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# THE Labour Gazette

THE JOURNAL OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.]

SEPTEMBER 1894.

[No. 9.—Vol. II.]

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PRICE ONE PENNY.

**GENERAL ADVANTAGES OF THE ARMY.**

On first joining the Army, Soldiers are supplied with Clothing and a Free Kit, and while in performance of their duty, receive a daily Free Ration of 1 lb. of Bread and 1 lb. of Meat, Vegetables and Groceries are provided for by a daily stoppage of pay. Soldiers are also provided with Lodging, Bedding, Fuel, Light and Education without payment. Soldiers who become good Marksmen can obtain valuable Money Prizes. When proceeding on Furlough Soldiers may be granted an advance of full pay, and of whatever good conduct pay they may be receiving, together with 6d. a day in lieu of the Ration of Bread and Meat, and special facilities for travelling by Railway at reduced fares. The benefit of an Army School, the use of a Library and Recreation Room, the establishment of amusements at most places, and at some stations the opportunities to learn a trade, by which money is made while in the Army, and a livelihood may be secured on discharge, are among the advantages enjoyed by Soldiers.

**AGE for the REGULAR ARMY, 18 to 25 Years.**

**TERMS OF SERVICE.**

	With the Colours	In the Reserve
Household Cavalry ... ..	12 years	Nil.
Cavalry of the Line ... ..	*7 "	5 years
Royal Artillery ... ..	*7 "	5 "
Royal Engineers ... ..	*7 " or 3 "	9 "
Foot Guards ... ..	*7 " or 3 "	9 "
Infantry of the Line ... ..	*7 " or 3 "	9 "
Medical Staff Corps ... ..	*7 " or 3 "	9 "
Army Service Corps ... ..	*3 "	9 "
Ordnance Store Corps ... ..	*7 "	5 "

After 5 years' service a soldier of good character may be specially allowed, under certain conditions, to join the Reserve, if the requirements of the Service admit. Soldiers of good character may be allowed to extend their service to 12 years with the Colours, and may also, under certain restrictions, be subsequently permitted to re-engage to complete 21 years. \* In accordance with the terms of the Attestation, these periods, should they expire whilst a Soldier is serving abroad, may be prolonged for 12 months or any lesser period, a corresponding decrease being made in the service in the Reserve.

**GENERAL ADVANTAGES OF THE MILITIA.**

**Rations and Lodgings.**—During Drill, or the Annual Training, Militiamen are entitled to accommodation in barracks, lodgings, billets, or camp, at the public expense. They also receive the daily Rations or the Regulated Allowances in lieu thereof, as in the Regular Army. **Clothing and Necessaries.**—Complete Clothing will be issued to Militiamen at the public expense, for wear when on duty. Great coats, capes and leggings will also be issued if the men are encamped, or during wet or inclement weather. One pair of boots or shoes, two flannel shirts, two pairs of socks, one tin of blacking, and two pieces of soap, will be supplied to each man for every training at which he attends, and these articles, with the exception of one of the flannel shirts, are taken home by the men. A Free Kit, consisting of comb, brushes, razor, braces, towels, knife, fork and spoon, will be issued to every Militiaman, and will be required to last six trainings, after which it may be retained by the man. **Travelling Expenses and Allowances.**—Militiamen joining their regiments for Drill or Annual Training will receive a coupon attached to the Training notice, entitling them to conveyance by railway at Government fare from a station within the county. They will also receive an allowance of 10d. for a hot meal on joining. If no railway is available, they will receive marching money within the county. **Hospitals and Medical Attendance.**—During Drill or Training, Militiamen will be entitled to free Medical Attendance. If sick, they will be admitted to hospital and will receive the same treatment as Soldiers of the Regular Army. If at the termination of the Training they are still detained in hospital by sickness, they will continue to receive medical treatment until their recovery or discharge.

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

**TERMS OF SERVICE.**

Original enlistment 6 years. Militiamen may re-engage during their last training, or re-enlist within 3 years of discharge, for a further period of 4 years. DISCHARGED SOLDIERS may also re-enlist in the Militia for a period of 4 years, within three years of discharge from the Army or Army Reserve. Militiamen may join the Militia Reserve to the extent of one-fourth of the Establishment.

**DRILL AND TRAINING.**

The Drills and Training required from Militiamen are as follows:—

	Drill on Enlistment, or Preliminary Drill before Musketry or Gunnery Drill.	Preliminary Musketry or Gunnery Drill previous to Annual Training.	Annual Training.	Total during the Year.
During 1st year	49 days	14 days	27 days	90 days
Following Years	...	...	27 days	27 days

**EMPLOYMENT ON RETURN TO CIVIL LIFE.**

**GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT.**—With the view of affording Government Employment to deserving Soldiers, the Postmaster-General has decided that certain vacancies among Provincial letter-carriers and the auxiliary postmen in London are, in future, to be offered to Discharged Soldiers and Army Reserve men. Candidates for such employment must have at least a "Good" character and not less than three years' service on leaving the Colours. Work is also provided for many old soldiers in the Royal Arsenal, the Army Clothing Department, the Ordnance Store Department and other Government Departments. **POLICE FORCES.**—Many old Soldiers also obtain employment in the Metropolitan and Borough Police Forces, and in the County Constabulary throughout the United Kingdom. **RAILWAY COMPANIES AND CORPS OF COMMISSIONAIRES.**—Employment for deserving Soldiers is likewise afforded by many of the Railway Companies and in the Corps of Commissionaires. **A REGISTER FOR CIVIL EMPLOYMENT** is also kept at the Head-Quarters of all Regimental Districts, with the view of assisting men of good character to obtain employment in civil life when discharged from the Army, or transferred to the Army Reserve, on the expiration of their engagement. **A NATIONAL ASSOCIATION** for the employment of Reserve and Discharged Soldiers has also been established for the purpose of introducing Soldiers of reliable character, on their discharge, or transfer to the Reserve, to employers of labour. **Men of the following classes are registered at the undermentioned Office of the Association without fee, viz.:**—Attendants, Carmen, Cartmakers, Clerks, Conductors, Collectors, Grooms, Messengers, Porters, Musicians, Policemen, Night Watchmen, Timekeepers, Labourers, Servants, &c., &c.

**CENTRAL OFFICE: 12 Buckingham Street, Strand, London.**

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

**PAY AND DEFERRED PAY.**

Warrant Officers... .. 5/- to 6/- a day  
Non-Commissioned Officers above the rank of Corporal ... .. 2/- " 3/6 "  
Corporals and Bombardiers ... .. 1/8 " 2/8 "  
Gunners, Privates, &c. ... .. 1/- " 1/9 "

**GOOD CONDUCT PAY.**—Additional pay is granted to Soldiers for good conduct, according to the length of service. **DEFERRED PAY** at the rate of £3 a year for the first 12 years of service is paid to Soldiers on transfer to the Reserve, or on discharge. Men who enlist for 3 years Army Service only, and do not extend their services beyond that term, will not be entitled to Deferred Pay, nor will Soldiers who are discharged for misconduct or by purchase. Sergeants will be granted Deferred Pay up to the date of completing 21 years' service.

**DISCHARGE AND PENSION.**

Should a Soldier, during the first three months of his service desire to leave the Army, he may claim his discharge on a payment of £10; after that period he may be permitted to leave on payment of £8. After 21 years' service and upwards, Soldiers become entitled to pensions on discharge, varying from 8d. to 5s. a day, according to their rank and length of service. Soldiers discharged on account of wounds or injuries received in action, or disability caused by Military duty, are entitled to a pension, varying with the extent of the disability and with the length of service. **ARMY RESERVE.**—Soldiers transferred to the Reserve receive pay at 6d. a day until the expiration of their term of service. On completing 12 years' service, either with the Colours or in the Reserve, they may join the Supplemental Reserve\* for 4 years, receiving pay at 4d. a day during that period. \* Enlistments in the Supplemental Reserve are suspended until further orders.

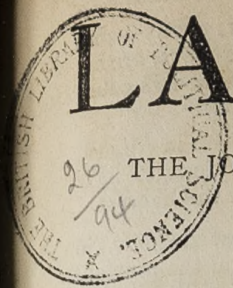
**PAY AND BOUNTY.**

The daily Rates of Pay while out for Recruits' Drill or Training are:

	Artillery		Engineers		Infantry		Medical Staff Corps	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Sergeants ... ..	2	7	2	7	1	9	1	9
Sergeants ... ..	3	2	3	3	2	4	2	8
(After discharge from the Army as Warrant or N.C. Officers.)								
Corporals ... ..	1	5	1	5	1	3	1	3
Bombardiers ... ..	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gunners and Privates ...	1	2	1	1	1	0	1	0

During the first year of service the rate of Bounty varies from 10s. to £2, and during subsequent years it varies from £1 to £1 10s., with an extra £1 if the man belongs to the Militia Reserve. Men who, after discharge from the Army as Warrant or Non-Commissioned Officers join the Militia and are appointed Sergeant receive an Annual Bounty of £3, with an extra £1 if they belong to the Militia Reserve. In addition to the above, Militiamen who re-enlist or re-engage, and discharged soldiers who re-enlist in the Militia within 3 years of discharge, receive a Bounty of £1 10s. If the man re-enlists or re-engages during the non-training period, this Bounty will not be paid until he joins for the Annual Training, and unless he is then found medically fit.

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LABOUR DEPARTMENT,  
BOARD OF TRADE,  
44\*, PARLIAMENT STREET, S.W.,  
15th August 1894.

In the present number of the GAZETTE the account of the Scottish coal dispute given in previous issues is continued up to September 14th, on page 270.

In connection with this dispute, statistics are given on page 271, showing the quantities of coal sent coastwise and abroad during August from the ports constituting the outlets from the chief coalfields of Great Britain.

An account of the present position of the prolonged Pattern-makers' dispute on the North-east Coast, and of the settlement of the Iron-moulders' dispute, will be found on page 272. As was shown in the August GAZETTE, these two disputes have had very widespread results.

The effect of the coal dispute in the English federated districts on railway traffic in 1893 is shown on page 273.

A report of the proceedings of the recent Trades' Union Congress, which two officers of the Labour Department attended, is given on page 272. Particular attention is paid to the numbers of trade unions and their members represented.

A short account of the facts disclosed by the recent inquiry into the Fishing Apprenticeship System will be found on page 273.

Notice is also called on page 272, to the circular letter issued by the Board of Trade to shipowners advocating their voluntary compliance with certain recommendations of the Labour Commission with regard to seamen.

A summary of the principal recommendations made in the Minority Report of the Labour Commission is given on page 275. Summaries of the general and special recommendations of the Commission, as a whole, have previously appeared in the GAZETTE.

Some particulars respecting the Operatives in Jute Factories in Bengal appear on page 276.

The Annual Report of the Labour Department for 1893-4, with a Summary of Labour Statistics, is now in an advanced state, and will probably be published before the next issue of the LABOUR GAZETTE.

**STATE OF EMPLOYMENT IN AUGUST.†**

**I.—GENERAL SUMMARY.**

**General Statistics of Employment.**—There is a fractional increase in the proportion of workpeople unemployed, owing in part to some disputes of long standing and others which have been in progress during the month. But for these the labour market would

\* Since the issue of the August GAZETTE the Labour Department has moved from 43 into 44 Parliament-street.

† The Reports on the state of employment refer strictly to the month of August and do not cover changes which have occurred since the end of that month.

appear to be, on the whole, in a rather more healthy condition than at the end of last month. Some of the local correspondents of the Department also speak of a more hopeful tone in certain industries having been caused by the changes in the United States tariff.

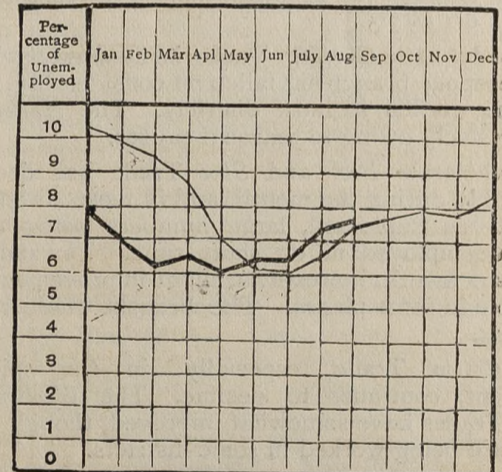
A considerable number of disputes has arisen out of the settlement arrived at by the Miners' Conciliation Board, and have materially affected the Coal Mining Industry in some of the Federation districts. The continuance of the Scottish coal dispute is also seriously affecting the labour market in Scotland. The termination of the iron-moulders' dispute at the close of the month will, it is hoped, appreciably improve the condition of the labour market on the North-east Coast, when the foundries have fully resumed work. The number of lesser disputes also shows an increase upon the figures of last month.

Fifty-three trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 360,576, have made returns to the Department, showing the total number of unemployed members at the end of August to be 27,728, or 7.7 per cent., compared with 7.4 per cent. for July, and 7.1 in societies making returns for August 1893.

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

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

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



Of the 53 trade unions making returns, 12 describe trade as "good," 10 as "moderate" and 31 as "bad."

**Employment in Various Industries.**—Coal Mining.—Returns received from 845 collieries, at which 230,491 workpeople were employed, show that although there has been some improvement in certain districts in England, partly owing to the Scottish dispute, the general average number of days per week on which coal was hewn and wound in August was 4.63, as compared with 4.69 in July and 4.76 in June.\* A large number of collieries in Scotland at which no coal has been hewn during the month, owing to the coal dispute, have been excluded from the calculation.

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

**Iron Ore Mining.**—From the returns furnished by the owners of 31 iron ore mines in Cumberland and Lancashire, employing 5,167 workpeople, it appears that 5.82 was the average number of days per week the mines were at work in August. The report from the Cleveland district states that the miners there continue well employed.

The **Pig Iron Trade** is still very quiet, and there has been a further reduction during the month in the number of furnaces in blast. Returns received from more than three-fourths of the ironmasters of the United Kingdom give the number of furnaces in blast at the end of August, owned by the ironmasters making returns, as 241, compared with 246, in July. The number of men employed at the above 241 furnaces during August was 17,058, a decrease of 1 per cent. as compared with July.

With some few exceptions, employment in the **Steel Trade** is only moderate, though a slight improvement was observable in certain districts at the end of the month, especially in the lighter branches. In Scotland, owing to the dispute in the **Coal Trade**, a still further decline is reported.

The **Engineering and Metal Trades** are still seriously affected by the iron-moulders' dispute on the north-east coast and the Scottish coal dispute, though more engineers are now in employment. The percentage of unemployed remains the same as last month, viz., 9.7.

The **Shipbuilding Trades** have been depressed in all branches, the moulders' and coal disputes having also had an important bearing upon the condition of employment in these trades. The percentage of unemployed in the unions concerned has consequently risen from 17.3 to 18.8.

On the whole a slight improvement is observable in most branches of the **Building Trades**, though, as a rule, employment with the painters and plumbers is still moderate. The percentage of unemployed in unions connected with these trades has fallen from 3.6 to 3.4.

The **Furnishing and Wood-working Trades** remain moderate in most branches, the percentage of unemployed in unions making returns having risen from 4.4 to 4.8.

Most branches of the **Printing and Bookbinding Trades** are still very depressed in nearly all districts, the percentage of unemployed in unions making returns having risen from 6.1 to 7.5.

The ready-made **Clothing Trade** is moderately busy, but the bespoke branch has fallen off considerably, short time being worked in most districts. The **Hatters** are also very slack, owing to seasonal causes.

The wholesale **Boot and Shoe Trade** has declined considerably during the month, and in most districts is described as depressed, large numbers being either entirely unemployed or on short time. Towards the close of the month, however, a slight improvement was observable in some places. The bespoke trade is also very slack.

The **Cotton Trade**, especially in the spinning department, continues to decline. The **Woollen and Worsted Trades** have somewhat improved, though short time is still being worked in some districts.

The **Carpet Trade** remains dull in most districts; the **Hosiery Trade** shows a slight improvement in some of the more important centres; the **Silk Trade** is depressed in most districts; the **Lace Trade** is also generally very depressed.

The number of **Seamen** shipped at the principal ports during August shows a decrease of 11 per cent. on the figures for July, but an increase of 6 per cent. compared with August 1893. The supply of seamen is still reported as generally in excess of the demand.

The **Fishing Industry**, judging by the value of the catch, is generally above the average, the only English ports showing a considerable decrease being N. Shields and St. Ives.

Employment of **Dock and Riverside labour** in London shows some decline on the whole. In most other English

and Welsh ports employment has been fair, partly owing to the increased exports of coal from such ports, arising out of the Scottish coal dispute. From the like cause the Scottish ports as a rule have been slack.

**Agricultural labour** has been well employed in August, and some of the unemployed in other industries have found temporary work in connection with the harvest.

**Trade Disputes.**—The number of new disputes in August shows a considerable increase upon the previous month, 86 having been recorded, as compared with 66 in July and 59 in August 1893. This increase is chiefly due to the numerous disputes that have followed the enforcement of a general reduction in wages in the districts comprised within the Miners' Federation. Of the 86 disputes, 30 occurred in mining and quarrying, 16 in the Textile Trades, 12 in the Building Trades, 5 each in the Clothing and Shipbuilding Trades, 4 in the Metal Trades, 3 in connection with dock labour, and the remaining 11 in miscellaneous industries.

Particulars received respecting 63 of these disputes show that 26,193 persons were involved, and it is known with respect to 19 disputes that upwards of 2,500 persons were still "out" at the end of the month, in addition to about 73,000 persons involved in 36 other disputes (including the strike of Scottish miners). Fifteen disputes, however, involving about 3,900 persons, were brought to a close in August, including the strike of iron-moulders on the North-East Coast.

**Changes in Wages and Hours of Labour.**—During August 67 changes in wages and hours of labour have been reported, of which 56 were changes in wages and 11 changes in hours. The approximate number of persons directly affected by changes in wages was stated in 55 cases, and of these 45 were increases, involving about 3,900 persons, and 10 decreases, involving about 14,500 persons. The latter number includes 7,500 coal hewers, and between 4,000 and 5,000 nail-makers. About 1,000 persons were affected in the 11 cases of reduction in hours.

**Pauperism.**—The returns of pauperism for the selected districts of the United Kingdom show a slight increase in the proportion of paupers per 10,000 of the population, as compared with the figures for the previous month, the proportions being 214 in August and 211 in July. The numbers relieved on one day in the middle of the month were for August, 312,762; and for July, 308,671. The increase compared with the figures for August 1893 is 9 per 10,000, the rate for that month being 205.

The following table, similar to those published in previous numbers, will be found useful for purposes of comparison.

Comparative Table showing the number of Paupers per 10,000 of Population in selected industrial districts on a given day in June, July and August of 1894 and 1893 respectively.

District.	1894.			1893.		
	June.	July.	August.	June.	July.	August.
Metropolis ...	224	223	227	214	216	218
West Ham ...	225	218	226	201	200	208
Other Districts* (England & Wales)	205	202	205	195	196	197
Scotland*	196	197	196	184	186	181
Ireland*	251	247	248	244	244	245
TOTAL (Selected Districts)	213	211	214	203	204	205

\* Selected districts only.

**Emigration and Immigration.**—The number of British passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during August was 20,021, as against 10,445 in the previous month, and 24,265 in August 1893. The number of alien immigrants into this country is again much less than for the corresponding period of last year, the figures being 6,755 for August 1894, and 9,771 for August 1893. The decrease is almost wholly among the transmigrants.

II.—EMPLOYMENT IN LONDON.

**Employment in Various Industries.**—The **Shipbuilding, Engineering and Metal Trades** remain stationary, and still depressed. Seventy-eight branches of eight unions, with an aggregate membership of 13,513, report 1,034 (or 7.7 per cent.) as unemployed, which is the same percentage as was shown in July, the percentage for June having been 7.1.

The improvement in the **Building Trades** reported as having taken place in July has been well maintained during August, 143 branches of three unions, with an aggregate membership of 10,795, returning 300 (or 2.8 per cent.) as unemployed, compared with 4.7 per cent. last month and 5.6 per cent. in June. The plasterers describe employment as "good," the carpenters and joiners, masons, bricklayers, plumbers and painters as "moderate."

On the whole, a slight improvement is observable in the **Furnishing and lesser Wood-working Trades**, particularly the latter. Twenty-two branches of six unions, with an aggregate membership of 3,578, return 262 (or 7.3 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 8.6 per cent. last month, and 8.1 per cent. in June.

The long-continued depression in the **Printing and Bookbinding Trades** has been intensified during the month, 15 unions, with an aggregate membership of 18,994, showing that 1,462 (or 7.7 per cent.) are unemployed, compared with 5.4 per cent. last month and 5.0 per cent. in June.

All branches of the **Clothing Trades** have been dull throughout the month. The **Hat Trade** remains depressed, a large percentage being unemployed and a number of others on strike. The bespoke branch of the **Boot and Shoe Trades** was fairly good during the early part of the month, but fell off considerably towards the close. The machine branch is described as "bad," with no immediate prospect of improvement, a large majority being employed only two or three days per week. Slipper-makers are busy and good workmen are in demand. Employment in the **Leather Trades** is still slack. The **Glass Trade** continues "dull." The **Tobacco Trades** continue "bad." The number of **Seamen** shipped was 5,756, or 242 less than in August 1893. The supply of seamen continues to be in excess of the demand and the state of employment is described as "very indifferent."

**Dock and Waterside Employment.**—There was a decrease in the volume of employment at the docks in August, both as compared with August 1893 and with last month.

The total estimated number of dock labourers employed by all the Dock Companies in the Port of London for each week, is as follows:—

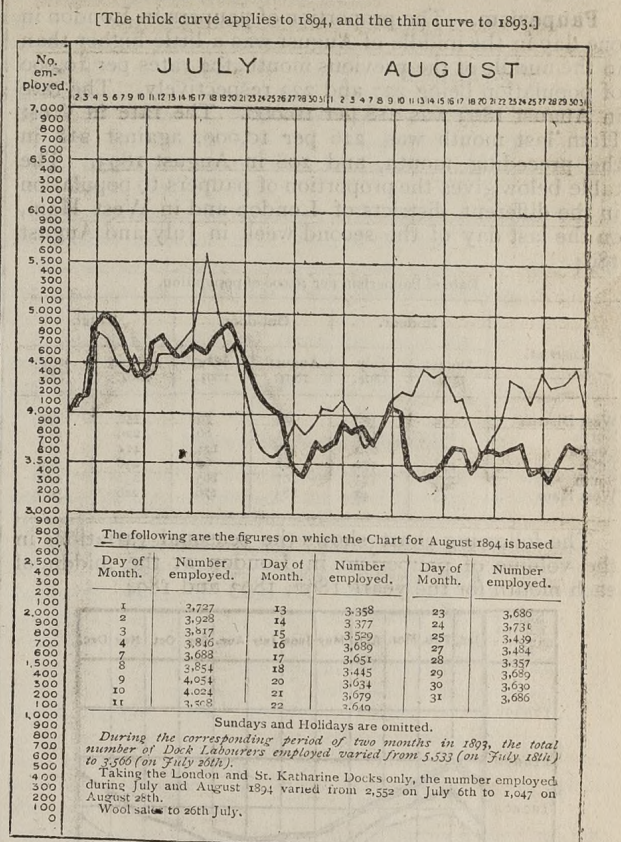
	Estimated average daily number of Dock Labourers engaged by the Dock Companies.		
	August, 1894.	August, 1893.	Decrease in August, 1894.
1st week of August ...	6,886	7,128	242
2nd " " " " " "	6,914*	7,091*	177*
3rd " " " " " "	6,441	7,180	739
4th " " " " " "	6,158	6,970	812
Average for August...	6,586	7,092	506
Ditto for July ...	7,370	6,880	490

The decrease was mainly at the London and India Docks, but also in a slighter degree at Millwall, and at the Surrey Commercial Docks, where, however, the Grain and Timber Trade is still fairly busy. Employment at the Albert and Victoria Docks has been very quiet, few departments having been busy.

The daily fluctuations of employment for Dock Labourers at the London and India group of docks is shown, as usual, in the following table:—

\* Five days only were worked in this week, August 6th and 7th being Bank Holidays in 1894 and 1893 respectively.  
† Increase.

Chart showing the total number of Dock Labourers employed by the Joint Committee at the London, St. Katharine, East and West India, Victoria and Albert Docks, and the Town Warehouses, for each day during the months of July and August 1894. The corresponding curve for July and August 1893 is also given for comparison. Dock Labourers employed by Shipowners direct, Stevedores and Coal Porters are not included.



At the wharves in Thames Street, employment, especially in the Fruit Trade, has been rather quiet, many of the workers having migrated for the hop-picking in Kent. At Wapping the wharves have been fairly busy, the Coasting Trade being good.

There has been a fair amount of employment on the south side of the Thames, but the Colonial Trade has not been so good as usual at this time of the year.

The lightermen and watermen report no change from last month, but coal porters (winchmen and backers) report employment as rather more satisfactory.

**Disputes and Trade Movements.**—Six small disputes are reported to have taken place in London during August. In the Hat Trade a strike affecting 60 men has arisen in two shops against an alteration in the mode of working, which is alleged to be equivalent to a reduction in wages. Two strikes of cabmen are reported; in the one case, involving 80 men, on the privileged cab question, a settlement was effected by Mr. Asquith; in the other, which was against the employment of a non-union cabman, the man in question was discharged. Three disputes have taken place in the Printing Trade, arising with 28 printers' labourers; who alleged that the employer refused to pay according to the rate recognised by the union; then 47 of those employed in the warehouse department subsequently ceased work out of sympathy. Upon some work from the printing office in question being transferred to another establishment, the labourers in that office, to the number of 16, declined to execute it, and came out. The dispute amongst women engaged in a branch of the Stationery Trade, previously reported, was settled on the 11th August in favour of the 12 women concerned.

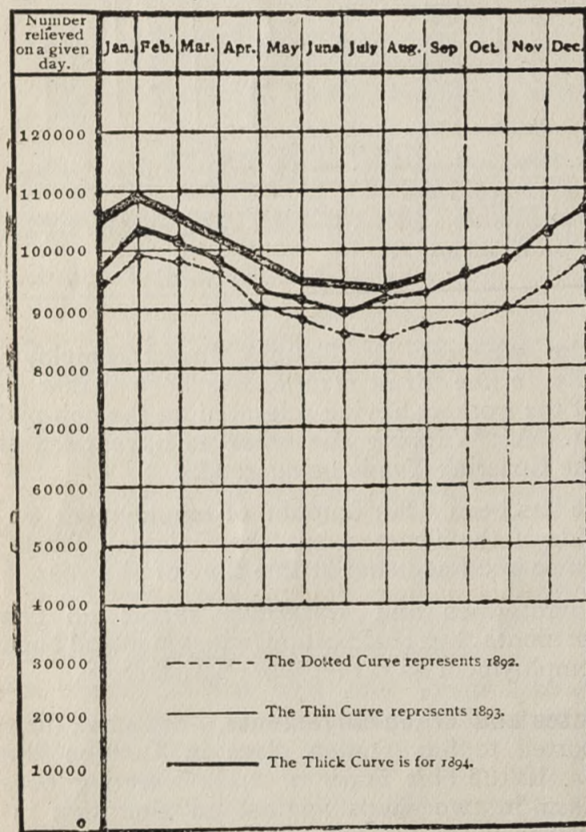
**Labour Bureaux.**—During August the four Labour Bureaux making returns registered 1,093 fresh applications from workers and 234 from employers, as against 1,079 from workers and 220 from employers in the

previous month. The number obtaining employment through the four bureaux was 265, as compared with 286 in July.

**Pauperism.**—The proportion of paupers in London in one day in the middle of August was a little higher than in the middle of the previous month, the rates per 10,000 of population being 227 and 223 respectively. The rate in August 1893 was 218 per 10,000. The rate in West Ham last month was 226 per 10,000, against 218 in the preceding month, and 208 in August 1893. The table below gives the proportion of paupers to population in the different districts of London and in West Ham, on the last day of the second week in July and August 1894.

District.	In-door.		Out-door.		Total.	
	August 1894.	July 1894.	August 1894.	July 1894.	August 1894.	July 1894.
West District ...	132	129	26	26	158	155
North " ...	129	128	91	86	220	214
Central " ...	277	272	137	134	414	406
East " ...	175	172	61	60	236	232
South " ...	124	123	107	105	231	228
West Ham ...	43	42	183	176	226	218

The following chart shows the seasonal variations in the volume of pauperism in London at the middle of each month for the years 1892, 1893 and 1894:—



III.—PROVINCIAL REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

Tyne and Wear District.

**Coal Mining.—Durham.**—Employment at the collieries shows improvement, the number of miners out of work having decreased to 704, or 1.1 per cent., as against 1.7 in July. A few collieries—owing to the Scottish dispute—are well employed, while others are not much affected. **Northumberland.**—The pits continue to show good employment, the average number of working days being about 10½ per fortnight. The Scottish dispute has not caused any appreciable increase of output. The number of pitmen out of work is 110, or less than 1 per cent.

**Shipbuilding and Engineering.—On the Tyne.**—These trades have not improved, but the moulders' dispute having terminated, prospects are now more hopeful. The moulders are returning to work pending the formation of a Conciliation Board. Repairing yards and dry docks have been fairly busy. The slight improvement at the Elswick Factory continues, several men having started work in the shipyard department. The depression in other yards and engine shops, however, has slightly increased, the number of unemployed iron shipbuilders and engineers being 2,263, or 22.1 per cent.,

as against 22 per cent. in July. **On the Wear.**—Shipbuilding is practically at a standstill, operatives on new work being suspended in large numbers. In the engine shops there is some improvement, while repairing and dock work is moderate. Forgemen and ship-smiths are better employed. The number of unemployed iron shipbuilders and engineers is 1,254, or 30.3 per cent., as against 20.5 per cent. in July. Shipwrights and joiners are moderately employed, about 15 per cent. of the latter being out of work on both rivers. The steel, angle and tin mills (sheet iron) are generally well employed, the former working eleven shifts per week. One mill, however, has been stopped a week. Blast and smelting furnaces show no change.

**Shipping.**—The demand for seamen continues fairly good, although there is a slight falling off in the lower reaches of the Tyne. The coal porters, trimmers, teemers, and riverside labourers report employment as good. Wherry men on the Tyne continue slack.

**Building Trades.**—These trades continue fairly busy, especially amongst the masons and bricklayers. The plasterers, joiners, slaters, and house plumbers are moderately employed.

**Miscellaneous.**—Pressed flint glass workers and bottle makers report employment as only moderate, with 15 per cent. of the former unemployed. Chemical, white lead, and cement works are still slack, though fuller employment prevailed in the two former industries at the close of the month. The Durham Coke Trade continues good, less than 5 per cent. being out of work. About 4 per cent. of coopers are unemployed, chiefly in chemical, lead and cement works. The Printing Trade is very dull, having an increased percentage (8.4) out of employment. The bookbinders report trade as quiet, and the electrical engineers as fairly steady. The lime and stone quarrymen report trade as good.—*f. Ratcliffe.*

Oldham and District.

**Cotton Trade.**—The depression in this industry has increased. Trade is especially bad in Stockport, Mossley, Ashton and Rochdale. Many private spinners and limited spinning companies have had to curtail production, and a large number of spindles are stopped. The Weaving Trade is not so good, and short time is becoming more prevalent. A large proportion of the reelers and bundlers are out of employment.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—These trades are far from satisfactory, and no improvement has taken place; and employers find it difficult to keep their operatives even partially employed, and large numbers are out of work.

**Building Trades.**—These trades continue moderate, and the workers are fairly well employed. Bricklayers and plasterers are in demand, but a number of carpenters and joiners are out of work, while painters, decorators and plumbers are but moderately employed.

**Miscellaneous.**—Skip-making is bad, and the Tailoring, Brush-making and Printing Trades are slack. The Hatting Industry in Stockport is improving slightly.—*T. Ashton.*

Bolton and District.

**Cotton Trade.**—The depression in this industry still continues. An attempt which had been made to bring about organised short time appears to have failed; but an increasing number of looms and spindles are either stopped entirely or are working short time.

**Iron and Engineering Trades.**—These industries are still unsatisfactory; no decided change is reported, but the prospect seems more encouraging.

**Coal Mining.**—All over the Lancashire coal field, especially at Wigan, Leigh, Tyldesley, and adjoining neighbourhoods, strikes have taken place in opposition to the method of taking off the 10 per cent. reduction as agreed upon by the Conciliation Board. Work has, however, now been resumed, all the disputes having been arranged, but employment is still irregular, many of the pits making short time.

**Building Trades.**—These trades are well employed, but in the Bolton district a general lock-out is threatened, owing to disputes with the stone-masons, who object to certain classes of sawn stone being brought into the town, and with the plumbers, who object to the employment of an office clerk under 21 years of age unless as an apprentice to the Plumbing Trade, in accordance with the rules respecting apprentices.

**Miscellaneous.**—Other trades are fairly well employed and free from disturbance.—*f. T. Fielding.*

Burnley, Accrington and District.

**Cotton Trades.**—Weaving has shown a slight improvement, the demand for certain kinds of cloth having been stronger than during the preceding month. A great number of looms are, however, still stopped. No improvement is shown in the Spinning Industry, and a number of spinning and weaving operatives are only partially

employed. The question of prices to be paid for weaving stove work in the Blackburn district, and for looming and drawing in the Preston district, are still unsettled. A spinning mill in the Padiham district, which ceased work twelve months ago, has now been reopened.

**Building Trades.**—These trades are not quite so busy, though few men are totally unemployed. The plumbers report full employment, and the painters continue busy.

**Miscellaneous.**—The Calico Printing and Dyeing Trades continue depressed. The Felt Carpet Trade in the Rossendale district has very much improved. There is a slight falling-off in the Tailoring Trades. The Iron and Machine Trades are still far from good. Coal mining is only moderate, threatened disputes being often reported, especially amongst the drawers. Stocks at some pits are fairly heavy.—*W. H. Wilkinson.*

Manchester and District.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Engineering shows but little change. In the Textile Machine Trade several firms are working short time, while the brass-founders and finishers report trade as moderate, and the boiler-makers as bad. The Iron Trades in Manchester are somewhat affected by the moulders' and pattern-makers' disputes. In Warrington there has been no improvement in the Engineering Trades, but the Wire Trade is busy on Government orders. In Northwich the Iron Trade is but moderate.

**Textile Trades.**—The Spinning Industry is still bad, one mill being closed and others on short time. In Stockport and Macclesfield no change is noted; employment is fair in the latter. The Silk Trade is very depressed, as regards both hand and power-loom weavers, and several mills are on short time. Silk waste dressers are working about two days per week.

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—Letterpress and lithographic printing remains about the same; in the former, a 48-hour week, with overtime pay increased to time-and-a-half, is being asked for. Book-binding is a little worse.

**Building Trades.**—These trades remain in a very fair condition in Manchester, Stockport, Macclesfield and Northwich, with no bricklayers or plasterers unemployed in Manchester. Trade is, however, not good in Warrington.

**Clothing Trades.**—The tailors report trade as very moderate, and the wholesale branch is still quiet. In mantle-making the busy season has hardly commenced, being somewhat late this year. The cap, umbrella, and shirt-makers remain about the same, but there is a slight improvement in waterproof-garment making. The Felt Hat Trade is very bad, nearly 10 per cent. more being unemployed.

**Miscellaneous.**—The dressers, dyers and finishers are very slack, the number unemployed is increasing, whilst many are on short time. Amongst coach-makers the unemployed have slightly increased. Flint glass-making is very depressed. The Northwich Salt Industry remains unchanged, but the Chemical Industry shows an improvement. The Tanning Trade in Warrington is steady.—*G. D. Kelley.*

Liverpool and District.

**Dock, Riverside, and Inland Carrying Trades.**—There is little change in the position of seamen and firemen. There is a marked improvement in the condition of dock and riverside labour. The coal exports are still large, and coal porters fully employed. There has been a slight improvement in the employment of river boatmen. There is no apparent change in the Canal and Railway Carrying Industries.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades.**—There is no sign of improvement in these industries, and the majority of the Mersey shipbuilding yards are very quiet, except one where a Government contract is being executed. Out of a total of 3,000 members there are 30 per cent. unemployed.

**Metal Trades.**—The whitesmiths report 6 per cent. unemployed. The metal planers, slotters, tinplate workers, and brass moulders report trade as being very quiet. The Iron Trade is reported quiet in Widnes and St. Helens. The Tinplate Trade in Flintshire has been unsettled, owing to the employers having given notice of a reduction in wages, which was afterwards withdrawn.

**Coal Mining.**—The Coal Mining Industry at St. Helens and Widnes has been very unsettled, through the question as to whether surface-men were included in the 10 per cent. reduction of wages. The Mining Industry in Flintshire has also been disturbed through a strike at a colliery against the 10 per cent. reduction in wages. Work was resumed, however, on August 31st, the proposed reduction having been withdrawn.

**Building Trades.**—The Building Trades report little change. The bricklayers remain fully employed, there being in some districts a slight scarcity of men. At Birkenhead, however, work is reported

quiet. A few plasterers' labourers and about 6 per cent. of the plumbers and gasfitters are unemployed. The slaters are fully employed; the painters only moderately so.

**Chemical and Glass Trades.**—Employment in St. Helens generally has been in a very unsettled state, owing to the entire stoppage of two large plate-glass manufactories, which took place on August 30th, throwing over a thousand persons out of work. The Chemical Industry shows no signs of improvement, and large numbers of the workers at Widnes still remain unemployed.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—The Lithographic and Bookbinding Trades remain very quiet, and the letterpress printers report about 10 per cent. as unemployed.

**Tailoring Trade.**—The Tailoring Trade is reported as quiet, though no members can be said to be wholly unemployed.

**Miscellaneous.**—General labourers, foundry-men and excavators report work as very slack. The carters report a slight improvement.—*f. Sexton.*

A report from Winsford states that there has been a slight improvement in the Salt Industry. Painters and bricksetters are moderately well employed. The Chemical Industry is still depressed.

Barrow-in-Furness District.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—Marine engineering continues busy, and very few are unemployed. All other branches of engineering are very dull. Shipbuilding is active.

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—The Pig-iron Trade remains very unsatisfactory. The steelworkers are very slack, except those on ship-plates. Other branches are at a standstill. At Workington the steel works have been idle during the last week. Other ironworks are only moderately employed.

**Iron and Coal Mining.**—The iron miners are fairly well employed. Coal mining is very busy in Cumberland, mainly owing to the Scotch dispute. The miners have asked for an advance of 10 per cent., while the employers are asking for a reduction to the same extent, on the ground that the Midland Federation have accepted a reduction. The whole matter, however, is left in abeyance until the Scotch strike is settled.

**Shipping and Railways.**—Shipping at the Barrow Docks has been very slack. At Whitehaven there are large shipments of coal, mainly to Scotch and Irish ports, owing to the Scotch dispute. Railway traffic has been improving.

**Building Trades.**—In the Building Trades employment is fairly good. The painters and plumbers are busy.

**Miscellaneous.**—The Tailoring Trade has been very bad. Baking and Confectionery and the Printing and kindred Trades are moderate. The pulp and paper-workers are busy, but the jute-workers are slack.—*f. D. Cowper.*

Middlesbrough, Stockton and District.

**Shipbuilding.**—This trade has changed for the worse, most of the yards being idle through disputes—the settlement of the joiners' dispute having had little effect on other trades. At the Hartlepoons nearly 70 per cent. were unemployed, and as many at Stockton and Thornaby—the number being increased during race week. At Middlesbrough employment has been better, and is now brisk. Improvement is expected through the settlement of the moulder's strike, both in shipbuilding and engineering. Ship painters are quiet.

**Engineering.**—This trade has been very bad, the unemployed being 10 per cent., rising to 20 per cent. in race week at Middlesbrough and 50 per cent. at Stockton and Hartlepool, where, however, the importation of castings has provided some employment.

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—Pig-iron, bridge works and foundries show no change. The steel workers are only moderately busy, one large Middlesbrough works being closed part of the time. At the end of the month the Steel and Finished Iron Trade had slightly improved.

**Ironstone Mining.**—The Cleveland miners continue well employed.

**Shipping.**—The sailors and firemen, riverside and dock labourers are very dull, with no signs of improvement.

**Building Trades.**—With the exception of house painting these trades are fairly busy, especially at Hartlepool. There are practically no unemployed, except 20 labourers on strike.

**Miscellaneous.**—The Salt Trade continues busy. The Printing and allied Trades are very quiet.—*A. Main.*

Leeds and District.

**Metal Trades.**—Engineering became much brisker at the end of the month, and the total unemployed was reduced by one-eighth. The improvement amongst the boiler-makers has been maintained.

Steel workers and whitesmiths are fairly, and stove grate workers well, employed. The iron-founders and machine-workers in Leeds continue slack, with about 16 per cent. out of work. At Stanningley and Rodley the moulders are busy.

**Building Trades.**—The joiners have been fairly brisk, with very few out of work. The plasterers are fully employed, but the bricklayers have been slack.

**Clothing Trades.**—The Boot and Shoe Trade has improved, and full employment has been more general. The Arbitration Board has fixed a minimum wage for clickers, to come into operation on October 1st. The Ready-made Clothing Trade showed some improvement towards the close of the month.

**Woolen Trade.**—Work in the mills is slightly improving, and fewer willeys and fettlers are reported as unemployed. At Stanningley, Yeadon and Guiseley the mills have been very slack.

**Leather Trades.**—The Tanning Trade continues very slack, with an unusual number of unemployed, and others on short time. The leather shavers report continued improvement. The curriers are unusually slack.

**Glass Bottle Trade.**—This trade continues exceptionally slack, with a large number unemployed.

**Miscellaneous.**—Cabinet-making generally is quiet, but few are entirely out of work. The coach-makers are moderately employed; the brush-makers and dyers are still on short time. The lithographers report trade as bad, with about 14 per cent. out of work; the number of letterpress printers unemployed shows no diminution. The cessation of the relief works at Roundhay Park has caused some increase of unemployed labourers.—O. Connellan.

#### Bradford, Huddersfield and District.

**Textile Trades.**—In and around Huddersfield the Woolen Trade shows a slight improvement. A few firms are working overtime; one is working both night and day, but some are on short time. The operatives lose time in waiting for warps. The Dewsbury Heavy Woolen Trade shows a slight upward tendency. Similar remarks apply to the Worsted Trade in and around Huddersfield, Bradford, Halifax and Keighley. A few Bradford firms are said to have booked fair orders for the American trade. The Silk Trade is busy in Brighouse, all the firms, with one exception, being on full time. Cotton is rather quiet throughout the district.

**Building Trades.**—These trades are now at a standstill. Many masons and joiners who live in Huddersfield are working out of town. No joiners are signing the vacant book. Painters are very quiet.

**Metal Trades.**—Work in the Iron Trade is no better; 16 out of 180 engineers are signing the vacant book, and 7 out of 75 iron-founders. The state of trade in Halifax, Bradford and Keighley is in a similar condition. The Wire Trade is reported as good in Brighouse, nearly all firms working full time and one overtime.

**Miscellaneous.**—Stone quarries are still busy. Tailors, letterpress and lithographic printers, and several of the smaller trades are quiet. The dyers have only 15 out of 600 men unemployed, but some are working short time. The cabinet-makers report no change.—A. Gee.

#### Yorkshire Mining Districts (except Cleveland).

**Coal Mining.**—The Coal Trade shows very little improvement. Several stoppages occurred owing to the resistance of boys at the mines to the proposed reductions. The Yorkshire Miners' Association have accepted the owners' offer that no reduction should be made in the case of lads paid 2s. 6d. and under per day gross wage. The limit asked for by the Association on behalf of the lads was 3s. and under. The men thrown out of work by the lads' dispute are appealing to the district to be paid from the funds of the Association while out of work. Each branch and colliery will vote on the question. At a Castleford colliery, where a dispute lasting fifteen months was terminated some time ago, the men are again agitating for higher prices. At a Pontefract pit the men are resisting the substitution of metal for wooden props, contending that the use of metal props will have the effect of reducing their earnings. The Yorkshire Miners' Association are paying 7s. per week, with 6d. extra for each child under 13, to men thrown out of work for three weeks or more through breakage of machinery, falling in of roads, or other circumstances not under their control.

**Iron Trades.**—At a large ironworks employing over 1,000, employment is regular, the stove-grate department being the busiest.—J. Wadsworth.

#### Sheffield and District.

**Iron and Steel Industries.**—The armour plate makers on Government orders, the rollers of merchant iron, and the Siemens steel smelters are well employed, and, generally speaking, the steel smelters are in a better position, only a few working short time. In heavy castings there is little doing, and the iron-founders report

trade as bad, although slightly improved in the lighter branches, about 10 per cent. being unemployed. In heavy steel forgings work is slack. Several firms are well employed on railway engine and carriage springs, but in contemplation of an alteration in the pattern of wagon springs, the making of these is, for the time, practically stopped. Makers of conical and volute springs are fairly busy. Bessemer steel billet and crucible steel making has improved. A fair amount of large steel wire, chiefly for the Cycle Trade, is being made, but in fine wire the trade is very quiet. Cold rollers are busy, and rolling mills are better employed. The engineers report trade as bad, with about 12 per cent. unemployed. At Sheepbridge the works are turning out a large quantity of pig and merchant iron. At Renishaw the moulders are busy, but the pump fitters are slack.

**Cutlery and Tools.**—The Spring Knife Trade is much better. Large stocks are being cleared out, though up to now there has not been much increase of work given out. The Table and Butcher Knife Trade has improved, especially in the better qualities. Makers of sections and steel parts for agricultural implements and reaper knives are well employed; but in spades, forks, and shovels, trade is quiet. The Saw Trade has improved. Several houses in the Hand-cut File Trade are very busy. The joiners' tool makers are moderate; but there is no change in the Engineers' Tool Trade. The Metal Spoon and Fork Trade continues fairly good, and some firms report an improvement in the Electro-plate and Silver Trades.

**Building Trades.**—These trades continue fairly good. The bricklayers, stonemasons and plumbers have no men unemployed, and report trade as good; the carpenters and joiners as moderate, with none out of work. Building is especially busy at Chesterfield.

**Miscellaneous.**—Cabinet-making is very bad. Railway carriage and wagon builders are fully employed. The Brass Trade is fair. Printers and tailors are quiet. The potteries are busy. A new bed of excellent coal is being opened out in the district.—S. Utley.

#### Hull and District.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—These trades are very slack. The demand for new steam fishing vessels is not so brisk, and men are being discharged from some of the yards. Repair work has been very slack. A large number of boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders are out of work. The engineers and pattern-makers have about 20 per cent. unemployed, the moulders 25 per cent., the shipwrights about 12½ to 15 per cent., the engineers, shipyard and general labourers about 25 per cent. The boiler-makers and engineers in Grimsby and Goole are fairly well employed.

**Shipping and Seamen.**—Employment at the docks has been fairly good. The cargoes of timber and deals, and the deliveries of imported fruit have been very large; the entries of seed and grain cargoes have been very few. Dock work at Grimsby and Goole has been very fair. The export of coal from all the Humber ports has been so brisk that vessels have had to wait their turn. The bulk of the vessels trading to the Humber ports are fully engaged, and employment for seamen has been steady.

**Fishing Trade.**—The steam trawlers have landed very good cargoes, and the cargoes from long line steam fishing vessels have been fairly good. Prices for fish have been very poor, however, and the earnings of share hands have been low. The Fish Curing Trade has been brisker than in last month. The number of sailing fishing vessels owned in this district continues to diminish, but several new steam fishing vessels have been added. The number of fishermen unemployed is about the usual average, 10 to 11 per cent.

**Seed Crushing, Oil, Paint and Colour Trades.**—Employment in seed crushing mills has slightly improved. The paint and colour works continue to give fair employment, but there is a slight decline.

**Building Trades.**—Employment for bricklayers, plasterers, slaters and masons continues very good. The joiners remain fairly busy, with about 2 per cent. unemployed. The painters have become very slack, with about 25 to 30 per cent. unemployed. All the Building Trades at Grimsby and Goole are fairly busy.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment for mill sawyers and wood-cutting machinists is fairly good, only about 2 per cent. being unemployed. The Printing Trade, although improved, is very quiet; about 7 per cent. are unemployed. The coopers report about 20 per cent. unemployed; the brush-makers 16 per cent.; the twine spinners 15 per cent. The bakers and confectioners have no men out of work, but trade is quiet. The flour mills are all fully employed.—W. G. Millington.

#### Wolverhampton and District.

**Iron and Engineering Trades.**—The number of iron-workers unemployed is large; that of engineers and constructive machinists has slightly increased. The iron door and safe makers report improvement, but short time is still worked. The bridge and girder constructors, tank and boiler-makers, gasometer erectors, and men at railway works are fully employed. The steel workers are all busy,

tool makers and machinists moderately so, but heavy iron-founders and colliery air tube workers report a slight decline.

**Hardware Trades.**—The Wrought Nail Trade is more depressed, with lower wages and more unemployed; many have obtained work at hop-picking and harvesting. The Hand-made Nut and Bolt Trade is very bad, and also the Spring-trap Trade of Wednesfield. Key-smiths are very slack, but the padlock-makers are fairly well off. The Lock Trade is very bad, both here and in Willenhall, and short time general. The Ironplate Trade is no better here or in the Lye district, and very short time is worked. The Tinplate Trade has not improved, and the improvement in the Brass and Copper Trades has not been progressive. The decline in the Cycle Trade is becoming more general, and fewer men are employed. In the Electrical Trades there has been a slight impetus. The Fender and Fire-iron Trades are very slack, the latter having many unemployed. There is no improvement amongst the tube workers, file smiths, riveters, vice and anvil makers, cut nail, tack, and steel toy makers. The wire workers, edge tool makers, horse-shoe turners, makers of hinges, latches, builders' and coach builders' ironmongery, and railway fittings generally, are fairly well employed. The japanners, enamellers and galvanisers have improved slightly, but are not fully employed. Light iron-founders and hollow-ware casters are very slack, although slightly improved. In Walsall the Lock Trade is slightly better; but the Chain, Hame, and Cart Gear Trades are very bad, only working half time. Large numbers are unemployed amongst the gig saddlers, brown saddlers, harness curriers, bridle cutters, brass and iron casters, and silver platers, but the Bridle Bit Trade is fairly good.

**Building Trades.**—Trade is fair with the carpenters, masons, plasterers, and general labourers; good with the bricklayers and their labourers; very quiet with the painters and plumbers; slightly improved with the slaters and tilers. The mill sawyers and machinists are well employed, and the brickmakers are busy. The Building Trades are fairly good in Walsall, Dudley, Stourbridge and West Bromwich, slack at Kidderminster, and declining at Shrewsbury and Worcester.

**Miscellaneous.**—Coach building still improves, and gas stokers are busier; but the Boot and Shoe Trade is declining. Tailors are fairly well employed. The number unemployed in the Printing Trades has considerably increased. Cabinet-making, furnishing and upholstery are very slack; and the dry cask coopers, packing case and crate makers, still depressed. The oil, colour and varnish makers, rope and twine spinners, and cart sheet and tent makers are only moderately employed. The Carpet Trade in Kidderminster and Bridgnorth is still very bad. Many men are unemployed or on short time. Worsted spinners and weavers on Armistead looms, mostly women, are fairly busy. Of glass workers in Wordsley and Stourbridge the decorators only are fully employed; but the Glazed Brick, Tile, and Pipe Trades are moderately good. In Worcester the glove makers and potters are very slack.—W. F. Mees.

#### Birmingham and District.

**Brass and Copper Workers.**—The brassworkers have had more employment in naval work, also in gas and electric fittings. The copper-smiths' trade is improving slightly, and the lamp-makers are no worse.

**Bedstead Workers.**—This trade is recovering; there is more home, foreign and colonial work, and a good Government order is in hand.

**Engineers and Metal Workers.**—The engine, tool, and machine makers are in fairly good work. The metal rollers have been slack. The pattern-makers report none unemployed. Cycle work is much reduced. Railway carriage and wagon builders are still busy. Gun workers are slightly busier. The iron-founders report continued depression. The iron-moulders have less than 1 per cent. unemployed. The japanners and file and tinplate workers report improvement.

**Tube and Wire Workers.**—Tube work has been slack, but became brisker at the close of the month. The wire workers are making fair time on copper, iron and steel woven goods.

**Jewellers, Silversmiths and Electro-plate Workers.**—Workers on gold chains and rings and gilt jewellery are busier, and silversmiths and electro-plate workers are improving. The spoon and fork makers report trade as no better.

**Other Birmingham Trades.**—Building work is good; schools have been renovated, and workmen have been difficult to get. House painters and stonemasons are very busy. The carpenters report only 3 per cent. unemployed. Electric service workers are brisker than usual. The glass blowers are no busier. Vegetable ivory button workers report still shorter time—averaging only two days per week. Harness and saddlery workers have had more employment on Government contracts, but no change in the private trade.

**Iron Trade in South Staffordshire.**—Local demand for finished iron

is better. The co-operative fund started by the workmen of the late Corngreaves Works to purchase and carry on part of the concern is said to have reached £30,000. The stock, boats, horses, &c. have been sold, but not the works or plant.

**Mining.**—An audit has been held to ascertain the average selling prices of coal, and the Wages Board has, under the sliding scale, awarded a reduction in wages of 4d. per day in thick coal, and 3d. in thin, which is equivalent to about 10 per cent. A good feeling prevailed between owners and colliers at the meeting when this was settled. There is still much shortness of work at the household pits, but more doing at those which produce forge and engine coal.

**Other Trades in South Staffordshire.**—Employment is not good in any department, and in some very bad; the Galvanised and Enamelled Iron Trades are the most steady. Common lock makers were slack during the month, but were a little busier towards the end; best lock makers have been the busiest all through. The nail and chain makers are most depressed.—W. J. Davis.

A report on *Coventry and North Warwickshire* states that the Cycle Trade is quiet as usual at this season. The Ribbon Trade is bad; the Woollen, Hosiery and Trimming Trades are fair; the Velvet and Plush Trades are now working full time, with occasional overtime. Hatting shows signs of activity, and overtime is being worked. The miners have accepted the 10 per cent. reduction, and the trade is comparatively good; half the collieries are making full time, others average four days per week. Quarrymen are busy. The Building Trade is quiet. The ready-made Clothing Trade is being extended.

#### Potteries District.

**Pottery Trades.**—Those firms which manufacture for the American market are making preparations in expectation of better trade. The home trade remains very depressed. Trade with the Colonies is improving, particularly with Australia. The hollow-ware pressers report a slight improvement, with only 2 per cent. unemployed, about four days per week being the average worked. The sanitary pressers report trade as quiet, none being totally unemployed, but only three to four days per week being worked. The printers and transferrers, ovenmen, firemen and packers report a slight improvement. The flat-pressers report trade as quiet, about four days per week being worked. The Women's Union states that the decorative branch is improving. The crate-makers report no change, about 5 per cent. being out of work.

**Metal Trades.**—The Iron and steel workers report trade as very depressed, with, however, a better feeling towards the close of the month. The home trade has decidedly improved. The engineers, iron-founders and boiler-makers at the Stoke end of the district report trade as bad, with fully 8 per cent. out of work, but much better in the northern portion, 2 per cent. only being unemployed. At Crewe the Engineering Trade is bad, short time being worked, and 2½ per cent. being unemployed. The iron-founders report trade as moderate, with 8 per cent. out of work and short time prevailing. The boiler-makers report great slackness, about 2½ per cent. being out of work. At Stafford the engineers and iron-founders are moderately busy, 1 per cent. being unemployed, while at Congleton the engineers report trade as bad.

**Building Trades.**—The bricklayers report trade as moderate, with 3 per cent. out of work. Carpenters and joiners are rather quiet, with only a small percentage of unemployed. At Stafford the Building Trades are fair. At Leek trade is moderate, with about 5 per cent. unemployed. House painters are very quiet, with 12 per cent. out of work, but at Congleton they are fairly well employed. At Crewe trade is slack. Plumbers report trade as moderate, with no unemployed. The Brick and Tile Trades are still flourishing.

**Textile Trades.**—The depression in the Leek Silk Trade has increased. Only a small percentage are out of work, but short time is general. The trimming weavers are slack, 1 per cent. being unemployed. At Congleton the Silk Trade is depressed, but the spun silk department has slightly improved. Fustian cutting is somewhat better, and the mills generally are running full time.

**Miscellaneous.**—The letterpress printers report trade as not so good, with 9 per cent. out of work. The lithographic artists and printers report no change. The wood sawyers and machinists report trade as fairly good; the tailors in the Potteries and at Crewe as very slack; the bakers as moderate, with about 8 per cent. unemployed. The Boot and Shoe Trade, both at Stafford and Stone, remains depressed, from three to four days per week only being worked. Railway servants are moderately employed.—I. S. Harvey.

#### Nottingham and District.

**Lace Trade.**—The Lace Trade continues depressed, and the reports from each of the branches are much the same as for July.

**Hosiery Trades.**—The rotary power-loom workers report trade as very bad. Circular hosiery is very quiet, with a number unemployed

and short time general. The rib top branch reports a slight improvement in silk goods. Reports from Hucknall, Mansfield, Sutton, Carlton and Arnold show no improvement. Hosiery trimmers at Basford and Bulwell are very quiet.

**Engineering and Iron Trades.**—Engineers and machinists report no improvement. Hosiery machinists are very slack. Lace machine-builders are very quiet. Short time is general in the Cycle Trade. The steam engine-makers report trade as quiet, with 4 per cent. unemployed; the tool machinists as worse, with 20 per cent. unemployed; engineers 16 per cent. unemployed. At Beeston the engineers and cycle-makers are working short time, with about 12 per cent. out of work. At Newark the engineers are quiet, with 6 per cent. unemployed. The boiler-makers and fitters are very bad. The iron-founders have 14 per cent. out of work at Nottingham, 10 per cent. at Mansfield, and 12 per cent. at Retford. The farriers have 7 per cent. unemployed.

**Building Trades.**—Carpenters and joiners report trade as very dull, but with 2 per cent. less unemployed; the stonemasons and plasterers as good; the bricklayers and builders' labourers as fairly busy; the painters as very quiet, with 20 per cent. unemployed. Cabinet-makers and coach-makers report trade as bad, the latter with 8 per cent. unemployed. Trade at Newark is bad, but at Mansfield and Retford fairly good; moderate at Worksop. The mill sawyers are fairly busy; the brickmakers moderately so.

**Coal Mining.**—The Coal Trade is very quiet. In the Worksop district the miners are working five days per week; in the Leen Valley 3½ to 5 days.

**Railways.**—The railway men at Colwick are fairly busy, both on passenger and heavy goods, and are well employed at Worksop and at Mansfield.

**Miscellaneous.**—The letterpress printers report a slight improvement; the lithographic printers are very quiet, with about 8 per cent. unemployed; the bookbinders are slack, but have no unemployed. The boot and shoe riveters report trade as moderate, but improving at Mansfield. The wheelwrights and blacksmiths are fairly busy, with 5 per cent. unemployed. The bakers are busier. The cotton doublers and silk throwsters report trade as very bad; the elastic bandage workers as very busy; the bobbin and carriage hands as very slack, with 11 per cent. unemployed. The Tailoring and Mantle-making Trades are quiet. The blast furnacemen are slack. The cigar makers report no improvement. The gas workers are very slack, as usual at this season.—*W. L. Hardestaff.*

#### Derbyshire District.

**Coal Mining and Quarrying.**—These trades have slightly improved. In the Alfreton district, in soft coal pits 3½ days, on hard coal 4½, and on canal coal 3 days per week have been worked. In Dronfield, Denby, and Ilkeston, and Staveley and Wingerworth districts 3 to 4 days have been the rule. Quarrying in Buxton, Crich, Whatstandwell, Matlock, Peak Forest, Little Eaton, and Coxbench districts is fair.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—The engineers and machinists are fairly well employed; at one or two firms overtime is the rule. Locomotive works are still well employed; boiler-makers are rather quiet, especially in private yards, about 3 per cent. being unemployed. The brass-moulders and finishers are busy. The iron-moulders report trade as fair; the stove-grate workers as moderate. In Belper district the stove-grate workers are brisk; shoeing and general smiths are fairly well employed. In Long Eaton the lace-machine builders continue fully employed. The cycle works are very slack. Trade in Glossop is reported as bad, about 10 per cent. being unemployed; in Burton-on-Trent, New Mills, Ilkeston, Chesterfield and Ripley districts as moderate. The Pig Iron Trade has improved; the Malleable Iron Trade continues fair, and the Finished Iron Trade has slightly improved.

**Textile Trades.**—The Lace Trade in Derby continues to improve, but in Long Eaton it remains depressed, with about 20 per cent. unemployed. The Silk Industry is still very dull. In Belper, Lea and Holloway, and Matlock districts the Cotton Trade is very slack.

**Building Trades.**—The bricklayers continue very busy, with none out of work; the carpenters, joiners and stonemasons are steadily employed; the painters and decorators moderately so, with about 3 per cent. out of work. These trades are also fair at Long Eaton, Buxton, Burton-on-Trent, Bakewell, Belper and Draycott.

**Clothing Trades.**—These trades show a slight decline. This season's Tailoring Trade being nearly over, a few shops are on short time. Others are moderately well employed. Dress and mantle-makers are fairly well employed. The Boot and Shoe Trade is moderate. The framework knitters and the Hosiery Trade in general show a little improvement in the Belper district.

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—The letterpress printers are all well

employed, and the lithographic printers report trade as moderate, with very few unemployed. The bookbinders are rather quiet, with about 5 per cent. out of work.

**Miscellaneous.**—The bakers and confectioners, milling trades, and box makers report trade as fair; the basket-makers, elastic web weavers, surgical bandage-makers, and chemical workers as moderate; the paper-makers and paper bag makers as good; the paper stainers and colour mixers as declining. The railway carriage and wagon builders are very slack, with a few departments on short time. The coach-makers in private shops, the cabinet-makers, upholsterers and dyers are generally well employed. The gas stokers are improving. The Crown China Trade, sawyers and wood workers' machinists are rather dull. Railway men in passenger and goods departments are in full work. In Long Eaton district the railway wagon builders and repairers are all fully employed. General labourers have been better employed.—*C. White-Deacon.*

#### Leicester and Northampton District.

**Boot and Shoe Trade.**—Dulness, with short time, continues in all departments of the Leicestershire Boot and Shoe Trade. The proportion on short time or unemployed is larger than usual at this season. Although in Northampton district labour is far from fully employed, prospects are encouraging. The tanners and curriers are generally well engaged.

**Hosiery, Yarn and Wool Spinning Industry.**—Most branches of hosiery have improved. At Loughborough army contract work is good, and overtime is general. In yarn and wool spinning, prices are more satisfactory, and employment regular. The Leicester Hosiery Manufacturers' Association is preparing a new uniform statement of prices, to equalise town and country rates.

**Engineering and Cycle Trades.**—Business in most branches is only moderate, though skilled labour continues fully employed. Boot and shoe machinery makers are still fairly busy, and working full time. Electrical engineering provides full work. The close of the Cycle Trade season is throwing a number out of work. With iron-founders trade is slacker, about 5 per cent. being unemployed.

**Coal and Quarrying Trades.**—The output at the Leicestershire coal pits continues limited, and employment only partial. All departments of the Stone Quarrying Industry are busy. Stocks are small, and employment is full.

**Building Trades.**—In all branches trade is very quiet. The number of unemployed bricklayers, stonemasons, carpenters and joiners, painters and house decorators, is much larger than usual at this season. The plasterers report trade as fairly good, with very few unemployed.

**Miscellaneous.**—Workers in the cord, braid and fancy departments of the Elastic Web Trade are generally fully employed, but short time still prevails among shoe elastic web hands. In the wholesale and bespoke branches of tailoring, employment is but moderate. In the Cigar Trade work is more regular. Basket-makers engaged in chair and fine work branches are on short time, and in the hamper department business is only moderate. Brush-makers, hatters, card-box makers, tramcar and omnibus builders are slack; cabinet-makers, railway carriage and wagon builders, and railway servants generally are moderately well employed. The Printing and allied Trades remain about the same, except that jobbing printers are busier. Gasfitters and plumbers report a slight improvement. Dyers and trimmers are in full work. The supply of general labourers exceeds the demand. Harvesting and ironstone workers and navvies are all busy.—*T. Smith.*

#### Bristol, Somerset and Gloucestershire District.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—The number of unemployed is increasing in most branches of these industries. The iron-founders report trade as dull; the machinists and cycle-makers as slack; the fitters, boiler-makers and pattern-makers as bad; the brass-moulders and finishers as fair. The Sheet-iron Hollow-ware Trade is much depressed. Wagon and carriage-making in Bristol and at Gloucester is declining.

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—The letterpress branch became very slack towards the end of the month, with a large number unemployed. The book-binders report trade as bad; the lithographers as improving; the paper bag, envelope and cardboard box-makers as moderate. There is no improvement in the Printing Trade at Bath.

**Shipping and Dock Labour.**—Shipwrights in Bristol are very depressed, with about 70 per cent. unemployed. There has been a fair demand for sailors and firemen throughout the month. Grain and timber imports have been fair; the Continental trade has been slack; the New York Provision Trade has been brisk. At Gloucester deal runners have been busy, grain men quiet, and shipwrights fairly busy.

**Building and Wood-working Trades.**—The masons, bricklayers, plumbers and gasfitters report trade as dull; the painters and decorators, carpenters, shop and bar fitters as improving; mill sawyers, box and packing case makers as slack. Cabinet-makers and upholsterers report trade as brisk; lathrenders as good at Gloucester, Bristol and Newport.

**Clothing Trades.**—The ready-made Clothing Trade is now fairly brisk. The bespoke trade remains bad. Employment with boot and shoe operatives in Bristol is exceedingly slack, but the heavy nail branch at Kingswood is good. There is no perceptible improvement in the Woollen Industry at Trowbridge, and most of the mills in that district are working short time.

**Mining and Quarrying.**—Five of the colliery proprietors in the Bristol district have now accepted the terms of the Miners' Conciliation Board for a settlement of the wages question. Employment continues very slack at the Gloucestershire and Somerset pits. In the Forest of Dean the House Coal Trade is brisk; the Steam Coal Trade bad. The Stone Quarry Trade is good in the Forest of Dean, but very slack in West Gloucester.

**Miscellaneous.**—The bakers and confectioners are depressed, with 10 per cent. unemployed. The brush-makers and glass bottle-makers are on short time. The basket-makers are slack. The Paint, Oil, Colour and Varnish Trades are moderate. Gas workers and general labourers are improving.—*J. Curle.*

#### Plymouth and South Western District.

**Shipping and Dock Labour.**—Shipping is reported as steady among dock labourers. Seamen find difficulty in obtaining berths.

**Engineering and Ship Repairing.**—The Engineering and kindred Trades have shown a decline, and are reported as bad for the greater part of the month.

**Building Trades.**—The Building Trades have been exceedingly quiet in most parts of the district. The masons and plasterers have been very steadily employed; the carpenters and joiners, plumbers and bricklayers have been fairly good. The stone-cutters and painters have been very slack.

**Mining, Quarrying and Clay Industries.**—The Metal-Mining Industry of Cornwall is reported as still depressed. Quarrymen are fairly well employed, and the Cornish granite quarries are reported as brisk. The clayworkers still continue fully employed.

**Clothing Trades.**—The ready-made Tailoring Trade is fairly busy, but the bespoke trade has experienced great slackness. The Boot and Shoe Trade is generally reported as fairly employed.

**Miscellaneous.**—The wheelwrights, coach-builders and coach-painters have shown an improvement, and are in many cases very busy. Letterpress Printing and kindred Trades are steady. The cabinet-makers, polishers, upholsterers, bakers and confectioners are fairly well employed. The Fishing Industry has not improved. General labourers have been very slack.—*J. Welland.*

#### Cardiff and District.

**Shipping and Dock Labour.**—This industry shows but little change. Coal and patent fuel shipments have been fairly good, and tinplate exportation much the same as in July. Those engaged in the iron ore and timber importation report employment as fairly good. There has been a moderate demand for sailors and firemen.

**Engineering and Ship Repairing.**—There has been a slight improvement in trade as compared with July. The percentage of unemployed engineers, boiler-makers, shipwrights and general labourers, though still high, has diminished.

**Metal Trades.**—The iron and steel works are not so busy. The Tinplate Industry is beginning to improve, some works closed for months past are now working, and others are preparing for work.

**Building Trades.**—These trades show no change. The masons, carpenters, plasterers, bricklayers and plumbers are fairly well employed, and report trade as moderate. They are least busy in and about Cardiff.

**Miscellaneous.**—Chemical works, reported last month as being almost at a standstill, are starting again. Steel tube manufacturing is brisk, and good orders for boiler tubes have been placed. The smelting works are dull. The patent fuel works, especially at Swansea, are very busy. The Printing and kindred Trades report business as bad.—*T. Davies.*

A report from Ebbw Vale states that the Iron and Steel Trades have not been very active, but other trades have been brisk, overtime being worked.

#### South Wales Mining District.

**Coal Trade.**—The Steam Coal Trade has been fairly good, and the collieries have worked regularly. The Scotch strike has not had any material effect upon the coal industry of South Wales. The

men at one colliery having failed to agree with their employers as to the explosives to be used, have received a month's notice to terminate contracts.

**Tinplate Trade.**—This industry shows signs of improving, several mills which had been idle for some time having re-started.—*W. Evans.*

#### SCOTLAND.

##### Edinburgh and District.

**Coal Mining and Mineral Oil Trades.**—In Mid and East Lothian no collieries are working without the consent of the Union, and in the other portions of the district the non-unionists have generally refrained from working. Practically no coal has been produced available for the market, except in the case of pits where the last reduction was not enforced. The Mineral Oil industry is less active; in one district the shale miners are only working five days a week, and in another nine days per fortnight.

**Shipbuilding Trades.**—Trade in the shipyards continues very bad for all classes of workmen; the boiler-makers return 46·6 per cent. unemployed, and the shipwrights 23 per cent.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—The engineers, blacksmiths, pattern-makers and brass-founders report trade as dull; the tin-smiths, gasmeter-makers and copper-smiths as good. Of the four branches of iron-moulders, three report trade as good and one as fair. Returns from 13 branches of unions show 4·5 per cent. on the idle roll.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—The press and machine men, lithographic printers, lithographic artists and stereotypers report trade as fair; the bookbinders and compositors show an increase in the number on the idle roll; the typesetters are still only working four days per week. Returns from seven branches of unions show 3·3 per cent. unemployed.

**Building Trades.**—The masons, bricklayers, lath splitters, and plasterers report trade as good, and their members fully employed; the joiners, slaters and plumbers as fair, with very few out of work; the glaziers and painters as bad.

**Cabinet-making and Furnishing Trades.**—With the exception of one branch, which reports trade as fair, the cabinet-makers are quiet. The upholsterers and French polishers report trade as quiet, and the brush-makers as bad.

**Textile Trades.**—In Midlothian the carpet weavers report trade as busy. In Hawick and Galashiels the Woollen Industry continues depressed. The frame-work knitters of Hawick report trade as bad, with a good deal of machinery either idle or only partially employed.

**Miscellaneous.**—The coopers report trade as fair, with 2 per cent. out of work; the tailors, hatters and shoe-makers as bad; the horse-shoers, bakers, paper-makers, saddlers and coach-makers as quiet; the saw-mill operatives and sett makers as good; the curriers as improved, but most of the skinnerers are working short time. The India-rubber Trade is fairly busy. The glass cutters are working short time owing to want of coal. The sailors and firemen are much the same, with a considerable number out of work. The coal porters continue slack. General labourers are fairly busy.—*J. Mallinson.*

##### Glasgow and West of Scotland.

**Shipbuilding.**—The work on the Clyde has not improved. Shipwrights and ship-joiners report that men are being paid off for want of coal and iron; but some builders have considerable work on hand.

**Metal Trades.**—The Iron and Steel Trades report little change; four small works in the Coatbridge district employing about 400 men have started on English coal. The blastfurnace men report a further decline. The blacksmiths and iron-moulders report no improvement. The iron-dressers report trade as bad, but improved since the settlement of the Newton dispute; the brass-moulders as good, with prospects of improvement when the brass finishers' and miners' disputes are ended; the file cutters as still dull; the wire weavers as fair; the ornamental stove fitters as good. The Cycle Trade is dull, and also the Sewing Machine Home Trade, but the Export Trade is very fair. In Motherwell iron and steel works employing 8,000 men are idle; engineering is also affected, although two firms are pretty busy; nut and bolt works are idle. The ironworks in Dumfries are very quiet.

**Building and Wood-working Trades.**—The masons report trade as continuing good; the carpenters and joiners as having but two per cent. idle; the slaters as very good; the plasterers as very fair; the painters as falling off. Coach building shows no change, 50 per cent. having extra holidays, and the remainder being on short time. The coopers report trade as very bad, with many idle; the wood turners as declining; the cabinet-makers in Glasgow and Ayrshire as good; the paviors as very bad, with 20 per cent. idle; the mosaic and encaustic tile layers, sett makers and glaziers as good. House building is slacker in Dumfries, but good in Dumbarton.

**Textile Trades.**—White cotton weaving is moderate; coloured and woollen weaving is still very slack. The dyers report trade as bad; the warpers as very quiet; the power-loom carpet weavers as dull, and the power-loom beamers as very bad; the spindle and flyer makers as busy. The woollen mills in Port Glasgow are not brisk.

**Clothing Trades.**—The tailors report trade as bad; the tailoresses as very quiet; the boot and shoe operatives as very bad.

**Miscellaneous.**—The bookbinders, letterpress printers and curriers report trade as slightly improved; the lithographic printers, plate-glass workers and bottle-makers as bad; the tobacco pipe makers as steady; the cork cutters as not so good; the bakers as unchanged, with many idle; the stereotypers and electrotypers as good. The coal dispute has affected the lathsplitters, stoneware throwers, dock and general labourers. Carters are worse. Many railway servants are still idle, especially on mineral traffic. Upholstery is dull, with a slight improvement. Seamen and firemen are not busy.—*A. J. Hunter.*

**Dundee and District.**

**Jute and Linen Trades.**—A decided improvement has taken place in these trades, and several firms which had been running short time have now resumed full time. Of two works which have been closed for some time, one has been re-opened, and will give employment to over 200 operatives, while the other is reported as about to be re-started.

**Building Trades.**—The joiners are not so well employed, owing to a large number of ship-joiners being idle. The painters are not so busy as earlier in the season; the re-painting of public schools has, however, provided work during the month. All other departments of the Building Trades continue fully employed, and the demand for outdoor labourers generally is good.

**Iron Shipbuilding.**—This industry is practically at a standstill at present. The engineers, moulders, platers and shipyard labourers are consequently still very slack.

**Miscellaneous.**—The printers and bookbinders are fairly well employed. The tailors are slack, but the shoemakers are somewhat less active. The strike of Scottish miners has not materially affected the trade of this district, as a regular supply of coal is being imported from the north of England.—*R. D. B. Ritchie.*

**Aberdeen and District.**

**Shipbuilding and Engineering.**—The iron shipbuilders report trade as declining, with an increase of unemployed; the boiler and bridge workers as moderate, with 77 per cent. idle; the shipwrights as fair, with 96 per cent. idle; the blacksmiths (with 25 per cent. idle), the engineers and the pattern-makers as moderate; the iron-moulders as a little better, with 208 per cent. idle. The tinplate workers have no unemployed, although the pressure has eased.

**Building and kindred Trades.**—The carpenters and joiners, saw-millers, and wood-cutting machinists are fully employed. Masons are exceptionally busy, and labour is in demand. The plumbers, plasterers, and slaters report trade as fair, but interrupted occasionally while awaiting completion of masons' work. The painters are fairly busy, with about 1 per cent. unemployed.

**Quarrying.**—In granite quarries trade is good. The sett makers are busy. Monumental work shows no improvement, and many monumental stonecutters are working as stone dressers in building yards.

**Fishing.**—In August trawl boats caught 29,647 cwts. of fish, realising £17,926, and line boats 9,522 cwts., realising £5,148, the steam line boats showing a large increase over last year. The herring fishing season, which is now over, has realised about the same total value as last year, fairly good prices having been obtained, although the catch has been smaller.

**Miscellaneous.**—The letterpress printers, cabinet-makers, and upholsterers report trade as good; the tailors and comb-makers as dull; the rope and twine spinners, hemp dressers and bakers as improved; the coach-makers as busy; the jute, flax, cotton and paper workers as fair. The dock workers and general labourers are well employed, many of the latter in harvesting.—*W. Johnston.*

**IRELAND.**

**Dublin and District.**

**Building and Wood-working Trades.**—Employment continues good with carpenters, joiners, stonecutters, bricklayers and house painters, but is dull with the slaters, plumbers and mill sawyers. The plasterers and lathsplitters maintain last month's position. Employment with the builders' labourers is good. Building operations at Drogheda and the Curragh are brisk. Cabinet-makers are still very dull, and upholsterers are only middling. The Coach-builders and allied Trades are fairly well employed.

**Engineering and Iron Trades.**—Employment was fair at the beginning of the month with the engineers and Iron Trades generally.

**Clothing Trades.**—The Tailoring Industry has improved, and in Drogheda tailors are still busy, but the Boot and Shoe Trade shows no improvement. Trade has been good with the dressmakers and seamstresses.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Printing is described as dull, but slightly improved: 243 men signed the idle book, of whom 124 claimed the out-of-work allowance. The lithographic section continues dull, and a large number of men are idle; but the bookbinders and machine rulers are still fairly well employed. Trade continues brisk with stereotypers, paper-cutters and despatch assistants.

**Miscellaneous.**—The Bottle Trade is reported as dull, with a large number unemployed. The ropemakers are slack. Trade is fair with hotel and club assistants. Business is still dull with cork cutters, except at Drogheda, and with the brush-makers and saddlers. The paviors are also very slack, but work is good with organ builders, railway servants and tramway men. Employment is also better with dockers, and among labourers generally. Dock labourers and millworkers at Drogheda are reported as busy.—*J. P. Nannetti.*

**Belfast and District.**

**General.**—The reports from 53 societies, with a membership of 20,444, show 896, or 4.4 per cent., to be unemployed, against 1,115, or 5.5 per cent. of the membership in July.

**Shipbuilding and Engineering.**—Of the 9,172 members employed in these trades, 323, or 3.5 per cent., are reported as unemployed, as against 548, or 6.1 per cent. of the membership in July. The boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders report trade as slack; the brass-founders as dull; the iron-founders as moderate; the engineers and iron-turners as declining; the machine workers as improving; the blacksmiths, pattern-makers, carpenters and joiners, enginemen and cranemen, and general labourers, and platers' helpers as fair; and the Shipwrights and Ship Furnishing Trades as good.

**Linen Trades.**—Of the 4,393 members of the branches sending in reports, 318, or 7.4 per cent., are stated to be unemployed, as against 342, or 8 per cent. of the membership in July. The flax roughers, and yarn dressers report trade as bad; the shirt, collar and apron cutters and power-loom tenters as very dull; the beetling enginemen and flax dressers as dull; the hackle and gill makers as middling; the linen lappers as quiet; the bobbin turners as fair; and the spindle and flyer-makers as good. Some of the mills have resumed full time during the month.

**Building Trades.**—Out of 2,396 members, 56, or 2.3 per cent., are unemployed, as against 46, or 2 per cent. of the membership in July. The plumbers report trade as dull; the bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, plasterers and house painters as fair, and the mill sawyers and wood-working machinists as good.

**Miscellaneous.**—In this group of 26 societies there is also a small increase in the unemployed this month, as out of 4,573 members, 199, or 4.4 per cent., are said to be idle, as against 185, or 4 per cent. of the membership in July. The letterpress printers report trade as bad; the bookbinders and machine rulers, butchers and assistants, coach-builders, tinplate workers and packing-case makers as dull; the boot and shoe operatives as moderate; the Furnishing Trades and lithographic artists as quiet; the bakers, coopers, lithographic printers, hotel and club assistants and the paviors as fair; locomotive engine-drivers and railway servants as good. The tailors are working short time.—*R. Sheldon.*

**Cork and District.**

**Building Trades.**—The plasterers, stonecutters, masons, carpenters, mill sawyers and builders' labourers report no change, employment being steady. The painters and plumbers report a decline.

**Shipbuilding and Engineering.**—The boiler-makers, iron shipbuilders, engineers, moulders and brass finishers report an improvement in Cork, Limerick and Waterford. Shipwrights and ship-joiners in Cork, Queenstown and Passage West report trade as bad.

**Fishing.**—Mackerel and herring fishing has been very successful off the south and south-west coasts, the herrings being remarkably fine. The scad, a fish which has not frequented this coast for many years, is reappearing in great numbers.

**Food and Clothing Trades.**—The Tailoring and Baking Trades are greatly depressed. The flax operatives are steadily employed, and the tweed operatives have frequently worked overtime. The pork and beef butchers show no falling off. The creameries and butter factories in Mallow, Limerick, Waterford, Middleton and Cork report trade as very fair.

**Miscellaneous.**—The bookbinders, letterpress printers and coopers show a decline. The coachmakers, brush and bellows makers and cork cutters report trade as good. The dock and quay labourers, seamen and firemen are dull. The engine men and crane men are fairly busy. The gasfitters and cabinet-makers show a decline.—*P. O'Shea.*

**IV.—REPORTS ON CERTAIN INDUSTRIES.**

**(a) COAL MINING IN AUGUST.**

**NOTE.**—The following tables only profess to state the number of days on which coal was hewn and wound at the collieries at which a certain number of persons were employed at the end of August. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons employed at these collieries worked the whole number of days.

The number of collieries included in the returns received for August is 970, but of these 125, owing to the Scottish strike, are idle.

At the remaining 845 collieries, employing 230,491 persons on the last pay day in the month, the average number of days per week on which coal was hewn and wound during the 4 weeks ending August 25th was 4.63\*, as compared with 4.69\* days per week in July and 4.76\* days in June.

In most of the districts the number of days worked by the collieries was more per week in the latter part of the month than at the beginning. This is probably due to the Bank Holiday in the early part of the month, while during the whole of August the Coal Mining Industry was to some extent disturbed by local disputes.

The number of pits in Scotland at which coal was hewn and wound during the above period, so far as returns have been received by the Department, was 29 only, the number of men at work being 1,391. At the 125 other collieries in Scotland respecting which returns have been furnished, 1,843 persons were at work in August, as compared with 1,863 workpeople in the same pits in July and 15,672 in June. Excluding these 125 Scottish collieries at which no coal was got in August, it will be seen from the table below that 8.2 per cent. of the workpeople were employed at pits which worked less than 12 days during the 4 weeks, 44.3 per cent. at pits which worked 12 and under 20 days, and 47.5 per cent. at pits working 20 days and up to 24 days in the 4 weeks.

**CLASSIFICATION OF THE WORKPEOPLE ACCORDING TO THE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED BY THE COLLIERIES.**

Number of days on which Coal was hewn and wound in the four weeks ended August 25th, 1894.	Number of Work-people employed at the collieries working the number of days stated in Column 1.	Percentage proportion employed at collieries working the number of days stated in Column 1.
Under 4 days	208	.1
4 and under 6 days	1,660	.7
6 " " 8 " "	2,656	1.2
8 " " 10 " "	5,951	2.6
10 " " 12 " "	8,319	3.6
12 " " 14 " "	22,051	9.6
14 " " 16 " "	19,624	8.5
16 " " 18 " "	34,488	15.0
18 " " 20 " "	25,925	11.2
20 " " 22 " "	45,058	19.5
22 " " 24 " "	56,907	24.7
24 days	7,644	3.3
Total	230,491	100.0

In the table which follows a comparison is made between the number of days worked per week by the collieries in August and July, the districts in which the number of days worked in August exceeds the number worked in July being distinguished from those in which there has been a falling off. It will be seen that there has been an improvement in 11 districts, accounting for 123,596 workpeople, while in 5 districts in which 106,895 workpeople were employed there has been a drop.

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

District.	No. employed in Aug. at the Collieries included in Table.	Days per Week.	
		August.	July.
<b>(a) Districts in which August exceeds July.</b>			
Cumberland	6,459	5.76	5.49
Fife	665†	5.68†	5.18†
Ireland	339	5.61	5.18
West of Scotland	703†	5.58†	5.28†
South Wales and Monmouth	39,940	5.53	5.49
The Lothians	23‡	5.50‡	—
Northumberland	4,274	5.34	5.06
Durham	32,468	5.34	5.19
North Wales	6,763	5.17	4.77
Salop, Worcester and Warwick	6,172	4.44	4.12
Derby	25,790	3.93	3.87

\* Allowance is made in all the calculations for short days.  
† These figures are exclusive of returns received from collieries in Scotland at which no coal was hewn and wound.  
‡ No returns were received for July from the Lothians for collieries hewing and winding coal.

**(b) Districts in which July exceeds August.**

Lancashire and Cheshire	39,135	4.43	4.73
Yorkshire	32,085	4.20	4.48
Gloucester and Somerset	6,334	3.92	4.16
Notts and Leicester	10,411	3.78	3.80
Staffordshire	18,930	3.56	3.84

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

**CLASSIFICATION OF DISTRICTS ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED PER WEEK.**

District.	No. employed at the collieries included in table.	Average No. of days on which coal was hewn and wound per week.
<b>(a) 5 Days and upwards per week.</b>		
Cumberland	6,459	5.76
Fife	665	5.68
Ireland	339	5.61
West of Scotland	703	5.58
South Wales and Monmouth	39,940	5.53
The Lothians	23	5.50
Northumberland	4,274	5.34
Durham	32,468	5.34
North Wales	6,763	5.17
<b>(b) Less than 5 days per week.</b>		
Salop, Worcester and Warwick	6,172	4.44
Lancashire and Cheshire	39,135	4.43
Yorkshire	32,085	4.20
Derby	25,790	3.93
Gloucester and Somerset	6,334	3.92
Notts and Leicester	10,411	3.78
Staffordshire	18,930	3.56

**(b) IRON MINING INDUSTRY IN AUGUST. (CUMBERLAND AND LANCASHIRE.)**

A summary of the returns received from the owners of 31 iron mines in Cumberland and Lancashire, at which 5,167 workpeople were employed during August, shows that the average number of days worked in the 4 weeks ending 25th August was 5.82 days per week, as compared with 5.85 in July and 5.94 in June. These percentages represent very nearly full time, and the slight falling off in August may be attributed to the holiday in the early part of that month.

Of the 5,167 workpeople dealt with in these returns 824 were employed at iron mines which worked 22 days during the 4 weeks above referred to; 2,047 at mines which worked 23 days, and 2,294 at mines which worked the maximum possible number of 24 days.

**(c) PIG IRON INDUSTRY IN AUGUST.**

From the returns furnished by over three-fourths of the ironmasters of the United Kingdom, it appears that they had 241 furnaces in blast at the end of August, as compared with 246 in the previous month and 219 in August 1893. The decrease of 5 in the number of furnaces in blast at the end of August as compared with July is accounted for by 6 furnaces having been blown out during the month and 2 damped down, while 3 only have been re-lit. Of the furnaces blown out, 4 are in Cumberland and one each in Staffordshire and Lanarkshire. The 2 furnaces damped down are also in Lanarkshire, while of the 3 furnaces re-lit, Shropshire, Staffordshire and Monmouthshire had one each. The blowing out or damping down of the furnaces in Lanarkshire is consequent on the dispute of Scottish coal miners which commenced in the last week in June, and still continues. The effect produced by this dispute on the Pig Iron Industry in Scotland will be more clearly seen by comparing the August returns with those for May. Complete records are not in the possession of the Department, but it is known that 5 of the 8 ironmasters making returns had 21 furnaces in blast at the end of May, while at the end of August that number had been reduced to 4, while the number of men employed had dropped from 861 to 393.

Owing to these changes, there were 191 fewer men employed at the end of August than at the end of the previous month, the number at work at the 240 furnaces being 17,058.

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

Production.—The total production in Cleveland during August was 244,371 tons, as compared with 252,631 tons in July and 233,431 tons in August 1893.

Stocks.—These amounted to 186,709 tons on the last day of the month, an increase of 13,298 tons over the previous month, and a decrease of 15,023 tons as compared with August 1893.

Shipments.—The shipments of pig iron from Middlesbrough amounted to 75,723 tons last month, 86,568 tons in July, and 89,298 tons in August 1893.

(d) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN AUGUST.

MR. WILSON FOX, the Agricultural Correspondent to the Department, reports that:—

GENERAL SUMMARY.

Generally speaking the harvest has been a good one for the agricultural labourers throughout the country, both as regards wage and employment, owing to the heavy yield, and the inability to use machines where the crops are laid by the storms. Owing to the broken weather, labourers engaged by the day have lost time; while those working under contract, or by piece-work, have taken longer over it. Those engaged by the week or month have not suffered. In several cases wages were higher than in 1893, and except in the case of boys in Lancashire, they were in no instance less.

ENGLAND.

Northern Counties.—The reports from North Northumberland state that Irishmen have obtained 24s. a week with board and lodging, compared with 22s. in 1893. Ordinary farm servants hired by the year receive no extra wage in harvest time; the women receive double cash payment for a month. But in the neighbourhood of Berwick-on-Tweed men are paid this year 24s. to 25s. a week for a month, the ordinary wages being 16s. to 17s. a week, with free house and garden, and 1,000 yards of potatoes, and coals led.

In Cumberland, Westmoreland, North Lancashire, and the North Western side of Yorkshire extra hands are scarcer than in 1893. In the two first-named counties no Irishmen are now employed. The best odd men engaged by the day have easily obtained work at 3s. to 3s. 6d. with food. In the Lancashire district it is said that lads have been more plentiful this year, and in consequence have obtained about 2s. a week less than in 1893. Owing to the prolongation of the hay harvest a large number of men hired by the month remained on with the same employers for the corn harvest, at about the same rate of wages obtained at Kettlewell and Bentham (see LABOUR GAZETTE, August 1894), without going to the market as usual to be re-hired for corn harvest. Reports from Cheshire give the harvest wages for ordinary hands at 17s. a week with three meals a day and beer, and extra men 2s. 6d. a day, with a bonus of 1s. for the month's harvest.

In Yorkshire harvest wages seem to have been the same as in 1893, viz., from 4s. to 5s. 10s. a month, or 18s. to 25s. a week for "datal" men, and from 3s. 10s. to 4s. 10s. a month, or 16s. to 24s. a week for extra men. Some of the "datal" men receiving the higher rates are not housed, and receive only light refreshment, and the most highly paid extra hands receive only lodging and light refreshment. Generally the men hired by the year get nothing extra at harvest except beer. Less piece-work than usual appears to have been put out in this county.

Midland Counties.—Reports from the Midlands state all men have been fully employed, and in some cases extra hands are rather scarce. In Leicestershire and Rutland, ordinary weekly hands are paid 1s. to 2s. a day above the ordinary wages of 15s. to 17s., "wet and dry." In Northamptonshire, mowing and tying corn is 10s. per acre, as compared with 7s. last year, and up to 11s. in Hunts.

Home Counties.—In the Home Counties there has been little difficulty in obtaining harvest hands. In Buckinghamshire, near Newport Pagnell, ordinary farm servants are paid 1s. a week, with beer extra during harvest, after which they return to the ordinary rate of wages, 13s. One employer near Buckingham is paying 16s. for the month, and 15s. a week afterwards as long as harvest lasts; another 21s. to 24s., tea, coffee and beer, and 10s. to 15s. an acre for cutting.

In Berkshire agricultural labourers have been fully employed. Harvest wages are about 18s. a week and no extras. Some of the ordinary hands on 14s. a week and a free house get a bonus of 1s. 2d.

for the harvest, and 3d. an acre when cutting. On piece-work they get 10s. an acre for cutting wheat, and 8s. for oats. Prices for harvesting by the acre vary from 11s. to 16s., as compared with 8s. to 11s. in 1893.

Kent.—In Kent, wages were 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. a day, 4d. to 6d. an hour overtime, also beer. Women 1s. 4d. a day and beer. By piece-work, wages were 10s. an acre for oats, 14s. for barley, and up to 20s. an acre for wheat if laid, no extras. Where cut by reaper, 6s. to 7s. for binding.

Hop picking commenced in the Sittingbourne district of Kent on September 4th. Rates of wages are—polepullers, 22s. a week and no extras; hop dryers, 30s. a week and beer; assistant dryers, 22s. a week and beer; lads 18s. a week and beer; also dryers who get 3d. for making and marking each pocket, and 1s. each for pressing. Extra men in hop garden (not picking), 22s. a week and no beer. Women and children chiefly do the picking at about 1s. for five bushels. A single picker earns from 2s. 6d. to 3s. a day.

Eastern Counties.—In the Eastern Counties of Lincolnshire, Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk, the labourers have had full employment, and generally the rates of wages have been higher than last year. In Norfolk the contract price for the harvest has been from 16s. to 17s. lads and youths getting from 13s. 10s. to 15s. 15s., according to age. But most farmers appear to be paying at least 16s. 10s.

In Essex one farmer is paying between 15s. and 18s. an acre for harvesting, as compared with 12s. for last year. Another farmer (2,000 acres) has paid up to 20s., and for a few acres, 22s. for cutting wheat, as compared with 10s. in 1893, and has also paid 4s. to 5s. for carting. A gang of seven men on this farm has earned 170 18s. between them by piece-work in five weeks, or about 12 2 a week each.

In Suffolk harvest wages usually vary from 16s. 10s. to 18s., sometimes with malt and hops extra; on piece-work rather more can be earned.

Harvest wages in Cambridgeshire, particularly in the north, are higher than usual, especially for piece-work. 17s. to 20s. an acre for mowing has been paid in many cases. A farmer near Peterborough states that some of the best men have earned 50s. a week, working from 4 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wages by contract for the harvest have been between 16s. 10s. and 17s. 10s.

In Lincolnshire a good deal of the harvest is done by piece-work. The men hired by the year do not take part in the harvest, except by special arrangement. In some parts of North Lincolnshire harvest is taken at 10s. 6d. an acre, the farmer finding machine, foreman and four lads. Tying corn after the reaping machine is 5s. an acre, and carting corn 5s. a day.

Western Counties.—In the Western Counties (Wiltshire, Dorsetshire, Somersetshire, Gloucestershire, Devonshire and Cornwall), the rates of harvest wages are returned as the same as last year, but generally more labour has been required, and all the men have been employed. At Winterbourne (Dorset) wages are 16s. a month. At Cuby (Cornwall) both ordinary and extra men were paid 14s. a week and 6d. per hour for overtime, with lunch and beer.

WALES.

In Cardiganshire hired men received a bonus of 1s. 2d. for the harvest, with some food and beer. Weekly men have the same extras, in addition to their wage of 13s. In Glamorganshire the labourers have 4s. a day, with overtime money, beer, and some food. Piece-work is paid at the rate of 5s. an acre for mowing and reaping.

SCOTLAND.

In Stirlingshire and Lanarkshire extra harvest hands are plentiful, chiefly owing to the coal miners' strike, also to bad trade in the towns; but in Perthshire day labourers have lost about two days a week from wet weather. Hired men frequently receive no extra payment at harvest.

The following harvest payments are reported, which are all stated to be the same as last year. Irishmen have been paid 18s. to 20s. a week for 6 weeks with board and lodging in Stirlingshire, 13s. 10s. to 14s. a month with board and lodging, or 8s. a week extra without board in Wigtown, and 4s. to 5s. a day with lodging only in Dumbartonshire. Extra Scotch hands have been paid 24s. to 25s. a week or 3s. a day without board in Wigtown, 4s. a day without extras in Perthshire, and 27s. a week in Kirkcubright. Women have been paid 3s. to 3s. 6d. a day in Stirling, 3s. 6d. a day in Perthshire and 3s. 4d. a day in Kirkcubright, without extras.

IRELAND.

In Skibbereen, county Cork, wages are 2s. a day with porter and tobacco. Good harvest men are scarce.

In Letterfrack, county Galway, wages are 12s. a week for harvest, with no extras. The ordinary wage is 9s. a week. Extra labour is plentiful.

In Mayo 10s. a week is the wage for regular men and 12s. for extra men. Extra labourers are plentiful.

In Roscommon regular hands are paid 12s. a week for harvest. Extra men 2s. a day and breakfast and dinner.

Bad accounts of the potato crop come from Mayo and Roscommon, which may injuriously affect the small holders in the winter.

The Eastern Counties' Federation report two strikes over harvest wages in Suffolk, affecting six men in one case and two in another. The men obtained work on another farm.

The Berkshire Agricultural and General Workers' Union reports that there were no strikes in Berkshire, but that several disputes arose about the piece-work rates, which were generally settled at once, by "splitting the difference."

A certain number of disputes over the harvest wages have occurred during July and August in Cambridgeshire, Lincolnshire, Essex, Berkshire, and in Norfolk and Suffolk some strikes.

The chairman of the Farmers' Federation sends some details of the strikes which came under the notice of the Federation, namely, ten in Norfolk and two in Suffolk, in addition to which there were some minor disputes. The most important strike took place near Norwich, the men refusing 11s. for harvest. Thirty men were obtained from Yarmouth and Lowestoft, and lodged in huts, and the harvest was proceeded with the aid of self-binders.

All the disputes mentioned by the Farmers' Federation arose over harvest wages. Altogether, 85 labourers struck. They were replaced by 78 men sent by the Farmers' Federation, who also supplied self-binders.

Another strike reported in Norfolk affected about 20 men, who objected to the number of acres each man was required to take. The farmer sent for self-binding machines, and the men returned to work after two or three days.

NOTE.—The information contained in this summary is based on reports received from 100 districts in the United Kingdom, and includes communications from the Farmers' Federation and two Agricultural Labourers' Unions. The particulars about disputes were too incomplete for inclusion in the Trade Disputes Table in this month's issue.

(e) EMPLOYMENT OF FISHERMEN IN AUGUST.

JUDGED by the value of the fish caught, August has been a fairly good month for fishermen. At ten of the principal ports in England the value of the fish landed again exceeded the average for the corresponding month of the years 1890-93. The increase has been general at most ports, only North Shields and St. Ives showing any considerable decrease.

Table showing the value of fish landed from the fishing grounds at the principal ports in England in August 1894, as compared with the average for August in the years 1890-1893.

Table with 5 columns: Ports, Aug. 1894, Average for Aug. 1890-93, Increase in Aug. 1894, Decrease in Aug. 1894. Rows include East Coast (North Shields, Hull, Grimsby, Yarmouth, Lowestoft, Ramsgate, London), South and West Coasts (Plymouth, St. Ives, Milford), and Grand Total.

(f) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN AUGUST.

(Based on information supplied by the Marine Department of Board of Trade.)

THE number of seamen shipped at the principal ports of the United Kingdom during August was 34,229, an increase of 1,932 when compared with August 1893. For this increase Cardiff is largely responsible, with an excess of 2,892 over the figures for last year. Newport, Mon., ranges next with an increase of 794. The Scottish ports show considerable decreases, due probably to the coal dispute in Scotland, and there is also a noticeable falling off in the numbers shipped at Liverpool, London, Middlesbrough, and the Tyne ports.

Reports from the various ports state that the supply of seamen was in excess of the demand at London, North Shields and Belfast, and to a smaller extent at Newcastle, Leith and Grangemouth. Men were reported as plentiful at Hull, Cardiff, Newport and Glasgow, and equal to the demand at Grimsby, Swansea and Liverpool. Other reports were as follows:—

Small table with 2 columns: Port, Status. Rows include South Shields (Fair demand and fair supply), Southampton (No scarcity of men), Bristol (Demand slightly in excess of supply), Dublin (Sailing... Men scarce, Steam... Supply equal to demand).

The rates of wages in August for able seamen show some increase at Sunderland, Cardiff and Newport, and at the two latter ports for firemen also. Particulars of these changes are given in the "Changes in Wages" table on page 274.

Table showing the number of men, &c., shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom in August 1894 and 1893 respectively:—

Table with 5 columns: Principal Ports, In Sailing Vessels, In Steam Vessels, Total, Total in August 1893, Increase in 1894, Decrease in 1894. Rows include ENGLAND (East Coast, Bristol Channel, Other Ports), SCOTLAND, and IRELAND.

\* Including Barry and Penarth.

(g) EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN THE TEXTILE TRADES IN AUGUST.

Cotton Trade.—The reports from women correspondents in Lancashire and Cheshire again dwell on the depression in the Cotton Trade. Out of 12 mills reported on in Burnley as working full time 7 have been waiting for beams. In Bolton, reports on 11 spinning and weaving firms state that in 2 mills the winders were only working three days a week, and that in a third the spinners (women) were working eight hours a day. One mill at Chew Moor was stopped during August. At Horwich 3 cotton mills are mentioned as working full time; of 3 bleaching works 2 have been busy, and in the third, part of the workers have been on half-time, the rest on full time. In Darwen and Oswaldtwistle the mills are still running full time and work is good. In Accrington nearly all the mills were closed from six to eight days for the annual fair; 1 mill has been idle for seven weeks for repairs. At Preston trade continues depressed and about one-eighth of the looms are said to be standing. At Chorley the engines are running full time, but work is very slack. At Barrowford, out of about



5,000 looms 450 are stopped through a dispute, now in its tenth week, and about 150 are playing for want of warps. At Nelson the cotton mills are still running full time. At Ramsbottom 20 mills are reported as having worked full time with one or two exceptions. At Heywood, out of 34 cotton mills 32 have been running full time, 1 has been stopped, and 1 has been idle owing to a dispute. But although the mills here are in full swing, trade is not good, and they are working to stock. At Bury the local annual holidays, lasting three days generally, were extended to eight and ten days in some mills, and to sixteen days in 1 mill; 3 large mills are only working four days a week, and 1 is so slack that some of the women have had no work for three weeks. The velvet mills are busier. At Failsworth 7 mills are reported on as running full time, but in all of them one week's holiday was given; in 2 weaving sheds work was slack, and in 1 spinning mill the workers in one room were sent home for an indefinite period; they have now been put on coarser work. At Middleton one spinning firm has gone into liquidation and 600 people have been thrown out of work. Three weaving sheds employing over 1,000 persons are only working four days a week; a large velvet finishing firm only one to two days. Hat band weaving is still improving. At Stockport 5 mills are mentioned as working full time, 2 as running full time but slack, 1 as on half time and 1 as having been stopped for some weeks owing to a breakdown.

**Woolen and Worsted Trades.**—In Leeds 10 woolen mills are reported as working full time and 1 as running full time but very slack. One blanket mill is working three-quarter time. In Huddersfield 3 woolen mills are reported as on full time but slack, 2 as on short time, 1 as on full time again at the end of the month and 1 as working overtime. At Slaithwaite out of 8 woolen mills 6 were on full time, with some waiting occasionally, and 2 on short time; short time was worked in a worsted spinning mill. In Dewsbury the fullers' dispute in one firm threw the weavers out of work; elsewhere blanket weaving was very fair; in one large worsted firm the majority of the women and girls have been working 33½ hours a week. At Bingley the 10 mills reported on have all worked full time, and also the two mills employing women at East Norton. At Ravensthorpe out of 8 mills 2 were on short time, 5 on full time and 1 had been working overtime. At Morley out of 8 mills 2 were working short time, 1 had just begun to work full time, and the rest had worked full time during the month. In Lancashire at a woolen and silk mill at Nelson the weavers are each working one loom less.

**Linen Trade.**—Four flax mills in Leeds are still standing and 1 has given notice to close shortly. Out of 7 linen mills none are giving full work to all employed, and 4 are on short time.

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

This dispute has continued during the month, and still goes on. At the time of the issue of the last GAZETTE there appeared to be some indication of a change of policy on the part of many of the miners' leaders with regard to partial or local settlements on certain conditions set forth in the resolution of the Executive of the Miners' National Federation, passed at York on August 7th, which recommended that any district should settle with their employers on the lines of the settlement made by the Federation in England, in any case in which those terms could be obtained. To this policy a considerable section of the Scotch miners offered a strong opposition. The principal leaders were, however, in favour of acting upon the advice of the Federation, and on August 10th a meeting of the Scottish Federation passed the following resolution:—

"That this conference recommends to the miners of Scotland the advisability of conforming to the advice of the British Miners' Federation by accepting a minimum wage for a period of eighteen months, the minimum wage to be half the late reduction restored."

This was said to mean an advance of 6d. per day, instead of 1s. as originally demanded, and was intended to bring the Scottish claims somewhat into line with the terms of the English settlement. This proposal of the Executive on being put to the general vote of the representatives of the miners on strike was decisively rejected at a delegate meeting held in Glasgow, on the 16th August, by a majority of 34 delegates, representing a majority of 39,950 miners.

The refusal of the delegates to accept the policy of the Executive was an indication of differences of opinion which had existed for some time among their leaders, and which developed still further after the decision of the delegate meeting. Generally speaking, the miners in Fife and a few other districts were in favour of the suggested compromise, but in Lanarkshire,

the most important centre of the Scottish trade, feeling ran in the other direction. On August 23rd, the Executive of the British Federation met at York, re-affirmed its resolution of August 7th, and appointed two delegates to attend a conference of delegates of the Scottish miners in Glasgow. This conference was held on August 25th, and decided to take a ballot vote of the men on strike as to the following points:—

(1) Are you in favour of continuing on strike till the last reduction of a shilling be restored, or till the coalmasters agree to meet the representatives of the miners and discuss the terms on which a settlement should be made?

(2) Do you agree to the recommendation of the Executive of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, that in any colliery, district or association where a settlement can be arrived at on the lines of the settlement made by the English Conciliation Board, that the miners be recommended to accept such—the same being that half of the last reduction of a shilling be restored, and that such wage remain for two years?

On August 30th the result of the ballot was made known, the figures being, for the acceptance of the proposed terms of compromise, 25,417; for standing out for the full demand, 20,942. There was thus a majority of 4,475 for the recommendation of the Federation. A further analysis of the voting will show that nearly the whole of the minority votes were cast in the West of Scotland. Thus in Lanarkshire, Renfrew, Fife, Clyde and Ayrshire, while 14,043 votes were recorded in favour of the Federation proposal, 19,864 voted against it. In the East of Scotland, Fife and Clackmannan threw 6,188 votes in favour, and only 275 against. The Lothians voted 5,186 in favour, and only 803 against. There were about 20,000 who did not vote at all, but many of these men were probably away at the harvest, and in some cases at the fishing grounds. The change of attitude on the part of the men may have been due to some extent to their unwillingness to lose the sympathy of the English miners and to the falling off in the amount of the English levies for their support.

So far as the coalowners were concerned, they evinced no disposition to accept the compromise proposed, and declined either to modify their refusal to give an advance of wages, or to enter into negotiations with the leaders of the men, and thus the actual position is but little affected by the change in policy on the part of the miners. On September 1st a meeting of Fife and Clackmannan coal-owners considered a letter from the Executive of the Miners' Association of that district, asking the employers to concede the English Federation terms. The coal-owners replied that they were willing to meet the representatives of the men, but were not prepared to concede the terms of the Federation. Arising from this correspondence, a meeting of the representatives of both parties in Fife and Clackmannan was held in Dunfermline, on September 10th, but no definite result was arrived at. This, in the twelfth week of the dispute, is the first joint conference that has taken place. The employers were willing to agree to the formation of a Conciliation Board after the men return to work, but they would not agree to any further concession. Each party pressed the other to make some alternative practical proposal for settlement, but none was made. On September 12th a meeting was arranged between non-associated coalowners and delegates of the miners by the Lord Provost of Glasgow. The terms of the Federation were, however, absolutely rejected by the employers, who proposed that, in the event of a sufficient proportion (two-thirds) of the men returning to work within a week, the coalowners concerned would promote the formation of a Board of Conciliation, wages to remain at the reduced rates existing before the strike until the end of January next. This proposal was laid before the representatives of the men for consideration on the 13th September. At the meeting the following proposition and amendment were submitted:—

"That this Conference agrees to test the opinion of the Scotch miners on the following terms, if agreed to by the coalowners who met the members of the Executive of Scottish miners or others co-operating with those coal miners, namely:—That the rate of wages existing at the beginning of the strike be continued to the end of January; that the coalowners who met on Wednesday pledge themselves to do all in their power to secure the institution of a

Conciliation Board within six weeks, and that in order to obtain the voice of the coalowners on the points stated, a meeting with them be arranged, if possible to-morrow."

Amendment:—"That, having regard to the unsatisfactory and untrustworthy character of the offer made by the non-associated coalmasters on Wednesday, this Conference is of opinion that the acceptance of such an offer would be detrimental to the best interests of the Scottish miners, and that no further action be taken until the Conference with the British Federation on the 27th inst."

On a vote by show of hands it was ascertained that the amendment was supported by 33 delegates, representing 57,000 miners, as against 28 delegates, representing 12,000 miners, for the motion.

The Board of Trade have continued to keep themselves informed as to the progress of the dispute, both by enquiry on the spot and by communication with the Lord Provost of Glasgow, who has made repeated efforts to arrange a conference between the disputants. In answer to questions in Parliament, on August 18th, the President of the Board of Trade expressed a strong hope that a meeting between the parties might be arranged.

The amounts raised by the English Federation levies have been gradually decreasing, the third levy amounting to about £12,000; the fourth, to £9,450; the fifth, to £7,087. Since the commencement of the dispute Durham has subscribed £3,650 and Northumberland £2,000. The total fortnightly amounts paid to the bulk of the men on strike have been, for the third payment, about 3s. 3d.; for the fourth, 2s. 6d.; for the fifth, 2s. 5d.; but, in Fife and Ayrshire, the third payment per fortnight was 16s. per member of Federation; the fourth, 12s.; the fifth, 7s.; with, in each case, 1s. extra for each child. In the Lothians the fifth payment was 3s. 6d. With so limited an amount of support, there is, naturally, much suffering, and many local benevolent agencies have been established to relieve the distress.

In some localities men have shown a disposition to return to work, and in some cases violent picketing and riots have taken place. On the other hand, it is reported that a few coalowners are conceding the modified terms now demanded by the men, but at the date of writing (12th) there is no trustworthy information on either of these points. They may, however, be taken as indications of an early termination of the dispute.

The effects of the stoppage upon other industries are becoming more strongly marked. There are now only two blast furnaces in full operation in the whole of Scotland, and iron and steel workers are suffering much privation in consequence. Some of the shipbuilding yards on the Clyde are becoming short of material, and many men in this branch of industry are idle in consequence. A few English coal districts are working fuller time in order to supply the Scotch demand, or to supply markets previously held by Scotch coalowners.

Some particulars of the quantities of coal exported and sent coastwise in August will be found in another column.

#### HEALTH IN THE POST-OFFICE IN 1893.\*

The Fortieth Report of the Postmaster-General on the post-office states that the total number of officers on the permanent establishment of the department, together with sub-postmasters on March 31st last, was 74,819. The number added in the year was 2,863. The total includes 10,908 women, of whom 1,180 are employed as clerks in the chief offices in London, Edinburgh and Dublin, and 4,808 as counter-women, sorting clerks and telegraphists throughout the United Kingdom. Besides the foregoing there are about 61,000 other persons employed more or less on post-office work, but not on the permanent establishment. Of these about 17,000 are women.

The average rate of sick absence from all causes was 8.6 days for men and 15.3 for women. The average rate for men varied very little, being 8.2 days in the London chief office, 9.2 days in Metropolitan districts, 8 days in the provinces, 8.8 days in Scotland, and 8.8 days in Ireland. The average rate for women on the other hand varied considerably, being 15.3 in the London chief office, 15.2 in Metropolitan districts, only 9.8 in the provinces, 11.1 in Scotland, and as much as 24.6 days in Ireland.

The death rate for the year was 4.5 per 1,000 for men and the same for women.

\* Fortieth Report of the Postmaster-General on the Post-Office. 1894. (C.—2480). Price 4½d.

#### COAL SHIPPED IN AUGUST.

In view of the prolonged Scottish coal dispute, the following detailed information has been obtained for the Labour Department, showing the quantity of coal shipped coastwise and to foreign countries in August last. To this is added the corresponding figures for August 1892, that year being better for the purposes of comparison than 1893, in the August of which year the great English coal dispute was in progress.

Table showing the Exports of Coal from England and Scotland in the month of August of the years 1894 and 1892, respectively; and the quantities of Coal sent Coastwise.

(The quantities are stated in thousands of tons.)

PORT.	EXPORTED.		SENT COASTWISE.		TOTAL.	
	1894.	1892.	1894.	1892.	1894.	1892.
Thousands of Tons.						
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>						
<b>Northumberland and Durham:</b>						
Newcastle ... ..	459	449	390	363	849	812
North Shields ... ..	305	238	38	20	343	258
South Shields ... ..	62	89	8	1	70	90
Seaham ... ..	187	196	263	227	450	423
Sunderland ... ..	49	36	77	75	126	111
West Hartlepool ... ..	49	36	77	75	126	111
Total—Northumberland and Durham ... ..	1,062	1,008	776	686	1,838	1,694
<b>Eastern Ports:</b>						
Grimsby ... ..	75	56	48	33	123	89
Hull ... ..	160	72	6	5	166	77
Total—Eastern Ports ... ..	235	128	54	38	289	166
<b>Liverpool ... ..</b>	41	49	176	89	217	138
<b>Other English Ports* ... ..</b>	32	21	150	110	182	131
<b>South Wales:</b>						
Cardiff ... ..	1,015	875	169	128	1,184	1,003
Llanelli ... ..	15	16	8	4	23	20
Newport ... ..	229	160	103	109	332	269
Swansea ... ..	93	83	61	61	154	144
Total—South Wales ... ..	1,352	1,134	341	302	1,693	1,436
<b>Total—ENGLAND &amp; WALES.</b>	<b>2,781</b>	<b>2,440</b>	<b>1,512</b>	<b>1,247</b>	<b>4,293</b>	<b>3,687</b>
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
<b>East Scotland:</b>						
Aloa ... ..	1	33	1	6	2	39
Borrowstoness ... ..	1	37	1	4	1	41
Grangemouth ... ..	1	115	1	5	1	120
Kirkcaldy ... ..	1	164	1	5	1	167
Methil ... ..	1	66	1	3	1	69
Other Ports ... ..	1	9	1	3	1	6
Total—East Scotland ... ..	11	413	3	23	14	436
<b>West Scotland:</b>						
Ardrossan ... ..	1	8	1	13	1	21
Glasgow ... ..	1	69	1	54	1	123
Greenock & Port Glasgow ... ..	1	22	1	84	1	22
Other Ports ... ..	1	13	1	1	1	97
Total—West Scotland ... ..	1	112	3	151	3	263
<b>Total—SCOTLAND ... ..</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>699</b>
<b>Total—GREAT BRITAIN...</b>	<b>2,792</b>	<b>2,965</b>	<b>1,518</b>	<b>1,421</b>	<b>4,310</b>	<b>4,386</b>

It is noticeable that of the selected ports in England and Wales all but one (S. Shields) show a large increase over August 1892 in the quantity shipped. This increase is seen to be, in the aggregate, 606,000 tons, which nearly counterbalances the drop of 682,000 tons in the shipments from Scotland. The total shipments from Liverpool show an increase of 57 per cent., viz., from 138,000 to 217,000 tons; from the Eastern Ports of 26 per cent., viz., from 288,000 to 363,000 tons; and from the Welsh of 18 per cent., viz., from 1,436,000 to 1,693,000 tons. It should be remarked that Liverpool, whilst showing an increase of 87,000 tons sent coastwise, has a decrease of 8,000 tons exported to foreign countries.

Shipments of coal from Scottish ports in August were 17,000 tons only, as compared with 699,000 tons in August 1892. Of the total decrease of 682,000 tons, 514,000 are due to the decline in exports, and 168,000 in the amount sent coastwise.

\* Included with these ports is Whitehaven, from which place it is reported that exceptionally large quantities of coal have been sent to Scotland and Ireland during August.

The fluctuations in the table may be conveniently summarised as follows:—

	Increase. Tons.	Decrease. Tons.
Northumberland and Durham Ports	144,000	...
Eastern Ports ... ..	75,000	...
Liverpool ... ..	79,000	...
South Wales Ports ... ..	257,000	...
Other English Ports ... ..	51,000	...
<b>Total—England and Wales</b>	<b>606,000</b>	<b>...</b>
East Scotland ... ..	...	422,000
West Scotland ... ..	...	260,000
<b>Total Scotland</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>682,000</b>
<b>Total Great Britain</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>76,000</b>

The total decrease of 76,000 tons for Great Britain is all in coal exported to foreign countries, the fall in which is 173,000 tons, the amount sent coastwise being 97,000 tons more than in August 1892.

THE IRON-FOUNDERS' AND PATTERN-MAKERS' DISPUTES ON THE NORTH-EAST COAST.

SOME account was given in the last number of the GAZETTE of the deadlock caused in the Shipbuilding and Engineering Trades in the district lying between the Tyne and the Tees by the turn-outs of iron-founders and pattern-makers in March and April. During the past month constant efforts have been made to arrange a mode of settlement of the dispute of the iron-founders, and, fortunately, it may now be said to have terminated. Several conferences between representatives of the men and of the employers were held, both sides being in favour of the formation of a Board of Conciliation to settle the matters in dispute, but they differed as to the special questions to be referred to the Board.

At a conference on August 22nd, the employers put forward, as the basis of consideration:—

"Does the state of trade at this time justify an advance or a reduction in wages, and if so, how much?"

The moulders refused to assent to a reference in these terms, on the ground that they had asked for an advance, and that a reduction was not at the time in contemplation. The conference was, therefore, abortive. On the 27th a similar unsuccessful meeting was held, the moulders desiring "open arbitration," and the employers specific terms of reference.

On August 29th, however, a suggestion by the men's committee was submitted to, and accepted by the employers, and ballot papers to the following effect were issued to the men:—

"Shall we form a permanent Conciliation Board, whose first business will be to consider the wages of the moulders in this district?"

"If a majority vote 'Yes,' the men will return to work at once. The ballot must be taken and papers returned to branch representatives, or district committee, not later than nine o'clock on Friday morning, August 31st 1894."

A considerable number of moulders had obtained work in other districts during the strike, but of about 1,500 who originally came out, 1,161 voted, with the following result:—

For the proposition ... ..	709
Against... ..	452
<b>Majority for...</b>	<b>257</b>

The men presented themselves at the various works on Monday, September 3rd, in accordance with the decision of the joint committee upon the result of the ballot being communicated, but a very large number could not immediately be taken on, as work can only be re-started gradually after such a stoppage, and also owing to some trade having left the district and the strike of pattern-makers being still unsettled. In five establishments on the Tyne, where originally 240 moulders had been employed, 48 only were able to be re-started on the first day, at two Hartlepool works 30 only out of 240, and on the Tees and Wear a similar state of things prevailed. On September 5th it was estimated that about one-third had resumed work.

A Committee has been appointed to draw up rules for the constitution of the Conciliation Board; the first meeting was held on Monday, September 10th, and satisfactory progress was made with the formation of rules. On the same date a meeting took place between representatives of employers and of pattern-makers, with a view to arrange terms for the resumption of work, but no settlement could be arrived at.

THE BOARD OF TRADE AND SEAMEN.

In a circular to shipowners the Board of Trade has called their attention to the recommendations contained in the report of the Labour Commission and in the minority report of four members of the Commission.

Pending the consideration of such legislative proposals as may be decided upon, the Board of Trade especially urges the voluntary adoption, when possible, of the recommendations relating to minimum cubic space per person, allotment notes and qualifications of ships' cooks. (See LABOUR GAZETTE for August, page 243, and September, page 275.)

THE TRADES' UNION CONGRESS.

THE Twenty-seventh Annual Trades' Union Congress assembled in St. Andrew's Hall, Norwich, on Monday, September 3rd, and continued its sittings on the five following days. Mr. Frank Delves, Amalgamated Society of Engineers, was elected chairman, and presided during the week, having the assistance of Mr. John Burns, M.P., as vice-chairman. The Congress, though well attended, was not quite so large as some of those of recent years, the limitation of representatives in proportion to the numbers represented having some effect in diminishing the attendance. Few of the larger societies sent the full number of delegates to which their strength entitled them, while many of the lesser unions were represented up to their full strength.

The standing order on the subject allows one delegate to each union for every 2,000 members, or fraction thereof, provided that the society has paid £1 for every 1,000, or fractional part thereof, to the expenses of the Parliamentary Committee for the year, and a fee of 10s. per delegate. The inequality of voting power has, therefore, been somewhat redressed, but it is still out of proportion to the actual numbers represented. Each delegate has one vote, and the strongest illustration of this inequality is furnished by the contrast of one society with 75,000 members and only four delegates, and another with 5,000 members and three delegates. Trade Councils are also now limited to sending delegates only for such of their members as are not directly represented through their own trade associations. For these reasons it is possible to fix much more definitely than in previous years the actual number of trade unionists represented at the Congress. With trade councils and similar bodies returning their full strength there were always a certain number of double entries of membership, which rendered exactness difficult, but these have now almost entirely disappeared, and the numbers returned may be taken as fairly accurate. In the aggregate there were 372 delegates, representing 1,080,545 members, as against 380 delegates and 1,000,000 members in the previous year. Of these, 91.4 per cent. were from England, 6.4 per cent. from Scotland, and 2.2 per cent. from Ireland. The districts most strongly represented were Lancashire and London and locality, the former sending 111 delegates and the latter 54.

An analysis of the constitution of the Congress from a trades point of view will show to what extent the principal groups of trades were represented, and also their respective proportional voting power. The following table has been drawn after a careful review of the list of delegates; all double entries have been allowed for, and the list is fairly exhaustive, though in the column showing number of societies a few separate branches of large organisations are counted as societies because they are independently represented:—

Groups of Trades.	Number of Organisations and Branches.	Number of Delegates.	Number of Members.
Baking ... ..	3	4	7,669
Building ... ..	18	21	123,335
Cabinet Making ... ..	4	5	9,733
Clear Making ... ..	1	1	1,229
Clothing ... ..	14	29	62,557
Coach Making ... ..	2	3	5,600
Coopers ... ..	2	2	5,416
Engineering ... ..	11	18	119,219
Engineers ... ..	9	10	11,458
Engineermen ... ..	16	23	31,342
Metal ... ..	6	46	239,580
Mining ... ..	2	2	1,800
Pottery ... ..	6	6	37,448
Printing and Bookbinding ... ..	13	16	52,900
Saddle and Harness Making ... ..	1	1	650
Shipbuilding (including Boiler Making) ... ..	3	9	52,900
Textile Trades ... ..	24	80	151,023
Transport (including Railway Workers, Seamen, Firemen, and Dock Labourers)	14	23	77,690
Agricultural, Chemical, Gas, and General Labourers	19	38	72,698
Miscellaneous Female Labour not included in other Groups	4	4	3,260
Trade Councils ... ..	27	37	65,938
<b>Total</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>1,080,545</b>

The programme of business was very lengthy. All resolutions for discussion by Congress must be sent in to the Parliamentary Committee at least six weeks before Congress meets, and the order of discussion by subjects is determined by ballot. The resolutions are first printed and circulated, and amendments must be sent in to the Committee seven days before the opening of Congress. No less than 126 resolutions were thus sent in and placed on the agenda of Congress.

The opening day's proceedings were brief, officers of Congress being elected and the report of the Parliamentary Committee on the work of the past year read to the meeting. The address of the President of Congress and the discussion of the committee's report occupied the whole of the second day. On the succeeding days of the week the Congress discussed as many of the resolutions set down on the programme as was possible in the time available. The debates were carried on without excitement, and more unanimity prevailed than in any of the Congresses of recent years. There is a continued growth in the number of subjects which may be said to relate rather to politics more or less directly affecting labour than to matters of purely trade union policy. Thus resolutions were passed on the following subjects, all, in the opinion of Congress, demanding legislative treatment:—The law of conspiracy as affecting workmen; the payment of Members of Parliament; an eight hours' day; employers' liability for accidents to, and loss of tools by, their employees; amendment of Factories Acts and of Mines Acts; inspection of public works; increased inspection of factories and workshops; nationalisation of the land and also of all the means of production, distribution and exchange; alien immigration; reform of Parliamentary procedure; and abolition of the power of veto by the House of Lords. The resolution in respect to nationalisation marks perhaps more clearly than any other the great change which has taken place among trade unionists during the last seven or eight years on this subject. The resolution proposed dealt only with the land and its contents, but an amendment proposing the substitution of the words "the whole of the means of production, distribution and exchange" was carried by 219 votes to 61 votes. Considerable excitement attended the election of Secretary of the Parliamentary Committee, a contest arising out of the hostile attitude of the late Secretary Mr. Charles Fenwick, M.P., to the Miners' Eight Hours Bill. Mr. Samuel Woods, M.P., who is favourable to the Bill, was elected in place of Mr. Fenwick. Very little change took place in the constitution of the Parliamentary Committee, most of the sitting members being re-elected. The trades represented on the committee are:—Engineers, cotton spinners, cotton weavers, stonemasons, miners, seamen and firemen, boot and shoe operatives, iron-moulders, dock labourers, gas workers, railway workers, and cabinet-makers. During the week numerous sectional meetings were held, the largest being that in furtherance of the objects of Women's Trade Union League.

FISHING APPRENTICESHIP SYSTEM.\*

THE Report of Mr. A. D. Berrington (an Assistant Secretary to the Board of Trade) and Mr. J. S. Davy (an Inspector of the Local Government Board) gives the result of their personal investigation on shore into the results of apprenticing pauper lads to the Fishing Industry.

The causes of the failure of discipline in Grimsby as compared with other ports are discussed. Indications of this difference may be found in the following table:—

TABLE showing for certain Ports the total number of Apprentices in the Fishing Industry, and the number and percentage that absconded, died, or were committed to prison for offences against their indentures respectively, during the five years 1889 to 1893 inclusive.

Fishing Ports.	Total number of Apprentices to whom the figures relate.†	Absconded.		Died.		Committed to Prison for Offences against Indentures.	
		Number	Per-centage.	Number	Per-centage.	Number	Per-centage.
Grimsby ... ..	2,083	365	17.5	92	4.4	610	29.3
Brixham ... ..	418	12	2.9	4	1.0	7	1.7
Colchester ... ..	226	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Ports (except Hull) ... ..	530	31	5.8	11	2.1	7	1.3

The writers of the Report in their recommendations of measures to be adopted to remedy existing evils, dwell especially upon the need of a certain amount of home life for the boys, with the domestic supervision and interests which home life implies when they are ashore. They advise the re-adjustment of certain details connected with the regulations and supervision, the question of spending money and perquisites of apprentices calling for special attention. They consider that the term of apprenticeship ought not to exceed six years.

RAILWAY WORKING IN 1893.

Effect of the Great Coal Dispute.

THE general report of the Board of Trade on railway share and loan capital in the United Kingdom in 1893 states that the annual railway returns have not for many years shown such unsatisfactory results. The heavy fall in the receipts from goods traffic during the year much outweighed the slight increases in revenue from passengers and from miscellaneous sources. The decline in the proportion of net earnings to capital is in continuation of a decline which has now been in progress for four years. The principal cause of the fall for 1893 is the great coal dispute of that year.

For the first time for seven years there was a decrease in the gross receipts of the railway companies, and the amount of the reduction is without precedent during the forty years over which the records extend. It was most nearly approached by the great fall in 1879, but the decline in that year was greatest in the revenue from passenger traffic, whereas the whole of last year's reduction was due to a falling off in the receipts from goods traffic. Of this falling off in the goods traffic receipts, which amounts to £1,900,000, the greater part, viz., £1,424,000, was due to the decrease in the "mineral" traffic, while £471,000 was due to the decrease in the "general merchandise" traffic. The North-Eastern Company whose system serves a district in which the miners continued at work during the coal dispute is exceptional in showing an increase in receipts from mineral traffic on 1892, but this increase merely makes good the ground lost through the dispute of the Durham coal miners in 1892.

There was a decrease of 17½ million tons in the quantity of coal raised last year, and there was a decrease of nearly 16½ million tons in the total quantity of goods carried over the railways.

The diminution of traffic was accompanied by a decrease in the gross amount of expenses of working, so trivial that the expenditure of 1893 was almost identical with that of 1892 when much more work was done, so that relatively the expenditure of 1893 was considerably increased as compared with 1892.

\* Fishing Apprenticeship System. (C.—7,576 of 1891.) Price 3d.  
† The numbers in this column are made up of the number of apprentices serving on December 31st 1888, and of the number of apprentices whose indentures were confirmed in the period 1889-93.  
‡ Returns for this port are imperfect.

CHANGES IN WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN AUGUST.

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

The number of changes in wages and hours of labour reported during the month continues to decline as compared with the number recorded in the spring and early summer. Some of the changes, however, affect large numbers of men. The reduction in the wages of coal hewers in the federated districts, reported last month, has been followed by a 10 per cent. decrease in the wages of about 1,500 coal hewers in the Bristol Coalfield. During the month the owners of five collieries in this district have accepted the terms of the Conciliation Board for the Federated Districts. There has also been a 10 per cent. reduction in the wages of about 6,000 coal hewers under the South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire Wages Board.

A 10 per cent. reduction has also taken place in the rates of over 4,000 nail makers in Dudley and surrounding districts, and 5 per cent. has been taken off the rates of 2,000 lace makers in the Nottingham district.

The most noteworthy increase has been in the Shipping Trade on the Bristol Channel. The change took place on August 27th, and during the last five days of that month 429 seamen and firemen participated in the advance.

Shorter hours of labour have been adopted at several co-operative stores in the North of England and in Edinburgh.

A firm of boot and shoemakers at Leeds are trying the eight-hours' day as "an experiment," and a firm of pig-iron manufacturers, near Nottingham, have adopted three shifts of eight hours per day instead of two shifts of twelve hours each.

Employment.	Locality.	Approximate number of workpeople directly affected.	Particulars of Change.
<b>INCREASES IN RATES OF WAGES.</b>			
<b>Building Trades.</b>			
Carpenters and Joiners	Blyth and District	50	1/2d. per hour (8 1/2d. to 9d.) from 1st August.
	Airdrie	14	1/2d. per hour (7d. to 7 1/2d.) from 20th August.
	Elgin	26	1d. per hour (6d. to 7d.) from 2nd August.
Plumbers	Paisley	59	1/2d. per hour (8d. to 8 1/2d.) from 17th August.
	Galashiels...	20	1/2d. per hour (7d. to 7 1/2d.) from 27th August.
	Cheltenham	28	1/2d. per hour (6d. to 6 1/2d.) from 13th August.
Plasterers	Glasgow	285	1/2d. per hour (8d. to 8 1/2d.) from 3rd Sept., and another 1/2d. from 4th March 1895.
	Perth	26	1/2d. per hour (7 1/2d. to 8d.) from 6th August.
Slaters	Galashiels...	12	1/2d. per hour (7d. to 7 1/2d.) from 6th August.
	Manchester and District	60	6d. per 1,000. Advance averages about 4s. per week (24s. 6d. to 28s. 6d.) from 13th August.
	Gloucester...	20	4d. per 1,000 (3s. to 3s. 4d.) from 12th August. Advance averages about 2s. 8d. per week (24s. to 26s. 8d.)
Lath-renders	Glasgow	108	1/2d. per hour from 3rd September and another 1/2d. from 1st January 1895.
	Dublin	15	8 per cent. on piece rates from 13th August.
Bricklayers' Labourers	Glasgow	7	1/2d. per hour (5 1/2d. to 6d.) from 10th August.
<b>Mining.</b>			
Coal Hewers, Drawers, and Oncoast Men	Prestonpans	240	10 per cent. from 10th September.
	Tranent, East Lothian	70	10 per cent. from 16th August.
<b>Metal Trades.</b>			
Brass Finishers	Finnieston	9	1 of 5s. 6d. per week advance; 1 of 5s.; 6 of 2s. 6d.; and 1 of 6d. Present wages, 1 at 27s. and 8 at 31s. 6d. From 10th and 24th August.
Blade Forgers, Grinders and Cutlers (Pen and Pocket Knives)	Sheffield	200	5 per cent. on piece rates. Average earnings for full week increased from about 25s. to 26s. 3d. From 3rd September.

\* In all cases the accuracy of Newspaper reports is inquired into before the information is used here

Employment.	Locality.	Number.	Particulars of Change.
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INCREASES IN RATES OF WAGES—(continued).

<b>Seamen, &amp;c.</b>			
Able Seamen (Sailing Vessels)	Sunderland	29†	5s. per month (55s. to 60s.) from 18th August.
	Cardiff	44†	2s. 6d. per month (60s. to 62s. 6d.) from 27th August.
Able Seamen (Steamships)	Ditto	119†	10s. per month (70s. to 80s.) from 27th August.
Firemen	Ditto	108†	10s. per month (75s. to 85s.) from 27th August.
Sailors and Firemen (Weekly Boats)	Ditto	20†	Advance varied from 6d. to 2s. 6d. per week. Wages before change, 28s. to 30s.; after, 30s. 6d. From 27th August.
Able Seamen (Steamships)	Newport	...	5s. per month (75s. to 80s.) from 27th August.
Firemen	Ditto	...	5s. per month (80s. to 85s.) from 27th August.
Sailors and Firemen (Weekly Boats)	Ditto	138†	Advance varied from 6d. to 2s. 6d. per week. Wages before change, 28s. to 30s.; after, 30s. 6d. From 27th August.
<b>Dock Labour.</b>			
Coal Heavers	Birkenhead and Liverpool	780	1s. per day (7s. to 8s.) from 13th August.
Coal Trimmers	Newport, Mon.	18	1/2d. per ton (3d. to 3 1/2d.) from 12th August.
Dock Labourers	Aberdeen	About 36	1/2d. per hour (3 1/2d. to 4d.) from 23rd August.
	Limerick	400	1s. per day (5s. and 6s., to 6s. and 7s.) from 30th August.
<b>Textile Trades.</b>			
Cotton Weavers	Chorley	219	About 4 1/2 per cent. on one class of goods, bringing rate up to list price. From 29th August.
Woollen Weavers	Delph	30	1s. 6d. per week (15s. to 16s. 6d.) from 1st August.
Fullers	Leeds	3	1s. per week (18s. to 19s.) from 4th August.
Dyers	Halifax	200	2s. 6d. per week (25s. to 27s. 6d.) from 26th July.
<b>Clothing Trades.</b>			
Boot and Shoe Clickers	Leicester	About 18	Adoption of new piecework rates. Average advance 6s. per week (22s. to 28s.) from 14th August.
<b>Printing Trades.</b>			
Compositors	Dumfries	12	1s. 6d. per week (27s. to 28s. 6d.) from 20th August.
	Dumfries	10	1s. per week (27s. to 28s.); from 20th August.
<b>Miscellaneous.</b>			
Bakers	Foremen	15	4s. per week (26s. to 30s.) from 6th August.
	Jobbers	4	3s. 6d. per week (24s. to 27s. 6d.) from 6th August.
	Tablemen	37	4s. per week (20s. to 24s.) from 6th August.
Corporation Employees:—			
Pitchers	...	2	3s. per week (30s. to 33s.) from 3rd August.
Destructor Men	Bristol	20	3s. per week (24s. to 27s.) from 3rd August.
Labourers	...	340	1s. per week (19s. to 20s.) from 3rd August.
Foreman, Carmen, Sweepers, and Labourers, &c.	Eastbourne	26	1 of 5s. per week; 5 of 4s.; 3 of 3s.; 16 of 2s.; and 1 of 6d. Previous wages 15s. to 25s., present wages 18s. to 30s. From 5th July.
Cabmen	Nottingham	30	2s. 6d. per day (15s. 6d. to 18s.) from 3rd September.

DECREASES IN RATES OF WAGES.

<b>Mining.</b>			
Coal Hewers or Getters	South Staffs. and East Worcestershire	6,000	Sliding scale. 10 per cent. Present wages—4s. 4d. per day for "thick" coal miners, and 3s. 5d. for "thin" coal miners. From first pay after 29th August.
	Bristol District	1,500	10 per cent. from 24th and 31st August.
<b>Metal Trades.</b>			
Nail Makers	Dudley, Halesowen, and Bromsgrove Districts	4,000 to 5,000	10 per cent. off piece rates. From 7th July.
Blast Furnacemen	Shotts	150	Temporary reduction of 10 per cent. during Scottish Coal Dispute. From 13th August.
<b>Shipbuilding.</b>			
Shipwrights	Passage West	50	3s. per week on new work (35s. to 33s.) from 15th August.
<b>Textile Trades.</b>			
Cotton Weavers	Whitworth, nr. Rochdale	210	About 5 1/2 per cent. off piece rates, from 8th August.
Thread Workers	Leeds	Not stated	Women, 6d. per week (5s. to 6s. 6d.); Girls, 6d. per week (5s. to 4s. 6d.). Men in Flax Department, 2s. per week. From 24th August.
Worsted Doublers	Elland	15	1s. 6d. per week (10s. 6d. to 9s.) from 20th July.

† Number affected during August.  
‡ These men are paid a fixed weekly wage irrespective of earnings.  
§ In addition to the hewers, most of the day workers on the Bristol Coalfield have suffered a reduction, but the exact number cannot be stated.

Employment.	Locality.	Number.	Particulars of Change.
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DECREASES IN RATES OF WAGES—(continued).

<b>Textile Trades—contd.</b>			
Worsted Weavers	Bradford	50	7d. per week (12s. to 11s. 5d.) from about 27th July.
Lace Makers (Levers Branch)	Nottingham and District	2,000	5 per cent. off piece rates from 3rd September.
Linen Weavers	Lochee	90	Average wages before change, 12s. 6d.; after, 11s. 9d.
<b>DECREASES IN HOURS OF LABOUR.</b>			
<b>Building Trades.</b>			
Plumbers	Drogheda and District	14	1 hour per day (10 to 9) from 4th August.
<b>Metal Trades.</b>			
Blast Furnacemen	Bestwood, nr. Nottingham	168	4 hours per day (12 to 8) from 16th August.
<b>Clothing Trades.</b>			
Boot & Shoe Operatives (all branches)	Leeds	134	6 hours per week (54 to 48) from 3rd August.
<b>Miscellaneous.</b>			
	Sunderland	70	3 hours per week (54 to 51) from 1st October.
	Hartlepool	79	5 1/2 hours per week (53 1/2 to 48) from 1st July.
	Edinburgh	51	1 hour per week (54 to 53) from 1st October.
	Edinburgh	298	4 hours per week (58 to 54) from 1st September.
	Leith	14	3 1/2 hours per week (57 1/2 to 54) from 23rd July.
	Leith	85	2 hours per week (56 to 54) from 15th September.
Bakers	Inverness	56	17 hours per week (72 to 55) from 6th August.
Corporation Employees:—Foreman, Carmen, Sweepers and Labourers	Eastbourne	42	2 hours per week (58 1/2 to 56 1/2) from 5th July.

COAL TRADE CONCILIATION BOARD.

THERE has been some dispute concerning the classes of workpeople affected by the 10 per cent. reduction of miners' wages recently determined upon by the Coal Trade Conciliation Board for the Federated Districts. The surfacemen and colliery boys at many collieries refused to submit to the reduction on the ground that they had not received the same advances as the coal hewers, viz., 40 per cent. above the standard rates in 1888. A meeting of the Board was held in London on the 31st ult., and it was mutually agreed that the intention of the terms of settlement fixed at the meeting held on 19th July as to the wages of day-wage and surfacemen was as follows:—

(a) In cases where, since 1888, their wages have been advanced about the time the colliers' wages were advanced, then the two last advances to be taken off as they were put on.

(b) Where the day-wage and surfacemen have not had their wages advanced about the time advances were given to the colliers, the present reduction is to be one-fourth of the advances upon the standard of 1888.

MINORITY REPORT OF THE LABOUR COMMISSION.

THE Minority Report signed by four members of the Labour Commission makes the following recommendations among others:—

**The Sweated Trades.**—(1) That employers who give out work to be done off their premises should be held legally responsible in the same manner as a factory owner for the sanitary condition, hours of labour, education, &c., of the persons thus employed.

(2) That in every public contract a condition should be inserted that all the work should be performed on the contractor's own premises. That steps be taken by Government to ensure that all uniforms and other clothing required for public servants of any kind be manufactured either by the Government or by the municipalities requiring them.

**Hours of Labour.**—(1) That eight hours should be prescribed by an Order in Council as the normal maximum working day in all Government departments, and that overtime should be strictly limited to cases of special emergency.

(2) That the Board of Trade should intimate to the railway companies its intention, if set in motion in the

manner provided by the Railways Regulation Act of 1893, of calling for the adoption within two years of such a schedule of working hours as would bring the normal maximum week's duty for any employee down to 48 hours, of which not more than 12 should fall in any one period of 24 hours.

(3) That any rules made by the Home Secretary for dangerous trades should include the limitation of the week's work to 48 hours, or less, according to the character of the occupation.

(4) That legislation should secure an eight hours' day for men and boys in the Mining Industry, and for all operatives in the Textile Industries. That the Shop Assistants Bill prepared by Sir John Lubbock should be passed into law. That in all future railway or tramway Bills or Provisional Orders the Board of Trade should require the insertion of a clause prescribing a maximum normal working day.

(5) That an Eight Hours' Act should be passed, laying down the principle of a maximum working day, and authorising its application to particular industries, after due inquiry.

**Factory and Mines Department.**—(1) That the Factory and Workshop Acts should be extended to laundries and (as regards notice of and protection against accidents) to canals, docks, ships, buildings, &c.

(2) That inspection should be rendered more adequate by a large increase in the number of assistant inspectors chosen mainly from the ranks of practical artisans and miners, and of women inspectors.

(3) That at least one medical or scientific expert should be on the staff of the factory department, with specialist assistance whenever required. That local certifying surgeons might be employed to make periodical reports upon the condition of the operatives.

(4) That a small commission of medical and scientific experts should be appointed to deal in succession with each of the industries in which the death rate is above the average.

(5) That the "particulars clause" (Section 24 of the Act of 1891) should be extended to all piece-work in the Textile Industries, and that the Home Secretary should be empowered to extend it to any other piece-work trades in which it may be required.

(6) That the registration and inspection of canal boats should be made more effective.

(7) That a single Department of Labour should be formed, in which the present Factory and Mines Departments of the Home Office, the Labour Department of the Board of Trade, and the Registry of Friendly Societies, should be included.

**Seamen.**—(1) That legislation should provide for (a) the enforcement of a compulsory manning scale so adjusted as to secure a normal eight hours' day for sailors and firemen; (b) the restriction of the employment of Lascars, or other non-European seamen to a limited proportion of the crew; and (c) the provision of proper sleeping accommodation for each seaman, with at least 120 cubic feet of space.

(2) That the Board of Trade should make it part of its duty to see that the Merchant Seamen (Payment of Wages and Rating) Act, 1880, is carried out, and that the shipowner should be required to advance weekly, if desired, at least two-thirds of the wages as they accrue.

(3) That a minimum food scale should be obligatory. That some qualification should be required from ships' cooks, and that there should be a qualified inspector of medical stores.

(4) That the Local Marine Boards should be made equally representative of shipowners and seamen.

**Agricultural Labourers.**—(1) That the parish councils in Great Britain should receive the same power of providing cottages as is enjoyed by boards of guardians in Ireland, and by town councils throughout the whole country.

(2) That facilities should be afforded to parish and district councils to both purchase and hire land compulsorily for the purpose of letting it out in small plots. That the Allotments Act should be greatly simplified, and extended to Ireland.

**Employers' Liability.**—(1) That the provisions of the Bill of 1893-4, passed by the House of Commons, should be enacted. That the Government should adopt those provisions for their own employees at once.

**The Unemployed.**—(1) That a representative dock and harbour board should be established for the Thames, with power to take over, administer, improve, and work the docks and wharves below London Bridge, as well as all the present functions of the Thames Conservancy Board so far as regards the lower Thames.

(2) That in districts in which distress has arisen from a serious contraction of the local industries, vestries, local boards and towns should be allowed and encouraged to co-operate with boards of guardians in dealing with the distress.

(3) That for those who have become unfit for regular work experimental labour colonies should be established under strict government.

**Conditions of Public Employment.**—(1) That every public authority should so arrange the conditions of its service as to exercise a good effect upon other employers. That the wages of any able-bodied adult man in public employment in London should not be less than 24s. a week. That for adult women in London, the County Council minimum of 18s. a week might be adopted. That in localities where the cost of living is less, the minimum might vary accordingly, but that in no case should adult men be paid at a lower rate than 21s. a week.

(2) That wherever a trade union standard wage or list of piece-work exists, and is in practice observed by any considerable section of the private employers, it should be adopted by all public authorities.

(3) That in entering into contracts for supplies or works, the Government should adopt a form expressly binding the contractor to pay the trade union standard rates, as specified in a schedule to the contract.

**Conciliation and Arbitration.**—(1) That for questions as to the proper interpretation of existing agreements or as to their special application, joint boards, whether of conciliation or arbitration, similar to those in the Boot and Shoe-making Industry, should be established in different trades.

(2) That for questions as to the terms upon which a new agreement should be entered into, arbitration should only take place on a reference which is explicitly based upon an inquiry whether the existing conditions are or are not consistent with efficient citizenship.

(3) That the Labour Department should be given power to obtain the fullest possible information about the facts of every dispute, the actual net wages earned, the cost of living, the price of the product, the cost of manufacture, the salaries and interest paid, the employer's profits, and any other material details, voluntarily if possible, but where necessary, by compulsory inspection of accounts, &c., in order that the issues between the contending parties may be ascertained and put fairly before the combatants and the public.

**JUTE WORKERS IN BENGAL.\***

FROM the Reports on the working of the Indian Factories Act, it appears that in 1892 in Bengal, 150 factories came under the operation of the Act, of which 37 were jute mills and 34 were jute presses.

In the jute presses, which work for only five or six months in the year, the main employment of the operatives is sorting out and cleaning the raw material and cutting off the ends. But few boys and no girls were employed in the jute presses, and out of nearly 14,000 adult workers, only 1,000 were women.

In the jute mills out of 63,008 operatives, 12,795 were women, 6,521 boys and 760 girls. The usual hours of labour in the jute mills are from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., but in the hot weather, when the days are longer, the working time is 1½ hours longer. The operatives are allowed intervals amounting to three hours for food and rest. This is arranged for in many of the mills by introducing three shifts. Children work in two shifts. The first set work from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m., and again from 12 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and the second from 9 a.m. till 12 noon, and

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

again from 3 p.m. In some mills these hours differ slightly, but the actual employment of children in no case exceeds seven hours.

The special inspector of factories states that a family of four can earn from 30 to 40 rupees a month in the jute mills, a boy or girl of 10 or 11 years of age earning from 3'8 to 4 rupees a month. These earnings are higher than can be obtained outside a factory.

The work of the operatives is not considered arduous. The general rule in all the large factories is to engage more hands than are required in order to provide against sickness and irregular attendance; and twice as many persons are employed in the jute mills in Bengal as are required to work a similar sized mill in Dundee. The women are generally engaged in the sewing and weaving rooms, but a few are employed in feeding the jute-softening machine and carding machines. They are allowed to take their babies and little children with them when no machinery is in use.

Difficulty has arisen in finding occupation for children out of working hours. Some millowners have opened schools, which the children attend twice a day for two hours at a time. This period, added to the hour allowed for recreation, enables them to remain at the mill until their parents are able to take them home.

**ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.**

THE autumnal meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom was held in Huddersfield on the 11th and 12th September. About 240 delegates attended. Sir Albert Kollit, M.P., presided. Sir Courtenay Boyle, K.C.B., Permanent Secretary of the Board of Trade, and A. E. Bateman, Esq., C.M.G., of the Board of Trade, were present. A resolution was passed expressing regret at the failure of the House of Commons to pass into law any Bill placing voluntary Boards of Conciliation and Arbitration upon a more satisfactory footing. A resolution was also passed deprecating the increase in the number of foreigners engaged in our mercantile marine. A resolution calling for legislation with a view to mitigating the evils of pauper alien immigration was negatived.

**JOURNAL OF BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.\***

THE first number of the new quarterly *Journal of the Board of Agriculture* opens with an introductory note explaining its objects to be the diffusion of information useful to agriculturists which could not conveniently be dealt with either in the leaflets dealing with urgent questions which the Board is in the habit of issuing as required or in its annual publications. Among the subjects treated of are the cost of growing wheat in the United States and the agricultural depression in that country, agricultural co-operative societies in France (combinations of farmers mainly engaged in facilitating the purchase of cheap and pure manures, feeding stuffs, seeds, machines and other agricultural requisites, but also in some instances promoting the sale of butter, cheese, olive oil, honey, &c., direct to consumers), dairying in Victoria, and the export of Norwegian sheep to England. Statistics are given in relation to the imports and exports of agricultural produce in the six months ended June 30th 1893 and 1894, also preliminary statements compiled from the agricultural returns of Great Britain collected on June 4th 1894 in regard to crops and live stock, including a comparison with the figures for previous years, and information in respect to the prices of live stock, dead meat, corn, butter, margarine, cheese, fruit and vegetables.

**Preliminary Agricultural Return.**—From the preliminary statement issued by the Board of Agriculture, it appears that in the case of hay from permanent pastures the acreage is 4,852,442, or 13·6 per cent. more in 1894 than in 1893, though only 8·1 per cent. above the figures for 1892, and that the acreages under corn, rotation grasses and clover and hops, show increases over 1893, ranging from 1·0 to 3·7 per cent., while land under potatoes has decreased 4·4 per cent. The numbers of cattle and sheep are less in every class than in 1893, the decrease being 5·3 per cent. in the case of cattle, and 5·2 per cent. in the case of sheep. The stock of pigs, however, has increased by 13·1 per cent. over the total for 1893.

\* The Journal of the Board of Agriculture, Vol. I., No. 1, September 1894. Eyre & Spottiswoode. Price 6d.

**PAUPERISM IN AUGUST.**

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

(1.) The number of persons relieved in the 35 selected urban districts on one day in the middle of August was 312,762, or 214 per 10,000 of population, an increase of 4,091 persons, or 3 per 10,000, as compared with July. In spite of the Scottish coal dispute, the increase has been more marked in England than in Scotland. Barnsley, Aberdeen, and Galway districts show decreases of 5, 7, and 9 per 10,000 of population, respectively. In the Galway district there was a decrease of 16 per 10,000 in the previous month, making the total decrease in the district 25 per 10,000 since the middle of June.

The number of vagrants in London on one day in the middle of August was returned as 1,078, as compared with 992 in the previous month, and 874 in August 1893.

(2.) Compared with August 1893, there were 12,870 more persons, or 9 per 10,000 of population, in receipt of relief in the selected urban districts this year than last. This increase amounted to 9 per 10,000 in the Metropolis; 18 each in West Ham and Hull; and 16 each in Bradford and North Staffordshire. The rate for the Stockton and Tees district shows a decrease of 39 persons per 10,000, and for Cork, Waterford and Limerick, of 8 per 10,000.

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of August 1894.				Paupers on corresponding date in 1893.	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.	Rate per 10,000 of Population.*	Total Number.	Rate per 10,000 of Population.*
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.†</b>						
Metropolis.	9,728	1,950	11,678	158	11,035	149
North District ...	12,824	9,018	21,842	220	20,965	211
Central District ...	6,850	3,388	10,238	414	10,076	407
East District ...	12,371	4,274	16,645	236	16,317	231
South District ...	18,918	16,261	35,179	231	33,630	221
Total Metropolis ...	60,691	34,891	95,582	227	92,017	218
West Ham ...	1,579	6,668	8,247	226	7,590	208
<b>Other Districts.</b>						
Newcastle District ...	1,482	4,587	6,069	184	5,653	171
Stockton & Tees District ...	965	4,728	5,693	311	6,395	350
Bolton, Oldham, &c. ...	2,887	7,761	10,648	154	10,027	145
Wigan District ...	1,377	6,779	8,156	233	7,946	227
Manchester District ...	7,116	5,700	12,816	161	12,857	161
Liverpool District ...	8,677	8,502	17,179	200	16,745	195
Bradford District ...	1,012	3,829	4,841	142	4,316	126
Halifax & Huddersfield ...	1,004	4,682	5,686	161	5,360	152
Leeds District ...	1,627	5,546	7,173	185	6,845	177
Barnsley District ...	639	3,367	4,006	214	3,768	201
Sheffield District ...	2,139	3,857	5,996	175	5,508	163
Hull District ...	1,085	4,993	5,998	281	5,625	263
North Staffordshire ...	1,666	6,169	7,835	256	7,373	240
Nottingham District ...	1,382	5,187	6,569	198	6,100	184
Leicester District ...	965	2,330	3,295	189	3,312	190
Wolverhampton District ...	3,127	14,748	17,875	342	17,176	328
Birmingham District ...	4,034	2,190	6,224	123	5,684	110
Bristol District ...	2,266	8,243	10,509	322	10,497	322
Cardiff & Swansea ...	1,543	5,447	6,990	243	6,697	232
Total "Other Districts" ...	45,023	108,625	153,648	205	147,824	197
<b>SCOTLAND.†</b>						
Glasgow District ...	3,200	12,579	15,779	204	15,384	199
Paisley & Greenock Dist. ...	647	2,212	2,859	190	2,713	181
Edinburgh & Leith Dist. ...	1,165	5,017	6,182	186	4,699	141
Dundee & Dunfermline ...	912	2,666	3,578	192	3,371	181
Aberdeen ...	382	2,210	2,592	150	2,441	198
Coatbridge & Airdrie ...	234	973	1,207	214	1,098	140
Total for the above Scotch Districts ...	6,540	25,657	32,197	196	29,705	181
<b>IRELAND.‡</b>						
Dublin District ...	5,566	2,732	8,298	237	7,890	226
Belfast District ...	3,096	395	3,491	117	3,304	114
Cork, Waterford, & Limerick Districts ...	4,365	6,312	10,677	424	10,888	432
Galway District ...	354	358	712	184	676	175
Total for the above Irish Districts ...	13,381	9,797	23,088	248	22,756	245
Total for above 35 districts in August ...	127,214	185,548	312,762	214	295,862	205
Total in July ...	125,078	183,593	308,671	211	298,028	204

\* Based on the populations in 1891, revised in accordance with subsequent changes in Poor Law areas.

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

‡ The apparent increase of Pauperism in the Edinburgh and Leith District this month, as compared with August 1893, is due chiefly to an alteration made by one of the parishes in the principle of making the Return—a number of children boarded out in other parishes having been included for the first time in the figures for this year.

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

**WORK OF LABOUR BUREAUX IN AUGUST.**

THE number of new applicants for work registered during August by the nine bureaux making returns was 1,777, being a decrease of 15 on the number for July.

The total number of old and new applicants on the registers of the nine bureaux was 3,981 (as against 3,919 in July), and of these, 409 were found work by the bureaux, or 3 less than in July, while the applications of 1,302 persons were cancelled from other causes. Of the 2,270 persons remaining on the registers at the end of August, 1,798 were men, 217 lads and boys, and 255 women and girls. Of the men, 550 were general labourers, 348 belonged to the Building, Engineering and Metal Trades, 283 were carmen, stablemen, &c., 205 porters and messengers, and 140 clerks and warehousemen, while 272 were of other occupations. Of the women, 134 were classed as charwomen, &c., 84 as servants, and 37 as of other occupations.

(1) Work Done in August.

Name of Labour Bureau.	No. of Workpeople on Register.		No. of Applicants during August.			No. of Workpeople found Work by Bureaux.	
	At end of August 1894.	At end of July 1894.	Fresh Applicants.	Re-novels.	Employers.	During August 1894.	During July 1894.
<b>London.</b>							
Chelsea ...	140	128	269	261	55	44	65
St. Pancras ...	274	343	254	63	38	72	34
Battersea ...	89	62	149	137	26	36	34
Islington ...	664	597	421	1,063	115	113	133
<b>Provincial.</b>							
Salford ...	331	318	77	...	7	17	14
Ipswich ...	131	135	53	...	46	27	25
Egham ...	41	43	24	...	22	25	23
Plymouth ...	238	247	217	1,101	54	63	53
Liverpool ...	362	331	313	...	10	12	11
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>2,270</b>	<b>2,204</b>	<b>1,777</b>	<b>2,625</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>412</b>

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

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

Name of Labour Bureau.	Men.							Total Men.
	Building, Engineering and Metal Trades.	Carmen, Stablemen, and Horse-men, &c.	Clerks and Warehouse-men.	Porters and Messengers.	General Labourers.	Other Occupations.	Total Men.	
<b>London.</b>								
Chelsea ...	6	5	2	13	8	13	47	
St. Pancras ...	46	27	8	59	22	32	194	
Battersea ...	11	5	8	4	23	10	61	
Islington ...	102	72	26	75	182	43	500	
<b>Provincial.</b>								
Salford ...	81	51	25	11	14	53	319	
Ipswich ...	30	1	20	1	35	1	105	
Egham ...	3	12	3	1	7	1	32	
Plymouth ...	55	30	28	20	41	54	228	
Liverpool ...	34	51	39	2	155	31	312	
<b>Total Number ...</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>1,798</b>	

Name of Labour Bureau.	Lads and Boys.	Women and Girls.*			Grand Total.	
		Charwomen, Daily Work, &c.	Servants.	Others.	August.	July.
<b>London.</b>						
Chelsea ...	25	35	22	11	68	140
St. Pancras ...	38	13	18	9	45	274
Battersea ...	18	7	3	...	10	89
Islington ...	78	55	30	4	89	664
<b>Provincial.</b>						
Salford ...	12	*	*	*	*	331
Ipswich ...	8	8	5	5	18	131
Egham ...	10	*	*	*	*	41
Plymouth ...	10	*	*	*	*	238
Liverpool ...	25	11	6	8	25	362
<b>Total Number ...</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>2,270</b>

\* Women and Girls are not at present registered at Salford and Plymouth. † It is stated that there have been more first-class gardeners, grocers and coachmen applying during the last three months than on any previous occasion. ‡ All harvest men who have applied have found employment, and there is still a demand for more.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN AUGUST.

THE number of fatal accidents to the undermentioned classes of workpeople reported in August was 272, which compares with 237 in July, distributed as follows:—

Table with 5 columns: Class, August 1894, July 1894, August 1893, July 1893. Rows include Railway Servants, Miners, Factory and Workshop Operatives, and Seamen.

On the total of the four classes there was an increase of 35 as compared with July, principally in the number of fatalities in mines and at sea.

Of the 1,228 non-fatal accidents reported, 216 were to railway servants, 297 in mines, and 715 in factories and workshops, as compared with 207, 293 and 778 respectively in July. Accidents of a non-fatal character at sea are not reported.

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

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

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

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

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

I.—Railway Servants.

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

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

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

Table with 7 columns: Class of Service, Killed, Amputations, Fractures, Crushes, Dislocations, Sprains, Bruises, Burns, &c., Unspecified and Miscellaneous Injuries, Total of Injuries. Rows include Brakemen and Goods Guards, Engine Drivers, Firemen, Guards, etc.

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

Table with 5 columns: England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland, United Kingdom. Rows include Killed, Injured, Total for August 1894, Total for August 1893.

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

II.—Miners.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

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

Table with 5 columns: Cause of Accident, England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland, Total. Rows include Underground (Explosions, Falls, etc.), Surface (Miscellaneous).

III.—Factory and Workshop Operatives.\*

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

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

Table with 7 columns: Nature or effect of injury, Adults (over 18), Young Persons, Children, TOTAL. Rows include Killed, Injured (Amputations, Fractures, etc.), Total Injured, Grand Total for August 1894, Grand Total for August 1893.

\* The classes of accidents reported are those specified in the LABOUR GAZETTE for July 1893, p. 66.

IV.—Seamen.

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

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

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

Table with 7 columns: Class of Vessels, By Wreck and Casualty, By Accidents other than Wreck and Casualty, Total. Rows include Vessels registered under Merchant Shipping Act, Vessels not so registered, Total for August 1894, Total for August 1893.

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

FOREIGN TRADE IN AUGUST.

Imports.—The total declared value of the imports during the past month amounted to £31,638,521, showing a decrease of £3,364,251 when compared with the corresponding period of 1893. The largest decrease in value (£1,887,573) was in articles of food and drink imported duty free. It is to be noted, however, that wheat, barley and oats showed an increase in quantity with a decrease in value. The dutiable articles of food and drink showed a decrease of £325,708, principally in imports of Chinese tea. In raw materials for manufacture the total decline was one of £932,092. Among the more important articles contributing to this result raw cotton may be mentioned with a decrease of £479,037; raw silk with a decrease of £105,561; caoutchouc of £109,246, and hewn wood of £124,538.

The total imports for the first eight months of 1894 amount to £274,467,011, compared with £265,924,623 for the same period in 1893, the increase being £8,542,388, or 3.2 per cent. The imports of living animals for food have increased by £2,127,454; raw materials for manufacture by £6,484,919, and manufactured articles by £1,043,905.

British and Irish Exports.—The total declared value of British and Irish exports in August last was £18,581,240, which amount, when compared with August 1893, shows a decrease of £948,938. Manufactured and partly manufactured articles fell to the amount of £1,554,956, there being a decrease in every class with the exception of machinery, which showed an increase of £136,931. There was an increase also in articles of food and drink of £116,761, and in raw materials of £359,791. The comparison with August 1893 is, however, subject to the observation that at that time the export of coal, which is included under the head of raw materials, were much reduced in consequence of the English miners' dispute. Compared with August 1892, it will be found that instead of an increase there was a decrease of £205,961 in the export of raw materials.

For the first eight months of the year the aggregate value of the exports is given as £143,863,251, as compared with £146,959,492 in 1893—a net decrease of £3,096,241, or rather more than 2 per cent. To this decline £2,989,804 was contributed by the falling off in the value of the export of metals and manufactured metal goods (excepting machinery), which decrease was, however, largely set off by an increase of £2,463,000 in the export of coal, the net result being made up by decreases under nearly every other principal heading except machinery and mill-work.

Re-exports of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.—The total value of the exports thus classified amounted to £5,127,380, compared with £4,368,637 in August 1893, showing an increase of £758,743. The figures for the first eight months of 1894 show an aggregate decrease of £2,916,753, as compared with the first eight months of 1893.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Cotton Statistics.—The imports of raw cotton in August amounted to 70,955 bales. The corresponding figures in 1893 were 132,993, and in 1892, 94,218. This decline in imports was accompanied by an increase in exports, which were in August 1894, 50,280 bales, as compared with 32,387 and 38,238 in August 1893 and 1892 respectively. The following table shows the figures for the eight months ended August 31st in each of the last three years:—

Table with 3 columns: Imports, Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns, Exports. Rows for August 1894, August 1893, August 1892.

Bankruptcies.—During August, 375 bankruptcies were gazetted, as against 449 in August 1893, a decrease of 74. Of the 375 bankrupts, 30 were publicans, hotel-keepers, &c., 27 were builders, 24 were grocers, 15 were boot and shoe manufacturers and dealers, and 15 were farmers.

British Corn.—The average prices of British corn per quarter for the week ended August 25th 1894 were below the prices at the corresponding date in 1893, as will be seen from the following figures:—

Table with 3 columns: Average price per Quarter at August 1894, August 1893, Decrease. Rows for Wheat, Barley, Oats.

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 21 of the principal railways in the United Kingdom amounted to £8,003,308 for the five weeks ended September 1st, an increase of £514,958 as compared with the corresponding period of last year. The passenger receipts amounted to £4,435,648, an increase of £107,818, and the receipts from minerals and goods to £3,567,660, an increase of £407,140.

Included in the above are the returns for three railways in Scotland whose total receipts for the five weeks were £757,087, or £130,509 less than for the corresponding period of last year. The passenger receipts were £410,504, or an increase of £14,948 over last year's figures, while the goods and minerals receipts amounted to £346,583 only, being a decrease of £145,457, largely due, no doubt, to the stoppage of mines during the coal dispute in Scotland.

Hay Imports.—The total quantity imported in August last was 18,880 tons, or 19,536 tons less than in August 1893, at which time the imports of hay had shown a marked increase, owing to the short crop in the South of England. On the whole, for the first eight months of 1894 the imports were 218,564, as compared with 119,818 tons in the corresponding period of 1893.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The total number of British and foreign passengers who left this country during August for places out of Europe was 29,041, a decrease of 3,099 as compared with the corresponding period of 1893, when the figures were 32,140.

British.—The number of passengers of British nationality for places out of Europe in August was 20,021, showing a decrease of 4,244 when compared with the total for August 1893, viz., 24,265. The decline, though most marked in the case of passengers to the United States and Canada, appears under every head except South Africa, the figures being:—

Table with 3 columns: Destination, August 1894, August 1893. Rows include United States, British North America, Australasia, South Africa, Other places, Total.

Foreign.—Besides the above British passengers, there were 9,020 foreigners and others whose nationality was not stated, as compared with 7,875 in August 1893.

Alien Immigration.—The number of aliens who arrived from the Continent at various ports of the United Kingdom last month was 6,755. This is but slightly more than two-thirds of the number for the corresponding month of last year, which amounted to 9,771. The chief decrease is again shown in the number of immigrants en route to America, their number having fallen from 5,784 to 2,962. The number not stated to be en route to America was 3,793 (including 781 sailors), compared with 3,987 (including 839 sailors) in August 1893. The ports of embarkation showing the greatest decreases were the Scandinavian (where the number has declined from 2,837 to 1,360) and the Dutch and Belgian (from 2,031 to 913).

IMMIGRATION AT NEW YORK.

The following figures in respect to the immigrants arriving at New York, the principal port of debarkation for persons immigrating into the United States, during the last three fiscal years (each year ending June 30th) have recently been submitted to the Senate. There were admitted in 1892, 445,987; in 1893, 343,422; in 1894, 219,046. The number debarré and returned and admitted on bond (i.e., upon a bond or guarantee that the immigrant shall not become a public charge) was as follows:—

Table with 3 columns: 1892, 1893, 1894. Rows include Idiots, Insane, Paupers, Diseased, Convicts, Contract labourers, Returned within one year as public charges, Total debarré and returned, Bonded.

\* These figures include the persons sent back by the immigration authorities to all countries, not to the United Kingdom alone.

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION.\*

THE Agricultural Commission has issued a volume containing the Minutes of Evidence on the subject of Agricultural Depression, taken before it up to the 16th of March 1894. In addition to papers handed in by the witnesses, the appendices contain statistics of agricultural products, a statement showing the duties leviable on grain and flour in foreign countries, and a summary of replies received from the Land Office Inspectors of the Board of Agriculture as to the extent of agricultural depression in their respective districts.

\* Minutes of Evidence taken before H.M. Commissioners appointed to enquire into the subject of Agricultural Depression, with Appendices. (C. 7, 1894.) Price 3s. 9d.

RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD.

(Summary of Returns for Quarter ended 30th June 1894, supplied by certain Workmen's Co-operative Societies.)

THE following table of average retail prices is prepared on exactly the same principle as those published in previous numbers of the GAZETTE, the prices being based on sales during the quarter ended 30th June. The table is based on records of actual transactions, the average prices being obtained by dividing the total sum realised by the total quantity of each article. It should be remembered that while the prices given represent the real average prices paid by members of co-operative societies for such qualities of each article as they are accustomed to purchase from the society, the qualities of various articles sold by different societies are not necessarily identical, while the result may be partially affected by the different practice of the societies in regard to the percentage returned to the members.

District.	No. of Societies furnishing Returns.	Flour per stone of 14 lbs.	Bread per 4 lbs.	Fresh Meat per lb.	Bacon per lb.	Sugar per lb.	Tea per lb.	Butter per lb.	Margarine per lb.	Cheese per lb.	Milk per quart.	Potatoes per stone of 14 lbs.	Jams and Marmalades per lb.	District.
ENGLAND & WALES.		s. d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	s. d.	s. d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	ENGLAND & WALES.
Northern Counties ...	6	1 4½	5½	7½	7½	2	1 11½	1 1½	8½	8	...	10½	4½	Northern Counties.
Lancashire & Cheshire ...	9	1 3½	4½	7½	8½	2½	1 11½	1 0½	9½	8½	...	10½	4½	Lancashire & Cheshire.
Yorkshire ...	14	1 1½	4½	7½	6½	2½	2 0½	1 0½	9	8½	...	9½	4½	Yorkshire.
Midland and Eastern Counties ...	9	1 3½	3½	7½	7½	2½	1 10½	1 1½	8	7½	...	7½	4½	Midland and Eastern Counties.
Home Counties ...	7	1 5½	4½	6½	7½	2½	1 10½	1 1½	8½	8	...	11½	4½	Home Counties.
South & South Western Counties ...	6	1 5	4	...	8½	2½	1 10½	1 0½	7	6½	...	8½	4½	South & South Western Counties.
SCOTLAND ...	20	1 6½	4½	7½	9½	2½	2 0½	1 1½	9½	8	3	6½	3½	SCOTLAND.
IRELAND ...	2	1 5½	4½	7½	8½	1½	1 10½	1 1½	...	8½	...	8	4½	IRELAND.
Average prices for the above 73 Societies		1 2½	4½	7½	8	2½	2 0½	1 0½	9	8	3	8½	4	{ Average prices for the above 73 Societies.
Quantities on which these prices are based		1024 617 stons of 14 lbs.	2388 007 4 lb. loaves	1795 398 lbs.	958 060 lbs.	6717 662 lbs.	344 050 lbs.	1917 136 lbs.	91 060 lbs.	611 358 lbs.	331 834 qts.	429 161 stons of 14 lbs.	418 801 lbs.	{ Quantities on which these prices are based.
Corresponding Average prices returned by 72 Societies for quarter ended March 31st 1894.		1 3½	4½	7½	8	2½	2 0½	1 2½	10	8½	3	5½	4	{ Corresponding Average prices returned by 72 Societies for quarter ended March 31st 1894.

\* The differences shown in the average prices of potatoes in the several districts is due to the varying proportions of old and new potatoes sold during the quarter.

CO-OPERATION IN AUGUST.

Two new associations of consumers and four new associations of producers have been registered during the month. One new branch store and a new biscuit factory were opened by existing societies.

The annual report of the Co-operative Union for the year 1893 states that 107 new societies were registered, comprising the following industries:—46 distributive stores, 34 productive (manufacturing) societies, 6 loan and banking, and 4 land and building societies, 1 supply association, and 16 miscellaneous associations. It contains also a list of 115 societies, the dissolution of which was notified to the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies. The list comprises the following industries:—48 stores, 27 manufacturing societies, 12 loan and banking, and 8 land and building societies, 6 supply associations, 1 corn mill, and 13 miscellaneous associations.

The report of the English Co-operative Wholesale Society for the quarter ended June 23rd shows total sales in the distributive departments amounting to £2,272,946 as compared with £2,296,148 in the corresponding period of 1893, a decrease of 1 per cent., and net profits\* amounting to £28,583 as compared with £34,765 in 1893, a decrease of 17·8 per cent.

In the manufacturing departments the sales amounted to £196,407 as compared with £175,929 in 1893, an increase of 11·6 per cent., and the net profits\* to £957 as compared with £4,624 in 1893, a decrease of 79·3 per cent. The decrease in profits in the manufacturing departments is due mainly to a loss of £5,003 upon the quarter's working of the Society's flour mill, the output of which amounted to £69,008, as compared with £76,161 in 1893, a decrease of 9·4 per cent. The output of boots and shoes from the Society's factory at Leicester amounted during the quarter to £81,597, being the largest amount yet reached. During the quarter the Society has purchased a factory at Leeds, which it will utilise for the production of "ready-made" clothing, and has subscribed £500 to the Albion Colliery Relief Fund.

The report of the Scottish Wholesale Society for the quarter ended June 30th shows sales in the distributive department amounting to £790,186, as compared with £797,453 in 1893, a decrease of one per cent., and net profits\* amounting to £22,163 as compared with £22,762 in 1893. In the manufacturing departments the sales amounted to £82,120, as compared with £79,332 in 1893, an increase of 3·5 per cent., and the net profits\* to £4,284, as compared with £4,124 in 1893, an increase of 3·9 per cent. The profit of these departments during the quarter was equal to 15·1 per cent. per annum upon the capital employed. On August 25th the Society opened a new flour mill, erected at a cost of £100,000. At a meeting

\*After allowing for interest on capital and depreciation.

of delegates from shareholding societies, held on the same day, £500 was granted, upon an appeal of the Miners' Federation, for the relief of the distress caused by the Scottish coal dispute. Several Scottish distributive societies have also voted donations for this purpose during the month.

The Irish Co-operative Agency Society—a federation of Co-operative Creameries established last year, reports that its sales for the quarter ended June 30th amounted to £21,392, and its net profits to £283.

On August 17th to 22nd, inclusive, the Annual National Co-operative Festival was held at the Crystal Palace. This festival, in addition to an exhibition of flowers, fruit and vegetables, a choral concert and other recreative features, comprises an exhibition of goods produced by manufacturing co-operative societies sharing profits with their workpeople. Representatives of the distributive stores and manufacturing societies were brought together at the festival, the support of the store buyers being solicited for the goods produced by the manufacturing societies, and meetings were held to advocate the principle of "co-partnership" and profit-sharing.

Exhibitions of the productions of co-operative manufacturing societies were held at Kettering on August 7th, and at Morpeth on the 11th and 13th.

The third annual report of the Manchester District Co-operative Employees' Association, issued during the month, states that on June 30th it had 2,033 members employed by 78 co-operative societies, as compared with 847 members employed by 58 societies in June 1893, and that efforts were now being made to bring about an amalgamation with similar associations in the Bolton and London districts. The question of a minimum wage for the various classes of co-operative employees is now under consideration.

**Elementary Scholars.**—The Report of the Committee of Council on Education (England and Wales) for 1893 states that the number of scholars on the registers was 5,126,373, an increase of 2·38 per cent. on 1892, and the average attendance was 4,100,030, an increase of no less than 5·92 per cent. The improvement in the regularity of attendance is nearly as much marked among the older children as among the infants. These results are ascribed partly to the abolition or reduction of children's school fees, partly to a growing sense on the part of parents of the importance of education, and partly to depression in trade which experience has shown has a good effect on school attendance.

There were in 1893 8,548 schools in which savings were received, as compared with 6,383 in 1892.

Under the new Evening Continuation Schools Code no fewer than 3,668 schools applied for inspection.

INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN AUGUST.

THE number of industrial prosecutions during August, as shown in the tables below, was 197, as compared with 230 in July. Of these 197 prosecutions, 148 were under the *Factory and Workshop Acts*, resulting in 141 convictions, with an average penalty including costs of £1 5s. Under the *Mines Acts* there were 40 prosecutions, and 38 convictions, 7 of the convictions being against owners or managers of mines, and 31 against workmen. The penalties and costs imposed on owners or managers averaged £2 14s. 11d., and on workmen £1 2s. 1d. in 30 cases, while in one case the offender was sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment without the option of a fine. Under the *Merchant Shipping Acts* a conviction was obtained in each of the 9 prosecutions instituted against owners or masters of vessels, the average penalties and costs being £9 7s. 7d.

I.—Under Factory and Workshop Acts.\*

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCES.	Prosecutions.	Convictions.	Total Amount of Penalties.	Total Amount of Costs.
Neglecting to Limewash ...	2	2	£ 2 0 0	0 19 6
Overcrowding Factory or Workshop ...	1	1	5 0 0	0 6 0
Neglecting to Fence Machinery ...	3	3	2 0 0	1 14 6
Employing Young Persons under Illegal Conditions	20	18	11 6 6	14 0 6
Illegal Hours or Times of Employment.				
Before or after the legal hour ...	32	31	27 5 0	24 8 3
During meal times, for without proper intervals for meals	4	4	4 5 0	9 9 0
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day substituted	17	16	7 19 6	6 5 6
On Sundays or holidays ...	1	1	1 0 0	0 12 0
(Children) Full time or otherwise than in morning or afternoon sets, &c.	1	1	...	0 12 0
Neglecting Rules as to Registers, Abstracts, Notices, &c.				
Not keeping registers ...	7	7	4 7 0	4 6 0
affixing or properly filling up notices, abstracts, &c.	47	45	11 15 6	16 16 3
sending notices required by Act ...	11	10	9 8 0	6 4 0
Other Offences ...	2	2	0 10 0	3 19 6
<b>Total for August 1894</b> ...	<b>148</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>86 16 6</b>	<b>89 13 0</b>
<i>Total for August 1893</i> ...	<i>163</i>	<i>153</i>	<i>153 9 4</i>	<i>105 18 7</i>

\* Supplied by the Home Office.

II.—Under the Mines Acts.\*

Nature of Offence.	Prosecutions.	Convictions.	Cases withdrawn.	Cases dismissed.	Fines and Costs imposed on Defendants.
By Owners, Managers, &c.—					£ s. d.
Fencing ...	3	3	...	...	9 3 8
Ventilation ...	...	...	...	...	...
Shafts and Manholes ...	...	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous ...	4†	4	...	...	10 1 0
By Workmen					
Safety Lamps ...	3	3	...	...	2 17 6
Shot-firing and Explosives ...	4	3	...	...	1 12 6
Timbering ...	3	3	...	...	3 7 6
Lucifer Matches, &c. ...	7	6†	...	...	9 10 6
Miscellaneous ...	16	16‡	...	...	15 14 6
<b>Total for August 1894</b> ...	<b>40</b>	<b>38</b>	...	...	<b>52 7 2</b>
<i>Total for August 1893</i> ...	<i>26</i>	<i>23</i>	...	...	<i>40 0 6</i>

\* Supplied by the Home Office.

† Three of these cases were for "insufficient space in communication road."

‡ In one of these cases a sentence of fourteen days' imprisonment, without the option of a fine, was inflicted.

§ In four of these cases the offence was "infringement of special rules," and in two, "being found asleep while in charge of boilers and fan engine."

III.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts.

Nature of Offence.	Prosecutions.	Convictions.	Total Penalties.	Total Costs.
By Owners or Masters of Ships:—			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Submerging Disc ...	3	3	35 0 0	4 9 6
Carrying excessive deck cargoes ...	...	...	...	...
Carrying grain in bulk between decks	...	...	...	...
Illegally engaging seamen ...	1	1	1 0 0	1 0 0
Giving false certificate	...	...	...	...
Not providing life-saving appliances	1	1	15 0 0	...
Under Sea Fishery Act 1883	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous ...	4	4	26 9 0	1 10 0
By Seamen	...	...	...	...
By Boarding-House Keepers	...	...	...	...
<b>Total for August 1894</b> ...	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>77 9 0</b>	<b>6 19 6</b>
<i>Total for July 1894</i> ...	<i>16</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>95 10 0</i>	<i>34 10 8</i>

LABOUR CASES IN AUGUST.

THE following are among the legal cases of the month under various Statutes specially affecting labour, of which the Department has received information. The accounts are based principally upon reports appearing in local newspapers. The list is not intended to be in any way exhaustive of all such cases decided during the month. Prosecutions under the *Factory and Workshop Acts*, the *Mines Regulation Acts*, and the *Merchant Shipping Acts*, are summarized in the preceding column.

(1) EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACT.

*Tunstall County Court, August 17th.*—Labourer sued furniture dealer for £18 3s. 4d. damages for injuries sustained by collapse of a chimney which defendant had employed him to pull down. Plaintiff claimed that collapse was due to propping having been removed by defendant's foreman. Judge found that accident resulted from negligence of plaintiff's fellow-workmen. Judgment for defendant without costs.

*Blackburn County Court, August 20th.*—Can-tenter sued employers for £100 damages for injuries to hand when taking "strips" off the cylinder of an engine which he was cleaning, alleging that accident was due to neglect of carding-master in leaving guard down. Defence, that plaintiff acted against orders in using "strips," also that the guard was up immediately previous to the accident. Verdict for plaintiff for £88 3s.

*Penzance County Court, August 21st.*—Mason's labourer sued builder for £10 damages for injuries caused by falling from a plank, alleged to have been carelessly placed by defendant. Defence, that accident was due to plaintiff's own carelessness. Judgment for plaintiff for amount claimed and costs.

*City of London Court, August 29th.*—Navy sued for £100 for injuries sustained by falling into a hole at the bottom of a staircase, alleging that he was instructed to use the staircase by the deputy-foreman. Defendant denied this, and affirmed that plaintiff had used the staircase on many previous occasions. Non-suited.

(2) EMPLOYERS AND WORKMEN ACT.

*Sheriff's Court, Govan, August 13th.*—Unbound apprentice sailmaker, sued master sailmaker for "lines" or certificate of service and £100 damages. Pursuer in the fifth year of a six years unbound apprenticeship left defendant's employment and was unable to obtain other employment from sailmakers for want of a certificate of service which had been refused him by defender, who, however, offered him employment. Sheriff held that pursuer had failed to prove that by custom of trade an unbound apprentice leaving of his own accord was entitled to "lines" from his employer. Verdict for defender with costs.

*Barnsley County Court, August 16th.*—Manager of a department in glass works sued glass bottle makers for £50 in lieu of six months' notice according to agreement. Defence, that plaintiff very frequently fell asleep and neglected his work. Verdict for defendants with costs.

*Hull Police Court, August 17th.*—Skipper of steam trawler sued owners for £10 damages for alleged wrongful dismissal. He had received instructions to proceed to sea on a certain tide, or failing, to accept 24 hours' notice; his "second" hand refusing to sail, plaintiff was discharged. Magistrate considered that plaintiff was not a workman within the meaning of the *Employers and Workmen Act*, and that as a "skipper" he was not a "seaman" within the meaning of the *Merchant Shipping (Payment of Wages and Rating) Act*. If, however, the plaintiff did come under the *Employers and Workmen Act* he had been legally dismissed. Case dismissed.

*Halstead Petty Sessions, August 21st.*—Farmer summoned labourer for £2 damages alleged to have been sustained by defendant absenting himself from harvest work. Plaintiff stated that he had offered defendant, who was a weekly servant in his employ, 5s. 4d. per day for five weeks harvesting, which he understood defendant to accept, as he went with the others to get his scythe ground. He did not, however, return to his work, and plaintiff had been unable to replace him. Verdict for plaintiff for 30s. and 6s. costs, to be paid within one month.

*Leigh County Court, August 24th.*—Three miners sued colliery owners for wages in lieu of notice. Defence, that plaintiffs had filled in tubs by spade in contravention of the rules of the colliery. Verdict for defendants.

*Truro County Court, August 24th.*—Coalheaver sued agent—who had engaged him to assist in discharging a cargo of coal—for £1 4s. 6d. breach of contract. After platform had been erected defendant stated that he had engaged too many men and plaintiff was sent away. Verdict for plaintiff with costs.

(3) MISCELLANEOUS.

*Westminster Police Court, August 3rd.*—Cabman summoned foreman of cab-yard for defacing his licence by "chairmarking" it in such a manner as to indicate to other cab proprietors that plaintiff was not a desirable man to employ. Summons dismissed on the ground that the act complained of was not an offence against the statute, nor against honour or morality.

TRADE DISPUTES.

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

EIGHTY-SIX new disputes took place in August, as compared with 66 in the previous month, and 59 in August 1893. In the Building Trades 12 disputes occurred, 9 of which were due to wages questions, 2 to unionism, and 1 arose in respect of ordinary working arrangements. Of the 5 disputes in the Clothing Trades all were more or less due to disagreements as to union rules and regulations. In Metal Trades, 2 of the 4 disputes occurring arose in respect of wages questions, and 1 may be classed as sympathetic. Twenty-four of the 30 disputes in Mining and Quarrying followed upon the general reduction in wages accepted by the miners in the Federation districts, the surface men and lads in many cases resisting any reduction whatever, and in other cases the miners disputed the amount taken off, or the method of doing so. The 3 disputes in connection with Dock Labour all arose in respect to wages. In Shipbuilding 5 disputes took place, 2 of which were due to disagreements between classes of workpeople, 1 to a wages question, and the other two to working arrangements. Eight of the 16 disputes in the Textile Trades were due to wages questions, 2 to objection to being fined, 4 were more or less sympathetic strikes, and 1 arose in respect of working arrangements. Of the 11 disputes in miscellaneous industries 5 were due to wages disagreements, 3 to unionism, and 3 were sympathetic strikes.

The geographical distribution of the 86 disputes was as follows:—Northern Counties 38, Midland Counties 15, Western Counties and Wales 11, Eastern Counties 1, Southern Counties 2, London 6, Scotland 10, Ireland 3. Fifteen old disputes were settled in August, and at the end of the month it was known that 19 new and 36 old disputes were still unsettled.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN AUGUST 1894.

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Alleged Cause or Object, Estab-lish-ments, Persons, Com-mence-ment, Termi-nation, Result. Includes categories like Building Trades, Clothing Trades, Metal Trades, Mining & Quarrying, and Miscellaneous Trades.

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

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Alleged Cause or Object, Estab-lish-ments, Persons, Com-mence-ment, Termi-nation, Result. Continues from the previous page with categories like Coal Miners, Shipbuilding, Textile Trades, and Miscellaneous Trades.

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

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Es-tablish-ments.	Persons	Com-mence-ment.	Ter-mi-nation.	Result.
Iron Moulders ...	North-East Coast	For advance in time wages of 3s. 6d. per week, and 10 per cent. on piece prices	...	1,490	19 Mar.	Aug. 31	Work to be resumed on the old conditions, and a Board of Conciliation formed to consider all the questions in dispute (see p. 272).
Cardroom Operatives...	Stockport	Against alteration in method of doing certain work	1	...	—Mar.	Not stated	Mill sold to new employers, who re-engaged all the operatives.
Steel Dressers ...	Newton, Glasgow	For advance in wages of 4d. per hour	1	...	24 Mar.	17	Work resumed without any advance.
Overlookers ...	Radcliffe	For advance in wages, a reduction having been proposed by the employers	14	71	6 April	19	Work resumed unconditionally.
Brickmakers ...	Backworth, Northumberland	Employer objected to men joining a recently-formed union	1	26	29 May	9	Men permitted to join union, and all to be unionists in future, the society guaranteeing their conduct.
Ropemakers ...	St. Helens	Against reduction in wages to the rate paid by other firms	1	...	1 June	...	Work resumed at the reduced rate required.
Coal Miners ...	Sunderland	Against employment of non-unionist, and for payment of house rent by employers	1	550	(Lasted 25 June	9 weeks)	Non-unionists agreed to join union, and employers granted 2s. per week to men living in rented houses
Female Operatives (Toilet Requisite Manufacture)	London, E.C.	Against reduction in wages, and alleged confiscation of fines which had previously been shared at Christmas	1	12	30 June	11	Operatives resumed work on their own terms.
Cardroom Operatives...	Bolton	Against proposed re-arrangement of work and prices so as to employ fewer hands	1	500	5 July	11	Work resumed, both sides making concessions.
Pottery Workers ...	Glasgow	Against proposed reduction in wages of 10 per cent. in consequence of increased price of coal	1	5	23 July	9	Notice of reduction withdrawn.
Cotton Weavers ...	Chorley	Alleged payment at less than list prices	1	219	25 July	29	List prices granted, meaning an increase of about 4 per cent.
Cotton Spinners ...	Earby	For re-instatement of two discharged colleagues	1	17	27 July	20	Work resumed, back wages to be paid, and one of the discharged spinners to be re-instated.
Cotton Weavers ...	Farnworth	For payment according to the standard price list	1	75	27 July	13	Employer agreed to pay according to the standard rates as new warps are put in.
Hosiery Workers ...	Leicester	To compel three non-union "linkers" to join the Hosiery Union	1	350 dir. 500 indir.	30 July	27	The non-unionists left the firm.
Boot and Shoe Operatives	Nottingham	Against alleged wish of employer to increase work without granting compensation	1	25	30 July	1	Full details of settlement not yet to hand.

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

The following disputes reported in last month's issue as occurring in July were still unsettled:—Stonemasons, Bolton (since developed into a lock-out); hat and cap makers, Newcastle-on-Tyne; ship-joiners, Paisley; printwork operatives, Clayton-le-Moors; fustian weavers, Bury; builders, Sneinton, Notts.; shale miners, West Calder; boot and shoe operatives, Rushton; carters, Liverpool.

The following, which commenced before July, were also still unsettled:—Coal miners, Scotland; woollen finishers, Heywood; silk dressers, Brighouse; cardroom operatives, Stockport; carpenters and joiners, Wolverhampton; cardroom hands and spinners, Darwen; tailors, York; pattern-makers, North East Coast; stereotypers and electrotypers, Glasgow; cotton weavers, Barrowford, Blackburn (since settled—Sept.), Whittlefield and Cliviger; hosiery workers, Radford, Notts.; compositors, Dublin; lock-makers, Willenhall; wherry-men, Newcastle-on-Tyne; cotton weavers, Droylsden; wool-sorters, Saltaire; coal miners, Tredegar; wool-shear grinders, Sheffield; railway spring forgers and fitters, Sheffield.

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

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Establish-ments.	Persons.	Commence-ment.
Compositors ...	Ipswich	Objection to employment of men at less than recognised rates	1	12	20 July
Boiler Makers (Dock Gates) ...	Barry Docks	Against employment of non-union men upon machine riveting	1	...	30 July

NEW MINES AND MINES ABANDONED.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

THE number of mines reported as opened or re-opened during August was 26, and as abandoned, 14, the numbers in the previous month being 23 and 11 respectively. Of the 26 mines opened or re-opened, 22 were collieries, while of the 14 abandoned, 13 were collieries. Four of the new collieries are in Derbyshire, and 2 each are in Lancashire, Monmouthshire, Glamorganshire and Carmarthenshire.

**COAL:—**  
**New Mines.**  
*Cumberland.*—Oakfields (Ten Quarters Seam), Dearham.  
*Yorkshire.*—Fox Hall (Black Bed), near Birstal.  
*Lancashire.*—Newtown (Sinking Shaft to Cannel Seam), Clifton, Manchester; Raven Mine, Alliance Colliery, Wigan. (2)  
*Derbyshire.*—Dale (High Hazles Seam), Killamarsh; Stange Wood (Ashgate Seam), Walton, Chesterfield; Woodside (Waterloo Seam), Shipley; Clay Cross, No. 9 (Deep Hard Seam), Chesterfield. (4)  
*Nottinghamshire.*—Answorth (Tupton Seam), Kimberley.  
*Worcestershire.*—Mud Hall (Thick Coal Seam), near Dudley.  
*Monmouthshire.*—Ton-y-pistol; Pentreoid, Pontnewydd. (2)  
*Gloucestershire.*—Gentlemens, Coleford.  
*Flinshire.*—Padeswood Hall, near Mold.  
*Glamorganshire.*—Weigh-fawr (Hughes Vein), near Swansea; Pentrych (Coal and Clay), near Cardiff. (2)  
*Carmarthenshire.*—Pencellogi, near Llanelly; Penllwynrodyn, near Llwynhendy. (2)  
*Fifeshire.*—Bowhouse Mine, Wemyss Colliery, Wemyss.  
*Lanarkshire.*—Avondale, No. 2 Pit (Virtuewell, Kiltongue, Upper Drumgray and Lower Drumgray Seams), Stonehouse.  
*Tipperary.*—Ballyphillip (Sinking), Earlsbill, Thurles.  
*Tyrone.*—Derry (Sinking), Coalsland.  
**FIRECLAY.**—*Warwickshire.*—Haunchwood Brick and Tile Co., Nuneaton.  
**IRON ORE, HÆMATITE.**—*Cumberland.*—Southam Main, Bigrigg.  
**LEAD ORE.**—*Carnarvonshire.*—Coed Mawr Pool (Small Mine),  
**TIN ORE.**—*Cornwall.*—Great Condurrow, Illogan.

Mines Abandoned.

*Durham.*—Tees Hetton (Busty and Brookwell Seams), Evenwood; Middle Beechburn (Part of Busty Seam), Crook. (2)  
*Lancashire.*—Arlay Hall (Smith Seam), Blackrod; Denton Lane (Bent Seam), Oldham; Ferney Field (Bent and Black Seams), Oldham; Forrest (Mountain Seam), Littleborough. (4)  
*Warwickshire.*—Haunchwood Brick and Tile Co. (Slate Coal), Nuneaton.  
*Derbyshire.*—Spital Lane (Potters Seam), Chesterfield.  
*Staffordshire.*—Greets Green (Thick Coal Seam), West Bromwich.  
*Gloucestershire.*—Edenwall (Tump Pit), Coleford.  
*Breconshire.*—Scurva, Waenavon.  
*Fifeshire.*—Lochgelly, Nellie Pit (Parrot, Mynheer and Five-foot Seams), Lochgelly.  
*Lanarkshire.*—Cotcastle, Stonehouse.  
**BARYTES.**—*Cork.*—Burryroe, Bantry.

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS

REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN AUGUST.

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

FROM the following summary of the changes in the Register of English and Welsh Industrial Organisations in August it will be seen that 3 Trade Unions, 1 Trades Federation, 2 Co-operative Associations of Consumers, 4 Co-operative Associations of Producers, 3 miscellaneous Industrial and Provident Societies, 20 new Friendly Societies, 39 new branches of existing Friendly Societies, and 3 Building Societies have been added to the Register during the past month. Ten Building Societies and 3 Trade Unions are reported as having ceased to exist, and 1 Trade Union as amalgamated.

NEW ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

I.—Trade Unions.

South Wales Federation of Iron and Steel Workers, Rail bankmen, Mechanics, Stokers, Blast furnacemen, Engine drivers, Masons, Bricklayers, &c., &c., Emlyn Coffee Tavern, Church Street, Ebbw Vale.

Stove Grate Workers, 17 Clifton Grove, Rotherham.  
 Independent Ship, Riverside and General Labourers, Prince Teck Inn, Dockhead, London.  
 Galvanizers and Enamellers, Why-not Inn, Steel-house Lane, Wolverhampton.

II.—Industrial and Provident Societies.

Associations of Consumers.

Greetland, West Vale and Stainland Coal Soc., West Vale, Halifax.  
 Southowram Coal Club Society, Southowram, Halifax.

Associations of Producers.

Brandsby Dairy Association, Brandsby, Easingwold.  
 Portmanteau and Trunk Makers' Productive Soc., 51 Purres Road, Kensal Rise, W.  
 Sheffield House Painting and Decorating Co. op. Soc., 95 Barker Pool, Sheffield.  
 British Chemical Glass Blowing Soc., 8 Sandiland Street, Bedford Row, W.C.

Miscellaneous.

Oldham Dist. G. U. O. O. Land and Builders Soc., 111 King Street, Oldham.  
 Central Club Soc., Club Union Buildings, Clerkenwell Road, E.C.  
 Woking Dist. L. and R. Club and Inst., Chertsey Road, Woking.

III.—Friendly Societies.

New Societies.

Ordinary Friendly ...	7	Dividing ...	3
Specialty authorised ...	5	Working Men's Clubs ...	3
Juvenile ...	2		

New Branches of Existing Societies.

I.O. Rechabites ...	9	I.O. United Bros., Mid. U.	5
N.U.O. Free Gardeners ...	4	U.J.O.T.A. Sons of the	
A.O. Foresters ...	4	Phoenix ...	10
Various others ...	7		

IV.—Building Societies.

Three new Building Societies have been registered.

OLD ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

I.—Trade Unions.

Poor Man's Friend Lodge Miners' T.U.  
 Ipswich and E. Coast Bargemen's Protection Soc.  
 Ynysylw Labour Union.  
 The Leeds Wholesale Clothiers' Operatives Union is amalgamated with the Amalgamated Union of Clothiers' Operatives.

II.—Building Societies.

Ten Building Societies have been dissolved.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON LABOUR.

The Agricultural Labourer.\*

THE general report upon agricultural labour presented to the Labour Commission by the senior assistant agricultural commissioner contains a summary of the evidence collected by the Assistant Commissioners and the principal conclusions arrived at by the author. They are: (1) That the number of those competing for employment in agriculture has everywhere decreased. (2) That the decrease in the number of wage-earners in agriculture has been most marked in Ireland, but the effect of a decrease has been most felt in Scotland where only there is a general complaint of a scarcity of labourers. (3) In England a general contraction of employment in agriculture has proceeded concurrently with the decrease of wage-earners, and to some extent balanced the supply and demand. (4) The decrease in the number of labourers has improved the chance of obtaining regular work by those who desire it. (5) The universal withdrawal of women from field work is an evidence of an improvement in the circumstances of the labourers. (6) The material condition of the labourer has everywhere improved, though there are still very wide and striking differences as to the amount of remuneration received by them in different localities and parts of the United Kingdom. (7) This improvement, though in some measure due to an increase of earnings, is, however, very largely the result of the cheapening of those commodities which are the necessities of life. (8) That the least satisfactory circumstance affecting the life of the labourers is the condition of the dwellings which a considerable number of them are compelled to live in.

LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.†

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

**Canada.**—Recent reports state that there is no demand in large towns like Winnipeg, Hamilton, or St. John, for more mechanics, or indeed in any part of Canada. Ordinary farm hands, moreover, have not

\* Royal Commission on Labour. The Agricultural Labourer. Vol. V., Part I. General Report. (C.—6,894.—XXV.) Price 2s. 1d.  
 † The steerage fare from Liverpool to Quebec is now only £2. The fares to Australia and New Zealand are now exceptionally low, namely, £9 9s. to £14 14s. a head for steerage passengers.

been in such demand as during previous summers; the men who are wanted are those with sufficient money and experience to enable them to take up a free grant or to buy a farm, and thus become permanent settlers on the land. A correspondent from Nova Scotia reports that there are first-rate opportunities at the present time of renting and purchasing farms in that province. A report from Vancouver Island states that this season's crops have been good, and that more men are employed.

**New South Wales.**—There is no demand for labour at present, but the Coal Mining Industry at Newcastle has improved. A report from Grafton, 450 miles north-east of Sydney, states that the supply of all classes of labour is in excess of the demand; rents and the price of land have fallen some 25 per cent. since the early part of 1893. The Government labour bureau at Sydney continues to assist large numbers of the unemployed, nearly 8,000 persons having been sent to work during the first six months of this year. Of this number, 5,771 miners have been sent from Sydney, Newcastle, Lithgow, Goulbourn, and other centres, to search for gold. Besides these, over 2,000 persons, consisting of married couples, generally useful men, labourers, orchard and farm hands, station hands, &c., have been assisted to other occupations than gold-mining.

**Victoria.**—The services of a considerable number of employees in the railway, post-office and other departments of the Civil Service, amounting to about 600 altogether, have been dispensed with, owing to the depressed state of the Colony. For some months past some of the railway hands have been working three-quarter time, and some only half-time; the railway workshops are working three-quarter time. The Government hope to be able to offer special inducements to the men that have been dismissed to become settlers on the vacant lands in the Colony. The salaries of those civil servants who are retained have been further reduced by amounts varying from 2 to 10 per cent.

**South Australia.**—There is a large supply of all classes of labour, and there is no opening for fresh hands. The supply of experienced shearers has been very good, as well as that of married couples, farm hands, and boys for stations and farms. There is a good opening for men with a little money, who will turn their attention to fruit growing and wine making.

**Queensland.**—The erection of the new bridge at Brisbane is providing some work for men in the building trades, and especially for masons, while the foundries at Maryborough (180 miles north of Brisbane), are busy manufacturing cylinders for the work. But there is no demand at present either at Brisbane, or in country districts, for any more hands.

**Western Australia.**—The free passages for domestic servants to Western Australia have been stopped till further notice. The new Coolgardie goldfields in the south-west continue to attract a large number of miners and traders, many of whom do well.

**Tasmania.**—There is no demand for more labour. The railway workshops at Launceston are working only five days a week.

**New Zealand.**—The July report of the Department of Labour states:—The Building Trades are rather brisker at Auckland and Wellington, are quiet at Christchurch and Dunedin, and at Invercargill they are fairly busy, though there is an over-abundance of carpenters. The Iron Trade has slightly improved at Wellington and Dunedin, but not at Christchurch. The Boot Trade is slack at Wellington, very dull at Christchurch, and fairly busy at Dunedin. Of unskilled labour there is plenty everywhere. Subject to one or two exceptions the reports from all parts of New Zealand show that work in all branches is slack. Many persons have been put upon Government works, and others were expected to find work shortly at bush-felling.

**Cape Colony.**—Assisted third-class passages are again being given to domestic servants, as well as to mechanics; application must be made in the Colony by the intending employer. A recent report from Graaff-



Reinet, 185 miles from Port Elizabeth, states that there is a good demand for a few European overseers on stations at £36 to £50 a year with board and lodging. There seems to be no special demand for mechanics in any part of the Colony; and clerks and others without a manual trade are again warned against emigrating there. There is no prospect of any artisan finding employment on the Government railways.

**Natal.**—Free passages hitherto granted to domestic servants have been stopped. Many enginemen and firemen on the Government railways have been put on short time. At Pietermaritzburg there is a good demand for good boot-makers (hand workers), working 48 hours a week at a wage of £10 a month; the demand for men in the Building Trades is only slight, and there is no demand for printers, saddlers, or shop employees.

## LABOUR ABROAD.

### FRANCE.\*

**Labour Disputes in August.**—There were 26 fresh disputes in August compared with 29 in July, while 10 old ones remained unsettled at the beginning of the month. There were 3,460 persons engaged in 24 out of the 26 fresh disputes for which particulars are given. Ten occurred in the Textile Trades, 6 in the Clothing Trades, 2 each among metal workers and navvies and 6 in various other trades. Out of the 23 disputes, old and new, terminated during the month, 2 were successful, 9 were compromised and 12 failed. Among the latter was a strike of glove-makers in Grenoble which arose out of the workers laying claim to the remnants. Owing to one establishment being blacklisted the master glove-makers decided on a lock-out, by which 1,500 persons were affected.

**State of Employment in August.**—Partly owing to strikes, the proportion of unemployed in the middle of August was somewhat greater than in the previous month. In 645 trade unions and branches of trade unions, with 129,285 members, 14.4 per cent. were out of work, and business was considered as worse than at the corresponding period of last year by unions representing 69 per cent. of the above membership.

The masons report 33 per cent. of their members as unemployed, the plumbers 36, the painters 18, the lace and embroidery makers 36, the glass workers 39, the boot and shoe makers 27. The miners and quarrymen each have 3 per cent. idle. The Paris Printing Trade is slack. The failure of the wine crop has been severely felt in l'Hérault and Pyrénées-Orientales.

**Arbitration and Conciliation.**—No fresh cases of recourse to the Law on Conciliation and Arbitration were recorded in August. A compromise was, however, brought about between the miners of Graissessac and their employers, through the intervention of the Prefect of Hérault, who acted as arbitrator. The strike had lasted since the beginning of May, and affected 1,500 persons. Proposals for arbitration made by the *juge de paix* in May were rejected by the employers.

A strike of slaters in Mans was prevented through the intervention of the prefect of Sarthe, whose proposals for a compromise were accepted by both sides. The men had demanded increased wages.

Two further cases of recourse to the law are reported for July, making 11 for that month. The initiative was taken by the *juge de paix* in both, but neither was successful.

**Labour of Young Persons.**—The maximum weights to be pushed or drawn by young persons of either sex in the open streets, or within industrial establishments have been fixed as follows by a Decree of the Minister of Commerce, under the law of November 2nd 1892:—

Description of Vehicle.	Maximum Weight. Lbs.
a.—Trolleys on rails:	
Boys, 14 to 18	1,102
Girls, 16 to 18	661
Boys under 14	...
Girls under 16	330

\* From information supplied by the Office du Travail.

Description of Vehicle.	Maximum Weight. Lbs.
b.—Wheelbarrows:	
Boys, 14 to 18	88
c.—Handbarrows of three to four wheels:	
Boys, 14 to 18	132
Girls, 16 to 18	110
Boys under 14	...
Girls under 16	77
d.—Hand carts, litters, &c.:	
Boys, 14 to 18	286

### GERMANY.

The following is a summary of information supplied by Mr. Rosenthal-Cathcart, H.M. Acting-Consul at Düsseldorf, under date of the 3rd instant:—

**Labour Disputes.**—Particulars are given of 19 fresh disputes in August, and of 11 in progress since previous months. Of the fresh disputes, 5 were among metal workers, 4 in the Building Trades, 3 among weavers, 2 among printers, and 5 in other miscellaneous trades. The largest number of persons involved in any of these strikes was 300 (a strike of railway carriage-makers in Güstrow), and questions of wages were involved in 11 out of 12, for which particulars are forthcoming under this head. Of 10 strikes reported as terminated, 5 failed, 2 succeeded, and the results of 3 are unknown.

**Brewery Boycotts.**—The boycotting of breweries in Berlin and Brunswick, reported on in previous numbers of the GAZETTE, still continues. Social Democratic meetings were held in both places throughout the month; but though resolutions were passed to continue the boycotts, the Social Democrats are said to be losing ground. A boycott of breweries in Lübeck has terminated.

**Masons' Agitation.**—At a conference of masons held at Essen it was resolved to form a Committee of Agitation for Rhenish Prussia and Westphalia. From 4d. to 4½d. per hour for 11 to 12 hours a day were said to be the current rates of pay.

**Municipal Labour Registries and Labour Disputes.**—The labour representatives, to whom the initiative for the centralising of labour registries, and making them free is due, consider it important that their operations should be suspended during strikes or lock-outs as regards the trade affected. The opposite view is defended by the representatives of employers. A clause providing for the suspension of operations during labour disputes was included in the statutes recently submitted to the Government for the establishment of a municipal labour registry in Frankfurt-on-Main. The authorities have, however, refused to sanction this particular clause, with the result that the Federated Social Democratic Workmen's Unions have passed a resolution refusing to recognise the municipal registry as an institution beneficial to the working classes, and declining to make use of it.—*Blätter für Soziale Praxis.*

**Miners' Wages.**—In referring to the efforts being made by miners in the Ruhr district to strengthen their organisation, the *Reichsanzeiger* states that the monthly earnings of miners have fallen much of late through shortness of work, though the rates paid per shift have not been reduced.

**Workmen's Relief Stations.**—Owing to the expense attending their maintenance, and to their being used by undeserving persons, many of these institutions for affording relief in kind to workmen wandering in search of employment are being closed.—*Deutscher Reichsanzeiger.*

### SWITZERLAND.

The following is based on information supplied by Herr Greulich, the Swiss workmen's secretary, and transmitted by Mr. Angst, H. M. Consul at Zürich, on August 28th.

**Disputes.**—No fresh disputes are reported as having occurred in August; the strike of iron-moulders in Geneva, reported last month, has been settled, the employers having, it is said, agreed to take back the dismissed men.

**Protection of Women Workers.**—The Zürich law for the protection of women workers, the provisions of which were reported in the LABOUR GAZETTE for January last, has been accepted by a great majority at a Referendum.

\* Supplemented by information published in the *Deutscher Reichsanzeiger.*

held on August 12th. The chief feature of the law is the fixing of a ten-hours legal working day, although the maximum allowed by the Federal Factory Law is eleven hours. Between 4,000 and 5,000 women will be affected by the new law. Laws for the protection of women workers in trades which are not under the Federal Factory Act are now in force in the Cantons of Bâle, St. Gall and Zürich.

**Insurance against Want of Work.**—The workmen in the Embroidery Trade intend to try and form an insurance fund against want of employment, the monthly subscription to be 6d., and the daily relief 1s. 3d., with a maximum duration of 18 days' relief.

**Railway Servants' Union.**—The different societies of railway servants are about to amalgamate and form one union for the protection of their class interests. Most of the Swiss railway servants, of whom there are 18,000, are already organised in separate unions.

**Establishment of Workmen's Secretaryship.**—The organised workmen of Bâle have decided to appoint a local secretary, whose chief charge it will be to promote further organisation and to watch over the carrying out of the Factory Act.

**Trade Congress.**—An International Congress of tobacco workers was held at Bâle from the 5th to the 9th August, which, however, was not well attended. The following subjects were discussed:—1. Piece-work and time-work. 2. Unions and politics. 3. International organisation. 4. Trade newspapers.

**Life Insurance for the Working Classes.**—An arrangement made between the Federal Postal Department and a Swiss insurance company came into operation on August 1st, by which the poorer classes are enabled to insure their lives for sums as low as £10, the lowest sum for which Swiss companies have hitherto granted policies being £40. The premium (which is 2d. a week on a £10 policy) is paid by affixing postage stamps to a card provided with spaces for each week in the quarter. When full it is sent to the insurance company, and a fresh one is issued with the receipt. The stamps are bought back by the Postal Department. The company in return applies all profits to the benefits of the policyholders. The Post Office gives no guarantee for the payment of the insurance money when due.—*Der Grüthliener.*

### BELGIUM.

The following particulars are taken from a report dated August 31st, supplied by Mr. C. F. F. Adam, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Brussels.

**Labour Disputes.**—Only 3 fresh disputes were reported during August: one at a stocking factory in Cureghem, where the women went out unsuccessfully for higher wages; the second at Malines, where a number of sewer constructors went out for an advance alleged to have been promised them previously; and the third at Cily, where 540 colliers struck against an alteration of regulations made by a new manager.

**Female and Child Labour.**—The local Councils of Industry and Labour of Belgium have been summoned by Royal Decree to meet on September 23rd to consider the expediency of prohibiting the employment of women, young persons and children upon work exceeding their strength or endangering their lives, and of restricting it to a limited time and to special conditions in the case of admittedly unhealthy work. By a second Decree the same Councils in certain woollen manufacturing districts are convened to discuss the propriety of night work for girls and women between 18 and 21 years of age in wool-spinning mills.

**Co-operation.**—A Co-operative Congress representing 25 associations, with a membership of 58,850, met at Brussels on the 5th of August, and passed resolutions for the federation of Belgian Co-operative Societies, the establishment of a Central Trade Committee (*Chambre de Commerce*) for enabling societies to purchase their goods wholesale, and also a resolution to petition the Government to extend to federations of societies the privileges granted to individual societies.

### HOLLAND.

Mr. Robinson, H.M. Consul at Amsterdam, writing on August 23rd, reports as follows:—

\* Supplemented by information published in *Le Peuple.*

**Dispute.**—A partial strike of carpenters at Amsterdam, which was due to the refusal of the smaller employers to pay the higher rate of wages conceded by the larger ones, has ended in 40 of the men being dismissed.

**Wages and Hour Clauses in Municipal Contracts.**—The Municipal Council of Amsterdam have decided that from August 1st the maximum length of the working day for workmen engaged in municipal contracts shall be 11 hours, and in winter 10 hours, and that the lowest rate of pay shall be 4½d. an hour. Many carpenters and joiners have succeeded in obtaining the same terms from their employers. In connection with this action of the Municipality, that body has been petitioned by the local section of the "Patrimonium" Workmen's Union to grant the same rate of pay to the regular workmen in their direct employ from September 1st, as it is feared that many employers will, after that date, refuse to go on paying their workmen at the higher rate, if the Council itself continues to exclude its own labourers from the advance. (See GAZETTE for January, February, May and July.)

**Unemployed.**—Many schemes have been broached for dealing with the unemployed during the coming winter, which is looked forward to with apprehension owing to the depressed state of trade. Special note is made of schemes for the reclamation of waste grounds and moors.

### AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

**Workers' Accident Insurance.**—Copies of a Law and of a Ministerial Ordinance, both dated July 20th, and affecting workers' insurance, have been transmitted to the Foreign Office by H.M.'s Ambassador at Vienna, under date of August 15th.

The new law extends the provisions of the original law of December 28th 1887, so as to make accident insurance compulsory for employees of the Austrian railways and for all others engaged in transport excepting sailors at sea; for workmen engaged on dredgers, for those employed in cleaning streets and houses (windows and roofs), in wholesale stores of goods, coal or wood, in permanent theatres, whether as officials or actors; for firemen, drain cleaners, chimney sweeps; also for stonecutters, well sinkers and workers in iron engineering trades, in so far as they have not hitherto been under obligation to insure.

Hitherto most of the Austrian railways have had their own friendly societies, in which most of the employees were insured against accident.

By the Ministerial Ordinance, bearing the same date as the Law, a new classification of risks is issued. The seven State insurance offices have in several instances found difficulty in meeting their financial obligations, partly owing to the defective nature of the original classification of risks issued with the Law of 1887.

**Labour Disputes.**—Two fresh disputes and three old ones were reported on during August. The fresh disputes were among joiners and metal workers. That of the joiners was general, and affected 4,000 men in Buda-Pesth, who demanded a nine-hours day, abolition of piece-work, and the fixing of a minimum wage, demands which, it is said, one-third of the employers have already acceded to. The metal workers' dispute was confined to one establishment. No settlements are reported as having taken place.

### ITALY.

**An Italian Trade Union.**—The following is taken from an account of the Italian Federation of Workers on Books (said to be the only Italian Trade Union of the English type), as given in a report by Sir D. E. Colnaghi, H.M. Consul-General at Florence, just issued by the Foreign Office. The Union includes all workers in books, except authors, publishers and artists, and has an effective membership of 4,700, or 1,000 more than in 1891. The interests of its members are to be promoted by attaining a normal wage list, based on a minimum rate, by granting subsidies to unemployed, sick, travelling and impotent members, and to the widows and orphans of members, and by technical training and education. Contributions to the strike,

\* From reports published in the *Arbeiter Zeitung.*

† Miscellaneous Series, No. 337 of 1894.

out-of-work and travelling funds, and in support of the trade organ, are obligatory, members being assessed according to one of three wage classes, which are distinguished for the purpose. The subsidy to Italian members when travelling is about  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. a mile, and members unemployed, owing to wage disputes, get 12s. 10d., 9s. 6d., or 4s. 9d., according to the wage class to which they belong.

## SPAIN.

The following is a summary of reports from Sir G. F. Bonham, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, dated August 15th and 20th:—

**Establishment of a State Labour Department.**—A Royal Decree has been issued for the establishment of a department for collecting and publishing facts relating to Spanish labour and workmen. The subjects to be inquired into by the department cover a wide range, amongst the more important being the compilation of statistics of the labouring population arranged according to occupation with their rates of wages and hours of labour; information respecting workers' organisations, profit sharing, strikes, the prevention of accidents, unhealthy trades, benefit societies, and the moral and material conditions of workers in all industries. The work will be carried out by a central body under the Home Department, assisted by provincial agents. Monthly bulletins are to be issued, and the publication of an annual volume is contemplated.

**Municipal Improvements and the Unemployed.**—A list of questions, meant to throw light on the improvements and works needed in Spanish towns, such as water-supply, sanitation, prisons, asylums, &c., has been sent by the Minister of the Interior to the Civil Governors of Provinces, with instructions to submit them to the municipal architects, who must answer them before November 30th, prizes being given for the best answers. The material collected in this manner is to be used as a basis for measures dealing with the unemployed.

## RUSSIA.

**State of the Labour Market.**—According to the reports of the correspondents of the Ministry of Finance, summarised in its official journal *Vestnik Finansov*, the labour market continued firm at the end of July, when hay harvesting had concluded and grain cutting begun in most of the Central and Southern provinces. There was an upward tendency in wages at the beginning of August when grain harvesting was in full swing. It appears, however, that the high rates anticipated in spring have not, on the whole, been attained, though labourers' wages were higher than last year, and exceeded the average paid for a number of years. Unusually high wages were being paid where crops were abundant, or where, having all ripened together, an unusual demand for labour had arisen. This was the case in certain Southern provinces, including Melitopol and Berdiansk; where men were getting 3½ roubles a day, or 7 roubles if hired with a couple of horses, and women were getting 2½ roubles\* a day. On the other hand, where the crops had ripened gradually, wages were in some cases even lower than last year.

Throughout the greater part of the West and North-East wages were on about the same level as last year.

Organised efforts to influence the labour market are confined to a few of the large centres for hiring migrated labour. Thus, on July 22nd, 4,000 labourers at Petrovsk agreed not to engage in harvesting for less than 20 roubles per dessiatine,† or about 15s. an acre, a price which they subsequently reduced to 16 roubles per dessiatine, or about 12s. an acre. Employers, however, refused to pay these rates, and the organisation broke up, owing to the departure of many, the work being subsequently done at one-fourth to two-fifths the rate originally demanded.

About 2,000 more men left Cosmodemiansk towards the end of July on rafts for the lower Volga, good wages being paid for lumber-shovelling owing to the scarcity of hands caused by harvesting.

## UNITED STATES.

## CHICAGO CONSULAR DISTRICT.

**Labour Disputes.**—Reporting on August 30th, Mr. W. H. Bankes-Price, H.M. Acting Consul at Chicago, states that no labour troubles of any note have occurred in his district during the month. A strike of 1,600 men in the Omaha packing-houses for an increase of 5 cents, namely, from 40 to 45 cents (1s. 10½d.) per hour—the

\* The par value of the rouble is about 2s.  
† The dessiatine = 27 acres.

wages they received a year ago, when business was good—appears to have failed, as, on August 13th, all the packing-houses were running at almost their full capacity, and many men were turned away who applied for work.

The Commission appointed to inquire into and report upon the recent railway strike and boycott began its sittings in Chicago on August 15th. Evidence has been given by the presidents of the American Railway Union, the General Managers' Railway Association, and the Pullman Company.

The Governor of the State of Illinois has visited the town of Pullman, and found that considerable destitution prevails there.

**The Railway Strike.**—Sir Julian Pauncefoot, H.M. Ambassador at Washington, has furnished the following particulars as to the strike of the Pullman employees, which will serve to supplement what has been published about this dispute in the GAZETTE for June, July and August:—

The employees contended that prior to the strike the Company had managed to secure its usual profits; that, though it reduced wages, the rents of the cottages it let to its workmen had not been reduced; and that it manipulated wages and hours so as to spread its work among enough people to fill nearly all its cottages.

The Company, on the other hand, stated that only 3 per cent. was being made on the capital invested in the cottages, that it had taken contracts at a loss in order to keep as many men as possible employed, and that a return to the wages of 1893, as demanded, would necessitate the closing of the works. It also offered to justify the reduction of wages by producing its books, though refusing arbitration, on the ground that there was nothing to arbitrate upon.

## PHILADELPHIA CONSULAR DISTRICT.

Capt. R. C. Clipperton, H.M. Consul at Philadelphia, reporting under date of August 28th, states as follows:—

**New Tariff.**—The settlement of the new tariff legislation already seems to be resulting in a revival of many industries, and an increase of the number of persons employed in this Consular District; and manufacturers claim that they now know the conditions which will prevail, and that they are able to resume operations, an adjustment of wages, in accordance with the altered rates, being in some cases considered necessary by them.

**Coke Strike.**—The importation of coloured labourers from Southern States to take the place of strikers seems to have caused a certain amount of dissatisfaction both in the localities into which they have been brought and also among the coloured labourers themselves, who complain of ill-treatment and breaches of contract. Many are returning whence they came.

**Glass.**—The Flint-Glass Workers' Organisation, which is one of the best organisations in this country, has endeavoured to maintain prices by general co-operation. It has not been able, however, to prevent some factories running without organised labour, and the amount of work expected for a given rate of wages has been increased.

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