 7,542
Flint .. ..	7,250	8,049	7,628	- 799	- 278
Manufactures, other sorts	50,093	53,224	62,727	- 3,131	- 12,634
Bottles .. ..	88,820	89,772	70,539	- 952	+ 18,281

### POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good in the pottery trades in December, and was better than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 19,473 workpeople in the week ended December 21st showed a decrease of 0·2 per cent. in the number employed, and an increase of 1·6 per cent. in the wages paid, as compared with November; compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 1·6 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3·5 per cent. in the wages paid.

Branches:—	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
China Manufacture ..	3,539	- 0·4	+ 4·1	3,875	+ 4·3	- 2·8
Earthenware Manufacture	11,956	- 0·4	+ 1·0	11,783	- 0·6	+ 5·6
Other Branches (including unspecified)	3,978	+ 0·2	+ 1·3	3,936	+ 5·6	+ 4·2
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>19,473</b>	<b>- 0·2</b>	<b>+ 1·6</b>	<b>19,594</b>	<b>+ 1·6</b>	<b>+ 3·5</b>
<b>Districts:—</b>						
Potteries .. ..	14,194	- 0·3	+ 1·8	13,876	+ 1·1	+ 5·9
Other Districts .. ..	5,279	+ 0·2	+ 1·2	5,718	+ 3·0	- 1·8
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>19,473</b>	<b>- 0·2</b>	<b>+ 1·6</b>	<b>19,594</b>	<b>+ 1·6</b>	<b>+ 3·5</b>

In the Potteries employment continued good, and was better than a year ago; though packers reported a decline as compared with the previous month, with some short time. In other districts employment continued good generally.

The Imports of chinaware and earthenware in December, 1912, were valued at £97,309, as compared with £92,056 in November, 1912, and £81,771 in December, 1911; the Exports for the same months were valued at £284,495, £302,442, and £249,581 respectively.

### BRICK AND CEMENT TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the brick trade during December showed but little change as compared with the previous month, but was better than a year ago. Employment in the cement trade continued good.

Returns from brick-making firms employing 10,763 workpeople in the week ended December 21st showed a decrease of 0·8 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0·5 per cent. in the wages paid, compared with November. Compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 0·9 per cent. in the number employed, and an increase of 12·3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Dec. 21st, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	2,900	+ 0·3	+ 4·1	3,617	- 0·1	+ 14·9
Midland and Eastern Counties	3,737	- 1·0	+ 0·9	4,129	- 2·0	+ 11·7
South and South-Western Counties and Wales	2,621	+ 3·2	- 5·7	3,177	+ 3·5	+ 15·6
Scotland .. ..	673	- 17·7	- 2·2	822	- 12·1	+ 3·8
Other Districts .. ..	832	.. ..	- 7·6	845	+ 3·3	+ 1·4
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>10,763</b>	<b>- 0·8</b>	<b>- 0·9</b>	<b>12,590</b>	<b>+ 0·5</b>	<b>+ 12·3</b>

Employment in the brick trade continued good, on the whole, in the Northern Counties and in Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Cheshire; it was much better than in December, 1911. In the Midlands and Eastern Counties employment was fairly good, and much better than a year ago; but some time was lost in the Peterborough district owing to wet weather. Employment in the fire brick trade in the Lye, Stourbridge, and Brierley Hill districts was reported as very good. Employment was also good, on the whole, in the Southern and South-Western Counties, and much better than a year ago. In North Wales it was moderate. Employment in Scotland was rather quiet on the whole, and much worse than in November, but rather better than a year ago.

Employment in the cement trade continued very good on the Medway, with some overtime; it was also good on the Essex side of the Thames. It was good at Middlesbrough, and moderate at the Hartlepoons.

The Imports of cement during December, 1912, amounted to 8,806 tons, compared with 8,322 tons in November, 1912, and 5,363 tons in December, 1911. The Exports for the same periods were 68,974 tons, 61,299 tons, and 58,756 tons respectively.

### AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN ENGLAND.

THERE was generally only a moderate demand for labourers outside the regular farm staff during December, though in some districts, where work was backward, extra men were fairly well employed at such work as threshing, lifting roots, and carting manure. Rain caused a good deal of interruption in many districts, as much as ten days being lost in this way in some cases. The wet state of the land was frequently a further hindrance to employment. The supply of extra men was generally ample, and a surplus was mentioned in a number of districts; in the Midlands, however, there were several districts in which a scarcity of men was reported.

**Northern Counties.**—Men outside the regular farm staff were moderately well employed in these counties during December, their chief work being threshing and getting up the root crops. Such men lost time on account of rain in most districts, correspondents reporting from two to ten days as lost in this manner. Correspondents in Yorkshire also reported less work than usual for these men at threshing and root-lifting on account of smaller crops; the supply of such men was in excess of the demand in the Ouseburn and Partrington Rural Districts.

**Midland Counties.**—Threshing, hedging and ditching, lifting roots, carting manure, and other work generally created a fair demand for extra men when the weather was favourable. Several days, however, were lost through rain in most districts, and the wet state of the land further hindered employment in some districts. Some scarcity of extra men was reported in several districts, including parts of the Tamworth (Staffordshire), Monks Kirby and Farnborough (Warwickshire), Daventry, Potterspurty and Wellingborough (Northamptonshire), Banbury (Oxfordshire), and Eaton Socon (Bedfordshire) Rural Districts. A surplus of men was, on the other hand, reported in the Hayfield (Derbyshire), Upton-on-Severn (Worcestershire), and Hitchin (Hertfordshire) Rural Districts. There was a scarcity of men for permanent situations in certain parts of Shropshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, and Northamptonshire.

**Eastern Counties.**—In some districts in these counties there was little or no demand for extra men, the staff of labourers usually kept by farmers being sufficient for the work to be done in December. In other districts, however, where work was backward, such men were in fair demand for threshing, root-lifting and hedge-cutting. Labourers on outdoor work lost time through rain to the extent of six days or more in a number of districts. The supply of extra men was usually ample, but some scarcity was reported in parts of the Welton (Lincolnshire), Downham and Erpingham (Norfolk) Rural Districts. A scarcity of milkers was

reported in the Bosmere and Claydon (Suffolk) Rural Districts.

**Southern and South-Western Counties.**—Rain hindered work in many districts in these counties, a loss of ten days being reported in some cases. The demand for extra men was generally only moderate, as, in addition to the adverse weather conditions, the land was in many cases too wet to work upon. A surplus of such men was reported in the Guildford (Surrey), Uckfield (Sussex), Chippenham and Cricklade-and-Wootton Bassett (Wiltshire), Wareham-and-Purbeck (Dorset), and Yeovil (Somerset) Rural Districts. A scarcity of men for permanent situations was reported in the Blean (Kent), Farnham (Surrey), Petworth (Sussex), Hartley Wintney (Hampshire), Chippenham (Wiltshire), Chard (Somerset), Thornbury (Gloucestershire), Axminster (Devonshire), and Truro and West Penwith (Cornwall) Rural Districts.

### DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT was fair generally in London, and better than in the previous month. It continued good at Liverpool and fairly good at the other principal ports, and was generally about the same as a year ago.

*London.\**—Employment was fair generally, and better than in November, especially during the earlier part of the month, when the sales and deliveries of wool took place. The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves in the 4 weeks ended December 28th, 1912, was 16,156, an increase of 1·7 per cent. as compared with a month ago, and of 5·8 per cent. as compared with December, 1911.

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.*				
	In Docks.			At 110 Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended Dec. 7th	5,914	3,028	8,942	7,517	16,459
" " " 14th	5,528	3,076	8,604	7,660	16,264
" " " 21st	5,774	2,863	8,637	7,364	16,001
" " " 28th	5,738	3,232	8,970	6,800	15,770
Average for 4 weeks ended Dec. 28th, 1912	5,739	3,033	8,772	7,384	16,156
Average for Nov., 1912	5,959	2,341	8,300	7,581	15,881
" Dec. 1911	5,561	2,391	7,952	7,321	15,273

During December, 1912, the maximum number employed was on the 12th (16,981), and the minimum number on the 27th (14,802). During December, 1911, the maximum number occurred on the 8th (16,776), and the minimum number on the 20th (14,287).

In the following Table the number of dock and wharf labourers employed daily during December, 1912, is shown (Sundays and holidays are omitted):—

Day of Month.	Number Employed.	Day of Month.	Number Employed.	Day of Month.	Number Employed.
2	15,764	11	16,251	20	16,000
3	16,747	12	16,981	21	15,451
4	16,656	13	16,041	22	16,627
5	16,754	14	15,400	23	16,436
6	16,777	15	16,180	24	14,802
7	16,059	16	16,193	25	15,157
8	16,770	17	15,956	26	15,890
9	16,146	18	16,228	31	15,775

The mean daily number employed at Tilbury Docks was 2,075 in December, 1912, as compared with 1,789 in the previous month, and 1,942 in December, 1911.

*Liverpool.*—Employment was good with dock labourers, a considerable amount of overtime having been worked at the North End Docks. Employment continued to improve with quay and railway carters.

*Other Ports.*—Employment continued fair with dock and quayside labourers on the Tyne, but was affected to some extent by the strike on the North-Eastern Railway; it was good generally with trimmers and teamers. Employment was fair at Hartlepool and Middlesbrough. At Hull it was fair with dock labourers and good with coal porters; it was good generally at Grimsby and Goole. Dock labourers were well employed at Yar-

\* Exclusive of Tilbury.

mouth and Lowestoft, but there was a slight decline on the previous month at these ports. Employment was fair at Ipswich and Harwich and at Gravesend. It was also fair at Plymouth, Bristol, and Gloucester, and fairly good at the South Wales ports.

Employment continued fair at Glasgow and good at Leith, Grangemouth, and Dundee. Employment was good at Belfast and bad at Londonderry.

### SEAMEN SHIPPED IN DECEMBER.

RETURNS received from certain selected ports (at which 83 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared) show that during December 41,371 seamen,\* of whom 4,148 (10.0 per cent.) were foreigners, were shipped on foreign-going vessels. Compared with December, 1911, there was a net increase of 4,224 in the total number shipped. The most marked increases were at Liverpool, London, Cardiff and Glasgow.

During the year ended December, 1912, the total number of seamen\* shipped was 539,012, an increase of 14,809 on the number for 1911. There were large increases at Liverpool, Southampton, London, and Cardiff; at the Tyne ports, Newport, and Swansea there were decreases.

Lascars are not included in the figures.

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in					
	December,			Year ended December,		
	1911.	1912.	Inc.(+) or Dec.(-) in 1912.	1911.	1912.	Inc.(+) or Dec.(-) in 1912.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.</b>						
<b>East Coast.</b>						
Tyne Ports .. .. .	2,491	2,278	- 213	32,846	30,418	- 2,428
Sunderland .. .. .	439	276	- 163	4,556	4,801	+ 245
Middlesbrough .. .. .	383	162	- 221	4,673	4,467	- 206
Hull .. .. .	1,117	1,294	+ 177	15,309	16,137	+ 828
Grimsby .. .. .	10	48	+ 38	1,376	1,206	- 170
<b>Bristol Channel.</b>						
Bristol .. .. .	855	577	- 278	14,470	14,353	- 117
Newport, Mon. .. .. .	684	716	+ 32	10,845	10,145	- 700
Cardiff .. .. .	3,222	4,120	+ 898	44,721	46,961	+ 2,240
Swansea .. .. .	432	548	+ 116	5,220	4,636	- 584
<b>Other Ports.</b>						
Liverpool .. .. .	13,391	15,010	+ 1,619	192,059	198,076	+ 6,017
London .. .. .	6,648	8,114	+ 1,466	91,096	94,931	+ 3,835
Southampton .. .. .	4,084	3,970	- 114	48,407	53,854	+ 5,447
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
Leith .. .. .	263	418	+ 155	4,416	4,528	+ 112
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth .. .. .	250	284	+ 34	2,916	3,056	+ 140
Glasgow .. .. .	2,551	3,120	+ 569	48,286	48,589	+ 303
<b>IRELAND.</b>						
Dublin .. .. .	133	35	- 98	861	815	- 46
Belfast .. .. .	194	401	+ 207	2,146	2,039	- 107
Total .. .. .	37,147	41,371	+ 4,224	624,203	639,012	+ 14,809

### FISHING INDUSTRY.

THE fish landed in December, 1912, showed a decrease in quantity, but an increase in value as compared with December, 1911.

The following Table shows the quantity and value of the fish landed in December, 1912 and 1911:—

	Quantity.		Value.	
	Dec., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Dec., 1912.	Dec., 1911.
<b>Fish (other than Shell):</b>				
England and Wales .. .. .	Cwts. 665,730	Cwts. 764,705	£ 625,901	£ 584,315
Scotland .. .. .	300,193	260,345	173,338	131,814
Ireland .. .. .	31,897	60,282	13,580	20,352
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	997,820	1,085,312	812,819	736,481
<b>Shell Fish .. .. .</b>	—	—	31,375	35,788
<b>Total Value .. .. .</b>	—	—	844,194	772,269

Employment at the principal ports during December was fair on the whole.

At Grimsby employment was good with fishermen, and bad with fish dock labourers and fish curers, with whom it was worse than either a month ago or a year ago. At Hull it was bad with fishermen, moderate with fish dock labourers, and fair with fish curers; with all

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

classes it was worse than a year ago. Employment at Yarmouth was fair with fishermen and fish dock labourers, and bad with fish curers. At Lowestoft and Aberdeen it was fair with all classes, and about the same as a year ago at both ports. Employment at Peterhead was fair with fishermen and fish dock labourers, and good with fish curers; it was better than either a month ago or a year ago. At Fraserburgh employment was fair with fishermen, bad with fish dock labourers, and good with fish curers. At Macduff employment was moderate generally, and worse than a year ago. Off the south-western coast of England fishing operations were much hindered by stormy weather throughout the month.

The Exports of herrings, cured or salted, during December, 1912, were valued at £315,834, as compared with £991,665 in November, 1912, and £480,015 in December, 1911.

### BUILDING PLANS.

RETURNS have been received by the Department from 96 of the principal urban districts (exclusive of the County of London) in the United Kingdom, showing the estimated cost of the buildings for which they passed plans during the fourth quarter of 1911 and 1912 respectively. The population of the districts included in the returns is nearly 13 millions. The particulars classified by districts and descriptions of building are summarised in the following Table:—

District and Population at Census of 1911.	Dwelling Houses.	Factories and Workshops.	Shops and other Business Premises.	Churches, Schools, and Public Buildings.	Other Buildings, Additions and Alterations.	Total.
Outer London (1,650,000)	£ 241,877	£ 31,873	£ 30,048	£ 153,894	£ 60,972	£ 518,664
Northern Counties (725,000)	42,259	41,345	13,290	2,150	15,143	114,187
Yorkshire (1,925,000)	167,500	103,503	31,185	34,881	50,393	387,462
Lancashire & Cheshire (2,375,000)	259,930	134,329	60,557	156,816	61,917	673,549
Midlands (2,050,000)	170,497	231,244	59,677	116,543	69,978	647,939
Other Districts in England (1,065,000)	215,130	10,790	32,012	61,435	36,188	355,555
Wales & Mon. (430,000)	60,990	1,670	31,970	31,150	15,172	140,982
Scotland (1,830,000)	74,271	35,007	72,830	116,101	65,280	363,489
Ireland (825,000)	43,455	10,665	21,003	38,070	17,448	130,641
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>1,278,909</b>	<b>600,426</b>	<b>352,612</b>	<b>711,040</b>	<b>394,071</b>	<b>3,334,118</b>
Fourth Quarter of 1912.						
Outer London (1,650,000)	£ 293,592	£ 14,824	£ 57,385	£ 82,037	£ 74,702	£ 522,540
Northern Counties (725,000)	19,102	244,100	38,482	32,510	21,587	355,781
Yorkshire (1,925,000)	164,624	155,186	47,273	56,915	48,278	472,276
Lancashire & Cheshire (2,375,000)	241,936	113,790	41,421	127,820	103,443	628,410
Midlands (2,050,000)	245,777	270,373	32,477	32,660	132,437	713,724
Other Districts in England (1,065,000)	137,581	20,500	16,355	41,200	20,655	236,291
Wales & Mon. (430,000)	64,575	530	26,072	12,100	25,459	128,736
Scotland (1,830,000)	65,095	74,101	9,804	111,455	98,257	358,712
Ireland (825,000)	44,255	2,780	14,030	5,000	39,006	106,071
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>1,276,537</b>	<b>896,184</b>	<b>283,299</b>	<b>501,697</b>	<b>563,824</b>	<b>3,521,541</b>

As compared with the three months October-December, 1911, there was during the December quarter of 1912 a net increase of £187,423 (or 5.6 per cent.). Factories and workshops showed an increase of £295,758 (or 49.3 per cent.), while in the case of churches, schools and public buildings there was a decrease of £209,343 (or 29.4 per cent.).

The following Table shows for each class of building the increase or decrease in the quarter ended December 31st, 1912, as compared with the corresponding quarter of 1911:—

Class of Building.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	
	Amount.	Per Cent.
Dwelling Houses .. .. .	+ 628	+ 0.0
Factories and Workshops .. .. .	+ 295,758	+ 49.3
Shop and other Business Premises .. .. .	- 63,373	- 19.7
Churches, Schools, and Public Buildings .. .. .	- 209,343	- 29.4
Other Buildings, Additions and Alterations .. .. .	+ 169,753	+ 43.1
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>+ 187,423</b>	<b>+ 5.6</b>

The following Table shows for each district the increase or decrease in the quarter ended December, 1912, compared with the corresponding quarter of 1911:—

District.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	
	Amount.	Per Cent.
Outer London .. .. .	£ + 3,876	+ 0.7
Northern Counties .. .. .	+ 241,594	+ 211.6
Yorkshire .. .. .	+ 84,814	+ 21.9
Lancashire and Cheshire .. .. .	- 45,139	- 6.7
Midlands .. .. .	+ 65,785	+ 10.2
Other Districts in England .. .. .	- 113,264	- 33.5
Wales and Monmouthshire .. .. .	- 12,216	- 8.7
Scotland .. .. .	- 6,457	- 1.8
Ireland .. .. .	- 25,570	- 19.6
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>+ 187,423</b>	<b>+ 5.6</b>

### NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT, 1911.

#### Part II.—Unemployment.

#### DECISIONS BY THE UMPIRE.

Pursuant to paragraph (5) of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations, the Board of Trade hereby give notice of the following decisions by the Umpire on questions whether contributions are payable:—

**A.—The Umpire has decided that contributions ARE PAYABLE in respect of:—**

1214. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in making up relief decoration in composition or carton-pierre for buildings, ships or vehicles. (Application 229.)

This reverses Decision No. 1149. (BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for November, 1912.)

1215. Workmen described as joiners, and engaged wholly or mainly in making and repairing panels for the decoration of special saloon cars for railways.

1216. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in making, finishing or fixing ferro-concrete and artificial stone in connection with any trade set out in Schedule VI. of the National Insurance Act, 1911, whether on the site or in a workshop or yard. (Application 229.)

This decision reverses Decisions Nos. 610 (1), 639 and 641 (BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for August, 1912) so far as they relate to artificial stone, but not in so far as they relate to flags made for stock. Decision No. 421 (BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for July, 1912) is unaffected.

1217. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in making moulds for ferro-concrete or artificial stone mentioned in Decision No. 1216.

This decision modifies Decision No. 610 (2). (BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for August, 1912.)

1219. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly as tool-setters for general brasswork on capstan lathes and machine tools. (Application 232.)

1220. Workmen described as stockfitters, and engaged wholly or mainly in fitting stocks for chills to be used in the manufacture of bedsteads. (Application 223.)

1224. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the making, assembling or repair of automatic machines of a kind commonly found in railway stations or other public places.

1225. Workmen employed in a mechanical engineering establishment, and engaged wholly or mainly in machining and assembling metal windows. (Application 235.)

This decision reverses Decision No. 416. (BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for July, 1912.)

1226. Workmen employed by a local authority, and engaged wholly or mainly in reconstructing existing sewers by straightening and relaying the same.

1227. Workmen engaged in marking out timber in connection with an insured trade.

1229. Workmen employed in connection with: (1) the substitution of vertical for horizontal gas retorts; (2) the conversion of gas-holder tanks into tar tanks.

1230. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in producing ebonite or vulcanised fibre parts for use as parts of the products of a mechanical engineering establishment.

This decision is a revised wording of Decision No. 1169. (BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for November, 1912.)

1232. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of jacks and springs used as parts of lace-making or lace-finishing machines mentioned in Decision No. 458. (BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for July, 1912.)

1234. Workmen engaged in asphaltting roofs, foundations and yards connected with buildings when the work is of a kind commonly forming part of a building contract.

This decision modifies Decision No. 738. (BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for August, 1912.)

1235. A workman employed in copper and brass rolling works, and engaged wholly or mainly in drilling copper plates for use in the fire-boxes of locomotive engines.

1236. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in manufacturing tapered packing for shipbuilders.

1237. Patternmakers, fitters, turners, smiths and smiths' mates engaged in the manufacture of tools and accessories used in photo-engraving, such as whirlers, shoot planes, mounting punches, &c., and of parts of electrical lifts.

1238. Brassmoulders, brassfinishers or other workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture of portholes and deadlights for ships. (Application 236.)

This decision modifies Decision No. 49 (b) (BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for June, 1912) so far as the latter relates to portholes and deadlights for ships.

1241. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of sheet metal ranges for ships. (Application 230.)

1242. Workmen employed wholly or mainly in the preparation of stone for use in insured trades by scabbling, scrapping or sawing machinery.

**B.—The Umpire has decided that contributions ARE NOT PAYABLE in respect of:—**

1218. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in forging axles for baby cars.

1221. Labourers employed in alkali works, and engaged wholly or mainly in work other than repair of machinery, vehicles or buildings, and not covered by Decision No. 374. (BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for July, 1912.)

1222. Workmen employed by makers of automobile accessories, and engaged wholly or mainly in making and polishing wind screens for motor cars, including the filing and fitting of hood fingers and fittings for the same. (Application 234.)

1223. Workmen employed by manufacturers of piano players and player pianos, and engaged in making and assembling the parts of these instruments (not being ironfounding).

1228. Workmen employed by manufacturers of accessories for automobiles, and engaged in making barrels for the blinds of motor cars.

1231. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of needles and hooks for lace or net making or finishing machines mentioned in decision No. 458. (BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for July, 1912.)

1243. Workmen engaged in constructing or repairing ordinary agricultural drainage systems (exclusive of large works of construction).

1244. Boys employed by a firm of metal seal and box fastener manufacturers, and engaged in attending the presses used for cutting and forming the same.

**NOTE.—WHERE NO REFERENCE IS GIVEN TO AN APPLICATION, THE QUESTION HAS BEEN DECIDED BY THE UMPIRE, WITHOUT NOTICE, AS A MATTER NOT ADMITTING OF REASONABLE DOUBT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH (2) OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UMPIRE) REGULATIONS.**

**DECISIONS RELATING TO INDIVIDUAL WORKMEN WHICH RAISE NO QUESTION OF GENERAL INTEREST, OR WHICH MERELY APPLY A PRINCIPLE LAID DOWN IN A PREVIOUS DECISION, ARE NOT PUBLISHED.**

#### SPECIAL ORDER.

Whereas on the 16th day of July, 1912, the Board of Trade gave notice, pursuant to Section 113 (1) of the National Insurance Act, 1911, that they proposed to make a Special Order, under Section 104 of the National Insurance Act, excluding the following employment from the occupations which are to be deemed employment in an Insured Trade for the purposes of Part II. of the Act (Unemployment Insurance):—

Seamen being members of the crews of dredgers, or of vessels conveying away materials excavated by dredgers engaged in the construction, re-construction, or alteration of Harbours, Docks or Channels;

And whereas certain objections have been made with respect to the Special Exclusion Order so proposed;

And whereas the Board of Trade have duly considered these objections, and do not propose to amend or withdraw the Draft Order;

Notice is hereby given by the Board of Trade that, pursuant to the said Section 113 (1) of the National Insurance Act, 1911, they have directed an Inquiry to be held with regard to the Draft Order, and that they have appointed Mr. A. A. Hudson, K.C., of 5, Paper Buildings, Temple, London, E.C., to hold the said Inquiry and to report to them thereon.

The Inquiry will be held in public in the Board Room, Central Office for Labour Exchanges and Unemployment Insurance, Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, London, S.W., commencing on the 20th day of January, 1913, at 11 a.m.

Any objector, and any other person who in the opinion of the person holding the Inquiry is affected by the Draft Order, may appear at the Inquiry either in person or by counsel, solicitor or other agent.

BOARD OF TRADE,  
9th January, 1913.

### LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

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

**WHAT IS AN ACCIDENT? CHILL WHILE AT WORK.**  
Under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, compensation for injury is only payable to a workman where the injury is caused by an accident arising out of and in the course of the employment.

A man who was employed as a collector having on one occasion to pay a great many calls in a short time, and having to go up a great many staircases, became overheated and contracted a chill. When he returned home he was taken ill, and the next day he was removed to a hospital suffering from pleurisy. Having been incapacitated for work for a considerable time,

owing to this disease, he took proceedings for compensation under the Act. The Sheriff-Substitute dismissed his claim, holding that, assuming that the pleurisy was the result of a chill contracted through his becoming overheated at his work, there had been no injury caused by an accident within the meaning of the Act; and secondly, assuming there was an accident, the accident had not arisen out of the employment. An award of compensation was therefore refused. The claimant appealed.

The Court of Session dismissed the appeal, holding that there was no evidence of any kind of accident within the meaning of the Act. *M'Millan v. Singer Sewing Machine Company, Limited—Court of Session—8th December, 1912.*

**COMPROMISE OF CLAIM: INADEQUACY OF COMPENSATION ACCEPTED.**  
While a workman in the employ of a firm of plasterers was engaged in riddling lime he found that the tips of the fingers of his right hand were broken. They subsequently became very painful, and he had to leave off work. He then demanded compensation, and negotiations followed with an insurance company with which his employers were insured. The workman was advised by a law agent, and under his advice accepted a sum of £6 in full discharge of all claims, and gave a receipt to that effect. Later the man became worse; it was discovered that he was suffering from septic poisoning, and part of his hand had to be amputated.

The workman then took proceedings to set aside the compromise he had made, contending that all parties had acted in ignorance of the real nature of his injuries, and that in the circumstances the compensation received was grossly inadequate. The employers contended that the injuries in question did not arise from any accident, that they were under no liability to pay any compensation, and that the compromise was binding. The Court of Session held that the workman was bound in the circumstances by the agreement he had made. *M'Quire v. Paterson and Co.—Court of Session—13th December, 1912.*

### (2) Trade Union Acts.

**INTIMIDATION: FOLLOWING IN DISORDERLY MANNER: RIGHT TO TRIAL BY JURY.**

By the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act, 1875, it is provided that every person who, with a view to compel any other person to abstain from doing, or to do, any act which such other person has a legal right to do, or to abstain from doing, wrongfully and without legal authority follows such other person with two or more other persons in a disorderly manner in or through any street or road shall on conviction thereof by a court of summary jurisdiction be liable to a penalty not exceeding £20 or to imprisonment not exceeding three months. Where a person is accused before a court of summary jurisdiction of such offence he may on appearing before that court declare that he objects to being tried for such offence by a court of summary jurisdiction, and thereupon the court of summary jurisdiction may deal with the case as if the accused were charged with an indictable offence, and the offence may be prosecuted on indictment.

A man charged with this offence before a court of summary jurisdiction declared, on appearing before the justices, that he objected to being tried for the offence by that court, and claimed to be tried by a jury. The court, however, overruled his objection, refused to deal with the case as if the accused were charged with an indictable offence, and having heard evidence, convicted the accused and inflicted a fine with the alternative of 14 days' imprisonment. The accused then applied to the High Court to quash the conviction, on the ground that under the Act of Parliament he had a right to trial by jury, and that having objected to be tried by the justices they had no jurisdiction to deal with the case or to convict him of the offence. It was contended on behalf of the justices that they had under the Act discretion either to send the case for trial by a jury or to deal with it themselves; and that having exercised that discretion the High Court could not interfere. The High Court held, however, that the justices had no such discretion; that the accused had a right to trial by jury if he chose to claim that right, and that the justices were bound to send the case for trial on the accused objecting to their jurisdiction. *Re v. Mitchell and another—King's Bench Division—19th December, 1912.*

### (3) Coal Mines Acts.

**MINIMUM WAGE ACT: DIVIDED DISTRICT: MEANING OF "PITS."**  
The Coal Mines (Minimum Wage) Act, October, 1912, provides for the payment of a minimum wage in the case of workmen employed underground in coal mines. The minimum rates of wages are settled separately for each district by a joint district board for that district. The chairman of that board may be an independent person, appointed by agreement between the persons representing the workmen and employers, and having a casting vote. Such board has power to sub-divide its district into two parts, different minimum rates applying to each part.

The joint district board for a certain district were unable to agree as to the line of division by which the district should be divided into two parts. Thereupon the independent chairman of the board fixed a certain main line of railway running through the district as the dividing line; and by an award made by him all "pits" situated east of this line were to form one part of the district and all "pits" situated on the west were to form the other part. A certain colliery company owned mines, the greater part of the workings of which lay in the western district, but the shafts by which the men descended and the coal was raised were to the east of the dividing line. The minimum rates of wages applicable to the western division were lower than those applicable to the eastern division. The question then arose whether the mines of the company were in the western division and therefore subject to the lower rate, or in the eastern division

and subject to the higher rate. In default of agreement between the company and their workmen the company brought an action in the High Court for a declaration as to the meaning of the award of the chairman and as to the district to which the mines belonged.

At the hearing it was contended in the first place on behalf of the workmen that the court had no jurisdiction to deal with the matter. The judge, however, held that under the Rules of Court he had power to declare what the rights of the parties were under the chairman's award. The question then turned upon the meaning of the word "pits" in the award. The company contended that it was commonly used in three senses: (a) to denote the whole of the workings and shafts; (b) to denote the underground workings only; and (c) to denote the shafts only. On the other side it was contended that the primary meaning of the word "pit" was the shaft. The judge decided that in the award the word "pits" was used to mean the shafts by which the men ascended and descended, so that anyone interested could at once see the situation of every colliery; and that therefore under the award the plaintiffs' colliery was in the eastern division of the district. *Lofthouse Collieries, Limited v. Ogden—King's Bench Division—18th, 19th and 20th December, 1912.*

### (4) Truck Acts.

**PAYMENT OF ENTIRE WAGES OTHERWISE THAN IN COIN: DEDUCTION FOR RENT.**

By the Truck Act, 1831, it is provided that if in any contract between an artificer and his employer any provision shall be made respecting the manner in which the whole or any part of the wages due shall be laid out or expended, such contract is illegal. It is also provided that the entire amount of the wages earned by or payable to any artificer shall be actually paid to him in the current coin of the realm, and not otherwise; and every payment in respect of wages made by delivering goods to the artificer or otherwise than in current coin is illegal. There are certain exceptions to this provision, among which is one allowing employers to let a house to an artificer at an agreed rent and to deduct such rent from the wages, provided such agreement is in writing signed by the artificer. Any person who does an act declared by the Act to be illegal is guilty of an offence.

At the time of a coal strike certain colliery companies in paying wages due to men who had gone on strike deducted from such wages sums due from the men in respect of the rent of houses held by them from their employers. Proceedings were then taken against the companies for offences against the Truck Act, 1831. One company was charged, firstly, with having contracted with certain workmen that if they left the company's employment the company should be entitled to retain monies in their hands for rent in respect of houses of the company occupied by the men; secondly, they were charged with contracting with certain workmen to deduct from certain wages due certain sums for rent; and a third charge was made that the company had failed to pay the entire amount of the wages earned in current coin of the realm. The Sheriff-Substitute dismissed the first two charges on the ground that the men had never agreed, and that therefore no contract had ever been made. On the third charge, however, the company were convicted and fined. Another company was also convicted and fined for not paying to certain miners their entire wages in current coin, as the company had deducted from the wages sums due in respect of rent. The companies appealed against these convictions.

The Court of Session dismissed the appeals, holding that an employer is not allowed to make any deduction except those expressly sanctioned by the Act; and that to retain part of the wages due and to appropriate that part in respect of rent was an offence against the Act, unless it was carried out under a written agreement. *Re Summerlee Iron Company, Limited; re John Watson, Limited—Court of Session—22nd December, 1912.*

## PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT, AND FLOUR.

### I.—BREAD.

RETURNS showing the predominant prices of 4 lbs. of bread on January 1st, 1913, have been received from 140 of the principal Master Bakers' Associations in the United Kingdom, and 30 from other sources. The returns are summarised in the following Tables:—

District.	Jan. 1st, 1913.			Dec. 2nd, 1912.			Jan. 1st, 1912.		
	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.
London:—	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
N. & N.W.	6	4½	5½	6	5	5½	5½	4½	5·2
E. & N.E.	5½	5½	5·5	6	5½	5·6	5½	5	5·3
S.E.	5½	5	5·4	5½	5	5·4	5½	5	5·1
S.W.	6	5½	5·8	6	5½	5·8	6	5	5·3
W. & W.C.	6	6	6·0	6	6	6·0	6	5½	5·6
N. Counties & Yorks.	6½	5½	6·1	6½	5½	6·1	6½	5	5·6
Lancs. & Cheshire..	6	5	5·5	6	5	5·5	6	5	5·3
Midlands	6	5	5·5	6	5	5·5	6	5	5·3
Eastern Counties	6	5	5·5	6	5	5·5	6	5	5·3
Southern Counties	6½	5	6·0	6½	5½	6·0	6	5	5·8
S. Western Counties and Wales	6	5	5·8	6	5	5·8	6	5	5·6
Scotland	7	5½	6·3	7	5½	6·3	7	5½	6·2
Great Britain	7	4½	5·8	7	5	5·8	7	4½	5·6

Compared with a month ago the mean of the predominant prices remains unchanged. Compared with January 1st, 1912, an increase of 0·2d. per 4 lbs. is shown.

Of the various prices at which bread was sold in each of the following towns the predominant price (*i.e.*, the price at which the greatest quantity was sold) was as under:—

Place.	Predominant Price per 4 lbs. on Jan. 1st, 1913.*	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Last change.	
		Month ago.	Year ago.	Date.	Am't per 4 lbs.
London	5½ & 6	..	+ ¼	Feb. '12	+ ¼
Birmingham	5½ & 6	..	..	May '12	- ¼
Bolton	6	..	+ ½	April '12	+ ½
Bristol	6	..	+ ½	Feb. '12	+ ½
Cardiff	6	..	+ ½	1st Apl. '12	+ ½
Derby	6	..	+ ½	April '12	+ ½
Hull	5½	..	..	June '10	- ½
Ipswich	6	..	+ ½	March '12	+ ½
Leeds	6	..	..	May '10	- ½
Leicester	5½	..	+ ½	April '12	+ ½
Liverpool	6	..	+ ½	May '12	+ ½
Manchester	5½	..	..	Oct. '11	+ ½
Middlesbrough	5½ & 6	..	+ ½	July '12	+ ½
Norwich	5	..	..	Nov. '09	- ½
Nottingham	5	..	+ ½	June '10	- ½
Otham	5	..	..	April '12	+ ½
Plymouth	6	..	..	June '10	- ½
Portsmouth	6	..	..	Oct. '10	+ ½
Potteries	5 & 6	..	+ ½	April '12	+ ½
Southampton	5 & 6	- ¼	+ ½	Dec. '12	- ¼
Wolverhampton	5	..	..	July '12	- ½
Aberdeen	6	..	+ ½	May '12	+ ½
Dundee	5½	..	..	Sept. '12	- ½
Edinburgh	6½	..	..	Nov. '12	- ½
Glasgow	6	..	..	Oct. '11	+ ½
Belfast	6½	..	+ ½	June '12	+ ½
Dublin	6½	..	+ ½	April '12	+ ½

\* Where two prices are quoted about equal quantities were sold at each price.

Compared with December 2nd, the only change reported was at Southampton, where the predominant price is now 5d. and 6d. per 4 lbs.; on December 2nd, 1912, the predominant price was 5½d. and 6d. per 4 lbs. Compared with January 1st, 1912, the price is higher in 15 of the towns, generally by ½d. per 4 lbs.; in the remaining 12 towns no change is shown.

### II.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.

Month.	British Wheat		Imports.		Average Monthly Price of Flour (Town Households ex Mill for Cash).
	Mean London Gazette Price (England and Wales).	Per cwt. s. d.	Wheat.	Wheat-meal and Flour.	
1911.	7 8	8 2½	10 7½	10 6½	10 6½
December 1912.	7 8	8 2½	10 7½	10 6½	10 6½
November	7 6½	8 7½	11 1½	11 5½	11 5½
December	7 1½	8 4½	10 11	11 3	11 3

The imports of wheat during September-December, 1912, amounted to 40,245,700 cwts., or 6,257,151 cwts. more than in the corresponding months of 1911. The imports of wheatmeal and flour during September-December, 1912, amounted to 3,880,062 cwts., or 67,867 cwts. less than during September-December, 1911.

### APPOINTMENT OF CERTIFYING FACTORY SURGEONS DURING DECEMBER, 1912.

District.	Certifying Surgeon.	Place and time for examination.*
Anstruther (Fife)	Dr. J. J. Wilson, Elm Lodge, Anstruther	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Caldbeck (Cumberland)	Dr. R. Craven, Heskett Newmarket, Wigton	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Nottingham, North (Nottingham)	Dr. H. J. Nelson, Springhead, Bulwell, Nottingham	(1) 225, Coventry Road, Bulwell, Wednesday, 9-10 a.m. (2) Fairfax Street, Basford, Wednesday, 10-10.30 a.m.
Rathvilly (Carlow)	Dr. I. P. Kelly, Rathvilly	Rathvilly Dispensary, Tuesday and Friday, 9.30 a.m.—12 noon.
Spalding (Lincoln)	Dr. J. R. Munro, 15, High Street, Spalding	Monday, 9-10 a.m.

NOTE.—Except where otherwise stated, the place of examination is at the residence of the Certifying Surgeon.  
\* Of young persons and children from factories and workshops in which less than five are employed.

## FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM. Summary for December, 1912, and for the Twelve Months ended December, 1912.

During December, 1912, the total value of foreign and Colonial merchandise imported into the United Kingdom was £74,069,000, an increase of 14·1 per cent. compared with December, 1911, and of 7·2 per cent. compared with the total for December, 1910. The increase on 1911 was mainly in the raw materials group, and that on 1910 almost entirely in food, drink and tobacco and in articles wholly or mainly manufactured.

The total value of the exports of produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom during December, 1912, was £41,459,000, or 7·5 per cent. more than in December, 1911, and 10·8 per cent. more than in December, 1910. The increases on both December, 1911 and 1910 were most marked in the articles wholly or mainly manufactured group.

The total value of the imports of foreign and Colonial merchandise during 1912 was £744,897,000, an increase of 9·5 per cent. compared with 1911, and of 9·8 per cent. compared with 1910. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured showed an increase of over £27,500,000 on 1911, and of over £14,500,000 on 1910; while in the case of articles wholly or mainly manufactured there were increases of about £20,000,000 and £28,700,000 respectively.

The total value of the exports of produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom during 1912 was £487,434,000, an increase of 7·3 per cent. compared with 1911, and of 13·3 per cent. compared with 1910. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured increased by £5,700,000 and by £6,100,000 compared with 1911 and 1910 respectively, while articles wholly or mainly manufactured increased by £23,000,000 compared with 1911, and by £42,300,000 compared with 1910.

In the following Tables particulars are given for December, 1912, and for the year ended December, 1912, together with the increase or decrease as compared with 1911 and 1910:—

### IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL MERCHANDISE.

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

	December, 1912.			Year ended Dec., 1912.		
	Amount.	Increase as compared with		Amount.	Increase as compared with	
		1911.	1910.		1911.	1910.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco	Thousand £ 25,962	Thousand £ 865	Thousand £ 2,638	Thousand £ 280,764	Thousand £ 16,806	Thousand £ 23,082
II.—Raw Materials & Articles mainly Unmanufactured*	31,951	6,469	67	275,714	27,555	14,538
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured†	15,896	1,772	2,245	185,501	19,944	28,655
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcels Post)	260	25	9	2,918	434	364
Total value of Imports	74,069	9,131	4,989	744,897	64,739	66,639

### EXPORTS OF PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

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

	December, 1912.			Year ended Dec., 1912.		
	Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with		Amount.	Increase as compared with	
		1911.	1910.		1911.	1910.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco	Thousand £ 2,480	Thousand £ - 135	Thousand £ + 274	Thousand £ 32,690	Thousand £ 3,653	Thousand £ 6,619
II.—Raw Materials & Articles mainly Unmanufactured†	5,374	+ 457	+ 856	59,428	5,702	6,099
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured‡	32,326	+ 2,439	+ 2,514	385,219	22,996	42,350
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcels Post)	1,279	+ 126	+ 391	10,097	964	1,981
Total value of Exports of British Produce	41,459	+ 2,887	+ 4,035	487,434	33,315	57,049

The exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise amounted to £9,242,000 during December, 1912, an increase of £562,000 compared with December, 1911, and a decrease of £635,000 compared with December, 1910. During the year ended December, 1912, they amounted to £111,838,000, an increase of £9,079,000 and £8,077,000 compared with 1911 and 1910 respectively.

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

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

[Cases include all attacks reported during the month, and not previously reported during the preceding 12 months. Deaths include all fatal cases reported during the month, whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not.]

THE total number of cases of poisoning and anthrax reported to the Home Office during December, 1912, was 70, of which 67 were due to lead poisoning, and 2 to anthrax; 6 deaths due to lead poisoning were also reported. In addition 22 cases of lead poisoning (5 of which were fatal) were reported among house painters and plumbers.

During the year 1912 the total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported under the Factory and Workshop Act was 656, as compared with 755 during 1911. The number of deaths was 50 during 1912, as compared with 49 in 1911. In addition, there were 256 cases of lead poisoning (including 47 deaths) among house painters and plumbers during the year 1912, as compared with 263 cases (including 48 deaths) during 1911.

No cases of phosphorus poisoning were reported for any of the periods covered by the Table.

Analysis by Industries.

INDUSTRY.	CASES.			DEATHS.		
	Month of Dec., 1912.	Twelve months ended Dec.,		Month of Dec., 1912.	Twelve months ended Dec.,	
		1912.	1911.		1912.	1911.
<b>Lead Poisoning.</b>						
Among Operatives engaged in—						
Smelting of Metals .. ..	5	66	48	2	7	3
Brass Works .. ..	—	5	9	—	—	1
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping ..	—	6	12	—	—	—
Plumbing and Soldering .. ..	4	37	32	2	5	2
Printing .. ..	4	37	32	—	—	—
File Cutting .. ..	1	13	18	—	—	2
Tinning of Metals .. ..	1	15	13	—	1	—
White Lead Works .. ..	—	23	41	—	—	2
Red Lead Works .. ..	—	3	13	—	—	1
China and Earthenware .. ..	11*	80	92	1	14	6
Litho-Transfer Works .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Glass Cutting and Polishing ..	—	1	5	—	1	—
Vitreous Enamelling .. ..	—	5	19	—	—	1
Electrical Accumulator Works ..	5	38	24	—	1	—
Paint and Colour Works .. ..	4	19	21	—	—	—
Coach and Car Painting .. ..	6	84	104	1	7	5
Shipbuilding .. ..	4	34	36	—	2	6
Paint used in other Industries ..	3	48	56	—	3	1
Other Industries .. ..	19	84	88	—	2	4
<b>Total in Factories &amp; Workshops</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>37</b>
House Painting and Plumbing	22	255	263	5	47	48
<b>Other Forms of Poisoning.</b>						
Mercurial Poisoning—						
Barometer and Thermometer Making .. ..	—	3	2	—	—	—
Furriers and Felt Hat Works ..	—	7	3	—	—	—
Other Industries .. ..	—	7	7	—	—	—
<b>Total..</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
Arsenic Poisoning—						
Paints, Colours, and Extraction of Arsenic .. ..	—	—	7	—	—	—
Other Industries .. ..	1	5	3	—	—	1
<b>Total..</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Total "Other Forms of Poisoning"</b>						
	<b>1</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Anthrax.</b>						
Wool .. ..	2	31	35	—	6	10
Handling of Horsehair .. ..	—	7	8	—	—	1
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.) ..	—	8	20	—	—	—
Other Industries .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
<b>Total Anthrax †</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Total reported under Factory and Workshop Act</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>755</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>1,018</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>97</b>

\* Of the 11 persons affected in the china and earthenware industry 4 were females. † In addition, 1 case in a dock labourer was reported.

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

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN DECEMBER.

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

EXCLUSIVE of seamen the number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during December, 1912, was 268, a decrease of 1 as compared with both a month and a year ago. The mean number for December during the five years 1907-1911 was 333, the maximum year being 1910, with 619 deaths, and the minimum year 1908, with 246 deaths.

The total number of fatal accidents at mines in December, 1912, was 103, an increase of 12 on a month ago, and of 3 on a year ago. The fatal accidents at quarries numbered 8 during December, 1912, an increase of 3 on a month ago, but a decrease of 4 on a year ago. The total number of accidents reported under the Factory and Workshop Act in December, 1912, was 116, a decrease of 13 on November, 1912, but an increase of 10 on December, 1911.

During the year 1912 the total number of workpeople killed in the course of their employment (exclusive of seamen) was 2,994, as compared with 2,960 in 1911. The number of seamen killed in 1912 was 1,983, and 1,254 in 1911.

Trade.	Number of Workpeople killed during			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1912, on a	
	Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Railway Service—</b>					
Brakemen & Goods Guards .. ..	1	2	3	- 1	- 2
Engine Drivers .. ..	1	1	3	—	- 1
Firemen .. ..	2	2	3	—	- 1
Guards (Passenger) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers) .. ..	11	10	7	+ 1	+ 4
Porters .. ..	2	5	5	- 3	- 3
Shunters .. ..	2	3	5	- 1	- 3
Mechanics .. ..	4	3	2	+ 1	+ 2
Labourers .. ..	6	5	7	+ 1	- 1
Miscellaneous .. ..	12	11	11	+ 1	+ 1
Contractors' Servants .. ..	—	—	3	—	- 3
<b>Total, Railway Service</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>- 1</b>	<b>- 8</b>
<b>Mines—</b>					
Underground .. ..	87	75	90	+ 12	- 3
Surface .. ..	16	16	10	—	+ 6
<b>Total, Mines</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>+ 12</b>	<b>+ 3</b>
Quarries over 20 feet deep ..	8	5	12	+ 3	- 4
<b>Factories and Workshops—</b>					
<i>Textile—</i>					
Cotton .. ..	3	8	5	- 5	- 2
Wool and Worsted .. ..	1	3	—	- 2	+ 1
Other Textiles .. ..	2	3	1	- 1	+ 1
<i>Non-Textile—</i>					
Extraction of Metals .. ..	3	4	1	- 1	+ 2
Founding and Conversion of Metals .. ..	12	20	13	- 8	- 1
Marine and Locomotive Engineering .. ..	8	9	5	- 1	+ 3
Ship and Boat Building .. ..	20	19	16	+ 1	+ 4
Gas .. ..	3	2	—	+ 1	+ 3
Wood .. ..	3	3	2	—	+ 1
Clay, Stone, &c. .. ..	7	2	1	+ 5	+ 6
Chemicals .. ..	6	2	5	+ 4	+ 1
Laundries .. ..	—	1	—	—	—
Food .. ..	4	1	3	- 1	+ 1
Drink .. ..	1	3	3	- 2	- 2
Paper, Printing, &c .. ..	2	1	7	+ 1	- 5
Other Non-Textile Industries .. ..	14	11	19	+ 3	- 5
<b>Total, Factories and Workshops</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>- 6</b>	<b>+ 8</b>
<b>Accidents reported under Factory Act, Ss. 104-5.</b>					
Docks, Wharves, and Quays .. ..	18	14	20	+ 4	- 2
Warehouses .. ..	1	—	4	+ 1	- 3
Buildings to which Act applies .. ..	8	20	1	- 12	+ 7
<b>Total under Factory Act, Ss. 104-5.</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>- 7</b>	<b>+ 2</b>
<b>Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894</b>					
	—	2	2	- 2	- 2
<b>Total, excluding Seamen</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>- 1</b>	<b>- 1</b>
<b>Seamen—</b>					
<i>On Trading Vessels—</i>					
Sailing .. ..	7	6	33	+ 1	- 26
Steam .. ..	52	61	128	- 9	- 76
<i>On Fishing Vessels—</i>					
Sailing .. ..	1	2	3	- 1	- 2
Steam .. ..	13	10	11	+ 3	+ 2
<b>Total, Seamen</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>- 6</b>	<b>- 102</b>
<b>Total, including Seamen</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>- 7</b>	<b>- 103</b>

DISTRESS COMMITTEES IN DECEMBER.

THE total number of Distress Committees in operation at the end of December, 1912, was 66, as compared with 63 at the end of November, 1912, and 78 at the end of December, 1911. Of the Distress Committees in operation at the end of December, 1912, 36 were in London and "Outer London," 24 in other places in England and Wales, 5 in Scotland, and 1 in Ireland.

Registration was resumed during the month at Walthamstow, Cardiff, Dudley, Grimsby, and Hastings; the register of the Wolverhampton Distress Committee was closed early in December, 1912.

The total number who received employment relief during December, 1912, was 2,393, of whom 996 were in London and "Outer London," 1,038 in the provincial towns of England and Wales, 260 in Scotland, and 99 in Ireland. The average duration of employment relief was 12.5 days per person employed, and the wages paid amounted to about 26s. 6d. per head, or about 2s. 1d. per day.

The net total number of applicants remaining on the registers at the end of December, 1912 (after deduction where practicable\* of persons disqualified, those who had found work, &c.) was 21,288, of whom 12,191 were in London and "Outer London," 6,516 in the provincial towns of England and Wales, 323 in Scotland, and 2,258 in Ireland.

The following Table summarises the information received. It should be noted that the figures do not necessarily relate to the same Committees in the three periods.

Districts.	No. of Applicants given Employment Relief.			Aggregate Duration of Employment Relief.		
	Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.
London:—				Days	Days	Days
County .. ..	390	424	592	7,488	7,549	9,949
Outer .. ..	606	111	381	5,667	1,723	3,620
<b>Total, London</b>	<b>996</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>13,155</b>	<b>9,272</b>	<b>13,569</b>
Northern Counties .. ..	—	—	32	—	—	280
Lancs. and Cheshire .. ..	—	—	58	—	—	420
Yorkshire .. ..	78	—	153	125	—	710
Midlands .. ..	61	24	74	86†	—	214
Eastern Counties .. ..	—	—	120	—	—	1,347
Southern Counties .. ..	659	136	567	9,123	1,217	5,923
Wales and Monmouth .. ..	240	—	—	854	—	—
England and Wales .. ..	2,034	695	1,982	23,343	10,489	22,463
Scotland .. ..	260	261	402	5,609	4,986	6,994
Ireland .. ..	99	—	340	693	—	3,060
<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>2,393</b>	<b>956</b>	<b>2,724</b>	<b>29,645</b>	<b>15,475</b>	<b>32,517</b>
<b>Total Amount of Wages Paid.</b>						
<b>Net No. of Applicants Remaining on the Registers at end of</b>						
Districts.	Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Dec., 1912.	Nov., 1912.	Dec., 1911.
London:—	£	£	£	£	£	£
County .. ..	322	894	1,387	9,110	7,769	11,401
Outer .. ..	976	201	618	3,081	2,305	3,617
<b>Total, London</b>	<b>1,298</b>	<b>1,095</b>	<b>2,005</b>	<b>12,191</b>	<b>10,074</b>	<b>15,018</b>
Northern Counties .. ..	—	—	55	—	21	341
Lancs. and Cheshire .. ..	—	—	49	31	31	525
Yorkshire .. ..	25	—	130	1,303	1,107	2,282
Midlands .. ..	52†	42	64	777	727	1,302
Eastern Counties .. ..	—	—	135	609	435	1,083
Southern Counties .. ..	931	134	676	2,816	1,770	3,677
Wales and Monmouth .. ..	228	—	—	980	606	1,024
England and Wales .. ..	2,534	1,271	3,114	18,707	14,771	25,252
Scotland .. ..	565	518	745	323	304	835
Ireland .. ..	60	—	504	2,258	1,099	2,154
<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>3,179</b>	<b>1,789</b>	<b>4,363</b>	<b>21,288</b>	<b>16,174</b>	<b>28,241</b>

In addition there were certain cases in which men and women were given employment by arrangement with local authorities, or with contractors, or were engaged on piecework.

Of the applicants remaining on the registers at the end of December, 1912, 9,853 were stated to be labourers, porters, &c., 6,844 were connected with the building trades, 1,414 were carters, &c., 530 were clerks, shop assistants, &c.; the occupations of the remainder were not specified.

\* In some cases it has been necessary to take the actual number on the registers, as the Distress Committees were unable to furnish the particulars necessary for deducting persons disqualified, &c. † In addition 24 men were employed on piecework.

PAUPERISM IN DECEMBER.

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

THE number of paupers relieved on one day in December, 1912, in the 35 urban districts named below corresponded to a rate of 203 per 10,000 of the population.

Compared with November, 1912, the total number of paupers relieved increased by 6,484 (or 1.8 per cent.), and the rate per 10,000 by 4. The number of outdoor paupers relieved increased by 2,258 (or 1.2 per cent.) and the number of indoor paupers increased by 4,226 (or 2.4 per cent.). There were increases in 32 districts, the highest being 11 per 10,000 in the Dublin district, and 10 per 10,000 in the Hull district. In 2 districts there were decreases, while 1 district showed no change.

Compared with December, 1911, the rate per 10,000 decreased by 4. The number of outdoor paupers decreased by 174 (or 0.1 per cent.), while the number of indoor paupers decreased by 1,242 (or 0.7 per cent.). There were increases in 10 districts, the most marked being in the West Ham district (17 per 10,000) and in the Belfast district (10 per 10,000). In 24 districts there were decreases, the highest being in the Coatbridge and Airdrie district (30 per 10,000), in the Stockton and Tees district and the Leicester district (26 per 10,000), in the Galway district (20 per 10,000), and in the Cardiff and Swansea district (19 per 10,000). In the West District of the Metropolis no change was indicated.

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of December, 1912.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.		Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.*</b>						
<b>Metropolis.</b>						
West District .. ..	12,393	2,391	14,784	185	+ 6	—
North District .. ..	16,542	9,035	25,577	251	+ 5	+ 4
Central District .. ..	6,418	1,354	7,772	454	+ 5	- 4
East District .. ..	15,207	5,508	20,715	305	+ 4	+ 8
South District .. ..	28,501	14,943	43,444	224	+ 6	- 3
<b>Total, Metropolis</b>	<b>77,061</b>	<b>33,321</b>	<b>110,292</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>+ 5</b>	<b>—</b>
West Ham .. ..	5,638	12,311	17,849	250	+ 5	+ 17
<b>Other Districts.</b>						
Newcastle District .. ..	2,705	5,106	7,811	169	+ 3	- 7
Stockton & Tees District .. ..	1,355	3,395	4,750	198	+ 3	- 26
Bolton, Oldham, &c. .. ..	4,701	4,859	9,560	120	+ 4	- 8
Wigan District .. ..	2,486	5,468	7,952	187	+ 1	- 7

TRADE DISPUTES IN DECEMBER.\*

**Number and Magnitude.**—The most important dispute occurring in December was that involving about 8,500 railwaymen on the North-Eastern Railway; in all 51 disputes began during the month, as compared with 67 in the previous month, and 41 in December, 1911. In these new disputes 18,821 workpeople were directly, and 1,973 indirectly involved, and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople involved in disputes which began before December, and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 30,685 workpeople involved in trade disputes in December, 1912, as compared with 32,289 in November, 1912, and 181,201 in December, 1911, when the great dispute in the cotton weaving industry was in progress.

**New Disputes in December, 1912.**—In the following Table the disputes beginning in December are summarised by trades affected:—

Groups of Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Building .. .. .	2	32	—	32
Coal Mining .. .. .	6	4,144	922	5,066
Engineering .. .. .	7	637	35	672
Shipbuilding .. .. .	4	301	242	543
Textile .. .. .	9	1,437	309	1,806
Clothing .. .. .	4	1,663	—	1,663
Transport .. .. .	7	10,002	237	10,239
Other Trades .. .. .	11	492	126	618
Employees of Local Authorities ..	1	53	102	155
<b>Total, December, 1912</b> .. .. .	<b>51</b>	<b>18,821</b>	<b>1,973</b>	<b>20,794</b>
<b>Total, November, 1912</b> .. .. .	<b>67</b>	<b>13,094</b>	<b>5,309</b>	<b>18,403</b>
<b>Total, December, 1911</b> .. .. .	<b>41</b>	<b>171,533</b>	<b>1,237</b>	<b>172,770</b>

Principal Disputes that began or ended in December.

Occupations.†	Locality.	Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.†	Result †
		Directly.	Indirectly.				
<b>Coal Mining—</b> Miners and surface workers .. ..	Dreghorn ..	450	129	1912. 4 July	109	To compel a few non-unionists to join the Trade Union.	Trade unionists only to be employed at the pit affected by the dispute; the non-unionists in question to be isolated in a small pit belonging to the same employers.
Miners .. .. .	Garw Valley ..	2,308	—	2 Dec.	6	Refusal to work with non-unionists.	Non-unionists joined the Trade Union.
<b>Engineering—</b> Fitters, turners, patternmakers, smiths, joiners, labourers, &c.	Blackburn ..	276	230	10 Aug.	122	Against employment of labourers on machines claimed by skilled workmen.	Amicable settlement effected by compromise.
Plate and machine moulders, labourers, machine-men, &c.	Oldham ..	749	1,511	21 Oct.	49	For advance in wages of 5 per cent.	No general advance to be granted, but piece prices on lower-paid jobs to be discussed with a view of increasing them and making wages more uniform.
<b>Shipbuilding—</b> Platers, anglesmiths and helpers ..	Jarrow ..	132	210	9 Dec.	5	Against reduction, without notice, in piece rates for work done and recorded.	Work resumed; matter referred to joint committee of parties, who agreed upon mode of procedure for future questions of piece prices, &c.; present cases of under-payment to be considered by firm.
<b>Clothing Trades—</b> Boot and shoe operatives .. ..	Northampton	1,050	—	10 Dec.	5	Objection to foreman of closing department.	More care to be taken in suspension of girls owing to shortage of work, and supervisor appointed over clicking and closing departments.
Underskirt workers &c. .. ..	Barnsley ..	393	—	6 Dec.	3	For reinstatement of two discharged workpeople, and dismissal of head of department.	The two workpeople reinstated, and head of department resigned.
<b>Transport—</b> Railwaymen .. .. .	North of England	8,500†	—	7 Dec.	8	For reinstatement of an engine-driver who had been reduced in rank owing to alleged drunkenness off duty, for which he had been fined in the Police Court.	Engine-driver reinstated, as result of Home Office Enquiry into case. Men who struck fined six days' pay in lieu of proceedings being taken for breach of contract.
Carters .. .. .	Kirkcaldy ..	300	—	5 Dec.	8	For advance in wages from 2s. to 2s. 6d. per week for single-horse carters, with 2s. as the rate for double-horse men.	Demand conceded by general contractors; railway contractors to give an advance of 1s. per week immediately and to consider further advances of 1s. in three months' time.
<b>Salt Manufacture—</b> Saltmen, labourers, mechanics, &c. ..	Tees-side ..	209	122	9 Sept.	84	For advance in wages of 3s. and 4s. per week to time workers, and various increases to pieceworkers.	Advance of 1s. per week granted to saltmen, 1s. 6d. to casual labourers, and 2½ per cent. to piece workers; wages in future to be regulated by sliding scale based on selling price of salt.
<b>Employees of Local Authorities—</b> Refuse throwers-out, timen, weighmen, carters, stokers, &c.	Bradford ..	53	102	20 Dec.	2	For change in system of payment from piecework to timework.	Demand conceded.

\* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration exceeded 100 days.  
† The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly involved," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.  
‡ Estimated number.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.\*

**Wages.**  
*Changes taking effect in December, 1912.*—The result of all the changes taking effect in December, 1912, was an increase of £3,175 per week, as compared with one of £17,410 per week in November, 1912, and one of £977 per week in December, 1911. The number of workpeople affected was 46,905, all of whom received advances. The number affected in November, 1912, was 347,448, and in December, 1911, 11,426.

Nine changes, affecting 30,054 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales, whilst the remaining changes, affecting 16,851 workpeople, were arranged directly

between employers and workpeople or their representatives. In eight cases, affecting 1,013 workpeople, the changes were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

**Hours.**

The changes in hours of labour reported as taking effect in December, 1912, affected 6,030 workpeople, whose working time was reduced by 23,030 hours per week.

**Comparison of 1911 and 1912.**

See Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour section of special article on p. 3.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR IN DECEMBER, 1912.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
				Increase.	Decrease.	
I.—RATES OF WAGES.						
Coal Mining	Northumberland	23 & 30 Dec.	Deputies .. .. .	1,100	—	Increase of 2d. per day (6s. 7½d. to 6s. 9½d.).
			Mechanics .. .. .	1,600	—	Increase of 2d. per day (5s. 5½d. to 5s. 7½d.).
Coal Mining	Lancashire and Cheshire	Dec.	Enginemmen .. .. .	700	—	Increase of 2d. per day. Rates after change: Winding, 6s. 4¼d., Hauling and Pumping 6s. 9½d.
			Firemen .. .. .	250	—	Increase of 5 per cent., making wages 31 per cent. above the standard of November, 1879.
Pig Iron Manufacture	South Staffs	Dec.	Engine winders, stokers, chargemen, surface enginemmen, loco. drivers and adult loco. stokers	2,315	—	Increase to minimum rates of 6s. 4d. for engine winders, 4s. 3d. for stokers, 4s. 6d. for chargemen, 4s. and 4s. 6d. for surface enginemmen, 5s. for loco. drivers, and 4s. for adult loco. stokers.
			Blastfurnacemen .. .. .	1,000	—	Increase, under sliding scale, of 5 per cent.
Iron and Steel Manufacture	Northumberland, Durham, and Cleveland	2 Dec.	Iron puddlers .. .. .	750	—	Increase, under sliding scale, of 3d. per ton (8s. 9d. to 9s.).
			Iron and steel millmen .. .. .	2,650	—	Increase, under sliding scale, of 2½ per cent.
Iron and Steel Manufacture	South Yorks (3 firms).	2 Dec.	Iron puddlers and forgemen .. .. .	371	—	Increase, under sliding scale, of 3d. per ton.
			Iron and steel millmen .. .. .	—	—	Increase, under sliding scale, of 2½ per cent.
Iron and Steel Manufacture	Midlands (including parts of S. Yorks and S. Lancs)	9 Dec.	Iron puddlers .. .. .	20,000	—	Increase, under sliding scale, of 6d. per ton. Rate after change (including bonus), 10s. 9d. per ton.
			Iron millmen .. .. .	—	—	Increase, under sliding scale, of 5 per cent.
Iron and Steel Manufacture	S. Wales and Mon.	9 Dec.	Iron puddlers, iron and steel millmen, enginemmen, &c.	2,000	—	Increase, under sliding scale, of 6d. per ton to puddlers and of 5 per cent. to millmen, enginemmen, &c.
			Iron puddlers .. .. .	—	—	Increase, under sliding scale, of 6d. per ton (9s. 9d. to 10s. 3d.)
Engineering	West of Scotland	2 Dec.	Iron millmen .. .. .	3,000	—	Increase, under sliding scale, of 5 per cent.
			Spindle and flyer makers .. .. .	1,000	—	Increase on piece rates of 2½ per cent., and on time rates of 1s. per week.
Other Metal	Yorks, Lancs and Cheshire	1 Dec.	Iron and steel moulders (daysmen) ..	5,300	—	Increase of ¼d. per hour, or 1s. per week.
			Fittings and socket makers .. .. .	900	—	Increase of 2½ per cent.
Transport	South Staffs	Dec.	Carters .. .. .	300	—	Increase of 2s. per week. Rates after change: single horse, 24s. pair-horse, 26s.
Food	Kirkcaldy ..	14 Dec.	Bakers .. .. .	1,200	—	Increase of 2s. per week to all grades, except men from 21 to 23 years of age on night work, whose increase is 4s. per week.
Transport	Kirkcaldy ..	14 Dec.	Carters .. .. .	300	—	Increase of 2s. per week. Rates after change: single horse, 24s. pair-horse, 26s.
			Bakers .. .. .	1,200	—	Increase of 2s. per week to all grades, except men from 21 to 23 years of age on night work, whose increase is 4s. per week.
II.—HOURS OF LABOUR.						
Coal Mining	Lancashire and Cheshire	Dec.	Stokers and surface enginemmen† ..	—	1,000	Decrease of 8 hours per week, resulting from adoption of 8-hour week-end shifts.
Transport	Liverpool	1 Dec.	Carters .. .. .	—	5,000	Decrease of 3 hours per week.

Note.—Full particulars will appear in the February GAZETTE of the following important changes arranged to take effect in January:—  
*Coal Mining.*—Increase of 5 per cent. in the wages of miners in the Federated Districts (Midlands, Yorkshire, Lancashire, and North Wales).  
*Pig Iron Manufacture.*—Increase of 1½ per cent. in the wages of blastfurnacemen in Cleveland and Durham, and of 6 per cent. in West Cumberland.  
\* Exclusive of agricultural labourers, seamen and railway servants.  
† See also under hours of labour.  
‡ See also under rates of wages.

INCREASES IN THE PAY OF THE ROYAL NAVY AND ROYAL MARINES.

INCREASES in the pay and allowances of officers and men of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines were sanctioned by His Majesty in Council on the 16th December, 1912, to take effect from 1st December, 1912. The concessions include improved scales of full pay for lieutenants, of half-pay for captains, and of seagoing command money for commanders. Able seamen, first-class stokers, privates of the Royal Marine Light Infantry, and gunners and bombardiers of the Royal Marine Artillery after six years' service receive 3d. per day extra. Petty

officers of the seaman and stoker classes and non-commissioned officers of the Marines receive 4d. per day extra. The additional pay to the Marines is given only when afloat. In addition, increases in pay are granted to various classes, including signalmen and telegraphists, armourers, cooks, ships' police, stewards, writers, sick-berth staff, shipwrights, &c. Good conduct badges carrying 1d. to 3d. per day are conceded to certain ratings, including engine-room artificers, electricians, &c., and free kits on first entry, ranging in value from about £7 to about £8, are granted to all ratings who at present only receive an allowance towards meeting part of the cost of their kit on entry. The estimated total cost of the increase is £386,473 per annum.



WORK OF BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR EXCHANGES IN DECEMBER

Summary.—The total number of workpeople's applications on both the General and Casual Registers\* of the Board of Trade Labour Exchanges at December 27th, 1912, was 59,687, compared with 98,624 a month previously and 64,016 a year ago.

GENERAL REGISTER.

Applications Received.—The number of applications received during the period† was 171,122 (men 118,526, women 31,024, boys 12,625 and girls 8,947), a daily average of 6,112 compared with 7,831 in November, 1912.

Of the men's applications on the register at some time during the period the largest percentages occur in the following groups of trades:—Building, 22·3 (labourers 5·5, others 16·8); metals, machines, implements and conveyances, 20·3; general labourers, 16·4; and conveyance of men, goods and messages, 13·3.

Of the women's applications, the largest percentages occur in domestic (outdoor) service, 47·9; food, tobacco, drink and lodging, 9·6; textiles, 9·4; and dress, 7·1.

The total number of applications remaining on the register at December 27th, 1912, was 55,098 (men 42,352, women 7,421, boys 3,123, and girls 2,202), as compared with 94,706 (men 66,519, women 18,053, boys 5,237 and girls 4,897) at November 22nd, 1912, and with 62,481 at December 29th, 1911.

The following Table shows the number of applicants on the register at the end of each week during December, 1912, November, 1912, and December, 1911:—

Table with 4 columns: Month, Dec., 1912, Nov., 1912, Dec., 1911. Rows show weekly data for 1st week to 5th week.

Vacancies Notified.—The number of vacancies notified during the period was 88,000 (men 53,413, women 18,770, boys 9,647 and girls 6,170), a daily average of 3,143, compared with 3,591 in November, and with 2,365 in December, 1911.

Of the men's vacancies notified during the period, the largest percentages occur in metals, machines, implements and conveyances, 32·7; building, 16·8 (labourers 4·7, others 12·1); general labourers, 11·7; and conveyance of men, goods and messages, 9·5.

Vacancies Filled.—The number of vacancies filled during the period was 69,639 (men 44,288, women 14,152, boys 6,708 and girls 4,491), a daily average of 2,487, compared with 2,794 in November, and with 1,793 in December, 1911.

Of the vacancies filled during the period, 14,597 (men 12,332, women 1,773, boys 339 and girls 153) were

\* Certain employments of a peculiarly casual nature followed by men and women are dealt with on a separate register, described as the Casual Register, and the statistics for these employments are shown in Table V. Tables I-IV. below referring only to applications and vacancies on the General Register.

† The period covered is the five weeks ended 27th December, 1912, and includes 28 working days.

temporary, in the sense of being known to be for less than a week's employment.

The vacancies filled during the period include 9,010 cases in which persons were placed by the Exchanges in districts other than those in which they were registered. Of the total number of such transferences, 2,873 were in London, 2,184 in Scotland and the North of England, 1,576 in the North-Western Division, 887 in the Yorkshire and East Midlands Division, and 569 in the West Midlands Division, representing respectively 25·2, 15·7, 13·6, 8·1 and 12·7 per cent. of the vacancies filled in these areas.

The proportion of vacancies filled by the Exchanges to vacancies notified by employers was 79·1 per cent. (men 82·9, women 75·4, boys 69·7 and girls 72·8), as compared with 77·8 per cent. during November.

Of the men's vacancies filled during the period, the largest percentages occur in metals, machines, implements and conveyances, 34·0; building, 16·8 (labourers 4·7, others 12·1); general labourers, 12·7; and conveyance of men, goods and messages, 9·5.

Of the women's vacancies filled, the largest percentages occur in domestic (outdoor) service, 40·7; food, tobacco, drink and lodging, 15·3; textiles, 15·2; and dress, 5·0.

Of the 11,199 vacancies for boys and girls filled during the period, 2,717 (boys 1,490 and girls 1,227) were filled by applicants who obtained their first situation since leaving school, representing 24·3 per cent. (boys 22·2 and girls 27·3) of the vacancies filled by juveniles.

The following Table gives the figures for the 260 Exchanges which have been open for a year or more:—

Table with 4 columns: Dec., 1912, Nov., 1912, Dec., 1911. Rows show statistics for Applications received, Vacancies notified, and Applications on register.

\* 28 days period. † 24 days period.

POST OFFICE TEMPORARY CHRISTMAS WORK.

The figures relating to applications and vacancies in connection with Post Office Temporary Christmas Work are not included above, but are shown separately in Tables I., III. and IV.

The number of applications registered solely for this work was 37,954 (men 37,308, women 45, boys 600 and girls 1), and the number of vacancies known to have been filled up to and including December 27th was 39,670 (men 39,018, women 45, boys 606 and girls 1).

CASUAL REGISTER.

The total number of applicants given work in the casual employments included in the Casual Register was 6,593 (men 5,435, women 1,158). The total number of separate jobs given in such employments was 41,685 (men 40,212, women 1,473), a daily average of 1,489, as compared with a daily average of 1,344 in November, 1912, and with 411 in December, 1911.

During the period of 5 weeks ended December 27th there were 5,631 cases in which men were given employment through the Clearing House System now in operation for dock labourers at Liverpool, a daily average of 201 as compared with a daily average of 170 in November, 1912.

UNSATISFIED DEMAND FOR LABOUR.

During the period covered by the Returns, there was a continuance of the large demand for workmen of all classes in the Shipbuilding Trade, and in the Engineering and Metal Trades there was still a scarcity of workers in some districts. In the case of women, the demand exceeded the supply in the Cotton, Woollen, and Worsted trades, and in Laundry work.

ADULTS—DISTRICT TABLE.\*

Table I.—Applications for Employment, Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the period of five weeks ended December 27th, 1912. (General Register.)

Large table with columns for Districts, Applications for Employment (On Live Register, Received during Period), Vacancies (Notified during Period, Filled during Period), and Post Office Temporary Christmas Staff. Rows list various districts like London, West Midlands, Yorkshire, etc.

\* Exclusive of Casual Employments. † Including re-applications from persons placed in vacancies through the Exchanges during the period.

‡ These figures do not include the Manchester Cloth Porters' Exchange, which deals only with Casual Employment.

|| Post Office Temporary Christmas Staff, Vacancies Notified and Filled are not included in these columns.

JUVENILES—DISTRICT TABLE.

Table II.—Applications for Employment, Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the period of five weeks ended December 27th, 1912. (General Register.)

Districts. (The numbers in brackets refer to the number of Exchanges.)	APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT.									VACANCIES.								
	On Live Register at Beginning of Period.			Received during Period.*			On Live Register at End of Period.			Notified during Period.			Filled during Period.					
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.			
London and South Eastern (67)	1,831	1,203	3,134	4,800	3,033	7,833	963	403	1,366	3,388	1,993	5,381	2,479	1,497	3,976			
South Western (27)	469	218	687	785	359	1,144	305	139	444	549	233	782	391	174	565			
West Midlands (43)	471	545	1,016	1,212	874	2,086	271	261	532	849	607	1,456	577	413	990			
Yorkshire and East Midlands (70)	619	844	1,463	1,737	1,559	3,296	367	375	741	1,455	1,245	2,700	1,029	943	1,972			
North Western (78)†	502	668	1,170	1,826	1,110	2,936	261	291	552	1,609	827	2,436	949	512	1,461			
Scotland and North of England (73)	683	940	1,623	1,867	1,806	3,662	617	580	1,197	1,267	1,031	2,298	862	761	1,623			
Wales (including Mon.) (35)	203	227	430	357	350	707	135	87	222	262	157	419	211	136	347			
Ireland (20)	459	152	611	622	184	806	204	67	271	268	77	345	210	55	265			
<b>Total (413)†</b>	<b>5,237</b>	<b>4,897</b>	<b>10,134</b>	<b>13,196</b>	<b>9,274</b>	<b>22,470</b>	<b>3,123</b>	<b>2,202</b>	<b>5,325</b>	<b>9,647</b>	<b>6,170</b>	<b>15,817</b>	<b>6,708</b>	<b>4,491</b>	<b>11,199</b>			
Total a month ago (411)†	5,403	5,010	10,413	14,855	12,483	27,338	5,237	4,897	10,134	10,872	7,389	18,261	7,196	5,401	12,597			
Total a year ago (261)†	5,283	3,970	9,253	13,524	8,060	21,584	4,500	2,717	7,217	8,458	4,753	13,211	6,161	3,558	9,719			
<b>TOWNS:</b>																		
Population 500,000 and over:—																		
London (37)	1,310	985	2,295	3,955	2,591	6,546	709	311	1,020	2,871	1,630	4,501	2,102	1,270	3,372			
Glasgow, Govan, Partick (6)	103	121	224	343	330	673	30	41	71	281	222	503	192	175	367			
Liverpool and Bootle (5)	96	139	235	528	270	798	43	50	93	313	93	406	242	81	323			
Manchester (4)†	54	17	71	221	83	304	22	8	30	265	116	381	146	52	198			
Birmingham (6)	168	93	261	410	217	627	92	62	154	286	206	492	213	121	334			
Population 250,000 and over:—																		
Sheffield (3)	29	27	56	98	127	225	5	9	14	123	107	230	60	84	144			
Leeds (4)	42	43	85	187	154	341	17	14	31	165	129	294	125	103	229			
Edinburgh and Leith (3)	212	171	383	199	138	337	214	136	350	159	123	282	94	77	171			
Belfast	102	42	144	111	12	123	27	11	38	58	5	63	45	2	47			
Bristol (4)	86	56	142	176	104	279	37	31	68	189	79	268	104	53	157			
Dublin	76	26	102	166	50	216	17	7	24	87	9	96	78	4	82			
Bradford	20	2	22	73	9	82	5	2	7	51	10	61	41	4	45			
Hull	54	178	232	178	207	385	18	44	62	79	81	160	71	66	137			
Newcastle-on-Tyne (2)	11	66	77	90	168	258	6	27	33	75	82	157	50	72	122			
Nottingham	54	14	68	129	158	287	36	31	67	184	148	332	110	115	225			
Salford and Eccles (2)	10	16	26	51	59	110	4	4	8	58	67	125	26	24	60			
Population 100,000 and over:—																		
Stoke-on-Trent (4)	49	72	121	136	137	273	24	39	63	69	65	134	51	43	94			
Portsmouth	126	17	143	110	19	129	36	2	38	38	16	54	32	16	48			
Leicester	9	7	16	72	35	107	3	8	11	27	27	54	20	7	27			
Cardiff (3)	38	58	96	104	96	200	16	14	30	93	37	130	92	36	128			
Bolton	11	3	14	42	17	59	4	2	6	45	27	72	21	12	33			
Dundee	9	12	21	29	14	43	9	7	16	14	6	20	7	3	10			
Aberdeen	24	20	44	235	149	384	117	45	162	98	34	132	93	24	117			
Sunderland	12	36	48	60	53	113	10	10	20	54	27	81	34	21	55			
Oldham	11	10	21	59	20	79	4	6	10	47	12	59	22	9	31			
Blackburn	8	3	11	33	2	35	4	—	4	33	5	38	22	1	22			
Brighton	27	22	49	80	78	158	13	19	32	81	63	144	44	58	102			
Birkenhead (2)	32	62	94	55	97	152	18	44	62	45	62	107	14	44	58			
Chatham, Rochester and Gillingham	193	46	247	143	42	185	79	7	86	18	21	39	29	17	46			
Derby	30	15	45	46	35	81	22	8	30	68	25	93	38	20	58			
Norwich	47	30	77	84	55	139	22	13	35	44	35	79	46	29	75			
Southampton (2)	40	25	65	89	26	115	26	4	30	54	9	63	42	9	51			
Preston	11	7	18	37	22	59	1	2	3	28	12	40	11	8	19			
Gateshead	9	41	50	46	79	125	16	7	23	17	32	49	16	28	44			
Swansea (2)	8	24	32	26	48	74	5	6	11	20	13	33	14	21	35			
Plymouth and Devonport (3)	84	54	138	134	74	208	74	52	126	88	33	121	71	22	93			
Stockport	18	11	29	36	20	56	5	6	11	46	11	57	15	18	33			
South Shields (3)	27	29	56	34	50	84	10	9	19	21	22	43	15	18	33			
Buddersfield	9	4	13	23	20	43	2	1	3	64	23	87	51	20	71			
Coventry	13	9	22	42	15	57	12	—	12	17	18	35	12	11	23			
Burnley (2)	11	3	14	32	11	43	5	1	6	25	14	49	18	11	29			
Middlesbrough (2)	37	39	76	78	68	146	30	12	42	61	46	107	41	42	83			
Hullfax	15	7	22	24	15	39	7	4	11	36	27	63	16	18	34			
Population 50,000 and over:—																		
St. Helens	2	10	12	6	20	26	—	5	5	28	5	33	14	4	18			
Wolverhampton	16	69	85	64	63	127	4	19	23	53	110	163	37	39	76			
Walsall	14	10	24	52	32	84	7	3	10	28	21	49	24	16	40			
Rochdale	8	—	8	22	6	28	3	1	4	51	26	77	8	2	10			
Northampton	11	22	33	24	23	47	10	11	21	36	33	69	22	12	34			
Paisley	20	6	26	36	24	60	6	2	8	29	19	48	23	12	35			
Wigan	25	11	36	74	24	98	22	10	32	33	17	50	27	13	40			
Newport (Mon.) (2)	16	14	30	43	26	69	2	1	3	45	22	67	29	16	45			
York	74	27	101	93	41	134	50	11	61	80	45	125	73	32	105			
Merthyr Tydfil	4	10	14	7	15	22	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Cork	68	31	99	54	30	84	24	18	42	24	11	35	20	7	27			
Reading	17	19	36	91	19	110	24	8	32	77	27	104	67	24	91			
Greenock	13	14	27	41	41	82	6	4	10	12	20	32	12	21	33			
Grimsby	43	54	97	123	71	194	8	10	18	52	38	90	51	34	85			
Ipswich	12	14	26	34	24	58	10	7	17	21	23	44	17	16	33			
Warrington	9	29	38	57	38	95	—	23	23	30	27	57	34	28	62			
Bath	8	10	19	29	18	47	2	2	4	29	15	44	20	8	28			
West Bromwich	19	16	35	44	30	74	12	2	14	32	9	41	20	10	30			
West Hartlepool (2)	10	24	34	20	54	74	4	22	26	30	33	63	10	29	39			
Barrow	37	33	70	30	26	56	19	20	39	11	15	26	14	9	23			
Rotherham	22	22	44	32	22	54	6	4	10	33	19	57	35	18	53			
Bury	3	4	7	29	4	33	4	1	5	27	6	33	16	3	19			
Lincoln	9	22	31	24	29	53	6	8	14	30	19	49	27	17	44			
Darlington	4	4	8	17	29	46	3	—	3	22	30	53	3	13	16			
Dewsbury	2	3	5	31	5	36	1	—	1	30	33	63	23	21	44			
Stockton and Thornaby (2)	13	19	32	53	45	98	5	13	18	36	13	49	37	14	51			
Wakfield																		

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN DECEMBER, 1912.

(NOTE.—These are not connected with the Board of Trade Labour Exchanges.) DURING December 508 fresh applications (248 from domestic servants, &c.) for work were registered by 10 Bureaux furnishing returns, and 583 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 154 persons, of whom 71 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 154 situations found for applicants, 114 were of a more or less permanent character, while 40 were temporary only. The demand for cooks, parlourmaids, housemaids and children's nurses exceeded the supply; the supply of ladies' maids and companions exceeded the demand.

	Applications by Work-people during		Situations offered by Employers during		Number of Workpeople engaged by Employers.			
	Dec., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Dec., 1912.	Dec., 1911.	Perma- nently.	Temp- orarily.	Dec., 1912.	Dec., 1911.
<b>Summary by Bureaux.</b>								
Central Bureau— 5, Princes Street, Caven- dish Square, W.	95	86	83	66	29	33	7	3
Y.W.C.A.— 26, George Street, (1).. Hanover Sq.	193	182	345	292	30	37	20	30
Dublin— 30, Molesworth Street..	20	13	20	8	4	2	1	..
Other Bureaux (Liver- pool, Manchester, Bir- mingham, Leeds, Edin- burgh, and Glasgow) ..	145	142	103	96	40	39	9	5
<b>Total of 10 Bureaux ..</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>583</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Summary by Occupations.</b>								
Superintendents, Forewomen, &c.	53	55	27	25	12	10	..	1
Shop Assistants .. ..	1	7	3	2	..	..	..	..
Dressmakers, Milliners, &c.	34	45	15	10	5	3	..	1
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists	70	58	34	28	15	14	10	5
Apprentices and Learners	14	10	18	11	15	10	..	..
Domestic Servants ..	248	235	432	357	47	67	24	32
Miscellaneous .. ..	88	82	54	50	20	13	3	3
<b>Total of 10 Bureaux ..</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>583</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>42</b>

In addition to the above registered applications, the returns show that 32 persons in London, and 30 in the provinces, were referred to other agencies; 207 persons in London, and 51 in the provinces, were given advice as to training, &c., but were not registered.

PASSENGERS TO AND FROM PLACES OUT OF EUROPE.\*

British.—During November 29,863 British subjects left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe, while 14,318 entered the United Kingdom, the balance outward being 15,545, compared with a balance of 14,750 in November, 1911. Compared with a year ago there was an increase both in the passengers outward and inward; there was a considerable increase to British North America. In the eleven months January—November, 1912, the number of British subjects who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe was 450,139, while the number entering the United Kingdom was 176,297, the balance outward being 273,842, compared with a balance outward of 262,304 in the corresponding period of 1911. The most noticeable feature in this increase is the large increase in the number of passengers to Australia. Particulars of the movement of British subjects to and from places out of Europe are given in the following table:—

	November.		Eleven months ended November.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1912.
	1911.	1912.	1911.	1912.	
<b>Outward:</b>					
Total .. ..	27,218	29,863	+2,645	435,642	450,139 + 14,497
To British N. America ..	4,795	6,973	+2,178	182,049	183,384 + 1,335
To Australia .. ..	7,567	6,568	- 999	63,003	77,769 + 14,766
To United States .. ..	6,028	6,791	+ 763	118,120	115,516 - 4,604
<b>Inward:</b>					
Total .. ..	12,468	14,318	+ 1,850	173,338	176,297 + 2,959
From British N. America	5,101	6,941	+ 840	42,997	44,462 + 1,465
From Australia .. ..	297	600	+ 303	11,729	13,616 + 1,887
From United States ..	4,459	4,574	+ 85	63,739	61,104 - 2,635
<b>Balance Outward:</b>					
Total .. ..	14,750	15,545	+ 795	262,304	273,842 + 11,538
To British N. America ..	306†	1,032	+ 1,338	139,052	138,922 - 130
To Australia .. ..	7,270	5,968	- 1,302	51,274	64,153 + 12,879
To United States .. ..	1,539	2,217	+ 678	54,381	52,412 - 1,969

Aliens.—For aliens the balance inward in November, 1912, was 990, compared with 4,200 a year ago. For the eleven months ended November there was a balance outward of 54,618, compared with 20,703 a year ago.

\* Exclusive of passengers travelling indirectly via Continental ports.  
† Balance inward.

RAILWAY GOODS AND MINERAL TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

(Based on information published weekly in the "Times.") THE goods and mineral traffic receipts of 19 of the principal railways in the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended December 28th, 1912, amounted to £4,659,197, an increase of £175,393 (or 3.9 per cent.) on the total for the corresponding period of 1911. During the 52 weeks ended December 28th, 1912, the receipts amounted to £58,972,141, a decrease of £57,900 (or 0.1 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1911.

	4 weeks ended December 28th, 1912.		52 weeks ended December 28th, 1912.	
	Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on 1911.	Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on 1911.
<b>English Lines:—</b>	£	£	£	£
L. & N. W., Midland, N. London, and N. Staffs ..	1,458,429	+ 78,237	18,906,516	+ 189,369
Gt. Northern, Gt. Central, and Gt. Eastern .. ..	774,200	+ 59,100	9,576,996	+ 1,937
N. Eastern, and Lancs. and Yorks .. ..	858,345	- 31,938	10,701,432	- 103,572
Gt. Western, and L. & S. W.	679,400	+ 47,000	9,069,300	+ 100,200
S. E. & C., and L. B. & S. C.	163,568	+ 7,848	2,088,150	- 21,768
<b>Scottish Lines:—</b>				
Caledonian, N. British, and Glasgow & S. Western ..	603,900	+ 15,100	6,966,400	- 250,241
<b>Irish Lines:—</b>				
Gt. Southern and Western, Midland Gt. Western, and Gt. Northern ..	121,355	+ 46	1,663,247	+ 26,175
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>4,659,197</b>	<b>+ 175,393</b>	<b>58,972,141</b>	<b>- 57,900</b>

INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED DURING DECEMBER.

(Based on information supplied to the Department by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.)

In the following Tables particulars are given as to the number of each of the various classes, unions and societies which were (1) registered, and (2) dissolved during December, 1912:—

(1) REGISTERED.			
Class of Society.	Number Registered.	Class of Society.	Number Registered.
Trade Unions .. ..	1	Friendly Societies ..	19
Industrial and Provident Societies	18	"    Branches ..	127
		Building .. ..	3
( ) DISSOLVED.			
Class of Society.	Commencement of Dissolution or Winding-up.	Termination of Dissolution or Winding-up.	Registry Cancelled.
Trade Unions .. ..	1	4	1
Industrial and Provident Societies	1	4	1
Friendly Societies ..	..	65	13
"    Branches ..	..	30	..
Building .. ..	..	3	18

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING DECEMBER.

UNITED KINGDOM.

All the United Kingdom Official Publications, including Consular Reports, may be purchased either directly or through any Bookseller from Wynn & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.; H.M. Stationery Office (Scottish Branch), 28, Forth Street, Edinburgh; or E. Ponsonby, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street, Dublin; or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependents, the United States of America, the Continent and Abroad of T. Fisher Unwin, London, W.C.

Census, 1911. Scotland. Vol. 1. Part 25. County of Linlithgow. [Cd. 6097—xxiv. : pp. 44 : price 5d.] Part 26. County of Naiv. [Cd. 6097—xxv. : pp. 29 : price 3d.] Part 27. County of Orkney. [Cd. 6097—xxvi. : pp. 45 : price 5d.] Part 24. County of Lanark, with Appendix showing Population of Area affected by Glasgow Boundaries Act, 1912. [Cd. 6097—xxiii. : pp. 220 : price 1s. 9d.] Part 29. County of Perth. [Cd. 6097—xxviii. : pp. 101 : price 10d.]

Committee of Inquiry into the Conditions of Employment in the Linen and other Making-up Trades of the North of Ireland. Report and Evidence. Home Office. [Cd. 6509 : pp. xxviii. + 191 : price 1s. 9d.]

Report of Departmental Committee on the Night Employment of Male Young Persons in Factories and Workshops. Home Office. [Cd. 6503 : pp. 13 : price 2d.]

Mines and Quarries, 1911. Part II. Labour. Administration, persons employed, accidents, prosecutions, &c. Home Office. [Cd. 6532 : pp. 173 : price 1s. 3d.]

Unemployed Workmen Act, 1905. Report by the Local Government Board for Scotland as to the Proceedings of Distress

Committees in Scotland for the year ended 15th May, 1912. [Cd. 6501 : pp. 17 : price 2d.]

41st Annual Report of the Local Government Board (England and Wales), 1911-1912. Part II. Public Health and Local Administration, County Council Administration, Local Taxation and Valuation. [Cd. 6331 : pp. clxviii. + 296 : price 1s. 10d.] Report of the Medical Officer. [Cd. 6341 : pp. lxxx. + 366 : price 3s. 8d.]

Reports of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the year ending 31st December, 1911. Part A. Friendly Societies. [H.C. 123 : pp. 192 : price 1s. 6d.] Building Societies. 17th Annual Report for the year 1911. Part II. Abstract of Accounts. [H.C. 124—1 : pp. 156 : price 1s. 3d.] Part A. Appendix (N). List of Societies registered under the Friendly Societies Act at 31st December, 1910. Section xi. Summary Tables, &c. [H.C. 126—xi. : pp. vi. + 316 : price 2s. 7d.]

Royal Navy (Pay). Statement showing the Present and New Rates of Pay for the Royal Navy and Royal Marines. Admiralty. [Cd. 6118 : pp. 10 : price 1d.]

Report of the Postmaster-General on the Post Office, 1911-12. Staff, mortality, retirements through ill-health, average sick absence, Post Office Savings Bank, Old Age Pension payments—number and amounts, &c. [Cd. 6495 : pp. 116 : price 6d.]

Departmental Committee on Duration of Buildings for Small Holdings. Report. Committee to inquire into the probable duration of buildings and other works required for the equipment and adaptation of land for small holdings. Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. [Cd. 6536 : pp. 21 : price 2d.]

55th Report for the year 1911 on the Reformatory and Industrial Schools of Great Britain. Part II. General Report and Appendices iii. to x. [Cd. 6502 : pp. 133 : price 6d.]

Deaths from Starvation or accelerated by Privation (England and Wales). Return for 1911. Local Government Board. [H.C. 352 : pp. 33 : price 3d.]

Seamen's Savings Banks (Money Orders and Transmission of Wages). Accounts for year ended 20th November, 1911. Board of Trade. [H.C. 399 : pp. 5 : price 1d.]

Public Works, Ireland. 80th Annual Report of the Commissioners for the year ending 31st March, 1912. Acquisition of small dwellings, housing of the working classes, &c. [Cd. 6356 : pp. 139 : price 1s. 2d.]

BRITISH COLONIES.

Canada.—The Labour Gazette, November, 1912. Proceedings under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act, wholesale and retail prices, changes in rates of wages, trade disputes during October; address of Sir G. R. Askwith before the Canadian Club of Ottawa, &c. [Ottawa : C. H. Parmelee, King's Printer : pp. 160.]

Census and Statistics Monthly, November, 1912. Root and fodder crops of Canada for month of October.

Ontario. Annual Report of the Bureau of Industries, 1911. Part I.—Agricultural Statistics. II.—Chattel Mortgages. [Toronto : L. K. Cameron, King's Printer : pp. 47.] Crop Bulletin 113, November, 1912. [pp. 24.]

New South Wales.—Industrial Arbitration Reports and Records, 1911. Vol. X. Index and Tables of Cases. [Sydney : W. A. Gullick, Government Printer : pp. 143.]

Friendly Societies, Trade Unions, Building Societies, Co-operative Societies and Transactions under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1910. Report of the Acting Registrar for the year 1911. [Sydney : W. A. Gullick, Government Printer, pp. 37.]

Victoria.—Determinations of Wages Board. Cigar Trade Board, dated October 1st, 1912, cancelling that of February 1st, 1912. Wire Workers' Board, dated October 9th, 1912, cancelling that of May 19th, 1911. Jam Trade Board, dated October 30th, 1912, cancelling that of March 20th, 1911. Hardware Board, dated October 31st, 1912, cancelling that of October 24th, 1911. Clothing Board, dated November 6th, 1912, cancelling that of October 5th, 1910.

Queensland.—Determinations of Wages Boards. Iron, Brass and Steel Moulding Trades Board for the South-Eastern Division, dated October 14th, 1912, cancelling that of November 1st, 1910. Board for Storemen of the Mackay Division, dated October 24th, 1912. Carpentry and Joinery Trade Board for the Mackay Division, dated October 16th, 1912. Sawmilling Industry Board for the Northern Division, dated September 12th, 1912. Men's and Boys' Clothing Trade Board for the South-Eastern Division, dated October 22nd, 1912. Tanning, Currying and Fancy Leather Dressing Industry Board for the South-Eastern Division, dated October 24th, 1912, cancelling that of September 28th, 1911.

Report of the Director of Labour and Chief Inspector of Factories and Shops for the year ended June 30th, 1912. Average wages paid in various districts; Wages Boards formed, list of Determinations, &c. [Brisbane : A. J. Cumming, Government Printer : pp. 85.]

New Zealand.—Awards, Agreements and Decisions under the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act. Vol. XIII., Part 6. [Wellington : John Mackay, Government Printer : pp. 95.]

Journal of the Department of Labour, November, 1912. Condition of trade and employment as at October 31st, 1912; cases under the Workers' Compensation Act; persons assisted to employment; co-operative works, &c. [Wellington : John Mackay, Government Printer : pp. 80.]

Canterbury Employers' Association Year Book for year ending June 30th, 1912. [Christchurch : Whitcomb & Tombs, Ltd. : pp. 32.]

South Africa.—Report of the Labour Department for the month of October. Applications for employment, work found, &c. [pp. 11.]

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

International.—Bulletin of the International Labour Office. No. 7, 1912. [French edition.] [Paris : Berger-Levrault.] No. 7, 1912. [English edition.] [London : The Pioneer Press.] No. 1, 1913. [German edition.] [Jena : Gustav Fischer.] —Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics, December, 1912. International Institute of Agriculture. [Rome : price 6d.]

United States.—Tenth Annual Report of the Secretary of Commerce and Labour, 1912. [Washington : Government Printing Office : pp. 143.]

Report on Conditions of Employment in the Iron and Steel Industry of the United States. Vol. I. Wages and Hours of Labour. Congress Document No. 110, 1911. Prepared under the direction of the Commissioner of Labour. [Washington : pp. lxxiii. + 538.]

Wages of Farm Labour. 19th investigation in 1909, continuing a series that began in 1886. George K. Holmes. United States Department of Agriculture. Bulletin 99, November, 1912. [Washington : Government Printing Office : pp. 72.]

Massachusetts. Fourth Annual Report on Labour Organisations for the year 1911. [Boston : Wright & Potter Printing Co., State Printers : pp. 45.]

France.—Strikes and Lock-outs and Conciliation and Arbitration during 1910. French Labour Department. [Paris : pp. xviii. + 580.]

Statistical Year-book for 1912 of Industrial, Commercial, and Agricultural Associations in France. Contains statistics of trade unions on January 1st, 1912. French Labour Department. [Paris : pp. lii. + 960.]

Journal of the French Labour Department, November, 1912. Co-operative societies for distribution (stores) on January 1st, 1912 (1st article); strikes, conciliation and arbitration in 1910; employment and labour disputes in October, 1912. [Paris : Berger-Levrault : price 2d.]

Statistical Year-book of Paris, 1910 (with certain statistics for 1911). Municipal Statistical Office of the Prefecture of Seine Department. [Paris : Masson et Cie : pp. xxxii. + 768 : price 4s. 10d.]

Germany.—Collective Labour Agreements in 1911. (5th supplement to the "Reichs-Arbeitsblatt.") Imperial Statistical Office. [Berlin : Carl Heymann : pp. 47 + 247 : price 7s. 3d.]

Journal of the German Labour Department, December, 1912. Unemployment and labour exchanges in November; miners' wages in third quarter of 1912; miners' wages in Saxony in 1911; collective labour agreements in 1911; principal statistics relating to sickness insurance, 1909-1911; also supplements relating to workmen's insurance in Europe (revised edition) and to labour exchanges in Germany. [Berlin : Carl Heymann : price 1d.]

Journal of the Imperial Insurance Office, November 15th, 1912. [Berlin : Behrend & Co. : price 8d.]

Statistical Journal of Baden, October and November, 1912. (Oct.) Crops in Baden in 1912; prices and employment in October. (Nov.) Prices and employment in November. [Karlsruhe.]

Statistical Journal of Alsace-Lorraine, July, August and September-October, 1912. (Aug.) Work of public labour exchanges in June and July, 1912; (Sept.-Oct.) births, marriages and deaths in 1911; work of public labour exchanges in August, 1912. [Strassburg : Freihen & Weber.]

Annual Reports of the Statistical Office of Schöneberg, I.-III., 1908-1910. Edited by R. Kuczynski, 1912. Contain statistics of retail prices, 1903-10; work of the municipal labour exchange, &c. [Berlin : Puttkammer & Mühlbrecht : pp. 155 + map : price 2s.]

Statistics of Breslau. Vol. xxx., Part 2. Prices of food, 1909; household budgets, showing income and expenditure, 1907 and 1908. Municipal Statistical Office, 1912. [Breslau : E. Morgenstern : pp. viii. + 264 : price 1s. 9d.]

Eighth International Report of the Trade Union Movement (1910). [Berlin : C. Legien : pp. 188.]

Year-book of Statistics of Trade, Population, &c., of Germany and the Principal Countries of the World. Edited by R. Calwer. [Jena : Gustav Fischer : pp. xxxiv. + 1006.]

Report of 53rd Congress of the General Federation of German Co-operative Societies, held at Munich, August 21st-23rd, 1912. [Berlin : J. Guttentag : pp. 484.]

The Rise in Prices during the last Decade. By Dr. Franz Eulenberg. 1912. [Leipzig : B. G. Teubner : pp. 96.]

Austria-Hungary.—Collective Labour Agreements in Austria in 1910. Austrian Labour Department. 1912. [Vienna : A. Hölder : pp. v. + 272.]

Journal of the Austrian Central Statistical Commission, October, 1912. [Brunn : F. Irrgang.]

Statistical Journal of Hungary, October, 1912. [Vienna : A. Hölder.]

Workmen's Insurance against Accidents; Report of Fund for Province of Lower Austria, 1911. [Vienna : pp. 42.]

Italy.—Journal of the Italian Labour Department, November, 1912. [Rome : Fratelli Treves : price 3d.]

Journal of the Italian Emigration Department, Nos. 7 and 8, 1912. [Rome : Fratelli Bocca : pp. 84 and 273 respectively : price 3d. each.]

Belgium.—Journal of the Belgian Labour Department, Nos. 21 (November 15th) and 22 (November 30th), 1912. (No. 21) Employment in October; retail prices on October 31st; (No. 22) labour disputes in October; summary of Swedish law of June 29th, 1912, on protection of workpeople. [Brussels : E. Daem : price 1d.]

**Holland.**—*Statistics of Holland. No. 175, Trade Unions on January 1st, 1912. No. 176, Wages in 1908 of Textile Workers insured against Accidents under the Law of 1901.* Dutch Central Statistical Office. [The Hague: Gebroeders Belinfante: pp. 25 + xliii. and xxviii. + 20: price 2d. each.]

—*Report on Factory Inspection in Holland in 1911.* Dutch Department of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce. [pp. xxxiv. + 412.]

—*Report on Factories and Workshops to which Law on Protection of Workpeople is applicable.* Dutch Labour Department. [The Hague: Gebroeders J. & H. van Langenhuysen: 1912. pp. ix. + 428: price 2s. 6d.]

—*Journal of the Dutch Central Statistical Office, November 30th, 1912.* Trade unions on January 1st, 1912; railway accidents in Amsterdam, 1911; employment in October, 1912; labour disputes in 1911 and in October, 1912. [The Hague: Gebroeders Belinfante: price 2d.]

—*Wages, Hours of Labour, &c., of Workpeople employed by the Municipality of Amsterdam.* Report for 1911. [Amsterdam: J. Müller: pp. v. + 50: price 5d.]

**Switzerland.**—*Swiss Factory Statistics.* Results of inquiries by Federal factory inspectors. Numbers employed, hours of labour, &c., on June 5th, 1912. Swiss Department of Industry. [Berne: 1912: pp. lxiii. + 206.]

**Denmark.**—*Statistical Year-book of Denmark for 1912.* Prices (wholesale and retail); workpeople's insurance against accidents; unemployment; sick benefit funds; strikes and lock-outs; wages and hours in 1906; trade unions; co-operation. Danish Government Statistical Bureau. [Copenhagen: Gylden-dalske Boghandel—Nordisk Forlag: pp. xix. + 210.]

—*Journal of the Danish Statistical Department, December, 1912.* Unemployment in September. [Copenhagen: Gylden-dalske Boghandel—Nordisk Forlag: price 1½d.]

**Norway.**—*Report on Interventions by the Government Conciliators in 1911.* [Stockholm: P. A. Norstedt & Söner: pp. 62: price 7d.]

—*Accident Insurance of Fishermen: Statistics for 1911.* Norwegian Insurance Department. [Christiania: H. Aschehoug & Co.: pp. 16 + 43: price 7d.]

**Sweden.**—*The Lock-outs and the Great Strike in Sweden in 1909.* (German translation of the official Swedish report.) 1912. [Stockholm: K. L. Deckman: pp. 202: price 2s. 3d.]

—*Journal of the Swedish Labour Department, No. 10, 1912.* Law of June 12th, 1912, on protection of workpeople; labour exchanges in September, prices of commodities, 1904 to September, 1912. [Stockholm: P. A. Norstedt & Söner: price 2d.]

**Spain.**—*Journal of the Spanish Labour Department, November, 1912.* Labour disputes in October. [Madrid: D. V. Suarez: price 2½d.]

**Russia.**—*Annual Reports of Russian Factory Inspectors, 1911.* Contains statistics of wages and of labour disputes. Ministry of Commerce and Industry. [St. Petersburg: pp. cvi. + 318: price 2s. 8d.]

**Uruguay.**—*Statistical Abstract of Montevideo, 1911.* Municipal Statistical Office. [Montevideo: pp. 379.]

#### CONSULAR REPORTS.

*Consular Reports, Annual Series. No. 5027. Trade of Dunkirk, 1911.* Labour difficulties; seamen engaged and discharged; transmission of wages, &c. [Cd. 6005—200: pp. 24: price 5d.]

—*No. 5029. Trade of the Consular District of Buenos Ayres, 1911.* Statistics of industries, population, immigration, &c. [Cd. 6005—202: pp. 70: price 5½d.]

#### GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

##### LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, DECEMBER, 1912.

#### ADMIRALTY: WORKS DEPARTMENT.

CHALK RUBBISH FOR FOUNDATIONS FOR OIL TANKS, CHATHAM.—*E. J. & W. Goldsmith, Ltd.,* 364, High St., Rochester.

CLINKER AND ASHES FOR FOUNDATIONS FOR OIL TANKS, CHATHAM.—*S. J. Brice & Sons,* 6, High St., Rochester.

COAL FOR HARBOUR OF REFUGE WORKS, PETERHEAD.—*The Peterhead Coal Co.,* Maiden St., Peterhead.

GRANITE PITCHERS AND SCREENINGS FOR H.M. DOCKYARD, PORTSMOUTH.—*A. & F. Manuelle, Ltd.,* 57, Gracechurch St., London, E.C.

STEELWORK, &c., FOR EXTENSION OF SMITHERY, H.M. DOCKYARD, HONG KONG.—*E. C. & J. Keay, Ltd.,* Corporation St., Birmingham.

UPPER TUMBLERS FOR DREDGERS, H.M. DOCKYARD, PORTSMOUTH.—*E. Allen & Co., Ltd.,* Imperial Steelworks, Sheffield.

WORKS SERVICES:—  
Additional Accommodation at Torpedo Factory, Greenock.—*J. J. & P. McLachlan,* Stenhousemuir, Larbert.

Dredging Approach Channels, H.M. Dockyard, Rosyth.—*Topham, Jones & Railton, Ltd.,* 11, Great George St., Westminster, S.W.

Heating Apparatus for R.N.E. College, Devonport.—*E. Deane & Beal, Ltd.,* 3, Monument St., London Bridge, E.C.

#### ADMIRALTY: CONTRACT DEPARTMENT.

BOOTS, HALF.—*Adams Bros.,* Raunds; *J. Horrell & Sons,* Raunds; *The St. Crispin Productive Society, Ltd.,* Raunds.

BOXES, CAP.—*M. J. Hart & Sons,* Great Barr St., Birmingham.

BRONZE SHEETS.—*The Birmingham Battery and Metal Co., Ltd.,* Selly Oak, Birmingham.

CHEMICALS.—*Brunner Mond & Co., Ltd.,* Northwich; *Chance & Hunt, Ltd.,* 116, Fenchurch St., London, E.C.; *District Chemical Co., Ltd.,* 1, Fenchurch Avenue, London, E.C.; *C. Tennant, Sons & Co., Ltd.,* 9, Mincing Lane, London, E.C.; *United Alkali Co., Ltd.,* 30, James St., Liverpool.

CLOTHING, WATERPROOF.—*New Pegamoid, Ltd.,* 134, Queen Victoria St., E.C.

INDIA RUBBER GOODS.—*Avon India Rubber Co., Ltd.,* Melksham, Wilts; *Clyde Rubber Works Co., Ltd.,* Port Dundas, Glasgow; *Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd.,* Salford St., Aston, Birmingham; *Irwell and Eastern Rubber Co., Ltd.,* Mill St., Salford, Manchester; *C. Macintosh & Co., Ltd.,* 22 and 23, Jewin St., London, E.C.; *North British Rubber Co., Ltd.,* 2, 4 and 6, East Rd., City Rd., London, N.; *Northern Rubber Co.,* Retford, Notts; *F. Reddaway & Co., Ltd.,* Pendleton, Manchester; *Victoria India Rubber Co., Ltd.,* Victoria India Rubber Mills, Leith Walk, Edinburgh.

LACE, GOLD.—*Stephen Simpson,* Avenbarn Rd. Works, Preston.

LAMPS AND LANTERNS.—*Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd.,* 153, Camden St., Birmingham; *Gabriel & Co.,* 4 A. B. Row, Birmingham; *Fountain Lamp and Engineering Co. (1910), Ltd.,* Broad Lane, South Tottenham, London; *Eli Griffiths & Sons,* 102, Bradford St., Birmingham; *J. Hinks & Son, Ltd.,* Birmingham; *Howes & Burley, Ltd.,* Bishop St., Birmingham; *J. P. Marrian & Co.,* Slaney St., Birmingham; *Player & Mitchell, Ltd.,* Cambridge St., Birmingham; *The Reform Lighting Co.,* 154, Bermondsey St., London, S.E.

SCREWS, &c.—*Butler & Spragg, Ltd.,* Cambridge St., Birmingham; *Henry Cox,* Albion Screw Works, Charles Henry St., Birmingham; *Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd.,* 16, Broad St., Birmingham; *Horton & Son, Ltd.,* New Alma Works, Darlaston; *Phoenix Bolt and Nut Co.,* Handsworth, Birmingham; *A. Stokes & Co.,* 56, Green St., Deritend, Birmingham; *Warne, Wright & Rowland, Ltd.,* 56, Watery Lane, Birmingham.

#### WAR OFFICE.

APPLIANCES, SANITARY.—*Wilmer & Sons,* Stratford, E.

BATTERIES, STORAGE.—*Tudor Accumulator Co., Ltd.—*Dukinfield.

BORING BARS, &c.—*Craven Bros., Ltd.,* Redditch.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—*Adams Bros.,* Raunds; *D. A. Berry & Co.,* Ethel St., Northampton; *J. Cave & Sons, Ltd.,* Rushden; *R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd.,* Raunds; *Cridland & Rose,* King Square, Bristol; *Finedon Co-operative Boot and Shoe Manufacturing Society, Ltd.,* Obelisk Hill, Finedon; *J. T. Hawthorne,* Finedon and Walgrave; *J. Horrell & Son,* Raunds; *Howlett & White, Ltd.,* Norwich; *G. Knight,* Finedon; *W. Lawrence,* Raunds; *T. Mabane & Sons,* Belgrave Works, Leeds; *Neal & Gates,* Raunds; *C. E. Nichols,* Raunds; *W. Nichols & Son, Ltd.,* Kettering; *Northants Productive Society, Ltd.,* Wollaston; *Parker & Cooper,* Irthlingboro' Road Works, Finedon; *Pocock Bros.,* 235, Southwark Bridge Rd., S.E.; *St. Crispin Productive Society, Ltd.,* Raunds; *O. Smith,* Raunds; *Tebbutt & Hall Bros.,* Raunds; *Unity Co-operative Society, Ltd.,* Ringstead, Thrapston; *S. Walker,* Walgrave; *Wilkins & Denton, Ltd.,* Rushden and Irchester.

BOTTLES, WATER.—*Griffiths & Browett, Ltd.,* Birmingham.

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BUCKLES, HOOKS, &c.—*Buttons, Ltd.,* Portland St., Birmingham; *H. Hipkiss & Co., Ltd.,* Goodman Street Works, Birmingham; *Newey Bros., Ltd.,* Brearley St., Birmingham; *Smith & Wright, Ltd.,* Brearley St., Birmingham.

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