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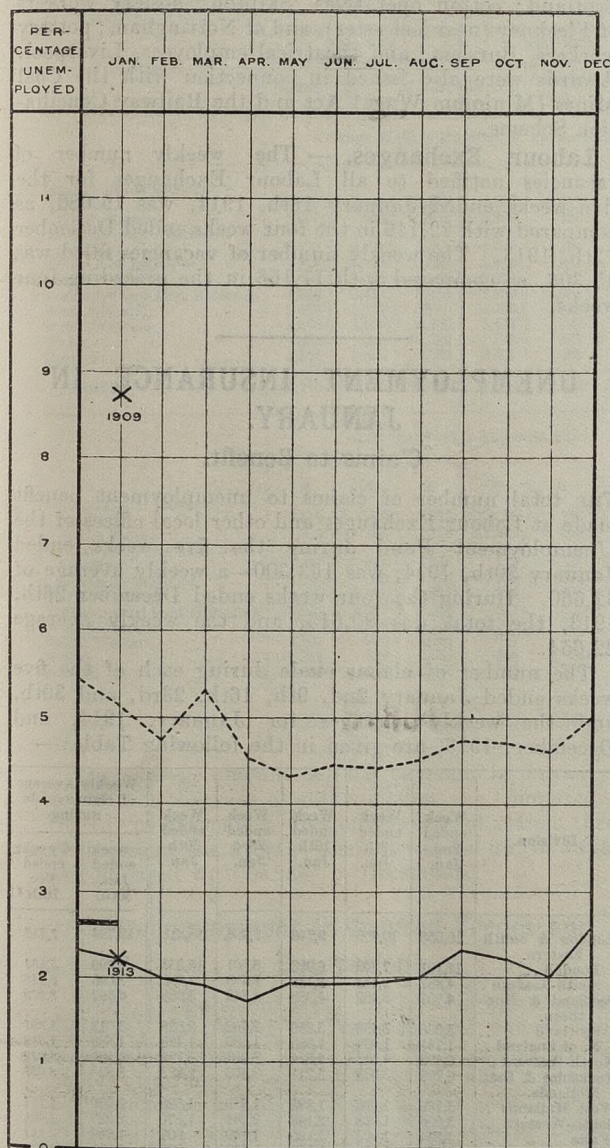
EMPLOYMENT CHART.

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve = 1914. — Thin Curve = 1913.

----- Dotted Curve = Mean of 1904-1913.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1904-1913.



NOTE TO CHART.

The above Chart is based solely on Returns furnished direct to the Department of Labour Statistics 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.

THE LABOUR MARKET IN JANUARY.

Employment in January was good on the whole, and showed no marked change compared with the previous month. The engineering and shipbuilding trades continued busy, and employment at coal mines was still very good. There was, however, a further falling-off in the textile industries, especially in cotton weaving. The seasonal decline in the building trades continued, and there was some slackening in the brick, pottery and glass trades.

It was reported by the Labour Exchanges that there was a continuance of the demand for labour in the shipbuilding trades. A deficiency in the supply of women was reported in the linen trades, and some shortage was experienced in the clothing trades and in laundry work.

Wages in the iron and steel trades continued to fall; in other trades there was still some upward movement.

Compared with the high level of January, 1913, employment showed a falling-off. There was a marked decline in the pig iron, iron and steel and tinplate trades, and the engineering and shipbuilding trades were not so fully employed. There was also a decline in the textile industries, which was particularly noticeable in cotton weaving, in the woollen and worsted trades generally, and in some branches of the lace trade.

(1) TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED. (Based on 3,108 Returns.)

Trade Unions with a net membership of 962,242 reported 24,548 (or 2.6 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of January, 1914, compared with the same percentage at the end of December, 1913, and 2.2 per cent. at the end of January, 1913.

Trade.	Membership at end of Jan., 1914, of Unions reporting.	Percentage Unemployed at end of Jan., 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
Building	74,534	6.3*	+ 1.5	+ 0.5
Coal Mining†	162,257	0.6	...	+ 0.1
Iron and Steel	36,850	3.7	- 1.0	+ 2.2
Engineering	228,596	2.4	- 0.3	+ 0.8
Shipbuilding	71,945	2.8	- 0.5	+ 0.1
Miscellaneous Metal... ..	36,681	1.7	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Textiles† :-				
Cotton	88,002	2.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
Woollen & Worsted	8,787	3.8	- 3.2	+ 3.4
Other	60,588	1.8	- 0.1	- 0.7
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper.	65,149	3.7	+ 0.1	- 0.7
Furnishing and Woodworking.	51,859	3.4	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Clothing	63,330	2.4	- 0.3	+ 0.6
Leather	3,018	6.7	+ 1.6	+ 1.8
Glass	978	0.5	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Pottery	7,335	0.8	- 0.1	- 0.2
Tobacco	2,333	2.3	- 0.9	- 2.4
Total... ..	962,242	2.6	...	+ 0.4

* This percentage is based mainly on Returns relating to carpenters and plumbers.

† 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.

(2) UNEMPLOYMENT IN "INSURED TRADES."

The percentage of "insured" workpeople unemployed at the end of January was 5.5, compared with 4.6 at the end of December, and 5.0 at the end of January, 1913.

	Build- ing and Works of Con- struction.	Ship- build- ing.	En- gineer- ing and Iron- found- ing.	Making of Vehi- cles.	Saw- mill- ing.	Other Insured Work- people.	All Insured Work- people.
Percentage un- employed at end of Jan., 1914 ...	8.6	4.0	3.1	2.8	4.0	2.0	5.5
Inc. (+) or dec. (-) compared with :-							
December, 1913	+ 1.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	- 0.1	+ 0.7	+ 0.3	+ 0.9
January, 1913	- 0.2	+ 0.7	+ 1.0	+ 0.6	+ 2.1	+ 0.5	+ 0.5

(3) EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.—MINING AND METAL TRADES. (Based on 830 Returns.)

The following Table summarises the returns from firms employing 900,069 workpeople in January, 1914, in the industries mentioned :-

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for Jan., 1914.	Jan., 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
			Days.	Days.
			Days worked per week by Mines.	
Coal Mining ...	723,863	5.67	+ 0.01	+ 0.03
Iron ,, ...	16,133	5.75	+ 0.05	+ 0.05
Shale ,, ...	3,653	5.66	- 0.23	- 0.23
			No.	No.
Pig Iron ...	25,922	273	+ 2	- 61
			Per cent.	Per cent.
Tinplate & Steel Sheet	26,850	537	- 1	- 39
			Per cent.	Per cent.
Iron and Steel ...	103,648	573,826	+ 0.4	- 5.1

(4) EMPLOYERS' RETURNS:—TEXTILE AND OTHER INDUSTRIES.

(Based on 1,931 Returns.)

Returns from firms employing 408,996 workpeople in the week ended January 24th, 1914, showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the number of workpeople 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 a decrease of 1.6 per cent. in the number employed, and of 1.9 per cent. in wages paid.

Trade.	Number Employed.		Wages Paid.	
	Week ended 24th Jan. 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 24th Jan. 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Year ago.*
	per cent.	per cent.	£	per cent.
Textiles:—				
Cotton ...	120,274	- 0.4	118,223	- 2.1
Woolen ...	24,722	- 0.3	23,026	- 2.2
Worsted ...	39,515	- 0.1	30,332	- 1.6
Linen ...	43,126	- 1.2	28,469	- 2.8
Jute ...	15,128	- 0.4	12,509	- 0.6
Hosiery ...	17,722	- 1.4	14,371	- 2.9
Lace ...	5,806	- 0.5	6,226	- 2.0
Other Textiles ...	15,535	- 0.3	12,261	- 1.4
Bleaching, Dyeing, etc.	20,779	+ 0.2	23,484	+ 0.3
Total, Textiles...	302,607	- 0.5	268,901	- 1.8
Boot and Shoe ...	67,546	+ 0.1	69,017	- 0.6
Shirt and Collar ...	4,584	- 1.2	3,057	- 5.8
Pottery ...	16,385	- 1.1	15,221	- 5.3
Glass ...	7,061	- 0.2	9,056	- 8.2
Brick ...	10,813	+ 0.2	12,708	- 3.7
Grand Total ...	408,996	- 0.4	377,960	- 2.0

* In the woollen, worsted, linen and jute trades the comparison with a year ago is affected by increases in the rates of wages since January, 1913.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—

The changes taking effect in January affected 46,400 workpeople, of whom 19,700 received increases and 26,700 sustained reductions, the net effect of all the changes being an increase of just over £200 per week. The principal increases affected 1,850 enginemen, etc., in steel works in Scotland, 2,540 workpeople in engineering works at Nottingham, and 2,250 printing trade operatives at Manchester. Amongst those whose wages were reduced were 17,000 ironstone miners, limestone quarrymen and blastfurnacemen in Cleveland and Durham, 1,400 blastfurnacemen in West Cumberland, and 4,000 steel millmen, etc., in West Scotland.

Trade Disputes.—The most important dispute in progress during the month was that affecting building trade operatives in London, which began on January 26th, and is still unsettled. The number of new disputes in January was 54, and the total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress was 61,783, as compared with 59,026 in December, 1913, and 52,066 in January, 1913. The estimated total aggregate duration of all disputes during the month was 694,800 working days, as compared with 907,700 in December, 1913, and 651,200 in January, 1913.

Conciliation and Arbitration.—Cases dealt with during the month include building trade operatives at Nelson, Burnley, and Dartford, Erith and Bexley; enginemen, cranemen, etc., in steelworks in the West of Scotland; cotton operatives, Skipton; hosiery workers at Fleckney (near Leicester), and at Nottingham; pottery workers, Burslem; and theatrical employees, Liverpool. Awards were also issued in connection with the Coal Mines (Minimum Wage) Act and the Railway Conciliation Scheme.

Labour Exchanges.—The weekly number of vacancies notified to all Labour Exchanges for the five weeks ended January 16th, 1914, was 19,680, as compared with 22,146 in the four weeks ended December 12th, 1913. The weekly number of vacancies filled was 15,306, as compared with 17,166 in the preceding four weeks.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IN JANUARY.

Claims to Benefit.

The total number of claims to unemployment benefit made at Labour Exchanges and other local offices of the Unemployment Fund during the five weeks ended January 30th, 1914, was 163,300—a weekly average of 32,660. During the four weeks ended December 26th, 1913, the total was 90,615, and the weekly average 22,654.

The number of claims made during each of the five weeks ended January 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th, and the weekly averages for January, 1914, and December, 1913, are given in the following Table:—

Division.	Week ended 2nd Jan.	Week ended 9th Jan.	Week ended 16th Jan.	Week ended 23rd Jan.	Week ended 30th Jan.	Weekly Average of claims made during	
						1 week ended Jan. 30th.	4 weeks ended Dec. 26th.
London & South-Eastern.	15,958	10,455	9,746	8,996	18,218	12,794	7,513
London ..	11,101	7,702	6,958	6,501	16,233	9,699	5,431
South-Eastern ..	4,857	2,753	2,788	2,496	2,585	3,096	2,119
Scotland and Northern.	4,907	5,452	4,935	4,342	3,952	4,697	3,379
Scotland ..	3,066	3,458	3,250	2,762	2,526	3,012	2,391
N. of England ..	1,741	1,994	1,685	1,580	1,426	1,675	1,588
North-Western ..	6,482	4,513	4,284	3,901	3,729	4,584	3,629
Yorkshire and East Midlands.	6,705	3,558	3,211	2,823	2,823	3,821	2,687
West Midlands ..	3,188	1,896	1,892	1,679	1,539	2,029	1,181
South-Western ..	3,006	1,868	2,148	2,241	1,870	2,227	1,674
Wales ..	1,634	1,603	1,196	1,149	907	1,298	917
Ireland ..	1,509	1,237	1,167	1,162	978	1,211	1,070
United Kingdom	43,299	30,581	28,578	26,236	34,606	32,660	22,654

The particulars of claims given above include the claims made by members of those Associations of workmen in the insured trades which have effected arrange-

ments with the Board of Trade under section 105 of the National Insurance Act. Under these arrangements members are able to draw unemployment benefit from their Associations instead of directly from the Unemployment Fund through the local offices of the Fund. The Associations subsequently claim repayment from the Fund of the sums to which their individual members would have been entitled. The total number of claims made through such Associations during the five weeks ended January 30th was 50,312, as compared with 112,988 direct claims.

Number and Amounts of Payments of Benefit.

The total number of payments of unemployment benefit made during the five weeks ended January 30th to workpeople claiming direct was 215,728, and the total amount of such payments was £66,809. For the same period the estimated amount repayable to Associations from the Unemployment Fund in respect of payments made by them under arrangements was £29,144, and the estimated number of such payments was 101,976. During the four weeks ended December 26th, 1913, 118,001 payments, amounting to £36,051, were made to workpeople claiming direct. In the case of Associations for the same four weeks an estimated sum of £14,344 was repayable from the Fund in respect of 50,550 payments to members.

The weekly averages of the number and amount of payments during January, 1914, and December, 1913, are given below:—

Division.	5 weeks ended January 30th, 1914.			4 weeks ended December 26th, 1913.		
	Direct.	Associa- tion.	Total.	Direct.	Associa- tion.	Total.
	Average Weekly Number of Payments.					
London and S. Eastern:—						
London ..	12,846	2,501	15,347	9,826	2,011	11,837
South Eastern ..	5,997	642	6,639	3,790	390	4,180
Scotland and Northern:—						
Scotland ..	2,782	2,571	5,353	1,641	1,334	3,025
North of England ..	1,719	1,970	3,689	1,059	1,281	2,340
North Western ..	4,596	5,056	9,652	2,942	2,911	5,853
Yorkshire and East Midlands	4,854	5,431	10,285	2,920	1,861	4,781
West Midlands ..	2,647	1,170	3,817	1,774	691	2,465
South Western ..	3,630	1,090	4,720	2,437	792	3,229
Wales ..	831	558	1,389	516	321	837
Ireland ..	3,144	1,356	4,500	2,595	996	3,591
Total ..	43,146	20,395	63,541	29,500	12,638	42,138
	Average Weekly Amounts Paid.					
London and S. Eastern:—						
London ..	4,114	760	4,874	3,025	573	3,658
South Eastern ..	1,924	181	2,105	1,209	113	1,322
Scotland and Northern:—						
Scotland ..	852	684	1,536	489	361	850
North of England ..	534	568	1,102	309	362	671
North Western ..	1,397	1,476	2,873	874	838	1,712
Yorkshire and East Midlands	1,375	1,003	2,383	811	525	1,336
West Midlands ..	806	346	1,152	540	211	751
South Western ..	1,101	290	1,391	717	197	914
Wales ..	251	138	389	156	82	238
Ireland ..	1,008	438	1,446	823	324	1,147
Total ..	13,362	5,829	19,191	9,013	3,586	12,599

The average amount of each payment in January was 6s. 3d. in the case of direct claims, as compared with 6s. 1d. in December, and in the case of claims through Associations the average amount was 5s. 9d. in January, as compared with 5s. 8d. in December.

Unemployment in Insured Trades and Occupations.

Under Regulation 5 (4) of the General Regulations issued by the Board of Trade in accordance with the National Insurance Act, Part II., section 91, every holder of an unemployment book has, when unemployed, to lodge it at a Labour Exchange or other local office of the Unemployment Fund. From returns made as to the number of unemployment books of unemployed workpeople in the possession of the various local offices on January 30th, 1914, the following Table has been prepared, showing the proportion of unemployment

books lodged to the total current in the various industries. The percentages given may be taken to represent approximately the proportion of workpeople in the several industries who were unemployed on that date:—

Division.	Build- ing and Works of Con- struction.	Ship- build- ing.	En- gineer- ing and Iron- found- ing.	Con- struction of Vehi- cles.	Saw- mill- ing.	Other Insured Work- people.	All Insured Work- people.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
London and S. Eastern:—							
London ..	14.1	8.9	4.4	4.1	7.8	3.9	10.5
South-Eastern ..	8.8	3.9	3.4	1.8	3.0	2.3	6.6
Scotland and Northern:—							
Scotland ..	5.0	2.7	2.3	2.4	1.9	1.4	3.1
North of England ..	5.0	3.1	2.4	1.8	3.9	1.5	3.2
North-Western ..	7.3	2.1	3.7	2.8	3.8	2.4	4.7
Yorkshire and East Midlands	6.9	2.5	2.7	2.1	2.8	1.8	4.1
West Midlands ..	7.1	..	3.1	3.1	3.1	2.0	4.3
South-Western ..	8.9	10.1	3.2	1.7	5.2	2.6	6.9
Wales ..	3.1	5.2	1.9	2.2	2.3	0.7	3.0
Ireland ..	17.5	5.3	4.4	7.7	7.0	3.1	10.6
United Kingdom	8.6	4.0	3.1	2.8	4.0	2.0	5.5
Percentage unem- ployed a month ago	6.9	3.9	3.0	2.9	3.3	1.7	4.6
Percentage unem- ployed a year ago	8.8	3.3	2.1	2.2	1.9	1.5	5.0

The following Table shows, both by industry and by district, the proportion of unemployment books lodged to the total current on each Friday during January, 1914:—

	2nd Jan.	9th Jan.	16th Jan.	23rd Jan.	30th Jan.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
INDUSTRIES.					
Building and Works of Construction.	9.0	9.2	9.3	9.1	8.6
Shipbuilding ..	4.3	4.3	4.1	4.1	4.0
Engineering and Ironfound- ing.	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.1
Construction of Vehicles ..	3.1	3.1	2.9	2.9	2.2
Sawmilling ..	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.6	4.0
Other Insured Workpeople ..	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.9	2.0
All Insured Workpeople	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.5
DIVISION.					
London and South-Eastern:—					
London ..	10.0	10.4	10.6	10.4	10.5
South-Eastern ..	6.9	6.9	7.1	6.9	6.6
Scotland and Northern:—					
Scotland ..	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.2	3.1
North of England ..	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.2
North-Western ..	5.3	5.1	5.0	4.9	4.7
Yorkshire and East Midlands	4.8	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.1
West Midlands ..	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.3
South-Western ..	6.8	6.9	7.0	7.2	7.0
Wales ..	3.2	3.6	3.1	3.2	3.0
Ireland ..	10.3	10.4	10.6	10.6	10.6
United Kingdom	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.5

WORK OF THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR EXCHANGES IN 1913.*

The total number of Board of Trade Labour Exchanges open at January 16th, 1914, was 423; the number at January 18th, 1913, being 422.

Of these Exchanges, one was established to deal exclusively with work of a casual nature in connection with the Manchester cloth porters, and another deals only with men in the building trades and in works of construction. There are 19 Exchanges which at present deal solely with male applicants, two are for female applicants only, two for adults only, and one has been established solely for juveniles.

The total number of registrations of workpeople (including re-registrations of the same individual) on the General Register† of the Exchanges during 1913 was 2,965,893. The number of individuals who were dealt with on the Casual Register was 7,296.

The total number of individuals who were registered at some time or other during the year was 1,877,221, of whom 5,550 were on the Casual Register only and 1,746 were borne on both registers.

* The figures for 1913 relate to the period from January 18th, 1913, to January 16th, 1914, both dates inclusive.
† Dock labourers, cloth porters, and cotton porters are not included on the General Register but are dealt with separately on the Casual Register.

The number of vacancies filled by the Exchanges during the year was 921,853, and, in addition, 204,629 jobs of a more or less casual nature were found for dock labourers, cloth porters, and cotton porters. The number of individuals given work was 652,306 on the General Register and 5,510 on the Casual Register, and deducting the number of workmen for whom employment was found on both registers, the net number was 656,411.

The above figures exclude 18,977 cases in which men were given employment through the clearing house system for dock labourers at Liverpool.

The average number of workpeople on the registers of the Exchanges at any one time during the year was 112,835. The maximum at the middle of any month in the period was 180,949 at January 18th, 1913, and the minimum 87,046 at May 16th, 1913.

On and after January 18th, 1913, all workpeople lodging their Unemployment Books either at Labour Exchanges or at other local offices of the Unemployment Fund established under the National Insurance Act, 1911, Part II. (Unemployment Insurance), were, if unemployed, included in the registers of the Exchanges. The coming into force of the Act on July 15th, 1912, also considerably affected the operations of the Exchanges from that date. The scheme of insurance against unemployment embodied in Part II. of the Act applies compulsorily to all workmen in building, construction of works, shipbuilding, mechanical engineering, ironfounding, the construction of vehicles, and sawmilling carried on in connection with any other insured trade, or of a kind commonly so carried on. Figures showing the work of the Exchanges in each Division in connection with the insured and in connection with the uninsured trades, respectively, during 1913 are given below:—

REGISTRATIONS AND VACANCIES, 1913.

Division.	Insured Trades.		Uninsured Trades.		Total.
	Adults.	Juveniles.	Adults.	Juveniles.	

Division.	Insured Trades.		Uninsured Trades.		Total.
	Adults.	Juveniles.	Adults.	Juveniles.	
London and South Eastern	429,574	2,791	384,618	120,651	937,534
Scotland and Northern	236,513	3,567	150,140	45,833	436,053
North Western	201,604	1,851	223,302	40,302	467,059
Yorkshire and E. Midlands	172,836	2,410	154,214	46,037	375,496
West Midlands	85,943	2,211	98,150	33,874	230,178
South Western	107,813	1,039	75,563	15,721	200,136
Wales	120,508	548	43,492	12,318	176,866
Ireland	68,910	418	57,716	15,527	142,571
Total	1,433,700	14,835	1,187,095	330,283	2,965,893

Division.	Insured Trades.		Uninsured Trades.		Total.
	Adults.	Juveniles.	Adults.	Juveniles.	
London and South Eastern	61,594	2,168	140,261	81,132	285,155
Scotland and Northern	84,530	3,715	83,963	27,164	199,370
North Western	52,757	2,274	128,618	33,859	217,503
Yorkshire and E. Midlands	63,653	3,273	80,968	34,295	182,389
West Midlands	25,337	1,520	39,877	21,409	83,143
South Western	31,589	577	44,440	12,307	87,923
Wales	38,927	381	26,394	7,170	122,872
Ireland	9,295	287	23,182	6,704	39,463
Total	416,892	14,193	567,793	224,040	1,222,928

Division.	Insured Trades.		Uninsured Trades.		Total.
	Adults.	Juveniles.	Adults.	Juveniles.	
London and South Eastern	51,060	1,847	111,547	55,188	219,642
Scotland and Northern	68,083	2,431	64,994	18,125	153,633
North Western	39,471	1,430	95,087	18,480	154,468
Yorkshire and E. Midlands	54,099	2,592	62,551	22,787	142,029
West Midlands	18,663	1,139	26,559	14,059	60,420
South Western	27,015	410	37,691	7,305	72,421
Wales	68,806	279	18,548	5,025	92,659
Ireland	6,503	242	14,868	4,968	26,581
Total	333,700	10,370	431,845	145,938	921,853

No exact separation between the figures relating to insured and to uninsured trades can be made for the year 1912, and in the tables which follow it should further be noted that a number of workmen shown as general labourers in 1912 are in 1913 included in the insured trades to which they were attached.

I.—GENERAL REGISTER.

The number of registrations of men was 31.0 per cent. greater in 1913 than in 1912, the increase being mainly due to the coming into operation of Part II. of the National Insurance Act. The numbers of registrations of women and girls showed slight increases, and those of boys a slight decrease. The number of vacancies filled, however, showed an all-round increase, the per-

centage increases for men, women, boys and girls being 10.2, 18.2, 2.6, and 13.9 respectively.

REGISTRATIONS, INDIVIDUALS REGISTERED AND VACANCIES, 1911, 1912 and 1913.

—	Number of Registrations.	Number of Individuals Registered.	Number of Vacancies (Situations) Notified.	Number of Vacancies (Situations) Filled.	Number of Individuals given work.
Men	1,323,162	978,211	446,035	362,670	268,794
	1,594,236	1,025,332	626,756	513,649	336,341
	2,038,735	1,267,077	714,270	566,150	390,141
Women	414,459	307,641	178,446	136,409	97,598
	518,775	360,873	226,276	168,555	118,650
	532,050	351,755	270,325	199,395	133,424
Boys	185,108	138,694	106,920	77,881	64,752
	200,403	146,434	130,601	83,088	70,565
	186,574	137,668	143,715	90,387	74,535
Girls	117,718	88,833	57,208	44,450	38,066
	151,890	110,948	78,941	57,940	48,153
	158,524	115,171	94,518	65,921	54,206
Total	2,040,447	1,513,369	783,609	621,410	469,210
	2,465,394	1,645,587	1,062,574	828,230	573,709
	2,965,993	1,871,671	1,222,928	921,853	652,506
Percentage increases:—					
1913 over 1912	20.3	13.9	15.1	11.3	13.7
1913 over 1911	45.4	23.7	55.1	48.3	39.0

The following table shows the number of individuals for whom work was found by the Exchanges, expressed as a percentage of the number of persons registered in each of the years 1911, 1912, and 1913.

Year	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
1911	per cent. 27.5	per cent. 31.7	per cent. 46.7	per cent. 42.9	per cent. 31.0
1912	32.8	32.9	43.2	43.4	34.9
1913	30.8	37.9	54.1	47.1	34.9

It will be seen that, as regards women, boys, and girls, there were increases both in 1912 and 1913 in the proportion of persons given work as compared with the previous year, but there was a slight drop in 1913 in the proportion of men given work as compared with 1912. There was, however, an absolute increase in the number of men (336,341 in 1912 and 390,141 in 1913) for whom situations were found, the decreased proportion being due to the large number of insured workmen registered in accordance with the procedure referred to above.

Registrations.

Men and Women.—Of the men's registrations, the largest percentages occurred in the following groups of trades:—Building and works of construction, 39.2; engineering, shipbuilding, construction of vehicles, and other metal trades, 29.6; conveyance of men, goods and messages, 7.9; and general labourers, 7.4.

Of the women's registrations the largest percentages occurred in domestic service (outdoor, including laundry and washing service), 52.6; food, tobacco, drink and lodging, 9.6; textiles, 8.8; and dress, 5.7. The corresponding percentages for 1912 were: 48.4, 10.3, 9.1, and 6.0 respectively.

The numbers of registrations and of individuals registered in 1912 and in 1913 are summarised below:—

(1) NUMBER OF REGISTRATIONS.

Groups of Trades.	Men.		Women.	
	1912.	1913.	1912.	1913.
	Building and Works of Construction	347,120	819,828	—
Engineering, Shipbuilding, Construction of Vehicles, and Other Metal Trades.	306,936	618,738	11,868	13,938
Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages.	202,719	163,993	2,306	3,146
General Labourers	261,842	154,387	—	—
Domestic Service (Outdoor—including Laundry and Washing Service).	2,370	35,700	251,230	279,734
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging	3,238	26,228	53,559	51,254
Textiles	41,958	35,000	47,251	47,048
Dress	24,632	19,607	30,913	30,463
All other Trades	34,375	218,254	121,643	106,427
Total	1,594,236	2,088,735	513,775	532,060

Adult registrations showed a total increase in 1913, as compared with 1912, of 507,784, or 24 per cent. In the case of men, the increase was 31 per cent., and in the case of women, 2.6 per cent. The increases are almost wholly in the groups of trades which roughly correspond to those in which compulsory insurance against unemployment is in force.

(2) NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS REGISTERED.

Groups of Trades.	Men.		Women.	
	1912.	1913.	1912.	1913.
Building and Works of Construction	203,720	447,123	—	—
Engineering, Shipbuilding, Construction of Vehicles, and Other Metal Trades.	188,064	358,031	8,509	10,072
Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages.	138,954	104,278	1,786	2,390
General Labourers	162,936	107,518	—	—
Domestic Service (Outdoor—including Laundry and Washing Service).	20,679	26,405	172,735	178,256
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging	22,348	19,039	34,860	31,501
Textiles	25,185	21,509	31,785	31,097
Dress	18,048	14,367	23,505	22,513
All other Trades	245,398	168,807	87,673	75,926
Total	1,025,332	1,267,077	360,874	351,755

The proportion of individuals registered to total registrations was 61.8 per cent. in 1913, as compared with 65.6 per cent. in 1912. The lowest proportion, 54.5 per cent., occurred in building and works of construction, as in 1912. Apart from the insured trades, the only groups showing an increase in 1913 were domestic service (men and women) and conveyance of men, goods and messages (women only), and in these groups of industries the increases were small.

Vacancies Filled.

Men and Women.—Of the total men's vacancies filled during the year, the largest proportions were in engineering, shipbuilding, construction of vehicles, and other metal trades, 30.0 per cent.; building and works of construction, 29.7 per cent.; conveyance of men, goods and messages, 8.9 per cent.; and general labourers, 7.5 per cent.

Of the 199,395 women's vacancies filled, the largest percentages were in domestic service (outdoor, including laundry and washing service), 51.5; food, tobacco, drink and lodging, 13.8; textiles, 11.4; and dress, 5.1. The corresponding percentages for 1912 were: 42.4, 16.2, 12.6, and 6.0 respectively.

The following table shows the number of vacancies filled by men and by women for the principal groups of trades:—

NUMBER OF VACANCIES FILLED.

Groups of Trades.	Men.		Women.	
	1912.	1913.	1912.	1913.
Building and Works of Construction	115,278	168,323	—	—
Engineering, Shipbuilding, Construction of Vehicles, and Other Metal Trades.	126,751	169,853	5,304	5,650
Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages.	35,742	50,315	355	466
General Labourers	60,390	42,444	—	—
Domestic Service (Outdoor—including Laundry and Washing Service).	3,970	7,297	71,396	102,717
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging	7,713	7,539	27,316	27,561
Textiles	14,927	14,179	21,217	22,772
Dress	5,206	4,024	10,117	10,244
All other Trades	143,672	102,176	32,850	29,965
Total	513,649	566,150	168,555	199,395

The increase in the men's vacancies filled was chiefly in what roughly correspond to the insured trades; but increases were also shown in conveyance of men, goods and messages, and in domestic service, as well as in all the women's trades.

In the summary below the numbers of men and women placed are shown for each of the principal groups of trades. The number of cases in which men and women were placed more than once by the Exchanges during the year was 241,980, representing 31.6 per cent. of the vacancies filled, as compared with 33.3 per cent. in 1912.

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS PLACED.

Groups of Trades.	Men.		Women.	
	1912.	1913.	1912.	1913.
Building and Works of Construction	89,536	136,409	—	—
Engineering, Shipbuilding, Construction of Vehicles and other Metal Trades.	79,101	109,411	4,839	5,199
Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages.	31,019	30,801	343	450
General Labourers	44,971	33,529	—	—
Domestic Service (Outdoor—including Laundry and Washing Service).	3,628	6,647	51,919	77,703
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging	6,814	6,575	21,109	19,214
Textiles	10,164	10,207	15,573	16,760
Dress	4,442	3,534	9,084	9,035
All other Trades	102,974	88,155	29,076	26,536
Total	372,649	425,308	131,943	154,897
Deduct for placings of individuals in more than one occupation.	36,308	35,167	13,293	21,473
Net Total	336,341	390,141	118,650	133,424

Boys and Girls.—In certain districts the work of placing juvenile applicants is carried on in co-operation either with special advisory committees for juvenile employment, of which some 45 have been appointed under the Labour Exchanges Act, 1909, or with committees appointed under the Education (Choice of Employment) Act, 1910, under which about 60 schemes have been approved. The London Advisory Committee for Juvenile Employment has, in addition, appointed local advisory committees in connection with 19 London Exchanges; while the Surrey Committee has appointed 15 district advisory committees. The duty of the committees is to give advice with regard to the management of any Labour Exchanges in their districts in relation to juvenile applicants for employment; and they may take steps, either by themselves or in co-operation with any other bodies or persons, to give information, advice and assistance to boys and girls and their parents with respect to the choice of employment and other matters bearing thereon.

NUMBER OF VACANCIES (BOYS AND GIRLS) FILLED.

Groups of Trades.	Boys.		Girls.	
	1912.	1913.	1912.	1913.
Building and Works of Construction	2,541	2,851	—	—
Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages.	32,270	30,167	2,006	2,942
Engineering, Shipbuilding, Construction of Vehicles and Other Metal Trades	13,328	16,195	3,120	3,449
Domestic (Outdoor)	1,740	2,744	14,739	20,181
Dress	2,322	2,105	7,530	7,793
Textiles	3,267	3,188	5,846	6,165
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging	3,240	3,341	5,866	5,324
Commercial	6,882	8,549	1,974	3,154
All Other Trades	22,496	21,247	16,859	16,913
Total	88,086	90,387	57,940	65,921

The increase in the number of vacancies filled, by boys and girls, in commercial occupations is noticeable.

Of the boys' vacancies filled in 1913, 21,696, or 24.0 per cent., and of the girls' vacancies filled 20,013, or 30.4 per cent., were filled by applicants who obtained their first situations since leaving school.

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS (BOYS AND GIRLS) PLACED.

Groups of Trades.	Boys.		Girls.	
	1912.	1913.	1912.	1913.
Building and Works of Construction	2,475	2,770	—	—
Conveyance of Men, Goods, and Messages	22,600	27,224	1,914	2,765
Engineering, Shipbuilding, Construction of Vehicles and other Metal Trades	12,798	15,643	2,925	3,229
Domestic (Outdoor)	1,649	2,590	12,947	17,334
Dress	2,322	1,994	7,144	7,400
Textiles	3,010	2,977	5,441	5,847

The total vacancies filled by men, women, boys and girls during the period included 110,992 cases in which persons were placed by the Exchanges in Exchange districts other than those in which they were registered. Of these cases, 5,496 represent transferences from one division to another. Of the total number of vacancies filled by transferences, 42,555 were in the London and South-Eastern Division, 23,551 in Scotland and the North of England, 18,950 in the North-Western Division, and 9,586 in the Yorkshire and East Midlands Division, representing respectively 20.8, 15.9, 12.8, and 7.0 per cent. of the vacancies filled in these areas.

Vacancies Notified.

The number of vacancies notified by employers during 1913 was 1,222,828 (men 714,270, women 270,325, boys 143,715, and girls 94,518), as compared with 1,062,574 (men 626,756, women 226,276, boys 130,601, and girls 78,941) in 1912.

Of the men's vacancies notified during the year, the largest percentages occurred in engineering, shipbuilding, construction of vehicles, and other metal trades, 3.0; building and works of construction, 29.4; conveyance of men, goods and messages, 8.6; and general labourers, 6.7.

Of the women's vacancies notified during the year, the largest percentages were in domestic service (outdoor, including laundry and washing service), 53.2; textiles, 11.2; food, tobacco, drink and lodging, 11.7; and dress, 5.7. The corresponding percentages for 1912 were: 43.4, 12.2, 14.2, and 7.0 respectively.

The proportion of the vacancies filled by the Exchanges to vacancies notified by employers was 75.4 per cent. (men 79.3, women 73.8, boys 62.9, and girls 69.7), as compared with 77.9 per cent. (men 82.0, women 74.5, boys 67.4, and girls 73.4) in 1912. These percentages are shown by groups of trades in the following Table:—

PROPORTION OF VACANCIES FILLED TO VACANCIES NOTIFIED.

Groups of Trades.	Men and Women.		Boys and Girls.		Total.	
	1912.	1913.	1912.	1913.	1912.	1913.
Building and Works of Construction	81.8	80.6	59.1	55.8	81.1	80.0
Engineering, Shipbuilding, Construction of Vehicles, and Other Metal Trades.	83.6	78.1	77.1	77.3	82.9	78.0
Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages	78.5	82.3	64.0	55.4	70.7	63.1
General Labourers	90.2	88.2	—	—	90.2	88.2
Domestic Service (Outdoor, including Laundry and Washing Service)	72.3	70.9	67.3	60.9	71.4	69.0
Food, Tobacco, Drink, and Lodging	80.7	81.1	81.0	76.2	80.8	80.1
Textiles	75.7	72.7	70.3	69.6	74.8	72.1
Dress	59.2	62.2	62.7	62.4	60.5	62.3
Commercial	71.0	69.4	71.6	70.1	71.3	69.8
All Other Trades	81.1	79.2	73.5	72.0	79.5	77.5
Total	80.0	77.8	69.7	65.6	77.9	75.4

Unsatisfied Demand for Labour.

Throughout the year the demand for workers exceeded the supply in the shipbuilding industry. In the engineering trades there was a scarcity of workers in some districts during the first eight months of the year, and, owing to seasonal activity, a number of vacancies in the building trades could not be filled during the period from April to October. In the case of women there was a shortage of labour in the linen and clothing trades, and in laundry work. From April to December a deficiency of labour was reported in the Birmingham plate and jewellery trade.

Seasonal Labour.

During the months of June, July, August, September and October the number of vacancies filled through the Exchanges for fruit, hop, etc., pickers was 4,933.

As in previous years, arrangements were made by the General Post Office to recruit through the Exchanges the temporary labour (sorters, postmen, and porters) required in connection with Christmas pressure. The number of applications registered solely for this work was 46,894, and the number of vacancies filled was

42,343 (men 41,786, women 47, and boys 510), as compared with 39,700 in 1912 and 33,264 in 1911.

These figures are included in the various Tables above.

Advances to Workpeople.

The sum of approximately £2,900 was advanced during the year ended 30th September, 1913, towards meeting the expenses of workpeople travelling to places where employment had been found for them through the Exchanges. This amount is repayable by the persons to whom the advances were made. The number of cases in which fares were advanced was about 9,200.

The total amount advanced from the commencement of the scheme in 1910 up to 30th September, 1913, was approximately £10,400, and the number of cases was about 34,000.

II.—CASUAL REGISTER.

The number of men given casual employment during 1913 was 5,510, and the number of casual jobs given was 204,629. Of these jobs 133,658 were for dock labourers, 69,013 for cloth porters at Manchester, and 1,958 for cotton porters at Liverpool. The corresponding figures for 1912 were: Dock labourers 158,881, cloth porters 62,047, and cotton porters 3,108.

RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES.

Building Trade Operatives.

Painters, Nelson and Burnley.—Application having been made by the master and operative painters of Nelson and of Burnley for the appointment in each case of an arbitrator to decide matters upon which the parties were unable to agree, Mr. Alderman T. Smith was appointed to act in the desired capacity. The arbitrator, having heard the parties in the Nelson case, issued his award on January 30th, 1914, raising the rate of wages from 8½d. to 9d per hour.

Building Trade Operatives, Dartford, Erith, and Bexley.—Difficulties having arisen between the Master Builders' Association and the United Building Trades Committee of Dartford, Erith and Bexley with regard to an alleged infringement by the employers of the local working rules, after some negotiations the parties agreed to refer the matter to an arbitrator, and Mr. R. E. Moore was appointed to act in that capacity. Mr. Moore, having heard the parties, issued his award on March 12th, deciding that owing to a misunderstanding breaches of the rules had unintentionally been committed by both sides—by the employers in that certain of the firms have employed non-union men for longer hours than those sanctioned by the rules; by the employees in that they have permitted members of unions to be employed by firms not bound by these rules on terms which contravened the rules.

Steel Workers, West of Scotland.

On November 26th, 1913, joint application was made for the appointment of a Court of Arbitration of three members, the Board of Trade to appoint a chairman and each party to appoint an arbitrator from the panels of arbitrators, for the purpose of dealing with a claim made by the operatives connected with the Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Steam, Electrical and Hydraulic Service of the Steel Trade of the West of Scotland for an advance of 1s. per shift for day work and 2s. per shift for night work, with double time for Sunday work.

In accordance with this application Sheriff-Principal A. O. M. Mackenzie, K.C., was appointed to act as chairman of the Court, with Sir Charles Macara, Bart., and Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., the arbitrators nominated by the employers and workpeople respectively. The Court sat at Glasgow on January 23rd, and awarded the claimants an advance of sixpence per shift (whether day or night) on the base rate, and also decided that such of the claimants as are employed between twelve midnight Saturday and twelve midnight Sunday shall be paid at double rate for such time. The Court added a recommendation that the base rate should not be altered with too great frequency.

Cotton Operatives, Skipton.

Early in August, 1913, a stoppage of work involving about 120 workpeople in the employ of a firm of cotton manufacturers at Carleton, near Skipton, commenced in support of the workpeople's demand for an advance in wages of 10 per cent. Negotiations proceeded between the firm and the Yorkshire Cotton Operatives' Association, to which Association a number of the workpeople belonged, but no settlement was arrived at, the firm claiming an allowance for local disadvantages in the application of the Yorkshire Spinners' list, or a guarantee of a minimum production. At the beginning of the present year the attention of the Chief Industrial Commissioner's Department was called to the dispute, and an officer of the Department accordingly had interviews with representatives of the parties, and subsequently presided at a conference of the parties on January 27th. At this conference a settlement was arrived at providing for the resumption of work, the spinners to return to work under the conditions existing prior to the stoppage, and the firm agreeing to pay the Yorkshire list to all spinners who, after the expiration of four weeks from February 26th next, can obtain a certain production, and can also piece their own bands and straps, and do all the ordinary duties of a spinner.

Hosiery Workers, Fleckney (near Leicester).

A stoppage of work of about 380 hosiery workers employed at a works near Leicester commenced on December 1st, 1913, owing to differences arising out of alterations in methods of German seaming and moving of machinery. Difficulties arose owing to the refusal of the firm to recognise the Union officials, and towards the end of January, 1914, Mr. Alderman T. Smith was appointed to make enquiries into the matter. Mr. Smith had an interview with the firm, and they consented to meet a deputation of their workpeople under Mr. Smith's chairmanship for the discussion of the matters in dispute. As a result of these conferences an agreement was arrived at on February 7th, providing among its clauses for the resumption of work and for certain advances in rates of wages. The firm agree to confer and negotiate with a Committee of their own workpeople, in case of future disputes, and matters of difference that may arise are to be referred to conciliation or arbitration before any cessation of work takes place.

Hosiery Workers, Nottingham.

A stoppage of work involving about 1,500 workpeople in the hosiery finishing industry at Nottingham having begun in December in support of a demand for advances in wages, negotiations proceeded between the parties, but no settlement was arrived at, and the negotiations were discontinued. On January 9th application was made on behalf of the workpeople asking the Chief Industrial Commissioner to take steps to bring the parties together. From enquiries which were made it appeared that there were reasonable expectations of an early settlement, and accordingly no further action was for the time taken in the matter. Shortly afterwards, as a result of the negotiations which had been resumed between the parties, an agreement was arrived at providing for the resumption of work, certain rates being advanced and other rates referred to a Joint Committee.

Pottery Workers, Burslem.

A dispute having occurred at the works of a firm of pottery manufacturers at Burslem as to the price to be paid for handling banded goods, the matter was referred to a committee of two manufacturers and two operatives, who were, however, unable to arrive at an agreement upon the matter, and on January 15th application was made by representatives of the parties for the appointment of an arbitrator to consider and settle the question. Mr. R. E. Moore has accordingly been appointed to act in the desired capacity.

Theatrical Employees, Liverpool.

Negotiations having taken place between the National Association of Theatrical Employees and the Liverpool Theatrical Managers' Association with regard to conditions of employment, at the end of December the parties came to an agreement to refer the matters in dispute to

the arbitration of the Chief Industrial Commissioner or someone appointed by him.

Application having been made by the parties in accordance with this agreement, Sir George Askwith appointed Mr. Alderman T. Smith to act as arbitrator in the matter.

COAL MINES (MINIMUM WAGE) ACT, 1912. South Yorkshire.

The following is copy of an award recently issued by the Chairman of the South Yorkshire District Board, revising certain of the district rules and rates:—

Whereas on the 22nd May, 1912,* Minimum Rates of Wages and District Rules for the purposes of the Coal Mines (Minimum Wage) Act, 1912, were duly settled for the District of South Yorkshire; and whereas upon the 30th October, 1912, an application under Section 3 of the said Act was duly made on behalf of the members of the Joint District Board representing the workmen for revision and variation of the said rates and rules; and whereas I, as Chairman of the said District Board, and with the consent of all parties, directed that the period of two months should be substituted for the period of three weeks named in Section 4 of the said Act; and whereas several meetings of the Board have taken place and upon some questions the parties have differed, now I, in exercise of the powers given to me by the said Act and the Rules thereunder made, decide the said questions and determine that the following rates and rules shall be the rates and rules under the said Act for the District of South Yorkshire and the said District of the Ganister Mines.

RULES.

(1) Aged workmen and infirm workmen are not entitled to the minimum rate of wages.

Aged workmen and infirm workmen are defined as follows:—

(a) Aged workmen shall be those who are over 65 years, and workmen over 60 years who, in the opinion of the committee hereinafter mentioned, are by reason of age unable to do a fair day's work.

(b) Infirm workmen are those who from bodily infirmity, or illness, or accident, or disease, are unable to do a fair day's work.

Where a workman from a serious illness has been off work for a period of one month or more, he shall, upon resumption of work, be deemed to be infirm for one week after such resumption.

(2) Any man who through his own default fails to do a fair day's work, or to work his place to the best advantage, or who refuses or neglects to carry out any reasonable order given to him by the deputy or other superior official to ensure him working his place to the best advantage, or who without good cause delays in going to his work, or who ceases work before the customary time at the pit unless there is no work for him to do, shall forfeit his right to the benefit of the minimum rate of wages.

(3) A workman who in any week fails to attend and work 80 per cent. of the possible number of shifts he might have attended and worked during that week, Saturday afternoons and Sundays excepted, unless prevented by illness or accident or other justifiable cause, of which proper notice shall be given to the management, shall forfeit the right to receive payment at the minimum wage rate.

For the purpose of this Rule the expression Saturday afternoon means that portion of Saturday which commences after the termination of the ordinary morning shift, and the expression "justifiable cause" includes absence to attend meetings or deputations, or urban district councils, or boards of guardians, or county councils.

(4) In ascertaining the earnings of coal getters or their workmen paid by the piece, there shall not be deducted from their gross earnings for their trimmers, fillers, or others working under them a wage more than one shilling in excess of the minimum rate of wages fixed for those classes of workmen respectively.

(5) A workman shall forfeit the right to receive payment at the minimum rate of wages in any shift or shifts in which a stoppage occurs by reason of strikes of any men or boys employed at the colliery, but this rule shall not apply to any workman prevented by such stoppage from doing his own work who is ordered to perform and does perform some other work in lieu thereof.

(6) (a) If a workman, when he presents himself at the pit bottom or at the lamp station within 150 yards thereof where his lamp is examined, is informed that something has happened in or about the mine to prevent his working, he shall not be entitled to claim any wages at the minimum rate in respect of that day.

(b) If a workman is informed at any part of the shift that, in consequence of any accident or other unavoidable cause he cannot continue his work, he shall only be entitled to that proportion of the minimum wage which the time for which he was at work bears to the total period of the full time in the shift.

(c) In the case of any accident or breakdown in the shaft or mine which would prevent the further output of coal in that shaft, and the workman is informed of it, he shall only be entitled to the proportion of the daily minimum wage up to the time in relation to the total period of the shift when he was informed that further coal winding during the shift was stopped.

(d) If from any cause on the surface, such as shortness of wagons or the like, it becomes necessary to "knock off" at

* See LABOUR GAZETTE for June, 1912, p. 218.

an earlier hour than that at which the shift would ordinarily terminate, e.g., one-quarter, one-half, or three-quarters of the shift, a workman shall only be entitled to one-quarter, one-half, or three-quarters of the minimum wage, as the case may be for that shift.

(e) If a workman is prevented from working and has to come out of the mine, he shall be allowed to do so without any unreasonable delay.

(f) Where no dispute exists any sum of money due or payable to a workman in order to make up the amount of the ordinary wages earned by him during any day to the minimum rate shall be paid to him at the same time as along with such ordinary wages.

(7) Any question as to the interpretation of these rules shall be referred to the Chairman of the District Board, whose decision shall be final.

Any dispute under those Rules shall, after discussion between the workman or workmen concerned and the officials of the mine, and after they have failed to agree, be submitted to the manager of the mine and some person working in or about the mine nominated by the workman, and if they fail to agree the same shall then be referred to a Committee. Such Committee shall be appointed from time to time where and as required by the two secretaries for the time being of the District Board or by the District Board sitting with or without a Chairman to settle the difference. Such Committee shall in the event of their failing to agree refer the matter to a Chairman, whose decision shall be final.

Such Chairman shall be agreed upon between the parties or in default of such agreement be nominated by the Chairman of the Board.

Pending the decision of any dispute, which shall be given as promptly as possible, and in any case within twenty-one days of the refusal of the Company to pay, unless such time shall be extended by the Committee or the Chairman of the District Board, the workman shall continue at work, his right to receive the benefit of the minimum wage, as from the date of the complaint, being reserved until the decision shall be given.

The certificate of exclusion or forfeiture of the right to a minimum wage under this Act shall be valid if signed by the manager of the mine and some person working in or about the mine nominated by the workman, or by three members of the Committee, or by the Chairman chosen by them or nominated by the Chairman, of the District Board, and shall take effect as from the date of the forfeiture.

Any such certificate may be cancelled by the Committee or by such Chairman after the expiration of one month from the date of the certificate, or from the date of a refusal to cancel it, as the case may be.

Any expenses incurred by any Committee shall be paid by the District Board, and the costs apportioned in the same manner as the expenses of the District Board.

RATES FOR THE DISTRICT.

Per day.		s. d.	
Class 1. Qualified coal getters (hand or machine)	7	3	
Class 2. Trammers and fillers	6	3	
Class 3. Leading bye-workmen (those in charge of pit bottom or otherwise entrusted with superintendence)	6	6	
Class 4. All other workmen (over 21 years of age)	5	6	
Class 5. Boys—			
14 years of age	2	2	18 years of age
14½ years of age	2	4	18½ years of age
15 years of age	2	7	19 years of age
15½ years of age	2	9	19½ years of age
16 years of age	3	0	20 years of age
16½ years of age	3	2	20½ years of age
17 years of age	3	5	21 years of age
17½ years of age	3	7	

RATES FOR GANISTER DISTRICT (IN DON AND LOXLEY VALLEYS).

s. d.		s. d.	
Class 1. Coal getters	6	0	
Class 2. Trammers and fillers	5	0	
Class 3. Leading bye-workmen (those in charge of pit bottom or otherwise entrusted with superintendence)	5	3	
Class 4. All other workmen (over 21 years of age)	5	0	
Boys:—			
14 years	2	0	18 years
14½ years	2	2	18½ years
15 years	2	5	19 years
15½ years	2	7	19½ years
16 years	2	10	20 years
16½ years	3	0	20½ years
17 years	3	3	21 years
17½ years	3	5	

(Sgd.) EDWARD CLARKE.

January 30th, 1914.

Forest of Dean.

The following is a copy of the rates as recently revised for the Forest of Dean district:—

RATES OF WAGES TO BE PAID WHEN THE MINIMUM WAGE ACT APPLIES.
Extract from the Minutes of the Board, dated December 10th, 1913.

"That the following be the minimum rates of wages to be paid in the Forest of Dean District under the Coal Mines (Minimum Wage) Act, 1912.

"That the district per cent., less 5 per cent., be added to the standard of 4s. per day for colliers working in abnormal places.

"That leading timbermen and contracting timbermen and colliers on day work receive 4s. per day, plus the existing percentage.

In the case of those paid on the 3 10 standard	5	0
In the case of those paid on the 3 8 standard	4	9
In the case of those paid on the 3 7 standard	4	8
In the case of those paid on the 3 6 standard	4	6½
In the case of those paid on the 3 4 standard	4	4
In the case of those paid on the 3 2 standard	4	1
In the case of those paid on the 3 0 standard	3	11
In the case of those paid on the 2 11 standard	3	9½
In the case of those paid on the 2 10 standard	3	8
In the case of those paid on the 2 9 standard	3	7
In the case of those paid on the 2 8 standard	3	5½
In the case of those paid on the 2 6 standard	3	3
In the case of those paid on the 2 4 standard	3	0
In the case of those paid on the 2 3 standard	2	11
In the case of those paid on the 2 0 standard	2	7
In the case of those paid on the 1 9 standard	2	3
In the case of those paid on the 1 6 standard	1	11½
In the case of those paid on the 1 3 standard	1	7½
In the case of those paid on the 1 0 standard	1	3½

RAILWAY CONCILIATION SCHEME.

At a meeting of Conciliation Board B of the Rhondda and Swansea Bay Railway on January 15th, presided over by the Chairman, the Rt. Hon. Sir David Harrel, K.C.B., an agreement was arrived at on the question of the walking time of guards and brakemen.

On January 8th the Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Romer, G.C.B., presided at meetings of Conciliation Boards 3 and 4 of the Midland Railway, and issued his decisions on matters referred to him. These decisions include an important one on the question of working split turns.

TRADE BOARDS ACT, 1909.

Establishment of New Trade Boards.

By the Trade Boards Provisional Orders Confirmation Act, 1913,* the application of the Trade Boards Act was extended to certain trades, including Shirtmaking and Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving; and after consulting persons affected, the Board of Trade recently made Regulations with respect to the constitution and proceedings of the Trade Boards to be established in Great Britain in the two trades named. The Board of Trade have now established a Trade Board for the Shirt-making trade, consisting of three appointed members (who are persons unconnected with the trade, and appointed by the Board of Trade) and of 18 representatives of employers and 18 representatives of workers. They have also established a Trade Board for the Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving trade, consisting of three appointed members, together with 22 representatives of employers and 22 representatives of workers. In both cases the representative members have been selected by the Board of Trade after considering names supplied by employers and workers respectively. The Board of Trade have appointed Mr. Ernest Aves, Sir Shirley F. Murphy, F.R.C.S., and Mrs. Lucy Deane Streatfeild as "appointed members" of the Shirtmaking Trade Board, and Mr. Ernest Aves, Sir Lawrence J. Jones, Bart., and Miss M. Bertha Synge as "appointed members" of the Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Trade Board. Mr. Aves will act as Chairman and Mr. G. T. Reid as Secretary of both Boards.

Hammered and Dollyed or Tommied Chain-making Trade.

The Trade Board established for the hammered and dollyed or tommied chain-making trade have issued notices, dated January 19th, 1914, announcing that they have varied (a) certain minimum piece-rates of wages fixed by them, by the addition to such minimum rates of sums amounting approximately to 10 per cent., and (b) the minimum time-rates of wages fixed by them, in the manner set out on page 323 of THE LABOUR GAZETTE for September, 1913.

Any employer or worker in the trade who is likely to be affected by the above-mentioned variations of minimum rates may obtain further information about them on application to the Secretary of the Chain Trade Board, Old Serjeants' Inn Chambers, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

* See Labour Gazette for May, 1913, page 165, and for September, 1913, page 323.

SEAMEN'S PENSIONS IN ITALY.*

In conformity with a law promulgated on June 22nd last there has been established, as from January 1st, 1914, a Seamen's Old Age and Infirmary Fund having its headquarters at Rome and branches at the principal Italian ports. This fund has been formed by the amalgamation of existing institutions having similar objects.

Contributions are levied upon shipowners and seamen (including foreigners) employed on vessels sailing under the Italian flag. As regards ships' crews the principle of compulsory contribution was already in operation under a law of July 28th, 1861, now repealed; but the obligation imposed by the present law upon shipowners is a new principle in Italian legislation on this subject. The normal scale of contributions is as follows:—

Rating.	Contribution per 30 Days of Service.	
	Shipowners.	Officers and Seamen.
Masters of vessels in the foreign trade and chief engineers	s. d. 2 0	s. d. 6 0
Masters of vessels in the home trade and second engineers	1 4½	4 2½
Navigating officers of small vessels	1 2½	2 9½
Mates and other officers	1 2½	1 7½
Leading stokers and boatswains	1 2½	1 4½
Seamen (including A.B.'s, ordinary seamen and firemen)	1 2½	1 2½
Boys or apprentices	— 9½	— 9½

For an indefinite period after January 1st, 1914, however, the contributions as stated above will be increased by amounts varying, according to rating, from 7½d. to 3d. in the case of those payable by owners, and from 2s. to 3d. in the case of those paid by officers and seamen, the additional funds thus raised being distributed as increased allowances to existing members of the component societies which are merged in the new fund, who are already receiving, or will receive, pensions or periodical allowances. The masters or shipowners are authorised to deduct from wages the contributions payable by the officers and crews of their vessels; but shipowners are held responsible for the payment of their employees' contributions in the first instance.

The funds out of which the pensions and allowances payable under the law will be met will be formed from the following sources:—(a) the contributions of the shipowners and seamen; (b) interest derived from the existing property of the fund; (c) State grants (for 1913-14 the grant will amount to £10,154); (d) sums already assigned to the component funds under special laws; (e) sums which may be assigned to the new fund under special laws; (f) gifts, legacies, etc.; (g) fines imposed under certain clauses of the Merchant Shipping Law, and penalties for contravention of the laws relating to sea fishing; (h) the unclaimed property of seamen dying at sea intestate.

Persons who have reached the age of 60, and who have served at least 20 years upon Italian vessels, are entitled to an annual pension varying, according to rating and years of service, as shown below:—

Rating.	Amount of Annual Pension.	
	Minimum (after 20-21 years of service).	Maximum (after 32-33 years of service).
Masters of vessels in the foreign trade and chief engineers	£ s. 24 0	£ s. 36 0
Masters of vessels in the home trade and second engineers	16 16	25 4
Navigating officers of small vessels	13 4	19 16
Mates and other officers	10 16	16 4
Leading stokers and boatswains	10 12	15 4
Seamen (including A.B.'s, ordinary seamen and firemen)	9 12	14 8

Where the years of service exceed thirty-three the amount of the pension is increased by one-twentieth of the maximum for each extra year of service.

In addition to these pensions, allowances will be paid to seamen who are physically incapacitated from following their calling. These will be paid periodically where at least 10 years of service have been completed, and in

* Based on the text of the law contained in the Journal of the Italian Labour Department (Bollettino dell' Ufficio del Lavoro) for August 1st, 1913, on a despatch from H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Rome, and on information supplied by the Italian Labour Department.

the form of a single payment where the service has been less than 10 years. Grants will also be made to seamen who have lost their effects owing to shipwreck or to other casualty to the vessels upon which they are employed.

Widows and young orphans of seamen who die after acquiring the right to a pension will be entitled to pensions; and, where the seaman dies before acquiring such right, the widow and orphans will be entitled to special allowances.

Foreign seamen employed on Italian vessels will be entitled to pensions and allowances, provided that the country of which they are subjects grants corresponding privileges to Italian seamen.

The expression "seamen," as used in the Act, includes all persons employed on deck or in the engine-room, or in occupations connected with the navigation of the vessel. Special regulations apply in the case of seamen employed upon subsidised liners, these persons being excluded from the provisions of the present law. Service qualifying under the law is that given upon registered vessels engaged in trading, fishing, pleasure trips, or voyages of scientific research.

It may be noted that no general scheme of old-age and invalidity pensions for workpeople is in operation in Italy.

TRADE UNIONS IN THE UNITED STATES.

ACCORDING to an estimate published in the "Bulletin" of the New York State Department of Labour the aggregate membership of trade unions in the United States at the latest date for which information was available was 2,389,723. This total includes only those unions from which actual returns were received, and excludes 136,389 members residing in Canada.

In the following Table showing, so far as the figures are available, the average membership in 1912 and 1911 of the more important constituent groups comprised in this total, it has not been possible to exclude the Canadian members of the unions.

Group of Unions.	Membership.	
	1912.	1911.
American Federation of Labour	1,770,145	1,761,835
Independent unions of railway workers:—		
Trainmen	124,360	119,107
Firemen	85,292	77,338
Engine drivers	66,261	63,812
Guards	44,329	43,627
Others	14,800	3,850
Other independent unions:—		
Bricklayers and masons	81,638	75,914
Letter carriers	27,800	27,521
Industrial Workers of the World	23,061	6,039
Electrical workers (dissenting branch)	23,000	22,000
Shoe workers	22,210	15,213
Stationary enginemmen	22,110	20,000
Others	221,106	46,075
Total	2,526,112	2,282,361

Except in the case of the figures for the American Federation of Labour and for two smaller unions with a combined membership of 11,442, the date to which the figures shown in the column for 1912 refer is some month of 1913—January in the majority of cases. The figures for the Federation represent the average number of members paying *per capita* contributions to the Federation in 1912; while the totals for the railway guards, engine drivers and firemen are based upon the number of members assessed for benefits.

Taking those unions only for which information is available for both years, the combined membership rose from 2,280,539 to 2,367,050, showing an increase of 3.8 per cent. The greatest increase took place in the group of unions known as the Industrial Workers of the World, the membership of which advanced from 6,039 in 1911 to 23,061 in 1912.

The estimated total of 2,526,112 is considered to be somewhat below the actual number of trade unionists in the United States, inasmuch as the computation of the membership of the American Federation of Labour from *per capita* contributions does not represent the full strength of the Federation, owing to the fact that no contributions are paid by members on strike. Moreover,

no returns were received from a certain number of national unions, and in collecting the figures no attempt was made to canvass the membership of independent local unions outside New York State.

Details given in the "Bulletin" permit the following classification according to trades of members of the American Federation of Labour for each of the years 1910—1912, the numbers, as stated above, representing the average membership paying contributions to the Federation:—

Group of Trades.	Membership.		
	1910.	1911.	1912.
Building	328,200	343,700	331,500
Mining and Quarrying (including Stoneworking) ..	257,400	334,000	350,700
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	213,200	223,700	213,100
Textile	13,100	13,200	14,200
Clothing (including Laundries) ..	131,600	178,200	165,100
Transport	144,800	158,100	161,100
Printing, Paper and Bookbinding ..	90,400	97,300	102,500
Woodworking and Furnishing ..	22,000	22,000	13,000
Glass, Pottery, Chemical and Cement ..	30,000	29,700	30,200
Food, Drink and Tobacco	105,700	109,500	108,800
Hotels and Restaurants	37,000	43,000	47,600
Hairdressers	26,500	28,500	29,900
Commercial Employees (including Shop Assistants and Telegraphists) ..	42,400	47,500	47,800
Music and Theatres	50,100	67,800	72,000
Other Trades	39,300	38,200	43,300
Local Unions (trades not specified) ..	20,412	27,735	40,245
Total	1,562,112	1,761,835*	1,770,145*

The following particulars of benefits paid during 1912 by 69 national or international unions (with a total membership of 1,050,845) affiliated to the American Federation of Labour, are exclusive of considerable sums expended upon benefits by the local branches of these unions and not reported to the central offices of the organisations. The total expenditure on benefits of all kinds in 1912 was £574,409. The only form of benefit which appears to be at all generally paid by these unions is funeral benefit. Of the total stated above, £355,361 was accounted for under this head (£343,580 for members and £11,781 for members' wives), this being paid by 63 unions with a total membership of 1,045,145. Sick benefit amounting to £165,262 was paid by 27 unions with 450,445 members, travelling benefit amounting to £8,452 by 4 unions with 83,745 members, unemployed benefit amounting to £44,875 by 6 unions with 142,645 members, and tool insurance, amounting to £459, by 3 unions with 47,245 members.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN STRIKE.†

THE South African State Railway Administration, partly as a result of a report made by its Workshops Committee in 1912 to the effect that the workshops were overstaffed, and partly in view of the diminution in railway receipts, inaugurated a policy of retrenchment last October, and discharged a number of men. This was followed by a threat on the part of the men's leaders to call a strike as soon as 25 men should have been dismissed. The Government thereupon appointed a Special Commission to inquire into the grievances of the railwaymen. Fresh discharges were, however, stated to have taken place before the Commission had reported, and on January 6th the Railwaymen's Union sought an interview with the Minister of Railways and Harbours, who agreed to receive the suggested deputation as individuals, but not as representing the Railwaymen's Union. At this interview, which took place on the same day at Pretoria, the Minister stated that only 70 men out of a total of 35,000 Europeans employed had received notice. The deputation in turn replied that 494 men had been marked down for retrenchment. At a public meeting held in the evening, and attended by 700 railway employees, the Executive Council of the Railwaymen's Society carried a resolution to call a strike for January 8th unless the dismissed employees were reinstated and the policy of retrenchment was dropped. On January 7th formal notice was issued to all the Railway Union branches throughout

* The details in the Bulletin add to 1,762,135 for 1911 and 1,771,045 for 1912. The slight discrepancies are not explained.

† Based on reports published in the British and South African Press.

South Africa ordering a strike at midnight (subsequently altered to 7 a.m. on January 8th). The Citizen Defence Force was called out in Pretoria the same night. On January 8th the Transvaal Federation of Trades issued a notice invoking the assistance of all workers, unionist and non-unionist. On the afternoon of the 9th the Governor-General issued a proclamation summoning to arms the Active Citizen Force and the Citizen Force Reserve in the Transvaal and in portions of the Orange Free State, and the same evening seven strike leaders were arrested in Johannesburg. Three more labour leaders were arrested the next morning, and a proclamation was issued calling out the Active Citizen Force in Natal. The strike was now reported to have assumed serious dimensions in Pretoria, Johannesburg, Germiston, and Bloemfontein. On the 9th a mass meeting of the members of the Amalgamated Society of Railway and Harbour Servants, the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, and the Boilermakers' Society on strike was held at Pretoria, when it was agreed to submit the following demands to the Minister of Railways and Harbours as a basis of settlement:—

1. The abolition of the piece-work system.
2. Time and a half for all overtime work except for Sundays and public holidays, when double rates should be paid.
3. Abolition of local allowance, and (a) a consolidated district rate of pay for artisans on the basis of £1 per day for the Transvaal and Orange Free State, less one shilling per day for privileges; (b) the present local allowance to be added to the substantive wages to be paid to all those other than artisans; (c) a 48-hour week to be instituted throughout the service.
4. Apprentices to be rated as improvers immediately on completion of 5 years' service; 12 months later to be rated as skilled artisans and obtain full wage rates.
5. No further retrenchment to take place, and all those men retrenched in the months of December, 1913, and January, 1914, on account of slackness of work, to be at once reinstated.

The Minister of Railways and Harbours replied on the 10th that the questions involved in 1, 2, 3 and 4 were practically all subjects under consideration by the Railway Commission; while as to 5, he referred them to his statement at the recent interview, when he regretted the necessity for retrenchment, but stated that a similar course had been forced upon other employers of labour throughout the country.

On January 13th a general strike was declared by the Federation of Trades, in the Transvaal and Orange Free State. On the same day martial law was proclaimed in certain districts in the Transvaal, Orange Free State, and Natal. On January 15th the strike leaders, members of the committee of the Federation of Trades, who had barricaded themselves in the Trades Hall at Johannesburg, surrendered, and were sentenced to 21 days' imprisonment. At Pretoria, Bloemfontein, Durban, Germiston, and Benoni certain strike leaders were also arrested. About the same time signs appeared in several places of the collapse of the strike, and on the 21st the general strike was declared at an end as from the following day. Some 10 days later the Government decided to deport 10 labour leaders, a decision which was carried out in the case of 9 of the men on January 27th.

The area chiefly affected by the strike was the Transvaal and parts of Natal and the Orange Free State. The railwaymen in Cape Colony did not take part in the strike.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE BRITISH DOMINIONS OVERSEA.

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 November and March 1st must possess \$50 (£10 8s.), and children \$25 (£5 4s.) each (being double the amounts required at other times), 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; (2) certain relatives of residents in Canada. Owing to the very large over-supply

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

of mechanics and labourers at the present time these restrictive regulations are being rigidly enforced, and all such persons are warned against emigrating to Canada now. There will be no demand for farm labourers till the spring. Female servants are wanted both in towns and on farms, though the demand in Vancouver seems to be somewhat smaller than usual. The coalminers' strike on Vancouver Island is stated to be over, but no official confirmation of this report has been received. A complete settlement of the strike of garment workers at Montreal has not yet been arranged.

Australia.

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.

New South Wales.—In Sydney and suburbs there has been "fair to very brisk" employment in the building, iron, bespoke tailoring, and furniture trades. There is a good demand for carpenters and joiners, bricklayers, bridge carpenters, and boilermakers. There is no demand for bootmakers, printers, or bookbinders; and unskilled labourers are in excess of the demand. Skilled farm hands are wanted. There is a good demand for skilled labour at Newcastle; and mining at Broken Hill has been busy. Lads willing to learn farming may procure a cheap passage and a year's free training and maintenance at a Government Experiment Farm in New South Wales; there is an insufficiency of farm students in the State. There is a good demand for female servants.

Victoria.—There is a demand for farmers in irrigation and other districts, for farm and general labourers, for British lads from 16 to 20 years old on farms, and for female servants. The building trades have been brisk, and boiler makers have been busy, but there is no special demand for more mechanics; and the supply of miners and female factory hands is sufficient.

South Australia.—There is no demand for more labour, except for a few first-class galvanised ironworkers and tinsmiths. Youths between 16 and 18 years of age are in strong demand for farm work, and general labourers are wanted in the country. An Act assented to last December authorises the South Australian Government to apprentice lads under nineteen years of age, who come out with the assistance of the State, and to deduct expenses from their wages.

Queensland.—There is a good demand for farm labourers, dairymen, married couples on farms and stations, and female servants. The supply of mechanics and miners has been equal to the demand.

Western Australia.—During the last two or three months there has been a good demand for farm labourers, general labourers, bushmen, and lads for farms; but the demand is now beginning to abate. There is a constant demand for cook-generals, general servants, daily laundress-charwomen at 6s. a day, and other female domestics. The supply of mechanics and miners is sufficient.

Tasmania.—There is a demand for a limited number of miners, general labourers, men on sheep or cattle stations, mechanics, and female servants.

Military Service.—Military training in the Citizen Forces for a limited number of days is, subject to certain exceptions, obligatory under penalties in Australia for men under the age of twenty-six; but this obligation does not apply to any person who reached the age of eighteen years before the 1st January, 1911.

New Zealand.

Reduced or nominated passages are granted by the Government of New Zealand to approved farmers, farm labourers, shepherds, their wives and families, and female domestic servants, for whom there is a good demand. Employment has been quiet to fair in the various trades in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin, except that the cycle and motor trades have been busy in Auckland and the clothing trade in Dunedin. In smaller towns like Napier and Nelson the clothing and building trades have been busy, and the printing trades in Oamaru and Palmerston North; but there is no longer any demand for mechanics or for

general labourers. There is a good demand for dairy hands; and in several places for dressmakers. There is a fairly constant demand for coal miners in the Province of Auckland at 12s. to 14s. per day.

Military Service.—All males in New Zealand from 14 to 18 years of age must serve in the senior cadets, from 18 to 25 years in the Territorial Force, and from 25 to 30 years in the Reserve.

Union of South Africa.

There is no demand for more labour, and industrial conditions are still much disturbed everywhere.

Military Service.—All citizens in the Union must undergo a certain period of training in time of peace for military service, and those between their seventeenth and sixtieth years are liable to serve in time of war.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

Labour Statistics: Third Quarter of 1913.*

Employment.—The percentage of persons unemployed in the Commonwealth owing to lack of work; according to returns received from trade unions, decreased since the preceding quarter (April to June) from 6.2 to 5.3†, the decrease occurring in all industries except the engineering trades and mining. In New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland there was a decrease in the proportion out of work, while in South and Western Australia and in Tasmania there was an increase.

Industrial Disputes.—The total number of disputes which began in the Commonwealth during July, August and September was 60 (35 of which occurred in New South Wales), compared with 49 in the preceding quarter. The number of workpeople involved directly and indirectly in these new disputes was 11,673, and this number, when added to the number of workpeople involved in disputes which began before July and were still in progress at the beginning of that month, gives a total of 13,885 workpeople involved in disputes in the third quarter, as compared with 21,041 during the second and 13,825 during the first quarter of 1913. The number of working days lost through new disputes in the third quarter was 80,249, as compared with 126,602 in the second quarter, and 98,601 in the first quarter of the year. Eight disputes which commenced prior to the beginning of July continued into the third quarter, and were responsible for a loss of 58,570 working days.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—During the three months under review particulars were collected concerning 58 changes in rates of wages, 30 of which occurred in New South Wales and 15 in Victoria. The total number of workpeople affected by these changes was 45,069, and the aggregate increase in wages per week was £9,242. The largest number of persons affected in any single industrial group was in the building trades, in which 7,300 persons obtained increases aggregating £2,190 per week.

Variations in Prices and Cost of Living.—The cost of living (retail prices and house rent) index number for 30 of the more important towns in the Commonwealth was lower in the third quarter of 1913 than in the preceding quarter. Assuming that cost to have been represented by the figure 100 for the whole of the year 1912, the corresponding figure for the third quarter of 1913 was 99.8, as compared with 101.2 in the second quarter, and 99.8 in the first quarter. There was thus a fall of 1.4 per cent. since the preceding quarter. In the corresponding period of 1912 the index number rose from 98.8 in the second quarter to 103.7 in the third quarter, an increase of 5.0 per cent. Thus, compared with the corresponding period of 1912, the index number for the third quarter of 1913 showed a decrease of 3.8 per cent., the decrease being common to all the States. Compared with the corresponding quarter of 1912, prices of groceries, dairy produce, and meat were lower, while house rents were generally higher. As regards the six capital towns only, the amount necessary on the average to purchase what would have cost £1 in 1911 was £1 2s. 1d. in the third quarter of 1913, as compared with

* Labour Bulletin, No. 3, the quarterly journal of the Bureau of Census and Statistics of the Commonwealth of Australia.

† These percentages are based, not on the numbers unemployed on a given day, but on the number unemployed "for any three days or more during a specified week." For this reason, part from the fact that accurate and complete records of unemployment are difficult to obtain in Australia, owing to few of the unions paying unemployed benefit, the figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentages for the United Kingdom shown on pp. 41-42.

£1 2s. 4d. in the second quarter of 1913, and with £1 2s. 11d. in the third quarter of 1912.

Immigration.—During the quarter 7,016 assisted immigrants, including 3,705 dependants, arrived in the Commonwealth. The greatest number (2,757) is reported from Victoria. As regards occupations, 957 of the males were classified in the agricultural, pastoral, etc., group, and 737 of the females were domestic servants, etc.

State Employment Bureau.—The Labour Office of the New South Wales Public Works Department has now been amalgamated with the State Labour Bureau of the same State under the name of the "State Labour Branch" of the Department of Labour and Industry. During July, August and September the six State free employment bureaux received 27,137 applications for employment. There were 8,933 applications by employers for workers, and 8,189 positions were filled.

LABOUR IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

[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. 41-42 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 December.—The percentage of persons out of work in the building trades, although higher than the exceptionally low figure recorded for November, was yet below the general average for the month of December and also below the corresponding figures for December, 1912. In the metal and textile trades employment remained fair. The printing trades reported the usual seasonal improvement, the revival being more marked than at the same period in the preceding year, both in Paris and in the provinces. The improvement reported in the leather trades was maintained. Among vineyard workers in the South of France an improvement was reported, owing to work on the vines (chiefly pruning and fumigating) being resumed. Winter work began in the forests, and in consequence employment improved with woodmen. Employment among gardeners in the Paris district was satisfactory.

Returns showing the number of members unemployed at the middle of the month were received by the French Labour Department from 728 trade unions with an aggregate membership of 248,876. Excluding returns from the miners' unions in the Pas-de-Calais department, 4.5 per cent. of the members were unemployed in December, as compared with 4.3 per cent. in the previous month and 5.7 per cent. in December, 1912.†

Coal Mining in December.—The average number of days worked per week by persons employed underground in coal mines during December was 5.68, as compared with 5.57 in the previous month and 5.53 in December, 1912. Taking surface and underground workers together, 10.6 per cent. worked full time (six days or over per week), and 89.4 per cent. from five to six days. In the previous month the corresponding percentages were 54.2 and 35.0, and in December, 1912, 12.14 and 87.18. The figures for November are somewhat affected by a strike in the Nord and Pas-de-Calais districts.

Labour Disputes in December.—Fifty-five labour disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in December, as compared with 74 in the previous month and 60 in December, 1912. In 49 of the new disputes 8,037 workpeople took part, as compared with 61,363 who took part in 69 disputes begun in the previous month, and 5,444 who took part in 51 disputes begun in December, 1912. The groups of trades in which disputes were most frequent were textile (16 disputes), transport (9), chemical (7), food preparation (5), metal

* Bulletin du Ministère du Travail et de la Prévoyance Sociale (Journal of the French Ministry of Labour).

† See Note under "Labour in Foreign Countries" above.

‡ Revised figure.

(5), and building (4). Of 69 new and old disputes reported to have terminated, 10 ended wholly in favour of the workpeople, 39 wholly in favour of the employers, and 20 were compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in December.—Eight cases of recourse to the law of 1892 on conciliation and arbitration were reported to the French Labour Department during December. The initiative was taken in three cases by the workpeople, in one by the parties jointly, and in four by a Justice of the Peace. Intervention was declined in four cases by the employers; while in the remaining four cases conciliation committees were formed, resulting in the settlement of all the disputes concerned, a collective agreement being signed in each case.

GERMANY.

Employment in December.—According to the *Reichs-Arbeitsblatt* (the journal of the German Labour Department) there was in December a still further decline in employment compared with the previous month; the figures also showed a decline compared with December, 1912.

Returns relating to unemployment were furnished to the Imperial Labour Department by 49 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 2,023,051. Omitting branches which failed to make returns, the membership covered was 1,980,297, of whom 95,659, or 4.8 per cent., were stated to be unemployed at the end of December, as compared with 3.1 per cent. in the previous month and 2.8 per cent. in December, 1912.*

The number of days lost owing to unemployment during the fourth quarter of 1913 by members of trade unions making returns was calculated to be 2.5 per cent. of the possible working days during that period, as compared with 2.1 per cent. in the previous quarter and 1.4 per cent. in the fourth quarter of 1912.

UNION.	Member-ship reported on at end of December, 1913.	Percentage of Member-ship returned as un-employed at end of month.*		
		Dec., 1913.	Nov., 1913.	Dec., 1912.
All Unions making Returns —	1,980,297	4.8	3.1	2.8
PRINCIPAL UNIONS:—				
Metal Workers (Soc. Dem.)	540,369	3.9	3.1	2.1
Engineers and Metal Workers (Hirsch-Duncker)	36,300	3.7	3.0	1.8
Metal Workers (Christian)	40,836	1.3	1.1	3.1
Textile Workers (Soc. Dem.)	136,406	2.5	1.7	1.4
Textile Workers (Christian)	37,087	1.2	1.3	2.2
Boot and Shoe Makers	41,060	4.3	2.1	3.2
Transport Workers	230,025	4.3	2.5	1.9
Printers	67,571	4.7	3.7	4.7
Bookbinders	33,302	3.2	2.1	2.9
Woodworkers	189,219	11.1	5.8	6.9
Bakers	28,695	10.7	7.4	6.4
Brewery and Corn Mill Workers	47,360	1.5	2.1	1.2
Tobacco Workers	31,158	13.6	1.3	10.6
Factory Workers (irrespective of trade)	207,112	3.5	2.2	1.9
State and Municipal Workers	53,792	1.6	1.4	0.8

According to reports from employers, employment in coal mining continued to decline in the Ruhr district, resulting in short time being worked, but in Upper and Lower Silesia employment was still satisfactory. In lignite mining in Central Germany employment further declined. In metalliferous mining, and in the potash, electrical, and chemical trades employment continued to be fair; but it was still slack at blast furnaces, in steel-works, and in the textile trades. Employment was generally satisfactory in most branches of the engineering trades, as also in shipbuilding; but in consequence of the want of activity in the building trades, employment in woodworking further declined.

BELGIUM†

Employment in December.—According to returns made to the Belgian Labour Department, 2.5 per cent. of the 69,870 members of trade unions reporting were unemployed at the middle of December, as compared with 2.1 per cent. in the previous month and 1.1 per cent. in December, 1912.* Among the 4,090 diamond workers at Antwerp (who are excluded from the foregoing figures) the proportion out of work increased from 10.0 per cent. in the previous month to 21.0 per cent. in December.

* See Note under "Labour in Foreign Countries" in preceding column.

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

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES DURING JANUARY.

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT continued very good during January, and showed little change from either a month ago or a year ago.

Returns relating to 1,296 pits, employing 723,863 workpeople, showed that the average number of days* worked per week during the fortnight ended January 24th, 1914, was 5.67, compared with 5.66 a month ago and 5.64 a year ago.

Of the 723,863 workpeople covered by the Returns, 709,231 (or 98 per cent.) were employed at pits working 10 or more days during the fortnight ended January 24th, 1914; while 612,336 (or 84.6 per cent. of the total) were employed at pits working 11 days or more.

The highest average was in South Wales and Monmouthshire (5.97 days), and the lowest averages were in Ireland (5.16 days) and in West Scotland (5.17 days).

Districts.	No. of Work-people employed in Jan., 1914, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Jan., 1914, on a	
		Jan. 24th, 1914.	Dec. 20th, 1913.	Jan. 25th, 1913.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		ENGLAND & WALES.	666,932	5.70	5.68	5.66	+ 0.02	+ 0.04
SCOTLAND.						
West Scotland	24,471	5.17	5.34	5.29	- 0.17	- 0.12
The Lothians	3,365	5.43	5.41	5.47	+ 0.02	- 0.04
Fife	28,517	5.44	5.44	5.51	.. ..	- 0.07
SCOTLAND						
	56,353	5.32	5.39	5.41	- 0.07	- 0.09
IRELAND						
	578	5.16	6.00	5.42	- 0.84	- 0.26
United Kingdom ..						
	723,863	5.67	5.66	5.64	+ 0.01	+ 0.03

In Northumberland and Durham employment continued good, and in Northumberland it was better than a year ago. In Cumberland and in South Yorkshire it continued very good. In West Yorkshire it continued good, and showed an improvement compared with a year ago. In Lancashire and Cheshire it continued good, and was better than a month ago. In Derbyshire it was very good. In Nottingham and Leicester it was good, and better than a year ago. In Staffordshire and in Warwick, Worcester and Salop it was good; in the Cannock Chase district in particular it was reported very good. In Gloucester and Somerset it continued good; it was better than a month ago, and showed a great improvement on a year ago. In North Wales and in South Wales and Monmouthshire it continued very good.

In West Scotland employment showed a decline on both a month ago and a year ago. In the Lothians and in Fife it was good, but not quite so good as a year ago.

The following Table shows the numbers employed and the average number of days worked, distributed according to the principal kind of coal raised at the pits at which the workpeople were engaged.

* 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.

HOLLAND.*

Employment in December.—Returns relating to unemployment in December were received by the Dutch Government Statistical Office from trade unions and municipal unemployment funds with a total membership of 70,318. The percentage of members out of work during the month was 9.1, as compared with 6.5 in the previous month, and 8.0 in December, 1912.†

The following Table shows for each of the principal groups of trades the percentage reported unemployed, together with the average number of working days lost per week by each member unemployed in December as compared with November, and with December, 1912:—

Group of Trades.	Number of Members entitled to Benefit in Dec., 1913.	Percentage unemployed.†			Average Days lost per Week per Member unemployed.		
		Dec., 1913.	Nov., 1913.	Dec., 1912.	Dec., 1913.	Nov., 1913.	Dec., 1912.
All Unions and Municipal Unemployment Funds making returns.	70,318	9.1	6.5	8.0	5.7	5.8	5.8
<i>Do. Do. excluding Diamond Workers ..</i>	<i>59,890</i>	<i>2.9</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>2.4</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>
PRINCIPAL TRADES:—							
Diamond Workers	10,428	44.8	32.6	34.1	†	†	†
Printing Trades	7,848	0.5	0.8	0.5	5.8	5.8	6.0
Building Trades:—							
Bricklayers and Masons	1,384	8.6	4.1	4.1	4.7	5.0	4.2
Painters	2,690	23.3	11.3	21.6	5.2	5.2	5.4
Carpenters	7,008	6.0	4.8	3.7	5.2	5.2	4.3
Mining (Metal and Coal) and Peat-getting.	1,950	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding.	9,625	0.9	0.7	0.4	5.6	5.6	5.1
Textile Trades	3,470	0.1	0.08	0.3	5.2	5.0	5.1
Tobacco Workers and Cigar Makers.	10,545	0.4	0.1	0.8	5.5	5.5	5.1

DENMARK.‡

Unemployment in November.—According to returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Office, 8.2 per cent. of the 110,800 members of trade unions reporting were unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 5.0 per cent. at the end of the preceding month and 7.1 per cent. at the end of November, 1912.†

NORWAY.¶

Employment in December.—The following table shows the percentage of members reported unemployed at the end of December in certain trade unions making returns to the Statistical Office of the Norwegian Department of Labour, Commerce, Industry and Fisheries, comparative figures relating to the same unions being added for November and for December, 1912:—

Group of Trades.	Membership Reporting.			Percentage Unemployed.†		
	Dec. 31st, 1913.	Nov. 30th, 1913.	Dec. 31st, 1912.	Dec. 31st, 1913.	Nov. 30th, 1913.	Dec. 31st, 1912.
Bricklayers and Masons (Christiania)	664	677	711	33.6	6.6	0.6
Carpenters, &c.	1,570	1,634	1,586	3.8	5.0	6.0
Painters (Christiania) ..	407	418	376	14.7	7.2	10.9
Iron and other Metal Workers	8,185	8,200	7,772	1.3	1.2	1.6
Boot and Shoe Makers ..	681	674	700	1.2	0.1	1.0
Printers	2,080	2,098	2,061	1.3	1.0	1.3
Bookbinders (Christiania) ..	584	587	486	0.7	0.3	0.8
Wood Pulp and Paper Makers	1,141	1,177	1,098	0.2	0.1	0.1
Cabinet Makers	590	610	536	4.4	2.3	2.2
Bakers (Christiania)	450	450	417	8.0	5.6	3.4
Tinned Goods (Stavanger)	404	427	476	12.9	15.7	2.3
Total	16,766	16,952	16,219	3.8	2.2	2.1

UNITED STATES.

Unemployment in San Francisco.—In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated January 9th, H.M. Consul-General at San Francisco reports that the local labour market is very much overstocked, that large numbers of men are out of employment, and that, the State Legislature not being in session, a Committee has been formed by the leading citizens for the purpose of devising some means of meeting the situation.

* *Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek* (Journal of the Dutch Government Statistical Office).
† See Note under "Labour in Foreign Countries," on p. 52.
‡ Relates only to persons unemployed throughout the whole week.
§ *Statistiske Efterretninger* (Journal of the Danish Statistical Office).
¶ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Department of Labour, Commerce, Industry, and Fisheries.

Description of Coal.	No. of Work-people employed in Jan., 1914, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Pits in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Jan., 1914, on a	
		Jan. 24th, 1914.	Dec. 20th, 1913.	Jan. 25th, 1913.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Anthracite	7,835	5.81	5.49	5.80	+ 0.32	+ 0.01
Coking	36,226	5.65	5.72	5.68	- 0.07	- 0.03
Gas	50,688	5.62	5.53	5.44	- 0.01	+ 0.08
House	86,603	5.59	5.56	5.50	+ 0.03	+ 0.09
Steam	239,159	5.77	5.76	5.72	+ 0.01	+ 0.05
Mixed	253,352	5.61	5.61	5.62	..	- 0.01
All Descriptions ..	723,863	5.67	5.66	5.64	+ 0.01	+ 0.03

Compared with a month ago there was a marked improvement at pits producing anthracite coal. Compared with a year ago there was little general change, though house coal, gas coal, and steam coal pits all showed a slight improvement.

The Exports of coal, coke, and manufactured fuel during January, 1914, amounted to 6,088,971 tons, or 437,336 tons less than in December, 1913, and 285,181 tons less than in January, 1913.

IRON, SHALE AND OTHER MINING, AND QUARRYING.

EMPLOYMENT was fairly good in iron mines, and was rather better than both a month ago and a year ago. It was fairly good in shale mines, but was not so good as either a month ago or a year ago. Employment showed a further decline in tin mines. It was good in lead mines, and about the same as a month ago.

Employment generally continued good in and about quarries, though only moderate in slate quarries.

Mining.

Iron Mining.—During the fortnight ended January 24th the weekly average number of days worked by all mines and open works included in the returns was 5.75, as compared with 5.70 both a month ago and a year ago. Employment improved in Cleveland, but declined somewhat in Cumberland and Lancashire.

Districts.	Work-people employed in Jan., 1914.	Average Number of Days worked per week by Mines in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Jan., 1914, on a	
		Jan. 24th, 1914.	Dec. 20th, 1913.	Jan. 25th, 1913.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cleveland	7,417	5.75	5.54	5.52	+ 0.21	+ 0.23
Cumberland and Lancashire	5,031	5.73	5.86	5.92	- 0.13	- 0.19
Scotland	1,170	5.77	5.70	5.79	+ 0.07	- 0.02
Other Districts	2,515	5.77	5.81	5.73	- 0.04	+ 0.04
All Districts	16,133	5.75	5.70	5.70	+ 0.05	+ 0.05

Of the total number of workpeople covered by the returns 87.2 per cent. worked eleven days or more during the fortnight ended January 24th, as compared with 86.0 per cent. a month ago.

Shale Mining.—According to the returns received there were 3,653 workpeople employed in the fortnight ended January 24th, who worked on an average 5.66 days per week, as compared with 3,717 workpeople in December, who worked 5.89 days, and 3,538 workpeople in January, 1913, who worked 5.89 days.

Tin Mining.—Employment showed a further decline in tin mines in Cornwall and was much affected by the cessation of work in some mines in the Camborne and St. Just districts. Tin streaming work was reported as fair.

Lead Mining.—Employment was very good in Wear-dale. It continued good in North Wales and fairly good at Darley Dale (Matlock).

Quarrying.

Slate.—Employment continued moderate on the whole in North Wales, and was not so good as a year ago. It was fair, but showed some falling-off at Delabole (Cornwall).

Granite.—Employment continued good in Leicestershire and in Aberdeenshire, and showed an improvement on a year ago in the latter district. It continued fairly good in Cornwall.

Limestone.—Employment continued good in the Weardale district. It continued fair at Buxton and moderate in the Plymouth district.

Other Stone.—Employment continued good in the Cleve Hill road-material (basalt) quarries. It continued good in chert quarries at Bakewell, where overtime was worked. It was also good in grindstone and building-stone quarries in the Rowsley district. In sandstone quarries in Forfarshire employment was bad, and worse than a month ago. It continued good in whinstone quarries in Upper Weardale.

Settmaking, etc.—Employment generally continued good with settmakers, though there was some broken time on account of unfavourable weather. Monumental masons in the Aberdeen district were well employed.

China Clay.—Employment in Cornwall was reported as fair and steady at Lee Moor and Shaugh.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry during January showed little change as compared with the previous month. It was much worse than in January, 1913.

The returns received show that 273 furnaces were in blast at the end of January, 1914, as compared with 271 in December, 1913, and 334 in January, 1913. During January 10 furnaces were relit (4 in Cumberland, 2 each in Monmouthshire and the Cleveland district, and one each in Glamorganshire and Lanarkshire); while 8 were either damped down or blown out (4 in Cumberland and 1 each in Northamptonshire, Glamorganshire, North Wales, and Lanarkshire).

District.	Number of Furnaces included in the Returns in Blast at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Jan., 1914, on	
	Jan., 1914.	Dec., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	A Month ago.	A Year ago.
	Jan., 1914.	Dec., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	A Month ago.	A Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES—Cleveland	76	74	89	+ 2	- 13
Cumberland & Lanca-shire	26	26	33	..	- 7
S. and S.W. Yorks. ..	10	10	12	..	- 2
Derby & Nottingham ..	35	35	42	..	- 7
Leicester, Lincoln, and Northampton ..	26	27	31	- 1	- 5
Staffs & Worcester ..	30	30	34	..	- 4
S. Wales & Monmouth ..	11	9	12	+ 2	- 1
Other districts	4	5	4	- 1	..
England and Wales ..	218	216	257	+ 2	- 39
Scotland	55	55	77	..	- 22
Total	273	271	334	+ 2	- 61

The Imports of iron ore in January, 1914, amounted to 528,325 tons, or 8,888 tons less than in December, 1913, and 160,397 tons less than in January, 1913.

The Exports (British and Irish) of pig iron from the United Kingdom in January, 1914, amounted to 82,182 tons, or 8,049 tons more than in December, 1913, and 19,782 tons less than in January, 1913.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry continued fairly good, but was not so good as in January, 1913.

At the end of January, 1914, 473 tinplate mills were in operation, as compared with 468 in December, 1913, and 503 in January, 1913. The steel sheet mills working numbered 64 in January, 1914, 70 in December, 1913, and 73 in January, 1913. Fourteen steel sheet mills were idle at the end of January, 1914, owing to a dispute.

The works to which these figures relate are principally in South Wales and Monmouthshire, and employ about 26,850 workpeople.

	Number of Works open.			Number of Mills in operation.		
	At end of Jan., 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	At end of Jan., 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
	At end of Jan., 1914.	Month ago.	Year ago.	At end of Jan., 1914.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Tinplate Works	75	+ 1	- 6	473	+ 5	- 30
Steel Sheet Works	11	+ 2	+ 1	64	- 6	- 9
Total	86	+ 3	- 5	537	- 1	- 39

Exports (British and Irish).

	Jan., 1914.			Dec., 1913.			Jan., 1913.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Jan., 1914, on a	
	Jan., 1914.	Dec., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Jan., 1914.	Dec., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	
To United States	3,817	4,829	286	- 1,012	+ 3,531	..	..	..	..	..
British East Indies ..	5,891	5,797	6,136	+ 94	- 245	..	..	..	..	..
Germany	2,461	4,015	3,191	+ 1,554	- 730	..	..	..	..	..
France	2,754	1,566	1,958	+ 1,188	+ 796	..	..	..	..	..
Netherlands	4,223	2,418	4,919	+ 1,805	- 696	..	..	..	..	..
Russia	2,543	966	969	+ 1,577	+ 1,584	..	..	..	..	..
Norway	1,906	1,885	3,472	+ 21	- 1,566	..	..	..	..	..
Belgium	1,997	649	1,515	+ 1,348	+ 482	..	..	..	..	..
Portugal	800	1,190	1,572	- 390	- 772	..	..	..	..	..
Italy	1,070	1,110	1,279	40	- 209	..	..	..	..	..
Roumania	414	792	1,196	- 378	- 782	..	..	..	..	..
China and Japan	4,927	2,619	4,324	+ 2,308	+ 603	..	..	..	..	..
Australia	2,982	2,055	2,057	+ 927	+ 925	..	..	..	..	..
Canada	1,157	456	456	+ 701	+ 701	..	..	..	..	..
Argentina	372	1,618	1,609	- 1,246	- 1,237	..	..	..	..	..
Other Countries	5,850	6,875	11,331	- 1,025	- 5,481	..	..	..	..	..
Total	43,164	38,840	46,260	+ 4,324	- 3,096	..	..	..	..	..

Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets.

	Jan., 1914.			Dec., 1913.			Jan., 1913.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Jan., 1914, on a	
	Jan., 1914.	Dec., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Jan., 1914.	Dec., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	
To United States	3,817	4,829	286	- 1,012	+ 3,531	..	..	..	..	..
British East Indies ..	5,891	5,797	6,136	+ 94	- 245	..	..	..	..	..
Germany	2,461	4,015	3,191	+ 1,554	- 730	..	..	..	..	..
France	2,754	1,566	1,958	+ 1,188	+ 796	..	..	..	..	..
Netherlands	4,223	2,418	4,919	+ 1,805	- 696	..	..	..	..	..
Russia	2,543	966	969	+ 1,577	+ 1,584	..	..	..	..	..
Norway	1,906	1,885	3,472	+ 21	- 1,566	..	..	..	..	..
Belgium	1,997	649	1,515	+ 1,348	+ 482	..	..	..	..	..
Portugal	800	1,190	1,572	- 390	- 772	..	..	..	..	..
Italy	1,070	1,110	1,279	40	- 209	..	..	..	..	..
Roumania	414	792	1,196	- 378	- 782	..	..	..	..	..
China and Japan	4,927	2,619	4,324	+ 2,308	+ 603	..	..	..	..	..
Australia	2,982	2,055	2,057	+ 927	+ 925	..	..	..	..	..
Canada	1,157	456	456	+ 701	+ 701	..	..	..	..	..
Argentina	372	1,618	1,609	- 1,246	- 1,237	..	..	..	..	..
Other Countries	5,850	6,875	11,331	- 1,025	- 5,481	..	..	..	..	..
Total	43,164	38,840	46,260	+ 4,324	- 3,096	..	..	..	..	..

Black Plates for Tinning.

	Jan., 1914.	Dec., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Total	5,906	5,089	6,208	+ 817	- 302

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works showed little change, on the whole, from a month ago. It showed a decline compared with a year ago.

Returns from employers relating to 103,648 workpeople show that the aggregate number of shifts worked in the week ended January 24th, 1914, was 573,826, an increase of 2,057 (or 0.4 per cent.) on a month ago, and a decrease of 31,099 (or 5.1 per cent.) on a year ago.

District.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.			Aggregate number of shifts worked.		
	Week ended Jan. 24th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended Jan. 24th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month ago.	Year ago.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces	10,015	- 0.3	- 4.0	58,926	+ 1.5	- 3.9
Crucible Furnaces	588	+ 7.9	3,174	- 1.0	+ 1.4	
Bessemer Converters	1,745	- 4.1	8,796	- 0.5	- 7.7	
Puddling Forges	7,999	- 1.0	13.9	36,966	- 0.7	- 24.1
Rolling Mills	32,800	- 0.9	3.5	173,295	+ 0.6	- 6.0
Forging and Pressing	5,023	+ 0.3	0.2	28,216	+ 0.8	- 1.2
Founding	12,443	- 0.1	2.3	73,007	+ 0.8	- 2.1
Other Departments	14,378	+ 0.1	0.4	83,562	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Mechanics, Labourers	18,657	- 0.3	1.2	107,884	- 0.4	- 2.9
Total	103,648	- 0.4	- 3.2	573,826	+ 0.4	- 5.1
Districts						
Northumberland & Durham	11,511	- 0.9	- 5.2	64,893	- 0.4	- 6.7
Cleveland	9,266	+ 1.9	+ 4.1	52,535	+ 2.3	+ 4.6
Sheffield and Rotherham	21,315	- 0.4	- 0.6	120,802	+ 0.3	- 2.5
Leeds, Bradford, &c.	4,843	+ 0.3	+ 0.4	26,725	- 0.7	- 1.8
Cumberland, Lancashire, and Cheshire	9,683	- 5.5	- 4.2	52,649	- 6.4	- 6.7
Staffordshire	9,619	- 0.1	+ 0.7	51,318	- 1.0	- 2.6
Other Midland Counties	5,245	- 2.4	9.0	27,616	+ 0.5	- 15.3
Wales and Monmouth	13,867	- 0.1	+ 1.2	77,458	+ 2.0	+ 1.0
Total, England & Wales ..	85,349	- 0.8	- 1.3	473,996	- 0.3	- 3.1
Scotland	18,299	+ 1				

Table with columns for Workpeople (Week ended Jan. 24th, 1914, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago) and Earnings (Week ended Jan. 24th, 1914, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago). Rows include Departments (Wool Sorting & Combing, Spinning, Weaving, etc.) and Districts (Bradford District, Keighley District, etc.).

Imports and Exports.

Table with columns for Jan., 1914, Dec., 1913, Jan., 1913, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Jan., 1914, on a Month ago, Year ago. Rows include Imports and Exports of Raw Wool (SHEEP OR LAMBS), British and Irish Manufactures Exported, and Piece Goods.

Prices of Wool in Bradford.

Table with columns for Jan., 1914, Dec., 1913, Jan., 1913. Rows include Average Prices (Lincoln Hogs, 40's Crossbred tops, etc.) and Course of Prices.

JUTE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued good, but was not quite so good as a month ago.

Returns from firms employing 15,128 workpeople in the week ended January 24th showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago.

Table with columns for Workpeople (Week ended Jan. 24th, 1914, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago) and Earnings (Week ended Jan. 24th, 1914, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago). Rows include Departments (Preparing, Spinning, Weaving, etc.).

Employment continued good in the Dundee district, in which are employed 85 per cent. of the total number of workpeople covered by the Returns; there was, however, a little short time and some indication of slackening in the district.

iciency of labour. In the Forfar, Brechin and Arbroath districts employment was still good.

Imports and Exports.

Table with columns for Description, Jan., 1914, Dec., 1913, Jan., 1913, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Jan., 1914, on a Month ago, Year ago. Rows include Imports (Jute) and Exports (British & Irish).

LINEN TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT was fair, and not so good as a month ago. Returns from firms employing 43,126 workpeople in the week ended January 24th showed a decrease of 1.2 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago.

Table with columns for Description, Workpeople (Week ended Jan. 24th, 1914, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago), Earnings (Week ended Jan. 24th, 1914, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago). Rows include Departments (Preparing, Spinning, Weaving, etc.) and Districts (Belfast, Other Places in Ireland, etc.).

Employment at Belfast was dull in some branches, and fairly good in others; some short time was reported: it was worse than a month ago, both in that district and in other parts of Ireland.

Imports and Exports.

Table with columns for Description, Jan., 1914, Dec., 1913, Jan., 1913, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Jan., 1914, on a Month ago, Year ago. Rows include Imports (Flax) and Exports (British & Irish).

LACE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the levers section was bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In the curtain branch it continued fair, but was not nearly so good as a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 5,806 workpeople in the week ended January 24th showed a decrease of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed and of 2.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago.

Table with columns for Description, Workpeople (Week ended Jan. 24th, 1914, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago), Earnings (Week ended Jan. 24th, 1914, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago). Rows include Branches (Levers, Curtains, Plain Net, etc.) and Districts (Nottingham City, Long Eaton, etc.).

At Nottingham employment in the levers branch continued bad, and was about the same as a year ago; much short time was reported. In the curtain section it was fair, but not so good as a month ago and a year ago.

Imports and Exports.

Table with columns for Description, Jan., 1914, Dec., 1913, Jan., 1913, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Jan., 1914, on a Month ago, Year ago. Rows include Imports (Cotton Lace, Silk Lace) and Exports (British & Irish).

HOSIERY TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT on the whole was fair, and not so good as a month ago or a year ago; the decline was partly owing to the effect of the hosiery finishers' dispute.

Returns from firms employing 17,722 workpeople in the week ended January 24th showed a decrease of 1.4 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago.

Table with columns for District, Workpeople (Week ended Jan. 24th, 1914, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago), Earnings (Week ended Jan. 24th, 1914, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago). Rows include Leicester, Leicester Country District, etc.

At Leicester employment showed a decline in the heavy and fancy hosiery departments compared with a month ago; there was little change compared with a year ago.

Imports and Exports.—The following Table shows the values of woollen and cotton hosiery imported and exported during the months stated.

Table with columns for Description, Jan., 1914, Dec., 1913, Jan., 1913, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Jan., 1914, on a Month ago, Year ago. Rows include Imports (Hosiery, Woollen, Cotton) and Exports (British & Irish).

SILK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT on the whole was fairly good, and slightly better than a month ago; it was about the same as a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 7,896 workpeople in the week ended January 24th showed an increase of 0.6 per cent. in the number employed and of 1.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago.

Table with columns for Description, Workpeople (Week ended Jan. 24th, 1914, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago), Earnings (Week ended Jan. 24th, 1914, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago). Rows include Branches (Throwing, Spinning, Weaving, etc.) and Districts (Lancashire and W. Riding of Yorkshire, etc.).

At Macclesfield employment with throwsters, spinners and "outside" hand-loom weavers was good, and better than a month ago; with factory hand-loom weavers and power-loom weavers it was fair; with makers-up it was moderate.

Imports and Exports.

Table with columns for Description, Jan., 1914, Dec., 1913, Jan., 1913, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Jan., 1914, on a Month ago, Year ago. Rows include Imports (Raw Silk, Thrown Silk, etc.) and Exports (British & Irish).

CARPET TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT on the whole showed some decline as compared with a month ago. Returns from firms employing 7,639 workpeople, and paying £6,712 in wages, in the week ending January 24th, 1914, showed a decrease of 1.1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago.

In the Kidderminster district employment was reported as very quiet, and worse than either a month ago or a year ago. In the West Riding of Yorkshire employ-

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

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

THE total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office, under the Factory and Workshop Act, during January, 1914, was 49, of which 42 were due to lead poisoning and 7 to anthrax. In January, 1913, 43 cases of lead poisoning, 1 of mercurial poisoning, 1 of arsenic poisoning, and 3 of anthrax were reported.

The number of deaths reported under the Factory and Workshop Act during January, 1914, was 10, of which 7 were due to lead poisoning and 3 to anthrax, as compared with 2 in January, 1913, both of which were due to lead poisoning.

In addition to the above, 20 cases of lead poisoning (including 2 deaths) were reported among house painters and plumbers during January, 1914, as compared with 15 (3 of which were fatal) in January, 1913.

No cases of phosphorus poisoning were reported in either of the periods covered by the Table.

Analysis by Industries.

Table with columns for Industry, Cases (January 1914, January 1913), and Deaths (January 1914, January 1913). Rows include Lead Poisoning, Other Forms of Poisoning, Anthrax, and Grand Total.

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

* In addition 1 case among dock labourers was reported.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN JANUARY.

(Based on Home Office and Board of Trade Returns.)

EXCLUSIVE of seamen, the number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during January, 1914, was 267, a decrease of 33 on a month ago, and of 44 on a year ago. The mean number for January during the five years 1909-13 was 261, the maximum being 311, and the minimum 231.

Fatal accidents in the railway service during January, 1914, numbered 41, an increase of four on a month ago, and a decrease of 14 on a year ago. The total number of fatal accidents at mines was 112, a decrease of 7 on December, 1913, and of 3 on January, 1913. Fatal accidents at quarries numbered 9, as compared with 7 a month ago, and 5 a year ago.

The total number of fatal accidents to seamen reported during January, 1914, was 63, as compared with 118 a month ago, and 163 a year ago.

Table with columns for Trade, Number of Workpeople killed during (Jan., 1914, Dec., 1913, Jan., 1913), and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Jan., 1914, on a Month ago, Year ago. Rows include Railway Service, Mines, Quarries, Factories and Workshops, Total, and Seamen.

DISTRESS COMMITTEES IN JANUARY.

THE total number of Distress Committees whose registers were open in January, 1914, was 59, as compared with 57 in December, 1913, and 68 in January, 1913. Of these 59 Committees, 36 were in London and "Outer London," 17 in the provincial towns of England and Wales, 4 in Scotland, and 2 in Ireland. The Committees at Dudley and Yarmouth opened their registers during the month.

The total number of persons who received employment relief during January, 1914, was 3,841, of whom 2,210 were in London and "Outer London," 757 in the provincial towns of England and Wales, 237 in Scotland, and 637 in Ireland.

The average earnings amounted to 46s. 3d. per head, and those who were not engaged on piecework received an average of 3s. 5d. per day; the average duration of employment relief was 13.7 days.

Table with columns for Districts, No. of Applicants given Employment Relief (Jan., 1914, Jan., 1913), Aggregate Duration of Employment Relief (Days, Jan., 1914, Jan., 1913), and Total Amount of Wages Paid (£, Jan., 1914, Jan., 1913). Rows include London, Northern Counties, Scotland, Ireland, and United Kingdom.

* In addition 10 men were engaged on piecework. † In addition 67 women were engaged on piecework.

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.

PASSENGERS TO AND FROM PLACES OUT OF EUROPE DURING DECEMBER.*

British.—During December, 1913, 12,890 British subjects left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe, while 26,315 entered the United Kingdom therefrom, the balance inward being 13,425, as compared with 5,277 in December, 1912. Compared with a year ago, there was a decrease in the number of passengers to British North America, Australia, and the United States.

Table with columns for December (1912, 1913), Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., and Twelve months ending December (1912, 1913), Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1913. Rows include Outward (Total, To British N. America, To Australia, To United States), Inward (Total, From British N. America, From Australia, From United States), and Balance Outward (Total, To British N. America, To Australia, To United States).

* Exclusive of passengers travelling indirectly via Continental ports. † Balance inward. ‡ Increase in Balance inward.

Aliens.—For aliens there was a balance inward of 9,299 in December, 1913, as compared with 7,104 a year ago. For the twelve months ending December, 1913, the balance outward was 86,925, as compared with 47,654 a year ago. Most of the alien passengers were travelling between overseas countries and the Continent of Europe via the United Kingdom.

PAUPERISM IN JANUARY, 1914.

[Data supplied by the Local Government Boards in England, Scotland and Ireland.]

THE number of paupers relieved on one day in January, 1914, in the 35 urban districts named below corresponded to a rate of 191 per 10,000 of the population.

Compared with December, 1913, the total number of paupers relieved increased by 4,817 (or 1.4 per cent.), and the rate per 10,000 by 2. The number of indoor paupers increased by 2,709 (or 1.6 per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers by 2,108 (or 1.2 per cent.). There were increases in 28 districts, the greatest being in the Stockton and Tees district (19 per 10,000), and the Leicester district (12 per 10,000). Four districts showed a small decrease, the remaining three districts showing no change.

Compared with January, 1913, the rate per 10,000 decreased by 11. The number of indoor paupers decreased by 7,432 (or 4.1 per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers by 9,313 (or 5.0 per cent.). There were decreases in 33 districts, the greatest being in the Cork, Waterford and Limerick district (25 per 10,000), the Coatbridge and Airdrie district (24 per 10,000), the West Ham district (19 per 10,000), and the North London district, the Wigan district, and the Dundee and Dunfermline district (each 18 per 10,000). Twelve other districts showed decreases amounting to 10 per 10,000 and upwards. Only two districts showed increases, that in the Stockton and Tees district being 14 per 10,000.

Table with columns for Selected Urban Districts (In-door, Out-door, TOTAL), Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with Month ago, Year ago. Rows include ENGLAND & WALES*, SCOTLAND*, IRELAND†, and Total for above 35 Districts in Jan., 1914.

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

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

