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THE

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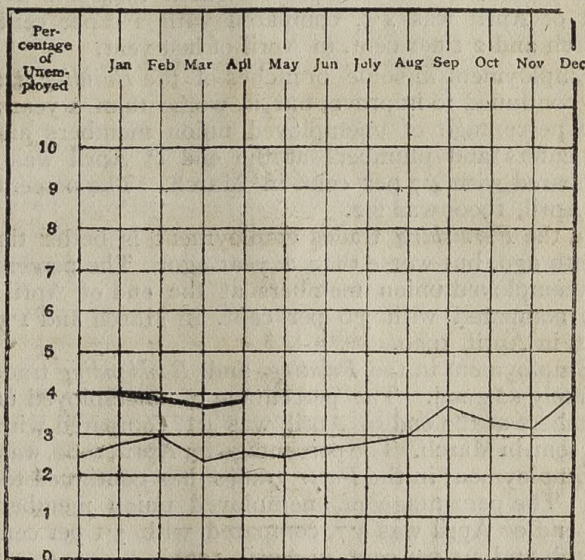
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## EMPLOYMENT CHART, 1900-1901.

Chart showing the percentage of unemployed members of the Trade Unions making returns at the close of each complete month of 1900 and 1901.

[The thick line applies to 1901, the thin line to 1900].



## STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN APRIL.

[Based on 2,569 returns, viz.: 1,804 from Employers, 630 from Trade Unions, and 135 from other sources.]

THE state of employment during April showed a slight decline when compared with March, and continues worse than a year ago.

In the 143 Trade Unions making returns, with an aggregate membership of 547,197, 21,018 (or 3.8 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of April, compared with 3.6 per cent. in March, and with 2.5 per cent. in the 137 Unions, with a membership of 525,865, from which returns were received for April, 1900.

**Employment in Various Industries.—Coal Mining.**—Employment in the four weeks ended April 20th showed a decline in the average number of days worked per week as compared with a year ago, but an increase in the number employed. Owing to the Easter holidays, no satisfactory comparison can be made with the previous month. At collieries at which 477,723 workpeople were employed, the pits worked on an average 4.91 days per week during the four weeks ended April 20th, as compared with 5.19 days a year ago.

**Iron Mining.**—Employment shows a decline as compared with a year ago; owing to holidays an exact comparison cannot be made with the previous month. The average number of days worked by 123 iron mines and open works, at which 15,117 workpeople were employed, in the four weeks ended April 20th, was 5.37 per week, as compared with 5.64 days a year ago.

**Pig Iron Industry.**—Employment shows little change compared with a month ago, and is much worse than a year ago. At the works of 115 iron masters, 291 furnaces employing about 20,700 workpeople were in blast at the end of April, as compared with 289 at the end of March, and 382 a year ago.

**Iron and Steel Manufacture.**—Employment shows a decline as compared with March, and is worse than a year ago. At 205 works covered by the returns,

employing 76,410 workpeople at the end of April, the total volume of employment (taking into account both the number employed and the number of shifts worked) shows a decrease of 2.0 per cent. as compared with March, and of 10.9 per cent. as compared with April, 1900.

**Tinplate Trade.**—Employment shows a marked improvement compared with March, but is still considerably worse than a year ago. At the end of April 335 mills were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of blackplates), compared with 293 mills at the end of March, and 413 mills at the end of April, 1900. The number of workpeople employed at the mills in operation at the end of April is estimated to be about 16,700.

Employment in the *Engineering* and *Metal* trades has remained fairly good. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of April was 3.4, compared with 3.5 per cent. in March. The percentage for April, 1900, was 2.4.

In the *Shipbuilding* trades employment is not so good. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of April was 4.5, compared with 2.4 per cent. in March and 2.1 per cent. in April of last year.

Employment in some branches of the *Building* trades has continued to improve, but is worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members among carpenters and plumbers at the end of April was 3.4, compared with 4.7 per cent. in March. The percentage for April, 1900, was 2.2.

In the *Furnishing* trades employment is better than a month ago, but worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of April was 2.5, compared with 3.6 per cent. in March and 1.3 per cent. in April, 1900.

Employment in the *Printing* and *Bookbinding* trades is scarcely so good. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of April was 4.1, compared with 3.7 per cent. in March. The percentage for April, 1900, was 4.1.

Employment in the *Paper* trades has continued to fall off. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of April was 3.7, compared with 3.1 per cent. in March and 2.1 per cent. in April, 1900.

In the *Glass* trades the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of April was 11.8, compared with 9.0 per cent. in April, 1900.

Employment in the *Leather* trades has continued to improve. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of April was 1.8, compared with 2.0 per cent. in March and 1.7 per cent. in April, 1900.

Employment in the *Boot* and *Shoe* trades shows a decline, and is only moderate.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the *Tailoring* trade shows an improvement and is fairly good; in the ready-made branch it has further improved, and is good in most centres.

Employment in the *Spinning* branch of the *Cotton* trade shows a decline but is still fairly good; in the *Weaving* branch it is quiet, again showing a decline.

Information respecting factories employing about 81,700 women and girls shows that 72 per cent. of those in spinning mills and 64 per cent. of those in weaving factories were working in factories giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 79 and 70 per cent. respectively in March, and with 97 and 94 per cent. respectively a year ago.

In the *Woollen* trade employment continues fair; the improvement in the *Worsted* trade has not been maintained, and employment is slack. In the *Hosiery* trade employment has improved in Leicestershire but remains slack in Nottinghamshire.

**Agricultural Labour.**—In the first half of April, which was wet, there was a little irregularity of employment in some districts, especially among casual labourers. During the latter part of the month, which was dry, agricultural labourers were generally very busily employed in all counties.

**Dock and Riverside Labour in London.**—During the four weeks ended April 27th, an average number of 16,267 labourers were employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves, as compared with averages of 16,230 in the preceding five weeks and 14,176 in the corresponding period a year ago.

**Trade Disputes.**—Sixty-six disputes began in April, 1901, involving 35,322 workpeople, of whom 9,581 were directly, and 25,741 indirectly affected. The corresponding number of disputes in March was 52, involving 20,779 workpeople, and in April, 1900, 52, involving 31,181. Of the 66 new disputes in April, 1901, 20 occurred in the building trades, 20 in the mining industry, 9 in the engineering, metal and shipbuilding trades, 4 in the textile trades, and 13 in miscellaneous industries. Of the 57 new and old disputes, involving 38,166 workpeople, of which the termination is reported, 16, involving 2,203 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 8, involving 27,613 persons, in favour of the employers; and 26, involving 7,270 persons, were compromised. With regard to the remaining 7 disputes, involving 1,080 persons, certain points are still under consideration.

**Changes in Rates of Wages.**—The changes in rates of wages reported during April affected 54,874 workpeople, and the net effect of all the changes was a decrease of 2s. 8d. weekly per head. Of the total number, 2,697 received advances averaging 1s. 10½d. per week, and 52,177 sustained decreases averaging 2s. 11d. per week.

The net result of the changes reported in the previous month (March) was an average decrease of ¼d. per head on the weekly wages of 196,360 workpeople, and during the corresponding month of last year (April, 1900) the net result was an average advance of 1s. 5½d. per head in the weekly wages of 273,400 workpeople.

There was no advance of importance in April. The principal decreases were those affecting 30,000 coal miners in Northumberland, 10,000 iron miners and limestone quarrymen in Cleveland and Cumberland, 2,630 bedstead workers in Birmingham, and 3,000 steel millmen and 2,485 building trade operatives in Scotland.

Changes affecting 36,042 workpeople were arranged by arbitration or conciliation (including two changes affecting 412 workpeople settled by arbitration after strike), and changes affecting 2,839 workpeople took effect under sliding scales. Six changes, affecting 1,043 workpeople, were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work, and the remaining changes, affecting 15,362 workpeople, were arranged by direct negotiations between employers and workpeople or their representatives.

**NEW FACTORIES AND SHOPS ACT IN QUEENSLAND.**

By an Act ("The Factories and Shops Act of 1900") assented to December 28th, 1900, the Act of 1896, previously in force in Queensland, has been repealed, and new provisions in respect to the regulation of factories and shops have been made. While under the former Act "factory" was defined so as not to include places in which less than four persons were engaged, the new law applies to places (other than domestic workshops) where two or more persons are engaged. The new Act includes provisions dealing with the inspection of boilers, and requiring notice to be given of any boiler explosion or accident, power being given to the Government to order an enquiry to be held into the causes and circumstances thereof. The sanitary requirements of the previous law are now strengthened by the addition of provisions requiring that every factory and shop shall have a proper supply of drinking water, and that in all factories a reasonable temperature shall be maintained, and in other respects. The Act also provides that:

(1.) After one month's probation, no person under the age of 21 years, unless in receipt of a weekly wage of at least 2s. 6d., shall be employed in any factory, or in wholly or partly preparing, working at, dealing with, or manufacturing any article for or in connection with any trade or for sale.

(2.) Any person who, without the consent in writing of the inspector, either directly or indirectly or by any pretence or device, requires or permits any person to pay or give, or who receives from any person, any consideration, premium, or bonus for engaging or employing any young person or female under the age of 21 years in preparing, working at, dealing with, or manufacturing articles of clothing or wearing apparel, including boots and shoes, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding £10."

**AGRICULTURAL WAGES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IN 1900.**

**England and Wales.**—In 1900 agricultural wages, which have increased every year since 1895, showed a further increase compared with 1899.

Information as to the current rates of weekly cash wages in January and June, 1900, of ordinary agricultural labourers in most of the Rural Districts in England and Wales has been obtained, mainly from the Chairmen of Rural District Councils. The rates are exclusive of piecework earnings, extra payments for hay and corn harvest, and of all extra allowances in cash and kind. For the purpose of arriving at a general conclusion, the principle adopted in previous reports has been followed, which is to assume that where a change took place in the predominant rates of wages of ordinary agricultural labourers in any district, a similar change occurred in the wages of other classes of agricultural labourers, *i.e.*, shepherds, cattlemen, horsemen, etc.

The districts reported on in which an increase in wages took place in 1900 contained 281,262 labourers. No decreases were reported in 1900, the number affected by decreases in wages having fallen off year by year since 1895.

The total net increase per week in the districts reported on amounted to £9,939, which is equivalent to a general rise of 8½d. per week per head of those affected.

Calculated on the total number of agricultural labourers in England and Wales according to the 1891 Census, the rise per head in 1900 amounted to 3½d. per week.

The following Table shows the net effect of the yearly changes arranged in groups of counties:—

Year.	ENGLAND.				WALES.	TOTAL.
	Northern Counties.	Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Cheshire.	Eastern, and Midland Counties.	Southern and Western Counties.		
Total Number of Labourers in Districts affected.						
1895	3,766	3,942	89,576	20,441	2,165	119,890
1896	5,662	2,897	69,869	20,901	...	99,329
1897	6,156	2,254	58,078	17,988	2,909	87,385
1898	2,151	5,111	157,150	46,687	5,938	217,037
1899	7,256	12,536	121,474	51,704	2,469	195,439
1900	16,634	21,049	177,566	63,245	2,768	281,262
Average amount of change in Weekly Cash Wages per head of Labourers in Districts affected. [(+) = Increase; (-) = Decrease.]						
1895	+ 2½	- 7½	- 5½	- 6½	s. d. +0 8½	- 5½
1896	- 2½	+ 8½	+ 2½	+ 4	...	+ 1
1897	+ 5½	+ 8½	+ 7½	+ 6½	- 0 2	+ 6½
1898	+ 5½	+ 8½	+ 8½	+ 7	+ 0 6½	+ 8
1899	+ 8	+ 7½	+ 8½	+ 7½	+ 0 10½	+ 8
1900	+ 10½	+ 8½	+ 8½	+ 7½	+ 1 2½	+ 8½

By far the greater number of the changes again occurred in the Eastern and Midland counties, which are the principal corn-growing counties of England. The number of labourers in the districts affected in these counties was 177,566, or 63.1 per cent. of the total number affected in all districts. The net effect of the changes in the Eastern and Midland counties was an aggregate increase of £6,327 per week, compared with £4,116 per week in 1899, and £5,454 per week in 1898.

In the Southern and Western counties the districts which were affected by changes contained 63,245 labourers, or 22.5 per cent. of the total number affected in all districts. The aggregate rise in these counties amounted to £2,014 per week, compared with £1,600 per week in 1899, and £1,345 per week in 1898.

In Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Cheshire the number of labourers in districts in which there was a rise of wages was 21,049, and the aggregate increase in weekly wages was £718, compared with £408 in 1899, and £176 in 1898. In the Northern counties the rise was £714 per week, and affected districts containing 16,634 labourers. In 1899 the rise was £239 per week, and in 1898 it amounted to £49.

It may be of interest to give for certain counties in

England, where the earnings were highest and lowest in 1898, the approximate increase in total weekly earnings of ordinary agricultural labourers in 1900, as compared with 1898 (the year for which earnings are given in the Report on Agricultural Wages and Earnings\*). It has been assumed for the purpose of arriving at the total earnings for 1900, that the difference between cash wages and total earnings (including extra cash payments and the value of allowances in kind) for 1898, which was based on returns from farmers, was the same in 1900 in each county.

	Average weekly earnings throughout the year (including value of allowances in kind).	
	1900.	1898.
I. Counties showing highest average earnings in 1898—	s. d.	s. d.
Durham ... ..	22 4	20 9
Northumberland ... ..	20 9	20 2
Derbyshire ... ..	20 6	19 11
II. Counties showing lowest average earnings in 1898—		
Dorsetshire ... ..	15 4	14 9
Oxfordshire ... ..	15 1	14 8
Suffolk ... ..	15 10	14 5

Information has again been received from various parts of Wales as to the wages of the labourers who are hired by the year or half-year, and who are generally single men, and live and board in the farm houses, as well as of the married labourers who live in cottages, and who are paid a weekly wage either entirely in cash or partly in food. It is not possible to compute, from the information obtainable, the number of hired men in the different classes who have been affected by changes, and therefore the changes in the wages of the married men have been applied to all classes. In 1900 the total number of labourers in districts in which changes of wages were reported was only 2,768, and the aggregate increase of wages was £166.

**Scotland.**—Information as to rates of wages in Scotland was obtained by the Department from a correspondent, based on information obtained from hiring fairs, and also from a number of representative employers.

Generally there was an upward movement in 1900 in the wages of all classes of farm servants. At the Spring yearly hiring fairs in the Border counties and the Lothians, an increase of from about 20s. to 50s. a year in wages was given in a number of cases. The wages of ploughmen generally varied between 15s. and 19s. a week, married men getting in addition allowances in kind, such as cottages and garden free, a certain number of yards of potato drill planted (generally from 1,200 to 1,800 yards) or an allowance of potatoes, oatmeal, coals carted free, or an allowance of coals, and frequently food and drink during harvest. Milk is also frequently given, and sometimes straw for pigs and manure for gardens. The higher wages are mostly paid in the Lothians, but in these counties fewer allowances in kind are generally given than in the Border counties.

In other parts of Scotland at the yearly and half-yearly hirings which took place between March and July, wages of men frequently rose at the rate of about 20s. to 50s., and sometimes as much as 60s. per annum. The wages of women, lads and boys also generally increased. At the half-yearly hirings first horsemen as a rule got £15 to £20 for the half-year, and other horsemen £11 to £15, with the usual allowances in the case of married men, and board and lodging in the case of unmarried men.

At the hiring fairs held between August and December, the old rates of wages were maintained in the great majority of cases, and where changes took place increases were more numerous than decreases. Where a decrease took place it rarely amounted to more than 10s. to 15s. for the half-year. Generally speaking there was a rise in wages in the colliery districts, the ranks of the farm servants having been thinned by migration to the collieries.

\* Report on Wages and Earnings of Agricultural Labourers in the United Kingdom [Cd. 346 of 1900].

The wages of women, whether employed as outworkers or in the farmhouses, showed an upward tendency during the year, and reports state that as a class, they were generally scarce.

Ireland.—Reports received from 81 correspondents in various parts of Ireland show that since 1898 (the year for which figures were given in the Report on Wages and Earnings of Agricultural labourers) there has been an upward tendency in the wages of farm labourers, though, generally speaking, they have not changed to an appreciable extent.

Many of the reports refer to a growing scarcity of labour. This is chiefly attributed to emigration and to migration to England and Scotland. The war in South Africa is also referred to as an additional cause.

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1901.

The following particulars are extracted from memoranda issued by the Registrar-General:—

Under the regulations, returns began to be due at the Census Office on April 27, and have now been received so far as to admit of the issue of the following figures. These figures are unrevised, being based on summary returns furnished by registrars and their superintendents, and are subject to modification as the detailed returns are examined.

POPULATION ENUMERATED IN 1891 AND 1901 IN COUNTY BOROUGHS.

Table with 4 columns: County Boroughs, Population 1891, Population 1901, County Boroughs, Population 1891, Population 1901. Lists various counties like Barrow-in-Furness, Bath, Birkenhead, etc.

\* The figures printed in italics for certain county boroughs are revised totals specially furnished to the Labour Department by the Registrar-General.

POPULATION IN 1891 AND 1901 IN THE CITY OF LONDON AND THE METROPOLITAN BOROUGHS WITHIN THE COUNTY OF LONDON.

Table with 4 columns: Metropolitan Boroughs, Population 1891, Population 1901, Metropolitan Boroughs, Population 1891, Population 1901. Lists City of London, Battersea, Bermondsey, etc.

The unrevised summary returns as received from the local census officers now permit the publication of the figures for the administrative counties of England and Wales. The returns of London and the county boroughs having already been given, the data for a statement as to the gross total population are at hand.

A detailed examination of these returns as affecting urban and rural areas must be reserved for the preliminary report, but the following comparative figures may be deemed of immediate interest:—

Table with 2 columns: Population, 1891, Population, 1901. Shows population on March 31st, 1891 and April 6th, 1891, and increase from 1891 to 1901.

The increase per cent., therefore, over the whole of England and Wales since 1891 has been greater by one-half per cent. than during the previous decennium.

This may also be illustrated by the following comparison:—

Table with 2 columns: Population, 1891, Population, 1901. Shows ascertained population on March 31st, 1901, and population as estimated by the Registrar-General on the same day.

POPULATION ENUMERATED IN 1891 AND 1901.

Large table with 4 columns: England & Wales, 1891, 1901, Administrative Counties, 1891, 1901. Lists England and Wales, Administrative Counties, and various counties like Bedfordshire, Berkshire, etc.

RECENT CONCILIATION & ARBITRATION CASES & COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS.

UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

Arbitration in the Building Trade at Reading.

The Reading and District Building Trades Conciliation Board applied to the Board of Trade on April 25th for the appointment of an Arbitrator to deal with an amendment to the working rules, proposed by the men, that "the standard wage for labourers shall be 6d. per hour, and for scaffolders 6½d. per hour."

Arbitration in the Stanton Iron Works Dispute.

His Honour, Sir Horatio Lloyd, the Arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade (see GAZETTE for April, p. 105), issued his award on April 30th respecting the wages of blastfurnacemen at the above works.

The operative clause of the award is as follows:—"Having given full consideration to the contentions of the parties, and to the statements and documents furnished to me, of the wages paid, and of the selling price of iron between June, 1900, and March, 1901, the conclusion at which I have arrived is that the reduction of 5 per cent. in wages made on the 20th March last was justified; and I award accordingly."

The award also states that both parties agreed to make no attempt to vary or alter the Arbitrator's decision for a period of at least two months from the date of the award, and that during that time work should be continued.

Arbitration in the Bricklayers' Labourers' Dispute at Leicester.

On April 5th 34 bricklayers' labourers struck work at Leicester in consequence of the employment of navvies to do concreting. Thirty bricklayers were indirectly affected. It was agreed on April 30th that work should be resumed on the conditions which obtained before the strike, pending the decision of an Arbitrator to be appointed by the Board of Trade.

A joint application, signed on behalf of the employers by the Leicester Building Trades Federation, and by the Leicester Operative Builders' Labourers' Trade Union on behalf of the men, having been received by the Board of Trade, the Board have appointed Sir W. Markby, K.C.I.E., to act as Arbitrator.

Arbitration in the Building Trade at Harrogate.

In September last the Harrogate Master Builders' Federation gave notice (to expire on March 31st, 1901) for a reduction in the wages of carpenters and joiners from 9d. to 8d. per hour. Thereupon the local branch of the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners gave notice for an advance from 9d. to 10d. per hour. Both demands respectively being refused, the parties made application to the Board of Trade for the appointment of an Arbitrator, and the Board appointed Mr. T. Blashill, F.R.I.B.A., to act in that capacity.

Mr. Blashill issued his award on May 4th, and decided that the rate of wages should be reduced to 8½d. per hour.

Arbitration in the Sheffield Plumbers' Dispute.

Mr. T. Blashill, F.R.I.B.A., the Arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade (see GAZETTE for April, p. 105), issued his award on May 6th. The operative clause of the award is as follows:—

"Having considered the representations made before me, I am unable to see that sufficient reason exists for the advance demanded, and I award that the standard rate of wages of the operative plumbers of Sheffield do remain as at present at ninepence per hour."

Arbitration between Engineers and Boilermakers in London.

Captain J. S. Castle, the Arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade in the matter of a dispute between

engineers and boilermakers in a shipbuilding yard on the Thames (see GAZETTE for April, p. 105), issued his award on May 7th. The Arbitrator decided that "the fixing of sidelights when rivetted ought to be done by the boiler-makers, and when bolted by the engineers."

Arbitration in the North Staffordshire Painting Trade.

The operative painters in North Staffordshire having applied to the North Staffordshire Association of Master Plumbers and Painters for an advance of wages and alteration of working rules, the parties have agreed to refer the matter to the decision of an Arbitrator to be appointed by the Board of Trade.

The Board have appointed Mr. T. Blashill, F.R.I.B.A., to act as Arbitrator.

Arbitration in the Building Trade at Cheltenham.

In November last the Amalgamated Society of Gas Workers, Brickmakers, and General Labourers gave notice to the Cheltenham Master Builders' Association for a rise in the wages of builders' labourers of 1d. per hour (5d. to 6d.), to take effect on May 1st, 1901. Both parties having agreed to refer the matter to an arbitrator to be appointed by the Board of Trade, the Board have appointed Mr. A. A. Hudson, barrister-at-law, to act as arbitrator.

Settlement of the Miners' Dispute at Clydach Vale.

In January last a dispute involving over 3,000 miners commenced at Clydach Vale in South Wales. The Board of Trade, acting under the Conciliation Act, and after consultation with the representatives of each side, arranged a conference between the parties. This meeting was held in London, and was presided over by Lord Knutsford. The conference failed, however, to agree to terms of settlement. Subsequent negotiations between the parties resulted in a further conference, which was held on 9th May at the offices of the Labour Department of the Board of Trade. The following are the terms of agreement which the parties undertook to recommend to their respective constituents as a settlement of the dispute:—

(1) Examiners appointed from among the workmen to be allowed to descend the shaft simultaneously with the repairers, in the proportion of one to five.

(2) Employment to be found for all workmen previously in the employ of the company as their working places are put in a safe condition.

(3) Another effort to be made at collieries by the management and the representatives of the colliers to settle the matters in dispute that have been discussed since the stoppage, but, failing to settle within a period of three months from the resumption of work, all matters that remain unsettled shall be referred to an independent arbitrator, who shall be a practical mining man, to be appointed by the Board of Trade.

(4) After the resumption of work the company to pay money retained in the office from men who left without notice, the workmen to abandon the claim to compensation for loss of time owing to shortage of timber, the company not to bring any action against the men for leaving work without notice in the past.

(5) The workmen undertake to accord the company similar treatment to that given to other colliery companies in the Rhondda district.

(6) A conciliation board be formed to consider any future dispute (wages or otherwise) that may arise at the collieries, and which the management and men have failed to settle, such board to be composed of the Directors of the Cambrian Collieries (Limited), and an equal number of representatives of the council of the South Wales Miners' Federation, with an independent chairman, who shall have full power to settle any case of disagreement; the chairman to be selected by the members of the board, failing which selection to be appointed by the Board of Trade; the conciliation board to remain in force until terminated at six months' notice by either side, such notice to be given on the 1st of January or the 1st of July in any year."

These terms of agreement have now been considered and accepted by both the parties to the dispute.

## LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

THE following are among the more interesting legal cases reported in April, especially affecting labour. The accounts are based principally upon reports appearing in newspapers.

(1) Workmen's Compensation Act.  
ENFORCEMENT OF AWARD.

The Act provides that "where the amount of compensation under this Act shall have been ascertained, or any weekly payment varied, or any other matter decided, under this Act, either by a committee or by an arbitrator, or by agreement, a memorandum thereof shall be sent, in manner prescribed by rules of Court, by the said committee or arbitrator, or by any party interested, to the Registrar of the County Court for the district in which any person entitled to such compensation resides, who shall, subject to such rules, on being satisfied as to its genuineness, record such memorandum in a special register without fee, and thereupon the said memorandum shall for all purposes be enforceable as a County Court judgment."

By an award under the Act an employer had been directed to pay to a workman, as compensation under the Act, 2s. 6d. a week. The employer fell into arrear with the payments, so that £2 5s. was due and unpaid. A judgment summons under Section 5 of the Debtors' Act, 1869, was thereupon taken out against him by the workman. The County Court Judge, on hearing the summons, held that he had no jurisdiction to commit the employer to prison, and refused the application. The workman appealed. The Court of Appeal allowed the appeal (*see GAZETTE*, December 1900, p. 360), and the case went back to the County Court Judge, who, however, refused to make the order for committal, on the ground that certain points, on which he had relied in his judgment had not been presented to the Court of Appeal. One of the points referred to by the County Court Judge was that the provision of the Act cited above did not apply because no memorandum of the award had been sent to the Registrar or recorded by him in the register. It was admitted that the award itself had been so sent and registered. Another point was that the provision did not apply where the arbitrator was appointed by the Judge or the Judge himself acted as arbitrator, and that there was no other statutory provision for the enforcement by judgment summons of the award of such arbitrators. The workman appealed against this refusal to the King's Bench Division; and that Court allowed the appeal, holding that to read the paragraph in the Act as the County Court Judge suggested would be to make it unworkable, and that the registration of the award itself (instead of a memorandum) was fully sufficient compliance with the Act.—*Bailey v. Plant, King's Bench Division, April 27th.*

## (2) Employers' Liability Act.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO SERVANT OF CONTRACTOR: LIABILITY OF MINE OWNER.

The Employers' Liability Act, 1880, provides that where personal injury is caused to a "workman," as therein mentioned, the workman, or in case the injury results in death, the legal personal representatives of the workman, and any persons entitled in case of death, shall have such right of compensation and remedies as therein mentioned. "For the purposes of this Act, unless the context otherwise requires, the expression 'employer' includes a body of persons corporate or unincorporate; the expression 'workman' means a railway servant and any person to whom the Employers and Workmen Act, 1875, applies."

The last-named statute provides that "in this Act the expression 'workman' does not include a domestic or menial servant, but, save as aforesaid, means any person who, being a labourer, servant in husbandry, journeyman, artificer, handicraftsman, miner, or otherwise engaged in manual labour, has entered into or works under a contract with an employer, whether the contract be express or implied, oral or in writing, and be a contract of service or a contract personally to execute any work or labour."

A colliery company entered into an arrangement with a mine sinker, under which he was to sink and wall the shaft of one of their pits at so much a yard, and on certain terms and conditions. Under this contract the mine sinker was to provide all the labour and engine winders. A man employed by the sinker, and paid by him, met with a fatal accident while at work. His father brought an action against the company, under the Employers' Liability Act, to recover damages for the death of his son. The deceased man had signed a book kept at the mine, the entry of his name being followed by the words "for Contractor." This book contained "conditions of employment," one of which was that every person employed by a contractor "shall, in consideration of being employed at the works, be bound both as between himself and the contractor, and between himself and the owner, by the terms of these conditions." One of the conditions here referred to required the workmen to be bound by the "usual and customary terms and regulations which obtain or exist with respect to the employment of workmen employed at the colliery." On behalf of the company it was submitted that the deceased was not a workman in the employment of the company, within the meaning of Employers' Liability Act. The deputy County Court Judge overruled this objection.

On appeal, the King's Bench Division reversed the judgment of the deputy County Court Judge, holding that the fact of the deceased man's having been under an obligation to conform to the rules and regulations of the mine did not constitute him a "workman" employed by the company, since this obligation was not a "contract of service," or "a contract personally to execute any work or labour," within the meaning of the Act above referred to.—*Fitzpatrick v. Evans & Co., Limited, King's Bench Division, February 9th, reported April 13th.*

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN IN DANGEROUS EMPLOYMENT; DUTY OF EMPLOYERS.

An action was brought in a County Court by a boy, aged 12 years, through his father, as next of kin, against the boy's employers, railway bookstall proprietors. The plaintiff was employed as a newspaper boy at the defendants' bookstall at a railway station. According to the evidence given on behalf of the plaintiff, he entered the employment on December 5th, 1898, and was instructed in his duties by his predecessor, a boy of the same age as himself. One of his duties was to procure papers from the stall on No. 2 platform, which was a platform surrounded by lines of railway, and deliver them in the town. There was a footbridge over the line, and the public were warned not to cross the metals, but to use the footbridge. The plaintiff, however, and the other newspaper boys were in the habit of crossing by the metals. On February 24th, 1899, while on his way from No. 2 platform to the town, he was run over by a passing train and lost his leg. The accident took place at a point 180 yards from the station. The route across the metals was shorter than that by the footbridge. There was evidence that the plaintiff was not warned not to cross by the metals, and that the man in charge of the bookstall knew that he was in the habit of crossing by the metals. There was evidence, on the other hand, that the plaintiff knew that it was dangerous to cross by the metals. The County Court Judge was of opinion that there was no evidence of negligence, and non-suited the plaintiff, who appealed to the King's Bench Division. That Court allowed the appeal, with costs, holding that there was evidence, which it was proper should be considered by the jury, that the defendants' business was not carried on in a proper way, having regard to the class of persons in their employment (*see GAZETTE*, March, 1901, p. 77). From this judgment the defendants appealed to the Court of Appeal, which sent the case back for a new trial, holding that there was evidence from which the jury ought to be allowed to draw their own conclusions. The Court was of opinion that in such a case as the present it was not sufficient for the master to say that the child knew of the danger, but there was a duty on the master to order the child what to do in order to keep out of the danger. In such a case the master ought to order the child not to cross over the rails, but to go over the lines by the bridge. The duty, which the master owed to the child, was a superior duty to that which he would owe to a man.—*Robinson v. W. H. Smith & Son, Court of Appeal, April 16th.*

## (3) Factory Acts.

EMPLOYMENT OF YOUNG PERSONS: "FINISHING OF BRICKS."

By Section 38 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1878, it is enacted that "A child or young person shall not, to the extent mentioned in the First Schedule to this Act, be employed in the factories or workshops, or parts thereof named in that schedule." The schedule referred to provides that in a factory or workshop, in which there is carried on "the making or finishing of bricks or tiles not being ornamental tiles," a girl under the age of 16 years shall not be employed.

A Factory Inspector preferred an information against a firm of brick and tile manufacturers, charging them with infringement of the provisions stated above, under the following circumstances. The firm made at the factory, to which the charge related, plain and glazed or enamelled bricks, both white and coloured, also (among other things) impressed glazed bricks. Two girls, who were at the date mentioned in the information, under the age of 16, had for some time been employed by the firm in this factory. In one part of the factory the dust out of which the bricks, whether plain or glazed, were made, was pressed and moulded by steam into ordinary brick shape, and then taken to dust kilns to be baked, but neither of the girls in question was employed in any of these processes, which were all carried out by men. The following processes were, however, necessary and were carried out in the premises of the factory when the bricks were being glazed or enamelled:—The rough or plain bricks made as above were carried from the dust kilns wherein they were baked to sheds, called dipping sheds, which were separate erections from the dust kilns, but were near them and not separated from them by any barrier or enclosure. The face of each brick was first dipped in a preparing solution or "bodied." Then the prepared bricks were dried and stacked in the sheds, and the face prepared as above was afterwards dipped in glaze and scraped or knifed. The bricks so glazed and scraped were stacked, and they were ultimately carried from the sheds to ovens near the sheds and baked with the view of setting the glaze. They were then polished and finally carried to stacking sheds, where they remained until required for the purpose of sale or otherwise. The girls were employed in carrying plain bricks from the dust kilns to the dipping sheds, where they were stacked and glazed by the dippers, also in carrying the bricks after they had been glazed from the dippers in the sheds to another place in the same sheds, where they were knifed or scraped, in carrying them from the sheds to the ovens, where the glazed bricks were baked and polished, and occasionally, but not often, in carrying the baked and polished bricks to the final stacking sheds. One of the girls was on the day in question, and for a week at a time during the period of her employment, also employed in actually dipping the face of the bricks in the glaze. It was contended on behalf of the Factory Inspector that the Act above cited absolutely prohibited the employment in any place within the close or curtilage of a factory where bricks were made or finished of girls under the age of 16 years, and further that the processes performed upon the rough bricks constituted a finishing of bricks, within the meaning of the Act. On the part of the employing firm it was contended that there was no absolute prohibition as alleged, but only a prohibition to employ girls under 16 in the processes of making and finishing of bricks, and that the above processes did not constitute a finishing of bricks. The justices were of

## LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.

(Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 37, Broadway, Westminster, from official and other reports, newspapers, etc., mostly dated March and April last.)

**Canada.**—This is the busy season in Canada, and emigrants should start at once. The principal demand is for farm labourers and domestic servants. The metal trades and many factories have been busy, and work has been very steady for printers and tailors. Some municipalities are contemplating extensive local improvements, which will provide work for unskilled labourers and others. Coal-miners in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, have been very busy, and there is a demand for competent men, for men in the building trades, and general labourers.

**New South Wales.**—Troubles continue in the coal trade. The shipowners complain of the great delay in coaling their ships, caused, as they say, by the lumpers' Union unduly restricting the number of lumpers.

**Victoria.**—A report from Horsham states that there is a good demand for farm labourers and female servants. There is very little demand for mechanics in Melbourne, or any other part of the colony. The Government have decided to spend £16,000 on irrigation works in the Mallee, which will benefit the local farmers, and at the same time provide work for those out of employment in Melbourne.

**South Australia and Tasmania.**—The supply of labour is generally sufficient; but competent miners are in some demand on the west coast of Tasmania.

**Queensland.**—The demand for labour in many districts is seriously diminished by the long drought. The best openings are for farm labourers and female servants, and these are eligible for cheap nominated passages on the application of friends in the Colony.

**Western Australia.**—Around Northam railway labourers at 10s. a day, and farm labourers have been very difficult to obtain. Disputes have arisen as to the hewing rate at the Collie coal fields, but it is understood that a settlement has been effected by its being raised from 4s. a ton to 4s. 6d. There is a good demand for farm labourers in most of the South-Western districts, but the supply of miners is equal to the demand.

**New Zealand.**—Men in the building trades, especially carpenters, bricklayers and stonemasons, have been very busy almost everywhere. The engineering trades have been brisk at Christchurch, Napier, Invercargill and many other places, but at Dunedin a number of fitters and labourers have been out of employment owing to the completion of contracts. Men in the boot, clothing and sawmilling trades have been generally well employed, and some factories have been working overtime; but at Dunedin a number of men in the boot trade have been out of work. In several districts general labourers have been scarce, many being wanted for harvesting.

**South Africa.**—All persons, both male and female, are again warned against going to South Africa at the present time in search of work, unless they have ample means to meet the high cost of living. The carpenters' strike at Durban has ended, the men agreeing to a rise of 6d. a day in their wages instead of the 1s. demanded. The coal industry at the Dundee mines has been busy.

## LABOUR ABROAD.

## FRANCE.

*Employment in April.*—Compared with March, the condition of the principal trades in April, as summarised by the French Labour Department, was as follows:—Increased activity in the building, carpentry and joinery trades; no change in mining; increased activity in quarrying; continued depression in the metal (smelting and manufacture) trades, due to increased scarcity of orders and the high price of coal; no change in the cotton and woollen industries; continued activity in silk manufacture; decrease of employment in ready-made clothing and boot and shoemaking; seasonal slackness in hat-making; a perceptible improvement in agriculture and forestry labour; no change in the furnishing or food-

\* Handbooks with Maps on the different Colonies may be obtained from the Emigrants' Information Office at a penny each post free.  
† Information supplied through the courtesy of the French Labour Department.

opinion that the contention of the employers was correct, and dismissed the information. The Inspector appealed, and the matter came, on a case stated, before the King's Bench Division. That Court allowed the appeal, and remitted the case to the justices to convict, on the ground that, whether or not there was an absolute prohibition against employing girls under 16 in factories for making bricks, in any case what was done in the part of the factory where these girls were employed was "finishing of bricks," within the meaning of the Act.—*King's Bench Division, April 24th.*

## (4) Miscellaneous.

DISMISSAL FOR DISOBEDIENCE: REASONABLE ORDERS.

A platelayer brought an action in the County Court against a railway company, in whose service he had been, to recover £2 1s. 3d., being 5 days' suspension money and one week's wages, in lieu of notice. This workman was one of a gang of platelayers attached to Paddington Station, and had been so employed for about two years. At the time of his engagement he signed the defendant company's printed rules and regulations, of which the following are material in the present case:—"Rule 1.—All persons employed by the company must reside at whatever places may be appointed, attend at such hours as may be reasonably required, and conform to all the rules and regulations of the company. Rule 3 (a).—No servant is allowed to absent himself from duty, to alter his appointed hours of attendance, or to exchange duty with any other servant, without the special permission of his superior officer. Rule 12.—The company may at any time dismiss or suspend from duty any servant of the company for intoxication, disobedience of orders, negligence, or misconduct, or for being absent from duty without leave, and no wages shall be payable by the company to any servant after his dismissal, or during the period of his suspension from duty, or during his absence from duty from any cause." The ordinary hours of work for workmen during the week were from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. They were also liable to be called upon occasionally to do night work. This usually happened about once a week. An additional fourth of wages was paid for night work. It was the practice for the men to go to work in their own time and to return in the company's time. The going and coming usually occupied a quarter of an hour each way. On August 3rd the plaintiff, who had worked during the day, was ordered to attend with his gang at Westbourne-park Station at 11 p.m. in order to work at Battersea, and to proceed thither by two ordinary passenger trains, first to Kensington, and thence to Battersea. The trains did not correspond, and consequently the workmen would not reach Battersea until midnight. Dissatisfaction had arisen among the men because, by obeying orders of this kind they were travelling an hour or more in their own time without additional payment, and they claimed to be entitled to an allowance for the additional time. Accordingly, when the plaintiff received the above order, he and certain other workmen refused to proceed and did not proceed to Westbourne-park Station. On the following morning the plaintiff and the other men were suspended. On August 8th the plaintiff was dismissed. The gang, which started on the night of August 3rd, worked all night and next day until 5.30 p.m. The County Court Judge found that the order given to the plaintiff and the services required of him were not unreasonable, and that the defendant company were justified in suspending and dismissing him, and gave judgment for the defendant company.

The plaintiff appealed; and the King's Bench Division dismissed the appeal, on the ground that the only question, which the Court had to consider, was, whether there was evidence on which the County Court Judge could find that the order given to the plaintiff was a reasonable order, and there was, in fact, no evidence to show that the order was not a proper and reasonable one. That order having been disobeyed by the plaintiff, the company were justified in dismissing him. Leave was given to appeal.—*Beale v. The Great Western Railway Company, King's Bench Division, April 27th.*

**Correction.**—The account of a case under the Workmen's Compensation Act (*Wooley v. Leys Malleable Casting Company, Limited*), which appeared in the April GAZETTE, p. 108, based upon information from newspaper sources, appears to have been inexact in certain particulars; and a transcript of short-hand notes of the judgment having been supplied to the Department, the following amended details are given. The award made by the County Court Judge of 8s. 10d. a week for 3 weeks, to August 13th, 1900, was not complained against; but his award of 1s. 9d. a week from August 13th (this sum being the difference between 16s. a week, the wages which the workman was earning from another employer after the accident, and 17s. 9d. a week, his wages while employed by the company before the accident) was appealed against on the ground that there was not sufficient evidence to justify the Judge in awarding the applicant anything, because—as was contended—it was proved that the applicant could have got the same wage and the same employment after the date when he was able to go to work again as before the accident. The Court of Appeal was of opinion that the only evidence on this point was a statement made by a foreman of the company to the effect that the workman's place was still open to him, and that on July 30th the company were quite ready to take the man back and put him to the same work and pay him the same wages as before (a statement about which the applicant was not cross-examined, no questions being put to him about it), and did not find that the Judge had his attention directed to this statement, or that he did necessarily or at all act upon it. The Judge had given this evidence the go-by, and had come to the conclusion that the 16s. a week, which the man was earning from his new employer, was the limit of his wage-earning power. Under these circumstances the Court held that the company had not made out their case, that there was no evidence to go to a jury, and that, if a jury were so minded, they could have found for any other amount than that which was actually found; and they dismissed the appeal with costs.

preparation trades; and increased activity in coach-building and hide and skin-working.

Of the 116,322 members of 774 trade unions which made returns as to the state of employment in April, 8.5 per cent. were reported as out of work, as compared with 12 per cent. in the previous month.

**Coal Mining in March.\***—The average number of days worked per week by those employed underground in coal mines in March was 5.92, as compared with 5.95 in the previous month, and 6.06 in March, 1900. During the month, full time (6 days and over per week) was worked by 94 per cent., and from 5 to 6 days by 2 per cent. of all employed in and about the mines. In the previous month the proportions were 62 and 38 respectively. The above particulars were supplied to the French Labour Department by the committee of coal-owners, and relate to about 130,000 workers (more than three-fourths of all employed in and about the mines).

**Labour Disputes in March.\***—Fifty fresh disputes, 44 of which involved 6,437 workpeople, were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in March. The number of disputes reported in February was 44, in 42 of which 10,492 workpeople took part, while in March, 1900, there were 80 disputes, in 79 of which 11,723 workpeople took part. Particulars as to 47 of the 50 disputes which began in March last show that 9 occurred in the building trades, 9 in the metal trades, 4 in the textile trades, 2 in the clothing trades, 7 in transport, 4 in the woodworking trades, 4 in the chemical and pottery trades, 3 in the hide and skin-working trades, and 5 in trades not included in any of the foregoing groups. Of 40 disputes, of which the termination is reported, 8 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 13 in favour of the employers, and 19 were compromised.

**Strike of Miners at Montceau-les-Mines.**—In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated March 10th, Sir E. Monson, H.M. Ambassador at Paris, forwards a memorandum, dated March 8th, by Mr. H. Austin Lee, with respect to the strike movement in France generally, and giving the following details in regard to the strike among the miners at Montceau-les-Mines mentioned in last month's GAZETTE (p. 78). This strike, the most important of a series of strikes among miners in the Saône-et-Loire Department, which began in December, 1900, (the others taking place at St. Eloy and Chalon), broke out at a mine which formerly belonged to a private company. In the middle of 1900 the concern was converted into a public company, and a change was made in the board of direction, a new manager being appointed, and great alterations at once taking place in the old régime. Two Unions were formed among the workmen, the one (known as "The Red") being Socialist in character, and representing the majority of the staff, while the other (known as "The Yellow") was formed of miners and other workmen still attached to the old régime.

Soon after the change in management the Red Union demanded the re-employment of certain workmen discharged in consequence of a strike which had taken place in 1899. The new manager consented to re-employ a small number of them, but the Union demanded the return of all the hands, and asked, in addition, that a permanent increase of 10 per cent. should be made to the wages for piece-work and 50 centimes (4½d.) for workmen employed by the day. A compromise was effected, terms being arranged between the manager and workmen, and approved at a general meeting of the staff on January 6th, 1901. Various other claims had been made, but were rejected, including a claim by certain lads for an increase of their wages, which were lower than those of other workmen of a similar age, owing to the mine they worked in being free from fire-damp. Although the Executive Council of the Union abandoned this claim, a special strike committee was formed, and eventually obliged the Executive Council to declare the strike, which embraced about 12,000 workmen. Various attempts were made by the local municipal authorities to settle the dispute, but without success. The Government were urged to interfere with a view to

\* Bulletin de l'Office du Travail (Journal of the French Labour Department).

stopping the strike; both M. Waldeck-Rousseau (President of the Council) and M. Millerand (Minister of Commerce) received deputations from the miners, and it was reported that M. Waldeck-Rousseau, while declining to enter into the details of the strike, expressed his willingness to study the question of the reduction of the hours of labour and an increase in the pensions to miners, provided that the spirit of the law of 1894 was observed, which requires that contributions to the Provident Fund shall come not only from the masters but also from the workmen. (As to this law see GAZETTE, July 1899, p. 198, and Provision for Old Age Abroad, C. 9,414 of 1899, p. 46.)

From newspaper reports it appears that on April 13th the French Miners' Congress adopted a resolution in favour of a general strike in the event of the dismissed miners not being re-instated within 10 days. On April 23rd it was reported that 325 Montceau miners had refused the offer of the Minister of the Interior to send them free of cost to various points, where he had found employment for them. On April 28th a miners' Referendum took place on the question of a general strike. Of the 47,000 miners who voted, 29,000 pronounced in favour of a strike and 18,000 against, the number of persons employed in and about mines in France being about 162,000, of whom, it is estimated, about 62,000 are trade unionists. On May 6th, the miners returned to work on practically the same conditions as those prevailing before the strike.

**Conciliation and Arbitration in March.\***—Eight cases of application of the Conciliation and Arbitration Law were reported to the French Labour Department in March, the initiative being taken by the workpeople in 4 cases and by the justice of the peace in one. As regards the remaining cases, it is not stated from which side the initiative came. Committees of conciliation were formed in 6 cases, resulting in the settlement of 4 disputes, no agreement being arrived at in the other 2 cases. In one case mediation was declined by the workpeople and in one case by the employers.

#### GERMANY.

**Strike of Stevedores' Men at Danzig.**—In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated April 22nd, Mr. H. T. C. Hunt, H.M. Consul at Danzig, reports the termination of a strike of stevedores' men at that port, which began on April 11th, the strikers refusing to work with non-union labourers. The strike, which caused serious inconvenience in loading and discharging to many British vessels lying in port, ended on conditions arranged at meetings between the employers and the men, and binding on both parties until March 15th, 1903.

**Number of Pensions under Old-Age and Invalidity Insurance Law.**—According to the *Deutscher Reichs-Anzeiger*, the number of permanent invalidity pensions in course of payment on April 1st, 1901, was 423,981, while that of the old-age pensions current at that date was 186,233. These figures show an increase since January 1st, 1901, of 18,644 in pensions of the former, and a decrease of 2,239 in pensions of the latter class. In addition to pensions for permanent invalidity, there were in force on April 1st, 1901, 6,070 "sick pensions" granted since January 1st, 1900, under Section 16 of the Law of July 13th, 1899 (see GAZETTE, September, 1899, p. 259), under which persons, who, though not incapacitated for life, have been so situated for 26 weeks, are accorded invalidity benefits for the remaining duration of their incapacity. The number of pensions of this class shows an increase of 952 since the beginning of 1901.

#### BELGIUM.

**Employment in February.\***—The decline of employment in the coal mining industry became more marked, and the supply of labour for mining purposes was in excess of the demand. The depression affecting the greater part of the metal trades continued unrelieved, and employment scarce, especially in steel and iron works, rolling mills, and blast furnaces. The heavy engineering trade was still in a state of transition; the works were kept going, but no new orders arrived as the old ones were executed; hence production was restricted, and the supply of labour considerably exceeded the demand. No change took place in the glass, chemical, food and textile trades. The building trades in general were greatly

\* Bulletin de l'Office du Travail (Journal of the French Labour Department).  
+ Revue du Travail (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department).

hampered by unfavourable weather. It was reported that numbers of paving-tile makers had been discharged owing to a sudden depression in that trade. Garment-makers suffered from seasonal slackness; papermakers continued well employed, and the furniture-making trades were quiet.

**Labour Disputes in February.**—So far as new disputes are concerned, February was a very quiet month. Four disputes, involving in all 1,665 workpeople, were reported to the Belgian Labour Department as having begun in that month. None of these disputes lasted more than a few days. Two old disputes, however (one being the strike of 8,000 glass-workers in the Charleroi district, begun last August), were still in progress on February 1st, and lasted all through the month.

Of the disputes which began in February, 1 occurred in quarrying, 2 in coal mining and 1 in the textile trades. All these disputes came to a conclusion before the end of the month, 1 (involving 200 workpeople) terminating in favour of the workpeople, and 3 (involving 1,465 workpeople) in favour of the employers.

#### SWITZERLAND.

**Statistics of Distributive (Store) Societies.**—The following table is based on the Statistical Year-Book for 1900 published by the Federation of Swiss Co-operative Distributive (Store) Societies, and on the Second Annual Report (for 1900) of the President and Executive Committee of the Swiss Co-operative Union; the date to which the figures relate, is January 1st in each year:—

	1900.	1901.
Number of Societies in existence ... ..	344	Not stated.
" " " making returns as to Membership ... ..	337	347
Membership of Societies making returns ... ..	117,594	124,536
Number of Societies making returns as to Capital (Share and Reserve) ... ..	333	340
Capital (Share and Reserve) of Societies making returns ... ..	£185,352	£189,153
Number of Societies making returns as to Sales ... ..	337	344
Sales of Societies making returns ... ..	£1,836,245	£2,008,234

#### ITALY.

**Strike of Seamen at Genoa.**—Telegrams, dated April 16th and 27th, have been received at the Board of Trade from H.M. Consul-General at Genoa, the former reporting the commencement, and the latter the termination (pending arbitration) of a strike of Italian seamen at that port.

From newspaper accounts it appears that some 7,000 men took part in this dispute, which began on April 14th. The principal demand made by the strikers was that the engagement of seamen should in future take place through the agency of the men's Unions, thus doing away with the ordinary middlemen. They also asked for better arrangements as to the working hours of seamen, with uniformity as between the hours of all. With respect to wages, they demanded monthly rates as follows:—Chief stokers, £4 16s.; stokers, £3 12s.; and trimmers, £2 16s., in the Mediterranean; and £5 12s., £4, and £3 respectively in seas other than the Mediterranean. (Hitherto stokers have been receiving from £2 16s. to £3 8s., and trimmers from £2 to £2 8s. per month.) Able seamen demand an increase of wages from £2 4s. to £3 per month, payable in gold. Signor Zanardelli, the Italian Premier, has, at the request of both parties to the dispute, consented to act as arbitrator; and the men have expressed their readiness to return to work pending his award.

**Lock-out of Lightermen and Dock Labourers at Genoa.**—Telegraphing to the Board of Trade under date of May 7th, H.M. Consul-General at Genoa reports a lock-out of lightermen, stevedores and wharf labourers who refused to commence work at 7 a.m.

#### RUSSIA.

**Co-operative Rural Loan and Deposit Societies in 1898.**—The 25th Annual Report of the Russian Committee for Rural Loan and Deposit Societies and Industrial Co-operative Societies\* gives the total number of societies of the former kind existing in the Russian

\* Otkhót Komiteta o Sáskikh Soudo-Sberegáelnikh i promúshlennikh Továrishtsvakh. Published by the St. Petersburg section of the Committee for Rural Loan and Deposit Societies and Industrial Co-operative Societies, Spasskaiá Oulitza, 7, St. Petersburg, 1900. Price, 1 rouble 50 kopeks (about 3s.).

Empire on December 31st, 1898, as 699. Returns received from 604 societies show a total membership of 224,371; share capital amounting, at the end of 1898, to £763,060; a reserve capital of £231,087; loan capital (consisting of deposits with, and advances to the societies) to the amount of £3,664,252, and other capital amounting to £19,688. The sums lent by the societies to their members in 1898 amounted to £3,728,712. The number of these societies existing on January 1st, 1900, is given as 703.

**Accidents to Railway Servants in 1898.**—The Statistical Abstract of the Russian Ministry of Ways of Communication for 1898,\* which has recently been issued, shows the total number of railway servants who met with accidents on the railways of European Russia (exclusive of Finland) in that year to have been 1,774, or 286 more than in the previous year. The number of cases of fatal accident included in the figures for 1898 is 371, or 39 more than in 1897. It is pointed out, however, that so far as concerns 1898, the definition of a fatal accident has been widened so as to include accidents entailing injuries which proved fatal at any time within 24 hours after the occurrence. One hundred and twenty-two, or 33 per cent. of the fatal, and 645, or 46 per cent. of the non-fatal, accidents of 1898 were sustained in shunting operations, the corresponding proportions for the previous year being 30 and 42 respectively.

The following statement shows the occupations of the railway servants killed or injured by accidents in 1898 as compared with 1897:—

Class of Railway Servant.	Number of Railway Servants.					
	Employed.		Killed.		Injured.	
	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.
Drivers and Firemen ... ..	18,411	16,977	14	15	121	134
Guards ... ..	23,048	25,214	30	50	212	263
Signalmen ... ..	19,674	22,520	27	37	135	164
Couplers ... ..	4,884	5,684	23	28	144	230
Line Watchmen ... ..	33,797	36,072	74	78	100	109
Other Classes ... ..	307,177	325,640	164	163	448	503
All Classes together ... ..	406,991	432,107	332	371	1,156	1,403

The proportion of killed and injured in each class to the total number employed in that class was as shown below:—

Class of Railway Servants.	Proportion of Railway Servants.			
	Killed.		Injured.	
	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.
Drivers and Firemen ... ..	Per thousand employed. 0.8	Per thousand employed. 0.9	Per thousand employed. 6.6	Per thousand employed. 7.9
Guards ... ..	1.3	2.0	9.2	10.4
Signalmen ... ..	1.4	1.6	6.9	7.3
Couplers ... ..	4.7	4.9	29.5	40.5
Line Watchmen ... ..	2.2	2.2	3.0	3.0
Other Classes ... ..	0.5	0.5	1.5	1.5
All Classes together ... ..	0.8	0.9	2.8	3.2

The figures in the Tables relate only to accidents sustained in operations connected with the movement of the trains, and are therefore exclusive of accidents in the railway workshops, in the loading and unloading of merchandise, and in works of construction. A person is not counted as "injured" unless incapacitated for at least four days.

The railways covered by the statistics had a total length of 24,656 miles at the end of 1898, and are exclusive of local lines, of which there were 292 miles in operation in European Russia (exclusive of Finland) at the same date.

#### UNITED STATES.

##### BALTIMORE CONSULAR DISTRICT.

**Strike of Longshoremen at Newport News.**—In telegrams to the Board of Trade, dated April 22nd and May 6th, Mr. Gilbert Fraser, H.M. Consul at Baltimore, reports the commencement and termination respectively of a strike of longshoremen at Newport News, in the State of Virginia.

##### NEW YORK STATE.

**New Department of Labour in New York State.**—An Act of the Legislature of the State of New York, dated

\* Statisticheski Sbornik Ministerstva Putí Soobshtchénya. Sviádenya o Zhelyéznikh Dorógakh za 1898 g. St. Petersburg, 1900. Kushnereff & Co., Fontanka, 117.

February 7th, 1901, provides for the establishment of a new Labour Department in that State. The new Act abolishes the offices of Commissioner and Deputy-Commissioner of Labour Statistics, the office of chief clerk to the former, those of Factory Inspector and Assistant Factory Inspector, and also the previously existing Board of Mediation and Arbitration. The powers of Commissioner of Labour Statistics and Factory Inspector are conferred upon the head of the new Department, whose title is Commissioner of Labour, and who is authorised to appoint two Deputy-Commissioners. The Commissioner of Labour and his two deputies constitute the new Board of Mediation and Arbitration.—*Bulletin of the Department of Labor, State of New York, March, 1901.*

**REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.**  
(a) COAL MINING IN APRIL.

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

EMPLOYMENT in this industry shows a decline of one-fourth of a day per week in the average number of days worked as compared with a year ago, but an increase in the number employed. Owing to the Easter holidays no satisfactory comparison can be made with a month ago.

The following Table relating to 1,345 pits, at which 477,723 workpeople were employed, gives the figures upon which the above statement is based:—

**SUMMARY.**

District.	No. employed in Apr., 1901, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the pits in four weeks ended		
		20th Apr., 1901.	21st Apr., 1900.	23rd Mar., 1901.
England and Wales ... ..	436,716	4.89	5.16	5.31
Scotland ... ..	40,430	5.06	5.56	5.26
Ireland ... ..	577	5.10	5.55	5.72
<b>United Kingdom ... ..</b>	<b>477,723</b>	<b>4.91</b>	<b>5.19</b>	<b>5.30</b>

The number of workpeople employed at the pits from which returns have been received for both periods was about 5.9 per cent. greater than a year ago.

In the next Table the workpeople are grouped according to the number of days worked at the pits at which they were employed. It will be seen that 59.5 per cent. were employed at pits working 5 or more days per week in the four weeks ended April 20th, as compared with 83.8 per cent. a year ago.

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

Number of days on which Coal was hewn and wound in four weeks.	April, 1901.*		Corresponding percentages in	
	No. of Workpeople employed.	Percentage proportion to total.	April, 1900.*	March, 1901.
24 days (full time) ... ..	5,424	1.1	1.7	39.7
20 and under 24 days ... ..	278,829	58.4	82.1	55.7
16 " " 20 " " ... ..	163,207	34.1	14.7	16.9
12 " " 16 " " ... ..	21,415	4.5	1.3	3.3
8 " " 12 " " ... ..	3,676	0.8	0.2	0.5
Under 8 days ... ..	5,172	1.1	0.0	0.9
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>477,723</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The next Table, which gives detailed particulars for different mining districts, shows that in every district the average number of days worked per week was less than in the corresponding period a year ago. In the West Scotland district the decrease amounted to nearly three-fourths of a day per week, chiefly due to stoppage of pits, owing to a labour dispute (see page 161); in Ireland, Cumberland, Staffordshire, and South Wales and Monmouth to nearly half a day per week.

The highest averages during the month were worked in the Lothians (5.44 days per week), and in Fife (5.30 days). The lowest averages were in the Nottingham and Leicester district (4.30 days), and in Staffordshire

\* The Easter Holidays are included in this period.

(4.71 days). In no other district was the average less than 4 1/2 days per week.

**COMPARISON OF THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED BY COLLIERIES IN APRIL, 1901 AND 1900, AND IN MARCH, 1901.**

District.	No. employed in April, 1901, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average No. of Days worked per week by the Collieries in four weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in April, 1901, as compared with	
		20th April, 1901.*	21st April, 1900.	23rd March, 1901.	A year ago.	A month ago.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.</b>		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland ... ..	36,562	5.04	5.07	5.33	-.03	-.29
Durham ... ..	89,149	5.02	5.25	5.19	-.23	-.17
Cumberland ... ..	6,780	5.09	5.54	5.05	-.45	-.56
Yorkshire ... ..	69,929	4.99	5.19	5.28	-.29	-.38
Lancashire and Cheshire ... ..	49,744	4.94	5.25	5.43	-.49	-.49
Derbyshire ... ..	40,024	4.88	5.07	5.34	-.46	-.46
Nottingham and Leicester	27,042	4.30	4.47	4.76	-.46	-.46
Staffordshire ... ..	26,086	4.71	5.13	5.36	-.42	-.65
Salop, Worcester and Warwick ... ..	9,199	4.94	5.03	5.62	-.09	-.68
Gloucester and Somerset ... ..	8,704	5.14	5.41	5.54	-.40	-.40
North Wales ... ..	12,211	5.01	5.14	5.51	-.50	-.50
South Wales and Mon. ... ..	61,286	4.83	5.25	5.42	-.59	-.59
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
West Scotland ... ..	21,743	4.82	5.53	5.30	-.71	-.58
The Lothians ... ..	4,228	5.44	5.68	5.75	-.31	-.31
Fife ... ..	14,459	5.30	5.59	4.90	-.29	-.40
<b>IRELAND.</b>						
... ..	577	5.10	5.55	5.72	-.45	-.62
<b>Grand Total &amp; Averages</b>	<b>477,723</b>	<b>4.91</b>	<b>5.19</b>	<b>5.30</b>	<b>-.28</b>	<b>-.39</b>

The Exports of coal, coke, cinders, and patent fuel during April amounted to 3,652,923 tons, as compared with 3,341,843 tons in March, and 3,448,517 tons in April, 1900.

(b) IRON MINING IN APRIL.

EMPLOYMENT shows a decline as compared with a year ago; owing to holidays no exact comparison with the previous month can be made.

Returns relating to 123 iron mines and open works show that the average number of days worked by these mines during the four weeks ended April 20th was 5.37, as compared with 5.64 days in the corresponding period a year ago. The number of workpeople at the mines covered by the returns was 15,117 (or 1,402 less than a year ago), of whom 61.0 per cent. were employed in mines working 22 or more days during the four weeks ended April 20th, compared with 78.9 per cent. a year ago.

The following Table summarises the Returns received:

District.	No. employed in April, 1901, at the Mines included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Mines in 4 weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in April, 1901, as compared with	
		20th April, 1901.*	21st April, 1900.*	23rd March, 1901.	A year ago.	A month ago.
<b>ENGLAND—</b>		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cumberland and Lancashire ... ..	5,225	5.49	5.72	5.92	-.43	-.43
Cleveland ... ..	6,065	5.35	5.61	5.25	-.26	+.10
Lincolnshire and Leicestershire ... ..	619	4.71	5.79	4.57	-.08	+.14
Northamptonshire	628	5.30	5.85	5.32	-.55	-.02
Staffordshire and Shropshire ... ..	1,227	4.94	5.32	5.62	-.68	-.68
Other places in England ... ..	58	5.40	5.16	5.88	+.24	-.48
<b>SCOTLAND</b> ... ..	<b>1,199</b>	<b>5.66</b>	<b>6.00</b>	<b>5.93</b>	<b>-.34</b>	<b>-.27</b>
<b>IRELAND</b> ... ..	<b>96</b>	<b>5.90</b>	<b>5.92</b>	<b>6.00</b>	<b>-.10</b>	<b>-.10</b>
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>15,117</b>	<b>5.37</b>	<b>5.64</b>	<b>5.55</b>	<b>-.27</b>	<b>-.18</b>

(c) PIG-IRON INDUSTRY IN APRIL.

EMPLOYMENT again shows little change as compared with a month ago, and is much worse than a year ago.

At the works of 115 ironmasters covered by the returns received, eight furnaces were re-lit in England and Wales, and one was blown out during the month; in Scotland five furnaces were damped down or blown out. Thus at the end of April there were two more furnaces in operation than at the end of March. As compared

\* The Easter holidays are included in this period.

**EMPLOYMENT IN APRIL—PIG IRON; IRON AND STEEL AND TINPLATE WORKS; SHIPBUILDING.**

with April, 1900, a decrease is shown in every district, the net decrease in Great Britain being 91 furnaces.

The estimated number of workpeople employed at the 291 furnaces in blast at the end of April was 20,700.

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

Districts.	Present time compared with a year ago.			Present time compared with a month ago.		
	April, 1901.	April, 1900.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in April, 1901.	April, 1901.	Mar., 1901.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in April, 1901.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES—</b>						
Cleveland ... ..	76	96	- 20	76	73	+ 3
Cumberland & Lancs.	39	52	- 13	39	38	+ 1
S. and S.W. Yorks. ... ..	15	19	- 4	15	14	+ 1
Lincolnshire ... ..	9	16	- 7	9	9	...
Midlands ... ..	74	102	- 28	74	73	+ 1
Glamorgan and Mon.	15	22	- 7	15	14	+ 1
Other districts ... ..	6	8	- 2	6	6	...
<b>Total England and Wales ... ..</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>- 81</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>+ 7</b>
<b>SCOTLAND</b> ... ..	<b>57</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>- 10</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>- 5</b>
<b>Total furnaces included in returns ... ..</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>- 91</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>+ 2</b>

Table worked the same average number of shifts per man as those who are included, the total number of shifts worked by all the workpeople included in the first Table may be estimated at 404,221 in the week ended April 27th, 412,579 in the week ended March 23rd, and 453,453 in the corresponding week a year ago. Thus the volume of employment at the works included in the returns was 2.0 per cent. less than a month ago, and 10.9 per cent. less than a year ago.

(e) EMPLOYMENT AT TINPLATE WORKS\* IN APRIL.

EMPLOYMENT at the end of April showed a marked improvement as compared with March, but was still considerably worse than a year ago.

At the end of April 42 works with 202 mills had all their mills in operation, whilst 25 others had 133 mills at work out of a total of 186. Thus in all 335 mills were working, compared with 293 mills at the end of March and 413 mills a year ago. The number of workpeople employed at the mills in operation at the end of April is estimated to be about 16,700.

The following Table shows the number of mills at the works which were giving employment, full or partial,† at each of the three periods:—

	No. of Works open.	No. of Mills in such Works.		
		Working.	Not Working.	Total.
Works giving full employment ... ..	42	202	—	202
Works giving partial employment ... ..	25	133	53	186
<b>Total at end of April, 1901† ... ..</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>388</b>
<i>Corresponding Total for March, 1901†</i>	<i>62</i>	<i>293</i>	<i>62</i>	<i>355</i>
<i>Corresponding Total for April, 1900†</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>413</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>478</i>

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

	Tinplates.			Blackplates.		
	April, 1901.	Mar., 1901.	April, 1900.	April, 1901.	Mar., 1901.	April, 1900.
To United States ... ..	Tons. 3,676	Tons. 2,044	Tons. 3,594	Tons. 49	Tons. ...	Tons. 14
„ Other Countries	19,446	16,050	19,908	4,169	2,398	5,210
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>23,122</b>	<b>18,094</b>	<b>23,502</b>	<b>4,218</b>	<b>2,398</b>	<b>5,224</b>

(f) SHIPBUILDING.

**Tonnage under Construction.‡**

ACCORDING to the quarterly returns compiled by Lloyd's Register, there were 444 vessels (excluding warships) under construction in the United Kingdom at the end of March, with a gross tonnage of 1,303,116 tons, an increase of 33,197 tons as compared with the end of December, 1900, and of 42,694 tons as compared with March, 1900. At the Royal Dockyards 19 warships of 187,340 tons displacement were under construction at the end of March, 1901, and 45 at private yards, with a displacement of 236,362 tons, a total of 64 warships and 423,702 tons, or an increase of 33,557 tons as compared with the previous quarter, and a decrease of 30,408 tons as compared with a year ago.

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

§ By "tonnage under construction" is meant the gross tonnage of the vessels when completed. As at any given time the ships are at various stages of completion, the "tonnage under construction" is not an exact measure of the work remaining to be done.

(d) EMPLOYMENT AT IRON AND STEEL WORKS\* IN APRIL.

EMPLOYMENT in these industries shows a decline in the number employed as compared with a month ago, but a slight increase in the average number of shifts worked. As compared with a year ago there is decline both in the average number of shifts worked and in the number of workpeople employed.

**Numbers Employed.**

At 205 works covered by the returns 76,410 workpeople were employed in the week ended April 27th, as compared with 78,386 in the week ended March 23rd, and 81,498 a year ago.

The following Table gives the changes in the numbers employed in England and Wales, and in Scotland:—

District.	Numbers employed in week ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in April, 1901, as compared with	
	Apr. 27th, 1901.	Apr. 28th, 1900.	Mar. 23rd, 1901.	A year ago.	A month ago.
England and Wales ... ..	63,955	68,097	65,769	-4,142	-1,814
Scotland ... ..	12,455	13,401	12,617	-946	-162
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>76,410</b>	<b>81,498</b>	<b>78,386</b>	<b>-5,088</b>	<b>-1,976</b>

**Weekly Number of Shifts Worked.**

Information as to the number of shifts worked has been received with respect to works employing about 89 per cent. of these workpeople, and the particulars are summarised in the Table below. The average number of shifts worked was 5.29 per man in the week ended April 27th, as compared with 5.26 in the week ended March 23rd, and 5.56 in the corresponding week a year ago.

Number of Shifts worked.	Number employed in Apr., 1901, so far as returned.	Percentage proportion to Total.	Corresponding percentage in	
			Apr., 1900.	Mar., 1901.
Under 5 per week ... ..	10,398	15.3	4.5	15.5
5 per week ... ..	23,140	34.2	34.0	34.7
5 1/2 per week ... ..	1,153	1.7	2.0	1.5
6 per week ... ..	32,497	48.0	57.9	47.5
Over 6 per week ... ..	540	0.8	1.6	0.8
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>67,728</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Assuming that the workpeople not included in this

\* Including iron puddling and rolling, and steel making and rolling.

## EMPLOYMENT IN APRIL—SHIPBUILDING; AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

The following Table summarises the above figures:—

Description of Vessels.	Tonnage under construction on			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) at end of Mar., 1901, as compared with	
	Mar. 31st, 1901.	Dec. 31st, 1900.	Mar. 31st, 1900.	Three months ago.	A year ago.
Merchant Vessels—					
Tons gross...	1,303,116	1,269,919	1,260,422	+ 33,197	+ 42,694
War Vessels—					
Tons displacement...	423,702	399,145	454,110	+ 33,557	- 30,408

Of the 444 merchant vessels under construction at the end of March, 1901, 415 were steam vessels with a gross tonnage of 1,294,163 tons, and 29 sailing vessels of 8,953 tons gross. As compared with the previous quarter, the number of steam vessels has fallen off by 1, but the tonnage has increased by 38,044 tons, while as compared with a year ago the number of vessels has decreased by 96, and the tonnage has increased by 45,064 tons. The tonnage of sailing vessels under construction was 4,847 tons less than at the end of December, 1900, and 2,370 tons less than at the end of March, 1900.

The following Table shows the gross tonnage of vessels, other than warships, under construction in each of the principal shipbuilding districts. The figures include 97 per cent. of the total tonnage under construction:—

District.	At			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) at end of Mar., 1901, as compared with	
	31st Mar., 1901.	31st Dec., 1900.	31st Mar., 1900.	Three months ago.	A year ago.
Clyde ... ..	427,944	397,353	425,672	+ 30,591	+ 2,272
Tyne ... ..	272,189	250,792	232,168	+ 21,397	+ 40,021
Belfast... ..	187,540	189,295	185,454	- 1,755	+ 2,086
Wear ... ..	173,637	175,785	162,763	+ 2,148	+ 10,874
Middlesbrough and Stockton	105,060	104,910	108,325	+ 150	- 3,265
Hartlepool and Whitby ...	98,860	101,430	84,160	+ 2,570	+ 14,700
Barrow, Maryport and Workington	2,422	2,772	2,690	- 350	- 268

In the Clyde and Tyne districts there has been a marked increase in the tonnage of merchant vessels under construction at the end of March, 1901, as compared with the end of the preceding quarter. Compared with a year ago, the greatest increases occurred in the Tyne, Hartlepool and Whitby, and Wear districts.

## (g) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN APRIL.

## ENGLAND.

THE Agricultural Correspondent to the Department on the basis of 248 Returns from various parts of the country reports as follows:—The first half of the month was wet, and outdoor work was much interfered with. Spring sowing especially was considerably in arrear, for it had already been much delayed by the wet weather in March. In certain districts some agricultural labourers lost a little time, but they were generally casual hands, the regular men being usually found suitable work. The latter part of April was dry, and farmers were busy overtaking arrears. Labourers were then generally fully employed rolling, harrowing, sowing Spring corn, potatoes, mangolds, and preparing the land for turnips.

**Northern Counties.**—Reports from Northumberland state that employment is regular. A correspondent in the Hexham Union writes that "employment on the whole is very regular. Workmen are very difficult to get, and wages are high." In Cumberland employment is stated to have been generally regular. A correspondent in the Penrith Union writes that "agricultural labourers were very scarce and difficult to get all the month. There are several public works going on in Cumberland and North Westmorland, which accounts for this." In the Carlisle Union an employer writes that work is in arrear owing to the weather, but that the supply of men was sufficient in April. In the Cockermouth Union a correspondent says "all hands fully employed. There is no scarcity of labourers in this district." In the Kendal Union of Westmorland it is reported that "extra hands are more difficult to find." Reports from Lancashire,

from the Unions of Clitheroe, Fylde, Garstang, Lancaster, Prescot, Preston, and Ulverston, state that employment was regular. In North Lancashire a correspondent says that there was a fairly good supply of men in April, iron works and public works being quieter. In the Prescot, and Preston Unions the supply of labour is said to have been about equal to the demand.

In Yorkshire in the East Riding, agricultural labourers are said to have been generally well employed during April. Reports from the Patrington, and Howden Unions state that the supply of labour was about equal to the demand. A correspondent in the Pocklington Union writes as follows:—"Regular labourers are about equal to the demand. Plough lads are very scarce, casual men are more plentiful. A good many hands are leaving Hull for the country on account of the unsettled state of labour in shipbuilding, etc., there." In the North Riding there is said to have generally been regularity of work. The supply of men appears to have been about sufficient for the work during the month. A large employer of labour, however, in the Darlington Union (Durham and Yorks, N. R.) writes that "You cannot get an extra man at any price for a day's threshing or potato setting." In the Northallerton Union it is reported that the supply of labour is hardly sufficient. In the Guisborough Union a correspondent writes: "The supply of labour is about equal to the demand, but wages are high and good workmen are scarce." A correspondent in the Ripon, and Thirsk Unions says that "labourers are very fully employed. Many are unsettled and talk of shorter hours and more pay." He adds, "the weather has been favourable for farm work, and with rare exceptions all corn and potatoes are sown and much mangold." In the West Riding the supply of men appears to have been about equal to the demand. In the Selby Union a correspondent writes as follows: "Irishmen more plentiful and the staff is now full. There has been full time for all men and horses sowing mangolds, and preparing for turnips, rolling wheat and Spring corn." In the Wetherby Union a correspondent says: "The weather was wet and cold in the early part of the month, but it did not interfere with employment."

**Midland Counties.**—In Derbyshire agricultural labourers are said to have been generally well employed. In the Bakewell Union a correspondent writes that "the scarcity of agricultural labourers is becoming most serious. The stone quarries take all the men." In the Worksop Union the supply is said to be short. Regularity of employment is reported in Cheshire. A correspondent in the Macclesfield Union states that the men prefer obtaining work in the towns where they only have to work 5½ days a week, instead of 7 days on the farms, looking after stock, milking, and taking milk to the railway station. A correspondent in the Tarvin Union writes as follows:—"Agricultural labourers being scarce, farmers are seeking more Irish labour to fill their places." Reports from Nottinghamshire state that employment was generally regular, though a few men were in irregular work the first part of the month, owing to wet weather. An employer in the Bingham Union writes: "Labourers were fairly well employed, but there was rather less difficulty in obtaining them." In the Retford Union a correspondent states "A few casual labourers did not get constant employment, when thrown out of work through lack of other employment. Regular agricultural labourers were well employed." A correspondent in the Basford Union says "Employment was irregular in the first half of the month, owing to very unsuitable weather. Farmers were very busy in the last half, making up lost time."

Employment in Leicestershire is said to have been generally regular. Reports to this effect have been received from the Unions of Barrow-on-Soar, Blaby, Lutterworth, Market Bosworth, and Market Harborough. Several reports refer to a scarcity of men, and employers generally state that farm work was backward at the end of the month. In the Market Harborough Union a correspondent says that "there is rather a better supply of labour." In the Blaby Union, a correspondent writes, "Crops are rather backward. Outdoor employment not quite so regular on account of wet weather." Referring to the supply of labour, an employer in the Lutterworth Union says, "Irishmen came earlier than formerly. In consequence of some trades being slack, there is more labour to be had, but not skilled." In the Market Bosworth Union a correspondent writes: "The crops would have been sown in much less time had an adequate supply of labour been available. Horses in many instances were standing in the stables for want of men to work them." Employment in Staffordshire is said to have been generally regular during the month. A correspondent in the Tamworth Union writes as follows: "Labour is very scarce, but a few Irishmen are arriving now. The early part of the month was very wet, and much delayed work, but in the latter part work has been pushed forward." In the Leek Union it is stated that "the supply

## EMPLOYMENT IN APRIL—AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

of labour was equal to the demand in Winter, but we have been rather short of it in the Spring."

Reports from Shropshire state that agricultural labourers were generally regularly employed. In Worcestershire employment is also said to have been regular. Several reports refer to a scarcity of labour, but in the Upton-on-Severn Union the supply is described as "rather better." This correspondent adds "The early part of April being very wet, work was delayed for the time and Spring sowing was late." In Warwickshire regularity of work is reported. A correspondent in the Stratford-on-Avon Union writes that labour is very short in his parish because there is an insufficient supply of cottages. A large employer of labour in the Alcester Union writes:—"Labour more plentiful if anything." Agricultural labourers in Oxfordshire are said to have been generally well employed. An employer in the Thame Union writes:—"Being a wet month, hands were generally sufficient." Regularity of work is reported in Northamptonshire. Reports to this effect have been received from the Unions of Brixworth, Kettering, Potterspury, Towcester, and Wellingborough. In the Towcester Union a correspondent writes: "The supply of labour was just sufficient. The weather was very wet, and seeding could not be carried on, but the men had other work found for them." An employer in the Wellingborough Union writes as follows: "The first half of April was a little less regular, but in the latter half men were more wanted. In consequence of the extremely wet state of the land the Spring seeding was delayed fully a month, consequently the work is in arrear." Another employer in the same Union writes: "Very wet weather during the first half of the month threw all farmers behindhand with seeding, but it did not affect labourers generally, only a very few casual men having to lose time. The supply of men is equal to the demand, but boys are scarce."

Agricultural labourers are reported to have been regularly employed in Buckinghamshire. A large employer of labour in the Aylesbury Union writes that "There were about enough men to do the work. Men are employed wet and fine." In the Buckingham Union a correspondent writes: "The supply of labour is scarce. Very wet weather in the early part of the month; work could not be done fast enough with the labour obtainable at the finish." In the Henley Union a correspondent writes: "I have been advertising for a general farm hand for two months without succeeding in getting one." In Hertfordshire employment is reported to have been regular in the Unions of Buntingford, Hatfield, Hertford, Hitchin, St. Albans, and Watford, and in the Herts portion of the Barnet Union (Herts and Middlesex). The first half of the month work was considerably delayed owing to wet weather, but during the latter half the dry weather enabled outdoor work to be pushed forward. Generally speaking the supply of labour was about sufficient for the demand. In the Hitchin Union a correspondent writes: "There appear to be rather more labourers applying for work than was the case last year." In the Watford Union an employer says: "Not so scarce as was expected, just about enough." In the Barnet Union an employer writes: "In my parish the supply of labour was ample during April. Now that the weather has improved the arable farmers are very busy, and find agricultural labourers none too plentiful." In Bedfordshire employment is reported to have been somewhat irregular at the beginning of the month, but regular during the latter part. A correspondent in the Biggleswade Union writes as follows: "Some men were in irregular work in the early part of the month, but in the latter part they were fully employed. The supply of labour was rather better than for some years previously." In the Bedford Union a correspondent says: "In the first part of the month no extra labour was taken on, and it was difficult to find jobs for the ordinary labourers. But towards the end of the month they were very busy." An employer in the Luton Union writes as follows: "All the able-bodied men are regularly employed, and only a few casuals irregularly. There are quite sufficient men to work the farm."

**Eastern Counties.**—In Huntingdonshire agricultural employment is said to have been generally regular during the month. In reports from the Huntingdon, and St. Neot's Unions a short supply of labour is referred to. In Cambridgeshire agricultural labourers are said to have generally had regular employment. In the Unions of Ely, Newmarket, North Witchford, Royston, Wisbech, and the Cambridgeshire portion of the Peterborough Union the supply of men is said to have been about sufficient. A report from the Chesterton Union says: "Short supply, barely sufficient." The report from the Newmarket Union says: "Just enough labourers for horse work, but very few for odd jobs and hoeing." Reports from Lincolnshire state that employment

was regular with very few exceptions in the early part of the month. Farmers were very busy when the dry weather set in the last half of the month, making up arrears, especially Spring corn sowing. Reports have been received from the Unions of Brigg, Bourne, Caistor, Grimsby, Grantham, Holbeach, Lincoln, Louth, and the Lincolnshire portion of the Newark Union. On the whole the supply of labour is said to have been about sufficient for the demand, though there was no surplus. A large employer of labour in the Lincoln Union writes: "A late Spring caused a larger amount of land to be sown in April than usual." Another employer in the same Union writes: "A backward Spring has kept the crops from being ready for the hoe as soon as usual."

Reports from Norfolk state that agricultural labourers were generally well employed during the month. The first part of the month was wet, and delayed Spring sowing, which was already backward. After the dry weather set in farmers were very busy on the land, making up arrears as far as possible. The supply of labour is said to have been generally about sufficient, but in a few Unions it is described as short. Reports from the following Poor Law Unions have been received: Blofield, Docking, Downham, Erpingham, East and West Flegg, Forehoe, Freebridge Lynn, Guiltcross, Henstead, Loddon and Clavering, St. Faith's, Smallburgh, Swaffham, Thetford, Walsingham, and Wayland. An employer in the Henstead Union writes on May 5th: "There was plenty of employment for all. We are still short of hands. We have finished sowing mangolds, and are now busy preparing for swede sowing."

In Suffolk agricultural employment is stated to have been generally regular, and the supply of men about sufficient for the work in hand. In some districts a few men lost some time in the earlier part of the month owing to wet weather. Reports have been received from the Unions of Blything, Bosmere and Claydon, Cosford, Hartismere, Hoxne, Mildenhall, Mutford and Lothingland, Plomesgate, Risbridge, Sudbury, Samford, Thingoe, and Wangford. In the Cosford Union an employer of labour states that "there is an insufficient supply of capable labourers." A correspondent in the Mutford and Lothingland Union writes on May 5th, as follows: "The weather for the first two weeks was very wet. Regular farmwork is very backward on the heavier lands, barley has only just been sown. Very few mangolds are yet put in. The supply of labour is very scarce along the sea coast. Cottages are wanted for men in nearly every parish." In the Risbridge Union an employer writes: "The weather in the early part of the month was very wet and completely stopped work on the land. The labourers were kept going at jobs which could not be termed profitable." A correspondent in the Plomesgate Union says: "There was a better supply of labour than last year. Some men who had been working as navvies, and in the building trade, have returned to work on the land. The weather was bad for Spring sowing and cleaning corn, but other work has been found and little time lost." An employer in the Hoxne Union says: "Some irregularity in the employment of labour was in the earlier part of the month caused by wet weather."

Reports from Essex state that with few exceptions agricultural labourers were well employed. A little time was lost in some districts in the earlier part of the month on account of unfavourable weather. The supply of labour appears to have been about sufficient, though there was no surplus. Reports have been received from the Unions of Braintree, Colchester, Dunmow, Epping, Halstead, Maldon, Ongar, Orsett, Tendring, and Saffron Walden. A report from the Ongar Union states: "Wet weather at the beginning of the month hindered threshing and field work. All hands have been fully employed since the fine weather set in. There is just about a sufficient number of men for the work." A correspondent in the Maldon Union writes: "Could not do any hoeing till the last week in April, but the men were kept on at other work." In the Braintree Union a correspondent writes as follows:—"Very few labourers lost any time notwithstanding the wet. There are just sufficient men for ordinary farm work, but no surplus. There is a difficulty in obtaining any extra men for threshing or ploughing. Barley sowing is very late." In the Epping Union it is reported that all farm work has been very much later than usual, and that, in consequence, there will be plenty of employment. 26

**Southern and South-Western Counties.**—Agricultural employment in Kent is said to have been regular, but a few men lost a little time in the earlier part of the month. In the following Unions men are said to have been scarce—Blean, Bridge, Elham, Faversham, Sevenoaks, Tenterden, Thanet, and West Ashford. The supply of labour is said to have been sufficient in the Unions

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

of Eastry, Hoo, Hollingbourne, and Maidstone. A correspondent in the Faversham Union writes as follows:—"A few casual hands may have lost a few days, but regular hands have the opportunity of working wet or dry. In parishes with extensive woods, even where men have been obtained to fell it, acres and acres are not cleared in consequence of not finding men to tie it up. As a rule the ground ought to be cleared by May 1st." An employer in the Hoo Union says that there are plenty of spare hands for threshing. A correspondent in the West Ashford Union writes as follows:—"Farm hands lost about four days through bad weather. Corn sowing and general work is more behind than for years past. We are very short of first-class men for such work as hop plantations, and also good hedgers, while waggons' mates cannot be obtained at all." In the Isle of Thanet it is said that more labour is required. In *Surrey* employment is said to have been generally regular. At the end of the month farm work is reported to have been in arrears. In the Farnham, and Hambledon Unions men are said to be scarce. A report from the Godstone Union says: "The supply of men is equal to the demand, but none to spare." A correspondent in the Dorking Union writes as follows: "The weather was very wet at the commencement of the month, the result being that Spring sowing was very late, but work is always found under cover in wet weather in this parish."

Reports from *Sussex* state that agricultural labourers were generally well employed. The wet weather interfered to some extent with outdoor work in the earlier part of the month, especially sowing, but in the latter part of the month the men were busily engaged on the land. In the following Unions there is said to be some scarcity of labourers: Battle (particularly for extra hands), Chailey (for boys), Hailsham, Horsham, Lewes (for carters and cowmen), Newhaven, Petworth, Rye, Ticehurst, and Uckfield. A correspondent in the Ticehurst Union writes as follows: "The excessive rain in the early part of April much hindered sowing and work in the hop gardens, and so there is now some difficulty in getting the hops poled." A correspondent in the Hailsham Union writes: "There is a distinct scarcity of labour. Practically all the men are regularly employed whatever the weather, and it is almost impossible to get extra hands when wanted." A large employer of labour in the Newhaven Union says: "A great difficulty to get extra hands for potato planting. Only very second-rate men generally to be found."

Employment in *Hampshire* is reported to have been generally regular during the month. In a few districts some men lost a little time owing to wet weather. Reports have been received from the Unions of Basingstoke, Christchurch, Droxford, Farnham, Hartley Wintney, Havant, Kingsclere, Lymington, Petersfield, and Stockbridge. The supply of labour appears to have been about equal to the demand in most districts. Farm work at the end of the month is said to have been in a backward state. In *Berkshire* agricultural employment is said to have been generally regular, though a few men lost a little time in some districts owing to wet weather in the earlier part of the month. A large employer of labour in the Wantage Union writes as follows: "Men are very scarce. There are not sufficient to do the ordinary work, and in some cases horses were kept in the stables because men and boys could not be found to go with them. The weather was bad for outdoor work during the first part of the month, but all regular labourers were found work wet or dry. Men at piecework sometimes lose a little time." An employer in the Bradfield Union says: "Very short supply of labour. Not a man to be got to go with horses at any price." An employer in the Hungerford and Ramsbury Union says: "The very wet weather in the early part of the month would have occasioned lost time had it not been for the almost invariable custom to find employment under cover."

In *Wiltshire* reports have been received from the Unions of Amesbury, Bradford-on-Avon, Chippenham, Cricklade and Wootton Bassett, Devizes, Highworth and Swindon, Marlborough, Mere, Pewsey, Tisbury, Warmminster, and Wilton. In the earlier part of the month a few men in certain districts lost a little time, but when the dry weather set in about the middle of the month all hands became busily employed. An employer in the Devizes Union writes as follows: "The first half of the month was very wet—too wet to get on the land, and half the horses were idle. But work of some sort is always found for the regular hands. The employment of casual men was affected by the weather. Milkers appear to get scarcer every year. Our dairy has been given up owing to the difficulty in getting milkers. There is just a sufficient supply of other labourers to manage with." In the Mene Union a correspondent writes: "Every man is employed. More good men are wanted. Dairies will have to be reduced for want of milkers." In the Highworth and

Swindon Union a correspondent writes: "Farm labourers are very scarce. Employers have difficulty in finding men, especially for milking, which entails Sunday work." An employer in the Chippenham Union writes: "No young men will take to rick-making, thatching or sheep shearing. It is a great difficulty to get these things done at the present time." An employer in the Pewsey Union writes that in parishes within five miles of the military camps it is difficult to get labour at any price. In *Dorsetshire* employment is said to have been generally regular during the month. Some scarcity of men is referred to in reports from the Unions of Blandford, Dorchester, Sturminster, Wareham and Purbeck, and Wimborne and Cranborne.

Reports from *Somersetshire* state that agricultural employment was, with few exceptions, regular during the month. A report from the Frome Union says that there was some irregularity at the beginning of the month. Reports have been received from the Unions of Axbridge, Bridgwater, Chard, Clutton, Frome, Langport, Taunton, Wellington, Wells, Williton, Wincanton, and Yeovil. Several reports refer to a scarcity of labour. A correspondent from the Axbridge Union reports as follows: "Labourers are still very scarce, and it is impossible to get farm hands for any extra work. Towards the end of the month a good deal of work was done on the land in manuring, ploughing and sowing." Reports from *Herefordshire* state that agricultural labourers were generally well employed, and that labourers are scarce. Reports have been received from the Unions of Bromyard, Dore, Ledbury, Leominster, and Ross. A report from the Leominster Union says: "The wet weather during the first half of April may have caused some short time to be made, but as a rule work is found for regular men. The last fortnight of the month was grand weather for fetching up arrears of planting corn and preparing for roots. Consequently every man was busy who wanted work." A correspondent in the Ledbury Union writes: "There was a good deal of wet in April but there are always plenty of odd jobs under cover. The supply of labour is very short indeed, and much work is behindhand and left undone." In the Ross Union a correspondent writes: "The supply of labour is not equal to the demand, especially waggons, shepherds, and men to look after cows and milk. They do not like Sunday work."

Employment in *Gloucestershire* is said to have been generally regular, with a few exceptions in the earlier part of the month. Most reports refer to a scarcity of labour. Reports have been received from the Unions of Barton Regis, Chipping Sodbury, Dursley, Gloucester, Newport, Northleach, Stow-on-the-Wold, Thornbury, and Winchcomb. An employer in the Barton Regis Union writes as follows: "The first half of the month was very stormy, and work on arable land was quite at a stand still. The latter part of the month was fine and arrears of work were pretty well made up. There are plenty of men for all work." A correspondent in the Stow-on-the-Wold Union states that most farmers find the men something to do in wet weather. He says that they find that if they do not do this they cannot retain the men.

Agricultural labourers in *Devonshire* were generally well employed during April. Most reports state that men are scarce. The first part of the month being wet, outdoor work was considerably delayed, but in the latter part of the month, which was dry, all hands were busily engaged on the land. Reports have been received from the Unions of Axminster, Bideford, Crediton, Holsworthy, Kingsbridge, Newton Abbot, and Torrington. A correspondent in the Holsworthy Union writes as follows on April 28th: "The dry weather of the last 10 days has been good for seed-sowing, which was greatly hindered by the previous continuous rain. Labour is decidedly scarce." Reports from *Cornwall* say that agricultural employment was generally regular during the month, and that labourers are scarce. Reports have been received from the Unions of Camelford, Liskeard, St. Colomb, Stratton, and Truro. Reports from the Liskeard and Truro Unions state that some employers are importing Irish labour. The report from the Truro Union says: "The first fortnight of April was very wet, but it did not affect the regular employment of the labourers. Carting dung was carried on with all speed. Cattlemen and cowmen are very scarce."

(h) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN APRIL.

EMPLOYMENT at the docks and wharves shows little change as compared with a month ago, but was much better than a year ago. The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and the principal wharves during the four weeks ended April 27th was 16,267, as compared with 16,230 in the preceding five weeks, and 14,176 in the corresponding period of 1900.

EMPLOYMENT IN APRIL—DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR; WOMEN IN TEXTILE TRADES; SEAMEN.

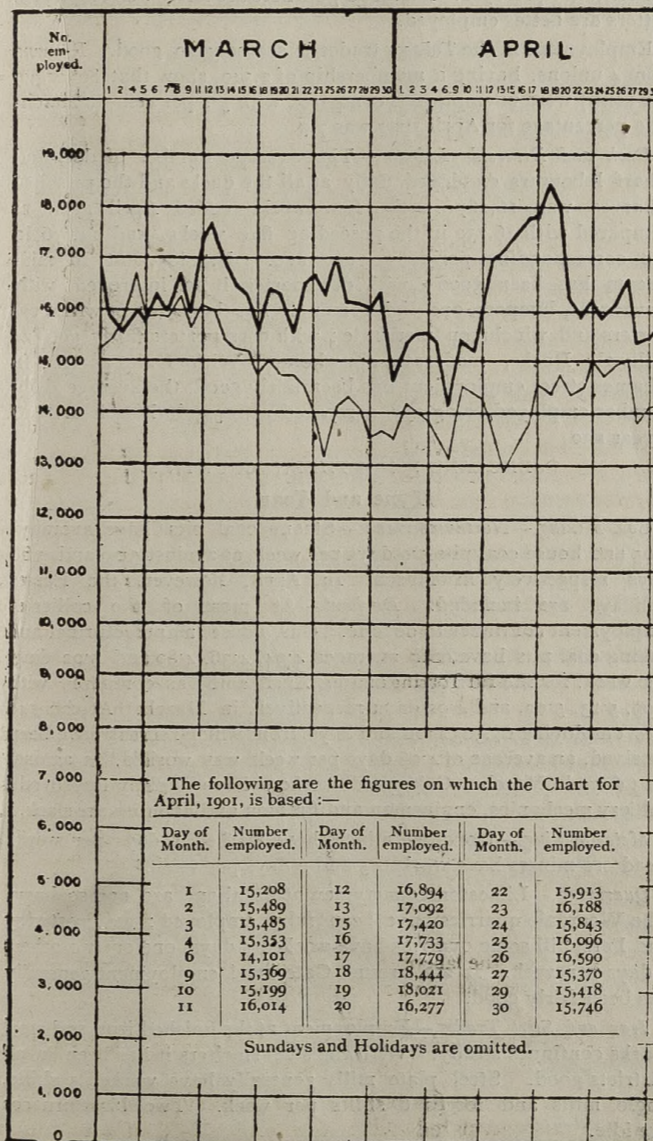
(1) **Weekly Averages.**—The following Table shows the estimated average number of dock and wharf labourers employed daily in each week of the month:—

Period.	Labourers employed in Docks			Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.	
Week ended Apr. 6	6,610	2,280	8,890	6,237
" " " 13	6,915	2,688	9,603	6,510
" " " 20	7,873	3,111	10,984	6,628
" " " 27	7,165	2,829	9,994	6,006
Average for 4 weeks ended Apr. 27th, 1901	7,175	2,749	9,924	6,343
Average for Apr., 1900	5,824	2,451	8,305	5,871
Average for Mar., 1901	7,077	2,752	9,829	6,401

(2) **Daily Fluctuation.**—The daily fluctuation in the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed by all the docks and principal wharves is shown on the chart below. The numbers in April ranged from 14,101 on the 6th to 18,444 on the 18th. During April, 1900, the total number of dock and wharf labourers employed varied from 12,834 on the 14th to 15,026 on the 27th.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 115 of the principal Wharves for each day during the months of March and April, 1901. The corresponding curve for March and April, 1900, is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1901, and the thin curve to 1900.]



Particulars respecting the employment of other classes of dock and riverside labourers will be found under "District Reports, London," on page 148.

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

ACCORDING to returns from women correspondents, employment for women in both the spinning and weaving branches of the cotton trade showed a further decline. The improvement in the worsted trade was not fully maintained. Information has been received with regard to 564 cotton, woollen and worsted mills, employing about 99,000 women and girls, and is summarised in the following Table, which also gives for comparison the corresponding figures for the previous month and for a year ago:—

Trade and Month.	Percentage ordinarily employed in Mills which were			
	Working full Time throughout the Month.		Working Short Time during some part of the Month.	Closed during some part of the Month for repairs, bad trade, disputes, or other causes.
	With Full Employment.	With Partial Employment.		
<b>Cotton Trade—Spinning—</b>				
April, 1901	72	23	4	1
March, 1901	79	17	3	1
April, 1900	97	1	2	—
<b>Cotton Trade—Weaving—</b>				
April, 1901	64	27	7	2
March, 1901	70	22	7	1
April, 1900	94	4	1	—
<b>Woollen and Worsted Trades—</b>				
April, 1901	76	24	—	—
March, 1901	79	17	4	—
April, 1900	97	2	—	—
<b>Total of above Trades—</b>				
April, 1901	68	26	5	1
March, 1901	74	20	5	1
April, 1900	96	3	1	—

**Cotton Trade—Spinning.**—The number of women and girls usually employed in the cotton spinning mills reported on is 26,050; of these 72 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 79 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in March, and with 97 per cent. in April, 1900.

**Cotton Trade—Weaving.**—The number of women and girls usually employed in the cotton weaving factories reported on is 55,610; of these 64 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 70 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in March, and with 94 per cent. in April, 1900.

**Woollen and Worsted Trades.**—The number of women and girls usually employed in the woollen and worsted mills reported on is 17,340; of these 76 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 79 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in March, and with 97 per cent. in April, 1900.

(j) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN APRIL.

(Data supplied by the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.)

THE number of seamen shipped during April as the crews of foreign-going vessels, from certain selected ports (at which about 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared), was 33,864, or 5,351 more than during April, 1900. At the majority of the ports it is stated that the supply of seamen has been equal to or in excess of the demand, but at Southampton the demand is said to have exceeded the supply.

During the four completed months of 1901, 131,823 men have been shipped, as compared with 121,055 in the corresponding period of 1900, the principal increase being at Liverpool.

Of the total number shipped in the four months, 20,495 (or 15.5 per cent.) were foreigners, as against 14.9 per cent. in the corresponding period of 1900. Lascars who are engaged in Asia are not included in these figures.



## EMPLOYMENT IN APRIL—SEAMEN; LONDON; NORTHERN COUNTIES.

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 April, 1901 and 1900 respectively, together with the number\* shipped in the four months ended April, in each of these years:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Men, &c., shipped in April, 1901.*			Total in April, 1900.*	Total number shipped in 4 months ended April.*	
	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in April, 1901.		1901.	1900.
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>						
<b>East Coast.</b>						
Tyne Ports... ..	94	2,957	3,051	2,078	10,760	9,519
Sunderland ... ..	27	319	346	446	1,559	1,400
Middlesbrough ... ..	19	57	76	314	543	1,078
Hull ... ..	28	765	793	888	3,512	4,105
Grimsby ... ..	22	29	51	67	158	263
<b>Bristol Channel.</b>						
Bristol ... ..	5	599	604	357	1,850	1,451
Newport, Mon. ... ..	22	415	437	769	3,052	3,195
Cardiff ... ..	213	3,589	3,802	3,482	16,876	17,428
Swansea ... ..	30	488	518	589	2,248	2,179
<b>Other Ports.</b>						
Liverpool ... ..	176	12,305	12,481	9,135	43,853	34,398
London ... ..	167	6,272	6,439	5,880	25,232	24,280
Southampton ... ..	—	1,912	1,912	1,562	9,447	9,436
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
Leith, Kirkcaldy, Methil, and Grangemouth	9	524	533	351	2,044	2,096
Glasgow ... ..	76	2,379	2,455	2,253	8,878	8,497
<b>IRELAND.</b>						
Dublin ... ..	—	46	46	139	463	456
Belfast ... ..	—	320	320	263	1,348	1,280
<b>Total, April, 1901 ...</b>	<b>888</b>	<b>32,976</b>	<b>33,864</b>	—	<b>131,823</b>	—
<i> Ditto, April, 1900 ...</i>	<i>1,268</i>	<i>27,245</i>	—	<i>28,513</i>	—	<i>121,055</i>

## DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

## LONDON.

*General.*—On the whole the state of employment in April continued fairly good. Returns from 480 branches of 125 unions, having an aggregate membership of 80,935, show that 2,670 (or 3·3 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of April, compared with 3·4 per cent. in March and 2·7 per cent. in April, 1900.

Employment in the *Engineering, Metal, and Shipbuilding* trades remained good. Returns from 158 branches of 30 unions, with an aggregate membership of 23,806, show that 653 (or 2·7 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2·4 per cent. in March and 2·2 per cent. in April, 1900. With sailmakers employment was good.

The *Building* trades continued to improve in some branches, though still quiet on the whole. Returns from 190 branches of 8 unions paying unemployed benefit, with a membership of 13,862, show that 460 (or 3·3 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4·0 per cent. in March and 1·2 per cent. in April, 1900. The painters and decorators describe employment as good; the carpenters and joiners as fair; the stonecarvers as quiet; the bricklayers and stonemasons as dull; the plasterers and plumbers as bad.

Employment in the *Furnishing* trades has continued to improve and is now fairly good. Returns from 47 branches of 14 unions, with a membership of 6,042, show that 162 (or 2·7 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4·4 per cent. in March and 2·2 per cent. in April, 1900.

The *Woodworking* trades are still slack. Reports from 3 unions, having a membership of 904, show that 58 (or 6·4 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 6·9 per cent. in March. The percentage for April, 1900, was 2·0.

With *Coopers* employment has fallen off. Reports from 2 societies, with a membership of 1,068, show that 33 (or 3·1 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1·1 per cent. in March. In April, 1900, less than 1 per cent. were unemployed.

Employment with *Coachbuilders* and *Wheelwrights* has continued to improve and remains good. Reports from 12 branches of 7 unions, with a membership of 1,351, show that 15 (or 1·1 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1·5 per cent. in March and 1·0 per cent. in April, 1900.

The *Printing* trades have been fairly well employed, but the *Bookbinding* trades are slack. Returns from 25 unions in the printing

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

and *Bookbinding* trades, with a membership of 24,974, show that 951 (or 3·8 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3·6 per cent. in March and 3·7 per cent. in April, 1900.

Employment in most branches of the *Clothing* trades was good. The West End bespoke tailors were fairly well employed; the East End bespoke, contract and stock trades remained good; the East End military and uniform tailors and tailoresses have been only partially employed. With hatters employment has been bad for time of year; with capmakers slack; with fur skin dressers fair.

*Boot and Shoe Trades.*—Employment with West End hand-sewn boot and shoemakers has been better, but not so good as usual at this time of year; with the East End sewround trade it remains bad; with boot and shoe clickers it is improving; with boot and shoe operatives it is quiet.

Employment in the *Leather* trades is still good. Returns from 8 unions, with a membership of 1,885, show that 43 (or 2·3 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2·2 per cent. in March, and 1·5 per cent. in April, 1900.

In the *Glass* and *Pottery* trades returns from 8 unions, with a membership of 1,336, show that 105 (or 7·9 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 9·6 per cent. in March and 4·1 per cent. in April of last year.

*Hair, Fibre, and Cane Workers.*—In these trades returns from 5 unions with a membership of 902, show that 20 (or 2·2 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 8·5 per cent. in March. The percentage for April 1900, was 0·8.

*Gold and Silver Workers* are well employed. Returns from 7 unions, with a membership of 1,100, show that 14 (or 1·3 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1·9 per cent. in March and 4·9 per cent. in April 1900. Diamond polishers are fairly well employed, cutters are better employed.

Employment in the *Tobacco* trades is scarcely so good. Returns from 4 unions, having a membership of 2,340, show that 86 (or 3·7 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3·1 per cent. in March. The percentage for April 1900 was 7·9.

*Dock and Riverside Labour.*—The average number of dock and wharf labourers employed daily at all the docks and the principal wharves was 16,267 in the four weeks ended April 27th, as compared with 16,230 in the preceding five weeks, and 14,176 in the corresponding period a year ago. Employment in mid-stream has been good; with deal porters it has improved; with stevedores, lumpers, and lightermen it has been fair; with coal porters and winchmen moderate; with corn porters fairly good at Millwall Docks, moderate elsewhere. With fruit porters in Thames-street employment has been fairly good, the average daily number employed being 354, compared with 347 in March and 316 a year ago.

## ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES.

## Tyne and Wear.

*Coal Mining.—Northumberland.*—Steam coal pits have averaged 4·95 and house coal pits 5·0 days per week, as against 5·19 and 5·26 days respectively in March. In April, however, the Easter holidays are included. *Durham.*—At most of the collieries employment continues to decline. Gas, house, manufacturing, and coking coal pits have each averaged 4·94, 4·36, 4·89 and 5·02 days per week, for the four weeks ending April 20th, as compared with 5·09, 5·13, 5·02, and 4·92 days respectively in March. At the 148 pits, employing 67,303 men and boys, from which returns have been received, an average of 4·96 days per week was worked, as against 5·03 days in March. Coke yard workers have slightly improved; colliery mechanics, enginemen and firemen and deputies are slack.

*Metal Mining.*—Ironstone miners have worked 5 days per week. Lead ore miners have worked 5 and 6 days per week.

*Quarrying.*—Limestone quarrymen at Stanhope are not so busy. The Weardale quarries have been fully employed; at Frosterley and Ferryhill some quarries have worked 5 days, one or two others 6 days per week. In and around Gateshead employment generally has been fairly good.

*Iron and Steel Trades.*—Employment at the finished iron and steel works continues steady. With the steel smelters it has been in all districts good. Steel plate mills generally have worked 5 shifts, angle mills and forges 6 shifts per week. Two blastfurnaces are idle.

*Engineering and Shipbuilding.—On the Tyne.*—Turners are scarcely so well employed. Employment with boiler-makers remains good. Shipyard riveters and platers are still fairly busy. Branches with 13,135 members have 208 (or 1·6 per cent.)

## EMPLOYMENT IN APRIL—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—NORTHERN COUNTIES; LANCASHIRE.

off work, as against 268 (or 2·1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March. *On the Wear.*—Shipyards and engine and boiler shops remain well employed. Repair work has been good. Branches with 5,294 members have 111 (or 2·1 per cent.) idle, as against 100 (or 1·9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March. Employment with brass finishers has further declined. With drillers and hole cutters on both rivers it is fair on new work, moderate on old. Iron and steel moulders on the Wear remain slack. In the middle and lower reaches of the Tyne employment is much better. Sailmakers continue quiet.

*Shipping and Dock Labour.*—Tyne watermen report employment as bad; trimmers and teemers on the Tyne and at Blyth as fairly good; on the Wear as below the average. Coal porters and shippers have worked 4 and 5 days per week. Quayside and dock labourers have had fuller employment. The demand for sailors and firemen has been fairly good.

*Building Trades.*—Employment, except with stonemasons, shows some decline.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—Bookbinders report employment as good; letterpress printers on the Tyne as quiet; at Sunderland as fair. Five paper mills have been steadily employed; three others have worked less than full time, and one mill half time.

*Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.*—Cabinet makers are unsettled through a dispute; mill-sawyers describe employment as dull; lathrenders as slack; upholsterers as good; coopers as improving.

*Chemical and Glass Trades.*—Bottle-workers continue busy. Pressed glass-makers remain slack, more furnaces having been put out. At one or two chemical factories employment has slightly improved. Manure works are busy. White lead works are working full time. Ore smelters in copper works are better employed.

*Fishing.*—Trawl boats have landed good supplies.—*J. Ratcliffe.*

## Middlesbrough, Stockton and District.

*Ironstone Mining.*—Cleveland miners report employment as moderate, most of the mines working short time. The average number of days worked by the 21 mines furnishing returns was 5·35 days per week during the four weeks ending April 20th, as compared with 5·61 per week in April, 1900. The number of workpeople employed at the mines was 6,065, the corresponding number a year ago being 6,820.

*Iron and Steel Trades.*—Employment generally has continued moderate at the finished iron and steel works with improvement in some departments. Employment is reported as good in metal expansion works; fair in pipe and bridge works; moderate in general foundries, and chair foundries; slack at the blastfurnaces.

*Engineering and Metal Trades.*—Employment with the engineers is good at Middlesbrough and Bishop Auckland; fairly good at Stockton; moderate at Darlington, Hartlepool and South Bank. Ironfounders report employment as good at Hartlepool, moderate at Darlington, Middlesbrough and Stockton; patternmakers as fair at Darlington and Hartlepool, moderate at Middlesbrough and Stockton; smiths, strikers, enginemen and cranimen as moderate. Branches of these trades with 4,454 members have 129 (or 2·9 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 110 (or 2·5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March.

*Building Trades.*—Employment generally is fair at Hartlepool and Stockton; moderate at Middlesbrough and Darlington. With painters generally it is good.

*Shipbuilding.*—Employment is reported as brisk at Hartlepool, good at Stockton and Middlesbrough. Shipjoiners report employment as fair generally; shipwrights as good at Middlesbrough, fair at Hartlepool and Stockton; smiths and strikers as moderate.

*Shipping and Dock Labour.*—Sailors and firemen report employment as moderate; dock and riverside labourers as bad at Hartlepool, moderate at Middlesbrough.

*Miscellaneous.*—Letterpress printers, tailors, cement and concrete workers report employment as good; pulpworkers as fair; cabinet makers as improving; mill-sawyers and woodworking machinists as quiet.—*A. Main.*

## Cumberland and Barrow District.

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

*Coal Mining.*—The average number of days worked by the pits is lower than a year ago, but the number of workpeople is greater. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended April 20th, at 20 pits covered by the returns, was 5·09 per week, as compared with 5·54 days a year ago. In both periods employment

was affected by the Easter Holidays. The number employed at these pits in April was 6,780, the corresponding number a year ago being 5,848.

*Iron Mining.*—Employment has been fairly good at the Cumberland and North Lancashire iron mines, but is worse than a year ago. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended April 20th, at the 44 mines from which returns have been received, was 5·49 per week, as compared with 5·72 days a year ago. Holidays occurred in both these periods. The workpeople employed at these mines in April, 1901 and 1900, numbered 5,225 and 5,775 respectively.

*Pig Iron Manufacture.*—Employment at the Cumberland and Lancashire blast furnaces is much worse than a year ago. There is little change as compared with March. The number of furnaces in blast at the end of April was 39, as compared with 38 at the end of March, and 52 a year ago. The estimated number of workpeople employed at the 39 blast furnaces in April was 3,307.

*Shipbuilding.*—According to the returns of shipbuilding, compiled by *Lloyd's Register*, there were 7 vessels, other than warships, under construction (see p. 143) in the Barrow, Maryport and Workington district at the end of March, 1901, with a gross tonnage of 2,422 tons, as compared with 7 vessels with a gross tonnage of 2,772 tons at the end of the previous quarter, and 10 vessels and 2,690 tons a year ago. The tonnage of warships under construction at the end of March, 1901, was 66,570 tons displacement, being the same as at the end of March, 1900, and 320 tons more than at the end of December, 1900.

## LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS.

## Oldham and District.

*Cotton Trade.—Spinning.*—Cotton spinners are well employed in Oldham and neighbourhood, Stockport, Dukinfield, Stalybridge, Ashton-under-Lyne and Mossley. In Rochdale and Milnrow, employment is reported as moderate. Slackness still prevails in the twining industry. Cardroom workers, ring-frame spinners and throstle frame tenters, report employment as good; in the reeling and bundling trade it is reported as moderate. *Weaving.*—The powerloom overlookers and weavers report employment as moderate on velvet goods, and as slack on calico and fustian goods. Ball-warpers, twistlers, drawers, winders and beam warpers report employment as moderate.

*Woolen and Silk Trades.*—Workers engaged in the woolen mills in Rochdale, Milnrow and Stockport districts are fully employed. Employment in the silkdressing trade at Rochdale is reported as bad.

*Engineering and Metal Trades.*—Employment at textile machine making shops remains bad, and at engineering shops moderate. With pattern-makers, tinplate workers, tool-makers, gasmeter makers, and iron-grinders it is reported as moderate; with boiler-makers as good; with iron-founders as fair; with plate and machine moulders and brass-founders as slack.

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

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

## Bolton and District.

*Cotton Trade.—Spinning.*—Employment in Bolton and immediate vicinity continues fairly good. In Wigan spinners are somewhat irregularly employed. In Heywood, Bury, Chorley, and Radcliffe employment is reported as moderate. Cardroom operatives are slightly less regularly employed. *Weaving.*—Weavers in Bolton are reported as somewhat less active. In Bury, Chorley, Radcliffe, and Moses Gate several firms are working short time.

*Engineering and Iron Trades.*—Employment with engineers and steam engine makers is not good. Other branches of iron workers are reported as less regularly employed. In Wigan, Bury, and Chorley iron workers generally continue moderately employed.

*Building Trades.*—Employment generally has improved.

*Coal Mining.*—Colliers in the Bolton and Wigan districts are fairly well employed. In Little Lever and Radcliffe, miners are reported as working on an average 4½ days per week.

*Miscellaneous.*—Employment with carters, printers, tailors, and shoemakers continues good; in the tanning trade it is moderate. Belt makers are moderately busy.—*R. Toothill.*

## Blackburn, Burnley and District.

*Cotton Trade.—Weaving.*—Employment in Blackburn, Nelson, and Colne is only moderate; it is fairly well maintained in Burnley;

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

bad in Accrington and Preston. In Darwen a number of looms are stopped for warps. Hard waste weavers and sheeting weavers report employment as only moderate; twisters, drawers, winders, warpers, and tape sizers as fair, though not so good as last month. *Spinning*.—Employment is good at Blackburn and Darwen; fair at Burnley and Accrington. Ring spinners and cardroom workers are well employed throughout the district. Warp dressers report employment as only moderate. Branches of spinners, twisters, and drawers and warp dressers, with 3,531 members, have 91 (or 2·6 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 71 (or 2·0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March.

*Building Trades*.—Painters and decorators are busy. Plasterers are moderately employed. In other branches employment is fair.

*Engineering and Iron Trades*.—Employment in the engineering trades is moderate generally, slack with machine makers.

*Coal Mining and Quarrying*.—Coal miners again report employment as good at Burnley and Accrington. Quarrymen are busy.

*Miscellaneous*.—Letterpress printers report employment as fair; calico printers and bleachers as still slack, with short time in some departments; tailors as good; cabinet-makers as quiet; boot, shoe, and slipper makers as bad; woollen block printers as slack.

W. H. Wilkinson.

## Manchester and District.

*General*.—Branches of societies with 24,483 members have 935 (or 3·8 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 1,105 (or 4·5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March.

*Engineering and Metal Trades*.—Engineers, ironmoulders, brassfounders, brassworkers and wire-drawers report employment as moderate; sheet metal braziers and machine workers as fair; boiler-makers as good; wheelwrights as bad. Smiths and strikers report employment as good in Earlstown, moderate in Manchester and Northwich, bad in Salford and Warrington.

*Textile Trades*.—Cotton spinners in Manchester report employment as moderate; in Macclesfield, spinning and card room operatives report a slight improvement, but weavers remain on short time. Silk dressers, dyers and finishers report employment as moderate; hand loom weavers are fairly busy, but power loom weavers are slack. Dyers at Macclesfield are busy; bleachers, dyers and finishers in Manchester and district are slack.

*Building Trades*.—In Manchester bricklayers and carpenters report employment as slack; painters as moderate; stonemasons as improving; plasterers, plumbers and decorative glass workers as bad. Concreters are fairly well employed. In Macclesfield and Warrington employment is slack; in Northwich and Stockport moderate.

*Printing and allied Trades*.—Printers report employment as bad in Manchester; good in Macclesfield and Stockport; lithographic artists and bookbinders as fair; lithographic printers and pattern card makers as bad. Electrotypers are busy.

*Woodworking and Furnishing Trades*.—Coachmakers are fairly busy on private work, rather quiet in the railway shops; cabinet makers, French polishers and upholsterers are quiet; coopers are fairly well employed.

*Clothing Trades*.—Employment is good in the bespoke and ready-made departments of the tailoring trade. Felt hat makers and trimmers, cap makers, and boot and shoe makers report employment as moderate; shirt makers, shirt and jacket cutters, and umbrella makers as quiet.

*Transport Trades*.—Employment is good.—G. D. Kelly.

## Liverpool and District.

*Engineering and Shipbuilding*.—Boiler-makers, shipwrights, ironfounders, hammermen, and ship-painters report employment as good; brassfounders, copper-smiths, whitemiths, fitters and turners as fair; shipjoiners as dull.

*Woodworking and Furnishing Trades*.—Coachmakers and cabinet-makers report employment as better; coopers as dull in all branches; French polishers as dull; millsawyers and woodcutting machinists as quiet.

*Transport Trades*.—Seamen and firemen report employment as good; dock labourers as good at South Docks, but dull at North-end; quay and railway carters as dull; Mersey flatmen as fair.

*Building Trades*.—Employment generally continues dull.

*Clothing Trades*.—Tailors report employment as good in the bespoke branch, fair in the ready-made branch; boot and shoe-makers as fair and improving.

*Printing and allied Trades*.—Letterpress printers report employment

as fair; lithographic printers as quiet; bookbinders and stereotypers as good.

*Glass and Chemical Trades*.—Sheet glass makers report employment as good; glass bottle-makers as not quite so good; glass decorators as dull. Chemical workers report employment as dull.

*Mining and Quarrying*.—Coalminers maintain their average of five days per week. Quarrymen continue well employed.—C. Rouse.

A report from *Winsford* states that employment in the salt trade continues dull. Shipwrights, boiler-makers and brassworkers report employment as regular; moulders at Winsford as fair; chemical workers at Middlewich as normal; fustian cutters in both towns as rather dull.

## YORKSHIRE.

## Hull and District.

*Shipbuilding, Engineering, and Metal Trades*.—The engineers, brassfounders and finishers and sailmakers at Hull, the smiths at Grimsby, and the boiler-makers at Doncaster report employment as moderate; other branches as bad.

*Building Trades*.—The painters report employment as good; the plumbers and lathrenders as bad; other branches as moderate.

*Transport Trades*.—The dock labourers at Grimsby report employment as good, the seamen and firemen as moderate; the lightermen and timber workers at Hull as moderate, the seamen and firemen and dock labourers as bad. At Goole employment is reported as moderate.

*Fishing Industry*.—The steam fishing vessel engineers and firemen at Grimsby report employment as fair, at Hull as moderate. The curing-house workers and general labourers have been fairly well employed.

*Seed Crushing, Oil Cake, Paint, and Colour Trades*.—Employment is reported as moderate.

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

*Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades*.—The coopers, cabinet makers and coachbuilders at Hull report employment as moderate; the coachbuilders at Doncaster as good; the millsawyers and woodcutting machinists as bad.

*Miscellaneous*.—The leather trade workers, curriers, brushmakers, tailors and flour mill workers report employment as good; the bakers and confectioners and general labourers as moderate; the enginemen and firemen as bad.—W. G. Millington.

## Leeds and District.

*General*.—Branches of societies with 7,897 members have 267 (or 3·4 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 308 (or 3·9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March.

*Engineering and Metal Trades*.—In Leeds employment with engineers, ironfounders steel workers, and blast furnacemen is reported as quiet; with boiler-makers, machine workers, spindle and flyer makers as fair; with steam engine makers and sheet metal workers as moderate; with stove grate workers and brass workers as slack; with wool comb, hackle, and gill makers as improving. Employment is moderate at Stanningley, quiet at Wakefield.

*Clothing Trades*.—Employment at the ready-made tailoring factories is only moderate. Bespoke tailors are fairly busy. At the Leeds boot factories employment is dull. Jewish slipper makers are slack. At Bramley and Pudsey employment has been fair.

*Textile Trades*.—Employment generally has improved. Cloth finishers and linen workers report it as fair; blanket raisers as dull; warp dressers and twisters, and willeys and fettlers as moderate.

*Building Trades*.—Employment is improving, but bricklayers and joiners have several unemployed; plumbers are slack. At Castleford employment is slack; at Harrogate moderate.

*Mining*.—In the Leeds pits full time continues to be worked; at Castleford five and six days per week.

*Leather Trades*.—Tanners and curriers report employment as fairly good; leather shavers as moderate; saddlers and harness makers as fair.

*Printing and allied Trades*.—Letterpress printers report employment as quiet; lithographers and bookbinders as moderate; paper mill workers as fair.

*Glass Trades*.—Glass bottle makers at Leeds, Wakefield, and Castleford are fairly well employed; flint glass makers are quiet.

*Furnishing and Woodworking Trades*.—Employment with brush-makers, cabinet makers, and coachbuilders is moderate; with wheelwrights and smiths good.—O. Connellan.

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

## ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

## Derbyshire District.

*General*.—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with 6,884 members have 167 (or 2·4 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 190 (or 2·7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March.

*Engineering and Metal Trades*.—Engineers report employment as bad at Burton-on-Trent, moderate elsewhere; brass moulders and finishers, iron and steel dressers, farriers, and cycle makers as moderate; iron founders as bad in Derby, good elsewhere; boiler makers as good; stationary engine drivers and firemen, electrical wire and cable operatives as fair; lace machine builders in Long Eaton as moderate.

*Coal Mining*.—Reports from 78 collieries employing upwards of 28,800 men and boys show an average of 4½ days worked per week, against 5½ days in March, the decrease being due to the Easter holidays.

*Quarrying*.—Employment with limestone and chert quarrymen continues slack.

*Textile Trades*.—Cotton weavers in Glossop report employment as not quite so good; cardroom operatives, and card and blowing room operatives as good; hosiery workers in Ilkeston as moderate, in Belper as bad; elastic web weavers as bad; calico printers and engravers as quiet; lace workers as slack; surgical bandage makers, hard and soft silk winders, doublers and throwers, cotton winders, gimp and trimming workers as fair.

*Clothing Trades*.—Employment generally is good.

*Building Trades*.—Employment generally continues dull, except with painters.

*Coachbuilding and Woodworking Trades*.—Employment is good with railway carriage and wagon builders. In most timber yards employment is better. Coopers at Burton-on-Trent report employment as bad.

*Printing and allied Trades*.—Letterpress printers report employment as good; lithographic printers, bookbinders and machine rulers as moderate.—C. White-Deacon.

## Nottingham and District.

*Lace Trade*.—Employment generally is dull and irregular.

*Hosiery Trade*.—Employment generally continues bad, and has declined in the hand frame branches, except with those engaged on military and government orders. Elastic bandage makers are well employed.

*Engineering and Metal Trades*.—Lace and hosiery machine builders report employment as steady. Other branches report employment as dull or moderate. Employment is reported as better at Beeston and Newark; as bad at Mansfield; as not so good at Grantham and Retford; as moderate with blastfurnacemen at Bulwell. Bobbin and carriage makers and carriage straighteners are fairly well employed. Branches with 2,960 members have 97 (or 3·3 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 111 (or 3·7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March.

*Building Trades*.—Painters and whitemiths report employment as fairly brisk; slaters and brickmakers as good; other branches as moderate or dull.

*Woodworking and Furnishing Trades*.—Employment is reported as good with millsawyers and machinists, coachmakers, coopers, upholsterers, French polishers, brushmakers, packing-case makers, basket makers and boxmakers; as quiet with cabinet makers.

*Printing and allied Trades*.—Letterpress printers report employment as fair; lithographic printers as moderate; bookbinders and lithographic artists as quiet.

*Clothing Trades*.—Tailors report an improvement. Mantle makers and ready-made tailoring operatives are well employed. With boot and shoe workers employment is bad at Nottingham and Hucknall, moderate at Mansfield.

*Coal Mining*.—Returns from 26 collieries employing 16,247 men show an average of 4½ days per week.

*Miscellaneous*.—Employment is not so good with railway workers at Nottingham, Toton, and Colwick; in other parts of the county it continues good. Employment is reported as good with colliery engine and firemen, stationary engine drivers and cranemen, cab and hackney drivers, and saddlers; as moderate with labourers at Nottingham. Bakers and confectioners report a slight improvement.—W. L. Hardstaff.

## Bradford, Huddersfield and District.

*Worsted Trade*.—In Bradford employment in the piece trade is a little better. Woollsorters and woolcombers report employment as not quite so good. In Keighley employment is reported as bad; in Huddersfield it has slightly improved; in Halifax it is still quiet.

*Woollen Trade*.—Employment in and around Huddersfield shows no improvement. In the heavy woollen trade of Dewsbury and Batley it is fair.

*Other Textile Trades*.—Employment in the silk trade is moderate at Brighouse, quiet at Halifax. At Manningham it shows no improvement. Dyers at Bradford report employment as fair, at Huddersfield as good. Cotton spinners at Huddersfield report employment as fair, at Brighouse as slack. Employment is fair with rug and carpet makers.

*Metal Trades*.—Engineers report employment as moderate at Bradford and Huddersfield; quieter at Dewsbury, bad at Halifax and Keighley. The ironfounders report employment as fair at Keighley, quieter at Dewsbury, bad at Huddersfield, Halifax and Bradford. Wire drawers at Brighouse are fully employed.

*Building Trades*.—In Bradford employment is affected by a dispute. In other parts of the district it is quiet.

*Miscellaneous*.—Employment in the tailoring trade has improved. With miners it is fairly good, though several pits are idle owing to disputes. Employment is fair with glass workers and printers.

A. Gee.

## Sheffield, Barnsley, and Rotherham Districts.

*General*.—Branches of societies (exclusive of coalminers) with 17,627 members, have 377 (or 2·1 per cent.) unemployed, as against 356 (or 2·0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March.

*Iron and Steel Industries*.—Branches with 7,356 members have 144 (or 2·0 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 125 (or 1·7 per cent. of their membership), at the end of March. Engineers report employment as good; iron and steel foundries, boiler and girder makers, steel wire drawers, and locomotive engine-drivers and stokers as only moderate; machine workers, core makers, iron and steel dressers, engine and crane men as fair; Siemens steel smelters, Bessemer steel workers, stove grate workers and spring smiths and strikers as slack; railway spring makers as bad. At Barnsley engineers and ironfounders are fairly well employed. Iron and steel workers are slack at Parkgate, Rotherham and Icicles. Bath makers are quiet.

*Cutlery and Tools*.—Employment is good with workmen on razors, pen and pocket cutlery, and some branches of the table cutlery trades; fairly good with sawmakers, file grinders, haft and scale-pressers, handle and scale cutters, and scissor forgers and grinders; moderate with edge tool grinders and forgers of small files; slack with engineers' tool makers, saw handle makers, several sections of the file trade, and joiners' tool makers. In the agricultural and horticultural lines there is a fair amount of work.

*Other Metal Trades*.—Platers and gilders report employment as good; braziers and sheet metal workers as fair; silver and electroplate finishers as moderate; plate spoon and fork filers, hollow-ware buffers, silversmiths, Britannia metal workers, and brass workers as slack.

*Coal Mining*.—Returns from 78 collieries show an average of 5·10 days per week worked, as against 5·22 days in April, 1900. As a rule the pits stood two days for the Easter holidays.

*Building Trades*.—Employment in Sheffield is slack; at Barnsley and Normanton moderate.

*Printing and allied Trades*.—Letterpress printers report employment as bad; lithographic printers and bookbinders as fair.

*Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades*.—Employment is fair with railway carriage and wagon builders; good with coach-makers; moderate with millsawyers; quiet with cabinet makers. At Barnsley box and bobbin makers are busy; at Rotherham the wagon makers are quiet.

*Linen Trade*.—Employment continues good.

*Clothing Trades*.—Employment is fair with bespoke tailors. At Barnsley it is good with operatives in the ready-made branch; boot and shoemakers are fairly busy.

*Glass Trades*.—At Barnsley employment is good; at Rotherham, Mexbro' and Swinton fair.

*Miscellaneous*.—Employment is good with gasworkers, street masons and paviors; fair with bakers and potters. Down quilt makers and general labourers are slack; paper makers are busy.

S. Uttley.

## EMPLOYMENT IN APRIL—DISTRICT REPORTS—MIDLAND COUNTIES.

**Leicester and Northampton District.**

**Boot and Shoe Trade.**—Employment in the boot and shoe trade as slightly improved at Leicester and Northampton. It is still quiet at Hinckley, Kettering, Higham and Wellingborough, and slacker among the men engaged on army contracts in Northamptonshire.

**Other Clothing Trades.**—In both the ready made and bespoke branches of the tailoring trade, employment is reported as better. Milliners, dressmakers, corset makers and silk hatters are busy, felt hatters and capmakers moderately so.

**Hosiery and Woolspinning Trades.**—Employment is now more regular in the fashioned, wrought, plain and rib hose, and fancy hosiery departments. At Loughborough shirt and pant makers are fully employed. Work is brisker with dyers and trimmers, except at Hinckley. Operatives in the woolspinning mills are fairly well employed.

**Elastic Web Trade.**—Employment is moderately good with weavers of gusset webs, but slack in the cord, braid, and narrow goods branches.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Nearly all districts report employment as slacker. It is moderate with general engineers, toolmakers, and smiths; slacker with boot and shoe machinery makers; and bad with ironfounders and needle makers. Work remains brisk in the cycle industry.

**Mining and Quarrying.**—Employment is better with coal miners Stone quarries continue fully employed. Ironstone workers, blastfurnacemen and limestone getters are mostly in full work.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Work continues generally good with letterpress printers, except at Loughborough. It is fair with bookbinders.

**Building Trades.**—Except with stonemasons and painters employment generally shows a further decline.

**Leather Trades.**—Employment is good with curriers and leather dressers at Leicester and Northampton, but continues slack at Wellingborough.

**Woodworking and Coachmaking Trades.**—Work is good with coach makers, tram and road car builders, cabinet-makers and upholsterers; fair with wood cutting machinists and millers.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is generally regular with railway workers; good with cigar-makers; fairly good with tile and sanitary ware makers, cardboard box makers, basket makers, farriers and bakers; quiet with brushmakers.—*T. Smith.*

**Potteries District.**

**Pottery Trades.**—Employment generally is reported as bad, except with mouldmakers.

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—Employment continues slack.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment continues quiet throughout North Staffordshire, but at Crewe most branches continue busy. Copper and brassworkers at Oakamoor and Froghall continue fairly busy. At Uttoxeter and Rugeley agricultural engineers are fully employed.

**Mining and Quarrying.**—Coal miners continue fairly busy; with ironstone miners employment is dull; stone quarries are working full time.

**Textile Trades.**—At Leek employment in the silk trade continues brisk. At Congleton silk dressers report employment as dull; dyers as fairly good; fustian cutters as slack. At Cheadle and Tean silk and tape workers are well employed.

**Clothing Trades.**—Tailors report an improvement. Boot and shoe makers at Stafford and Stone are busy.

**Building Trades.**—Employment generally has improved, and is now fairly good.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment with letterpress printers continues quiet in the potteries; at Stafford it is good. Lithographic artists and printers are fairly busy. Bookbinders and machine rulers report employment as good.

**Miscellaneous.**—Railway workers and gasworkers are fairly busy. Brushmakers are working better.—*I. S. Harvey.*

**Wolverhampton and District.**

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—In South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire steel smelters report an improvement; the forges and mills average about half time. In South Shropshire the wire mills are fairly well employed.

**Engineering and allied Trades.**—Employment has fallen off with moulders. It is good with engineers, and boiler, bridge, tank and gasometer makers. The malleable iron workers at Walsall are working full time. Employment at Coalbrookdale and Madeley is good. Cycle and motor shops are making overtime.

**Hardware.**—Employment is good with makers of electrical fittings, plantation hoes, malleable nails and protectors, cycle castings, builders' ironmongery, gun locks and spectacle frames, with stampers and piercers, and with the iron plate workers at the Lye. It is moderate with hollow-ware tanners and turners, filesmiths, tin and brass-workers and galvanisers, and with makers of iron fences, hurdles, nuts and bolts, stamped and light hollow-ware and black castings, chain makers and strikers at Cradley, and iron plate workers at Bilston and Wolverhampton. It has improved with the anchor-smiths at Cradley, but is not so good with the block chain makers at Cradley Heath. Employment is good with makers of traps, tips and cut nails. At Wednesbury it is quiet with steel and iron forgers, moderate with makers of axles, springs and carriage iron work. In the Dudley anvil and vice trade it has improved. Employment is slack with makers of edge tools, Brazil hoes, locks, keys and latches, with spike and rivet makers at Blackheath, and wrought nail makers at Halesowen.

**Coal Mining.**—The average time worked on Cannock Chase is 3½ days per week. An average of 4½ days per week was worked in the Tipton, Oldbury, Dudley, Old Hill, Halesowen and Tamworth districts. The Shropshire pits are working five days per week.

**Building Trades.**—The bricklayers report employment as good at Wolverhampton, moderate at Walsall; carpenters as irregular; plasterers and painters as moderate, plumbers as quiet.

**Glass Trades.**—All branches of the flint glass trades at Wordsley, Brettle-lane and Stourbridge are quiet.

**Textile Trades.**—At Kidderminster employment in the carpet trade is brisk. Spinners are moderately employed, woolstaplers slack. At Bridgnorth employment is good, overtime being worked.

**Leather Trades.**—At Walsall the harness stitchers, harness makers and brown saddlers report employment as good; collar makers as fair; gig saddlers as quiet; other branches as moderate.

**Clothing Trades.**—In the ready-made and bespoke tailoring departments employment is good; in the boot and shoe trade fair.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment is bad.—*C. Anthony.*

**Birmingham and District.**

**General.**—Branches of societies with 18,312 members have 581 (or 3·2 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 691 (or 3·8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March.

**Engineering and allied Trades.**—Nine branches of engineers report employment as moderate, three as good; smiths and strikers as good; toolmakers and patternmakers as moderate; ironfounders as bad. At Redditch and West Bromwich employment is good; at Coventry moderate. Employment in the cycle trade throughout the district is good. It is fair with motor builders.

**Brass and Copper Trades.**—Employment is reported as good in metal rolling, wire and tube drawing; as fair in the brass trades; quiet with fender and fire brasses makers. At Dudley employment in the fender trade is reported as improving.

**Jewellers, Silversmiths and Electro-platers.**—Jewellers report employment as fair; silversmiths and electro-platers and Britannia metal workers as quiet.

**Other Metal Trades.**—Employment is reported as good with tinplate workers and makers of edge tools, light steel toys, stoves, building trade fittings, spades and shovels; moderate with file cutters (by hand), odd side casters, and makers of iron and steel tubes, cut nails, iron and steel hinges, nuts and bolts, and hollow-ware; quiet with wire nail makers, machine made rivet workers, and ironplate workers; improving with bedstead makers. At West Bromwich, employment is reported as quiet with hollow-ware makers and iron workers; fairly good in other branches. At Redditch needle and fish-hook makers report employment as fairly good.

**Building Trades.**—Employment generally continues quiet.

**Glass Trades.**—Flint glass makers report employment as bad; flint glass cutters as quiet; plate glass bevellers and silverers as slack. At West Bromwich employment is moderate.

**Clothing Trades.**—Boot and shoe makers report employment as quiet; bespoke tailors and Jewish tailors as fair.

**Woodworking Trades.**—Coachmakers report employment as good; coopers as fair; cabinet makers as quiet, but improving; millers and woodworking machinists and carvers as bad. Employment in the railway and wagon shops continues fair.

**Miscellaneous.**—Saddlers and harness makers in all branches, gas fitters, gas workers, military gun makers and ammunition makers report employment as good; letterpress printers as moderate; sporting gun makers, brickmakers and labourers as bad. At Coventry it is fairly good in the watch trade, quiet in the weaving trade. At West Bromwich employment in the printing trade is reported as quiet.—*A. R. Jephcott.*

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

## ENGLAND: EASTERN COUNTIES.

**Norfolk and Neighbouring District.**

**Clothing Trades.**—Boot and shoe operatives at Norwich are not busy; at Cambridge and Yarmouth employment is steady. Ready-made tailoring factories are on full time. Bespoke tailors are busy, and dress, mantle, blouse, shirt and corset makers fairly busy throughout the district.

**Building Trades.**—Employment generally is fair.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—Electrical and general engineers, boiler makers and ironworkers generally are well employed. Shipwrights are busy at Lowestoft; fairly so at Gorleston and Yarmouth.

**Textile Trades.**—The silk and crape factories at Norwich and Yarmouth are running full time. Mat and matting weavers are well employed.

**Fishing Industry.**—Employment is dull at Yarmouth and Lowestoft. Shell fishing on the North Norfolk coast is fair.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment with lithographic and letterpress printers, bookbinders and rulers remains fair.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is good with electric-light workers, brush makers, and horticultural builders; fair with steam flour, oil-cake and saw mill workers, coopers, mineral water workers and confectionery workers. Organ builders are not quite so busy.—*G. Cleverley.*

**Suffolk, Essex and District.**

**Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Trades.**—Engineers report employment as good at Beccles and Chelmsford; as fair at Bury St. Edmund's; as moderate at Ipswich and Colchester, and as slack at Halstead and Earl's Colne. Employment is good with boiler-makers; moderate with moulders and shipwrights.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment in the boot and shoe, and ready-made tailoring trades is moderate; with bespoke tailors it has improved; milliners, dressmakers and corset makers continue well employed.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment is good with mat weavers at Hadleigh, Lavenham, and Long Melford; fair at Glemsford. Employment with the horse-hair weavers is good at Sudbury; quiet at Haverhill; with silk weavers it is quiet at Braintree, slack at Halstead; at Sudbury it is quiet with hand-loom weavers and good with factory operatives.

**Building Trades.**—Employment generally is reported as moderate.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment generally is reported as good.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment with shipping and dock labourers has been fairly good; it has been good with brickmakers and maltsters; fair with farriers and labourers.—*R. W. Mather.*

## ENGLAND: SOUTH WESTERN COUNTIES.

**Bristol and District.**

**General.**—Branches of societies with 10,689 members have 406 (or 3·8 per cent.) unemployed, as against 449 (or 4·2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is reported as fair with stonemasons; dull with plasterers and plumbers; moderate with carpenters and joiners; good with painters and decorators; fair with bricklayers at Gloucester and Cheltenham, dull elsewhere.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—The brass workers and boiler-makers report employment as good; the tin plate workers, tool makers, smiths and strikers as fair; the engineers as moderate; the coach makers as good at Gloucester and Bristol, moderate at Swindon; the ironfounders as dull at Gloucester, fair elsewhere.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment is good with bespoke tailors, and wholesale garment makers; moderate with glove makers; fair with hatters. Boot and shoe operatives report a general decline, with some departments on short time.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—The letterpress printers report employment as good; the lithographic printers and artists as fair; the bookbinders as slack.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Employment in all branches of the cabinet making trade is fair; wood machinists are dull. Coopers and lathrenders are slack.

**Coal Mining.**—Employment in the Bristol coalfield is less brisk. In the Radstock district it continues fair. In the Forest of Dean employment is good in the house coal trade, fair in the steam coal trade.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment in the Trowbridge district is slack in all branches.

**Glass Trades.**—The glass bottle makers report employment as good; the glass bevellers as fair.

**Miscellaneous.**—Dock labourers report employment as slack; oil and colour workers, saddle and harness makers, and cocoa and

chocolate workers as fair; basket makers as dull; stone potters, tobacco workers, and bakers as moderate. Brush makers report a decline.—*J. Curle.*

**Plymouth and South Western District.**

**Mining, Quarrying, and China Clay Industries.**—Tin and copper miners have been well employed. Employment has improved in the granite quarries in the eastern districts, and continues good in the west; in slate quarries it is moderate; in limestone quarries it remains dull. China clay workers are moderately well employed.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—Engineers report employment as moderate; boiler makers, iron and steel shipbuilders, and ironfounders as good; shipwrights as good in Government yards, moderate outside; pattern makers and iron caulkers as steady; brassworkers and tinplate workers as fair; shipwrights and boat builders at Dartmouth as moderate, at Falmouth as quiet. Branches with 2,951 members have 11 unemployed, as at the end of March.

**Building Trades.**—Stonemasons and plasterers report employment as dull, bricklayers as quiet, plumbers and painters as moderate, carpenters in Plymouth and Devonport as bad. At Barnstaple, Bideford and Torquay employment continues quiet; at Truro and Penzance it is bad; at Exeter it has improved; at Dartmouth, Dawlish, Newton and Tavistock it is fair. Branches with 3,853 members have 136 (or 3·5 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 174 (or 4·5 per cent. of their membership), at the end of March.

**Clothing Trades.**—Tailors are busy in both the bespoke and ready-made branches. Work is brisk in the tailoring and shirt factories. Boot and shoe makers are fairly well employed.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers report employment as moderate in Plymouth and Devonport; as quiet in Exeter, Torquay, and Penzance. Employment is moderate with lithographic printers; fair with bookbinders and paper rulers.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Millsawyers and wood-working machinists are quiet; in cabinet works and with upholsterers and French polishers a little improvement is noted.

**Dock and Quayside Work.**—General work on the quays continues steady; fish packers and carters are moderately well employed. In the docks employment is good with coal lumpers; with grain workers it is below the average.

**Fishing Industry.**—Trawlers have landed moderate catches regularly; hookers and drift boats have had fair catches; seiners have done little, but have improved latterly.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is good with navvies and brush-makers. In market and fruit gardens workers are fully employed.—*W. Hedge.*

## WALES.

**North Wales District.**

**Mining.**—Employment in the coal, lead and blende mines of North Wales, although not so brisk, has been fairly well maintained.

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

**Building Trades.**—Employment with carpenters and joiners is good at Llandudno, slack elsewhere; it is good with painters, fair with bricklayers.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment is fair with engineers at Oswestry, quiet at Ruabon; good with steelworkers, blast-furnacemen and engine and boiler men; slack with ironfounders.

**Clothing and Textile Trades.**—Employment in the flannel and tweed industries in Montgomeryshire has been fair. The bespoke tailors at Bangor, Carnarvon and Wrexham report employment as good.

**Printing Trades.**—Letterpress printers report employment as bad at Wrexham; as moderate at Carnarvon.

**Brick and Terra Cotta Trades.**—Employment is reported as improving in the Wrexham and Buckley districts; slack in the Ruabon district.—*G. Rowley.*

**South Wales District.**

**Coal Mining.**—The collieries at Cyfarthfa, Dowlais, Ebbw Vale, Blaينا, Rhymney Valley, and Tredegar are working regularly. At Neath and the Western Districts several collieries have worked irregularly. The Blaenavon collieries are stopped.

**Shipping and Dock Labour.**—Hobblers and dock labourers have had irregular employment. The shipment of crews has been dull.

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—Returns from most districts report employment as quiet. At Cyfarthfa, Dowlais, Ebbw Vale, and Cardiff, employment is regular, but not brisk.

EMPLOYMENT IN APRIL—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—WALES; SCOTLAND.

**Engineering and Ship Repairing.**—Employment has been fairly regular generally, and brisk at several yards. Boilermakers and shipwrights report employment as moderate; fitters, helpers, general labourers and ship painters as good. At the inland engineering works and foundries employment has been moderate. Branches of engineers and ironfounders with 3,288 members have 67 (or 2.0 per cent.) unemployed, as against 75 (or 2.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is reported as bad generally at the ports, moderate in the inland and colliery districts. The painters report an improvement. Carpenters and joiners, plumbers and painters, with 2,157 members, have 113 (or 5.2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 155 (or 7.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March.

**Miscellaneous.**—Lithographers, letterpress printers and bookbinders report employment as moderate; patent fuel workers as good at Swansea, moderate generally. Chemical and metallurgical workers are dull. Wagon builders and repairers are fully employed.—*T. Davies.*

**Tinplate Trade in South Wales, Monmouthshire, and Gloucestershire.**—Employment in this industry has improved considerably as compared with last month, but is still much worse than a year ago. At the end of April 322 mills were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of black plates), as compared with 281 at the end of March, and 400 at the end of April, 1900. The number of workpeople employed at the mills in operation at the end of April is estimated to be about 16,100.

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh and District.

**General.**—Branches of societies with 13,162 members have 590 (or 4.5 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 754 (or 5.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March.

**Coal Mining.**—Employment is much the same as in March. In Mid and East Lothian about 80 per cent. of the miners have worked full time, the remainder have experienced idle days. In West Lothian the majority of the miners have obtained at least five days' work per week.

**Shale Miners and Oil Workers.**—Returns from 29 mines employing 3,206 workpeople show that 1,621 were employed in mines working full time, and 1,585 in mines working 22 and under 24 days during the four weeks ended April 20th.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Branches with 2,180 members have 82 (or 3.8 per cent.) idle, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of March. Branches in Falkirk with 3,659 members have 250 (or 6.8 per cent.) idle, as against 355 (or 9.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March.

**Shipbuilding.**—Branches with 610 members have 24 (or 4.0 per cent.) idle, as against 54 (or 9.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment continues good with all branches of the woollen industry in Selkirk and Galashiels. In Hawick spinners are not so busy. The hosiery workers are busy in Selkirk, but quiet in Hawick. The carpet weavers in Midlothian report employment as good.

**Building Trades.**—The painters and glaziers report employment as good; joiners as fair; plasterers and plumbers as bad; masons and bricklayers as improving. The number of unemployed is considerably reduced.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Branches with 1,139 members have 69 (or 6.0 per cent.) idle, as against 103 (or 9.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March.

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

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Branches with 2,387 members have 26 (or 1.1 per cent.) idle, as against 22 (or 0.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March.

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

Glasgow and West of Scotland.

**Shipbuilding.**—The boilermakers report employment as moderate in some districts, but good generally. Shipwrights report employment as good at Partick, Govan and Dumbarton; fair at Glasgow, Renfrew and Greenock; moderate at Clydebank. Shipyard helpers report employment as good; shipjoiners as dull. Branches with 15,192 members return 362 (or 2.4 per cent.) as idle, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of March.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Tinplate workers report employment as dull; blacksmiths, engineers, ironmoulders, pattern-makers,

brass finishers and moulders, and coppersmiths as fair; iron drillers, bolt, nut and rivet makers, and smiths and strikers as good; iron, steel and brass dressers as moderate. Branches with 22,421 members return 828 (or 3.7 per cent.) as idle, as against 913 (or 4.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March. The iron and steel workers are well employed.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is dull except with painters, who are fully employed.

**Mining.**—In Dumbartonshire employment is good; in Stirlingshire it has improved; in Renfrewshire it is fairly regular. In Ayrshire it is good with coalminers; some ironstone pits are only working 4 days per week.

**Clothing Trades.**—Tailors report employment as still good; tailors' machinists and pressers as improving; clothiers' operatives as fair; mantle-makers as busy. With boot and shoe operatives employment is a little quieter; with slipper makers it continues dull. Knee boot and shoe makers report employment as good.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment, although still dull in some branches, shows an improvement. At New Mills employment has improved slightly in the lace trade, in the muslin trade it continues brisk. At Kilbirnie, Greenock and Port Glasgow, employment is good. Carpet weaving is dull.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers and bookbinders report employment as good; lithographic printers as quiet; electrotypers, stereotypers and lithographic artists as fair.

**Glass Trades.**—Bottle makers, flint glass makers and decorative glass workers are busy. Flint glass cutters continue dull.

**Transport Trades.**—Tramway men, railway men and carters are busy; hackney carriage drivers report employment as improving; seamen, firemen and dock labourers as dull.

**Miscellaneous.**—Sett makers, paviors, gilders, tobacco pipe makers and finishers, saddlers, brush makers, stone ware throwers, rope spinners, scale beam makers, cigarette makers, French polishers, and labourers are busy; basket makers and bakers are dull.—*A. J. Hunter.*

Dundee and District.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment in the jute industry is still fairly good. In the linen trade work continues scarce.

**Coal Mining.**—Employment at the Fifeshire collieries remains fairly steady. Reports from pits employing 12,222 workpeople show an average of 5.2 days per week worked during the four weeks ending April 20th, as compared with 5.0 days per week in the months of February and March.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—Employment in the engineering trades is fairly good on the whole. At the shipbuilding yards there is slackness in several branches. Societies with 2,166 members return 114 (or 5.3 per cent.) unemployed, as against 105 (or 4.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March.

**Building and Furnishing Trades.**—Some improvement has taken place in the building trade, although there is still dulness in several sections. Employment in the furnishing trades is good. Branches of societies with 1,788 members have 77 (or 4.3 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 114 (or 6.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March.

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

**Fishing Industry.**—The haddock boats have met with indifferent success. The salmon fishing continues fair.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment in the printing and allied trades has been fairly good. In the tailoring trade it is still brisk; in the boot and shoe trade quiet. Bleachfield workers remain slack; floorcloth and linoleum makers are well employed.—*P. Reid.*

Aberdeen and District.

**General.**—Branches of societies with 4,613 members have 176 (or 3.8 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 237 (or 5.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March.

**Quarrying.**—The settmakers report employment as good; granite polishers as fair; masons as dull.

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

**Transport Trades.**—The railway men report employment as good; dock labourers as fair.

**Shipbuilding and Engineering.**—The boilermakers and iron and steel shipbuilders, shipwrights, blacksmiths, brassfinishers, pattern-makers and horseshoers report employment as fair; engineers and ironmoulders as dull; tinplate workers as good. Branches of societies with 1,320 members have 37 (or 2.8 per cent.) idle, as against 58 (or 4.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March

EMPLOYMENT IN APRIL—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—IRELAND.

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

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

**Fishing.**—At the port of Aberdeen in April, trawl and line boats landed 100,471 cwts., valued at £63,952, an increase both in quantity and value as compared with March.

**Miscellaneous.**—The upholsterers, saddlers, combmakers, and general labourers report employment as fair; sawmillers, gas-workers, and cabinet makers as good; bakers as bad.—*W. Johnston.*

IRELAND.

Dublin and District.

**Building Trades.**—The carpenters, plasterers, slaters and paviors report employment as fair; painters as improved; bricklayers as moderate; stonecutters and millsawyers as dull; whitens as fair; lathsplitters as bad.

**Metal Trades.**—The smiths and steam engine makers report employment as good; whitesmiths as fair; boilermakers as moderate; brassfounders as slack; tinsmiths as dull; engineers, ironfounders and electric workers as bad. Branches with 1,020 members have 88 (or 8.6 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 99 (or 9.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March.

**Woodworking Trades.**—Employment is good with the coopers, brushmakers, saddlers, and carpet planners; fair with cabinet makers, coachmakers, and cart and wagon builders; improving with upholsterers.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers and stereotypers report employment as fair; lithographers and machinists as good; bookbinders as dull.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment with tailors and bootmakers has improved.

**Miscellaneous.**—Bottlemakers report employment as good; bakers, hairdressers, silk weavers and general quay labourers as fair; grain labourers and weavers as bad.—*E. L. Richardson.*

Belfast and District.

**Shipbuilding and Engineering Trades.**—Branches of societies with 8,653 members have 153 (or 1.8 per cent.) unemployed, as against 189 (or 2.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March. The sailmakers report employment as dull; the blacksmiths, strikers and helpers as moderate; ironfounders, pattern-makers and general labourers and slaters' helpers as quiet; boilermakers and iron shipbuilders, brassfounders, carpenters and joiners, furnishing trades, cranemen, enginemen and firemen as fair; engineers, steam engine makers, sheet metal workers, machine drillers and hole-cutters and shipwrights as good.

**Linen Trades.**—Societies with a membership of 3,980 have 125 (or 3.1 per cent.) unemployed, as against 94 (or 2.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March. The powerloom tenters and powerloom yarn-dressers report employment as bad; linen lappers as dull; beetling engineers, flax dressers and flax roughers, yarn bundlers and textile workers as quiet; hackle and gill makers as good.

**Building Trades.**—The carpenters and joiners are still partially affected by the late dispute. The bricklayers report employment as dull; painters, plumbers and plasterers as quiet; builders' labourers as fair; millsawyers as improving; paviors as good.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Branches of societies with 909 members have 27 (or 3.0 per cent.) unemployed, as against 36 (or 3.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March. The coopers and packing case makers report employment as dull; coachbuilders as quiet; brushmakers as fair; cabinet-makers as improving; French polishers and upholsterers as good.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Branches of societies with 899 members have 48 (or 5.3 per cent.) unemployed, as against 36 (or 4.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March. Lithographic printers report employment as bad; lithographic artists as quiet; letterpress printers, bookbinders and machine rulers as fair.

**Clothing Trades.**—The tailors report employment as good; boot and shoe makers as dull.

**Miscellaneous.**—Societies or branches of societies with 1,919 members have 52 (or 2.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 45 (or 2.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of March. The bakers, butchers, carters, locomotive engine drivers, municipal employees, and stone cutters report employment as fair; railway workers and square sett makers as good.—*R. Sheldon.*

Cork and District.

**Shipbuilding and Engineering.**—Boilermakers and iron shipbuilders, shipwrights, riggers, and engineers (except ironmoulders) report

employment as good in Cork, Haulbowline, Queenstown, and Passage West, dull in Limerick.

**Building Trades.**—Employment continues dull in all branches of the building trades, except with painters and decorators, who are fairly well employed.

**Textile and Clothing Trades.**—Flax, tweed and feather operatives in Cork, Douglas, Millfield, and Blarney report employment as good; tailors and boot and shoe operatives as quiet.

**Woodworking Trades.**—Employment is reported as moderate with coachmakers, cabinet makers, mill sawyers and woodworking machinists; dull with coopers and cork cutters.

**Miscellaneous.**—Railway and tramway employees, beef and pork butchers, and corporation labourers report employment as fair; brewery workmen, coal porters, and quay labourers as bad.—*P. O'Shea.*

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

(Compiled from returns supplied by the Home Office.)

The following Table shows the number of cases\* of lead poisoning and of anthrax reported during April as having occurred in factories and workshops. Of the 68 cases of lead poisoning reported during the month, 11 (all males) occurred in white lead works and 12 (7 males and 5 females) in the china and earthenware industry, the number of cases in those industries in April, 1900, being 19 and 22 respectively. The deaths of 3 males from lead poisoning were reported during the month, as compared with 3 deaths (1 male and 2 females) reported in April, 1900.

Disease and Industry.	April, 1901.				Total April 1900.
	Adults.		Young Persons.		
	M.†	F.†	M.†	F.†	
<b>Lead Poisoning—</b>					
White Lead Works...	11	—	—	—	11
China and Earthenware ...	7	5	—	—	12
Litho-Transfer Works ...	2	—	—	—	2
Red and Yellow Lead Works, Glass Cutting, Enamelling of Iron Plates, Electrical Accumulator Works	11	—	—	—	11
Manufacture of Paints and Colours ...	2	—	—	—	2
Smelting of Metals, Brass Works, Tinning and Enamelling of Iron Hollow-ware	5	1	—	—	6
Plumbing and Soldering, Printing, File Cutting	10	—	—	—	10
Coach Making, Shipbuilding, &c. ...	8	—	1	—	9
Other Industries ...	4	—	1	—	5
<b>Total Lead Poisoning</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>Arsenic Poisoning</b> ...	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Anthrax</b> ...	2	—	—	1	3

In addition to the cases included above, 6 cases of lead poisoning (including 1 death) were reported among house painters and plumbers. The number of such cases reported in April, 1900, was 12 (including 2 deaths) among painters.

DECREASES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN APRIL, 1901.

The changes in hours of labour reported in April affected 431 workpeople, whose working time was reduced by 3.84 hours per week.

Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which change takes effect in 1901.	Approximate number of Work-people affected.	Hours of labour in a full week.†		Extent of Decrease per week.
				Before change.	After change.	
Morley	Joiners	24 April	40	48	47½	½
Hertford	Letterpress Printers	20 April	40	57	55	2
Plymouth	Tram Drivers and Conductors	7 April	80	62½	53	9½
Aberdare	Letterpress Printers	1 April	20	54	52	2
Briton Ferry	Mechanics and Labourers (at Chemical Works)	18 Mar.	53	56	54	2
Cardiff	Watchmen	11 April	18	106	95	11
Paisley and District	Bakers	13 April	180	52½	50	2½

\* Cases include all attacks, fatal or otherwise, reported during the month and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months. † Exclusive of overtime. ‡ M. = Males. F. = Females.

§ See also under Changes in Rates of Wages.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN APRIL, 1901.

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

Summary.—The changes in rates of wages reported during April affected 54,874 workpeople, and the net effect of all the changes was a decrease of 2s. 8d. weekly per head. Of this number 2,697 received advances averaging 1s. 10½d. per week, and 52,177 sustained decreases averaging 2s. 11d. per week.

The net result of the changes reported in the previous month (March) was an average decrease of ½d. per head on the weekly wages of 196,360 workpeople, and during the corresponding month of last year (April, 1900) the net result was an average advance of 1s. 5½d. per head in the weekly wages of 273,400 workpeople.

There was no advance of great importance in April. The principal decreases were those affecting 30,000 coal miners in Northumberland, 10,000 iron miners and limestone quarrymen in Cleveland and Cumberland, 2,630 bedstead workers in Birmingham, and 3,000 steel millmen and 2,485 building trade operatives in Scotland.

Methods of Arrangement.—Changes affecting 36,042 workpeople were arranged by arbitration or conciliation (including two changes affecting 412 workpeople, settled by arbitration after strike), and changes affecting 2,839 workpeople took effect under sliding scales. Six changes, affecting 1,043 workpeople, were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work, and the remaining changes, affecting 15,362 workpeople, were arranged by direct negotiations between employers and workpeople or their representatives.

Summary for First Four Months of 1901.—During the four months, January to April, 1901, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) known to have received advances or sustained decreases is 816,463 (as compared with 930,500 for the corresponding period of 1900). Of these, 493,255 obtained a net average increase of 1s. 8½d. weekly per head, and 323,208 sustained a net average decrease of 2s. 8d. weekly per head. The net effect of all the changes was a decrease of ½d. weekly per head, as compared with an increase of 2s. weekly per head in the corresponding period of 1900.

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

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which Change takes effect in 1901, Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week. Includes sections for BUILDING TRADES, MINING AND QUARRYING, and MISCELLANEOUS TRADES.

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

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN APRIL (continued).

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which Change takes effect in 1901, Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week. Includes sections for IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE, OTHER METAL TRADES, and MISCELLANEOUS TRADES.

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which Change takes effect in 1901, Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week. EMPLOYEES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

\* Exclusive of overtime. † See also under Changes in Hours of Labour.

Friendly Societies in Victoria.—The Twenty-second Report on Friendly Societies in Victoria in 1899 states that at the end of that year 29 societies were in existence with 1,105 branches and 93,700 members, compared with 31 societies with 1,088 branches and 88,726 members at the end of 1898. The number of members who received sick pay during 1899 was equal to 272 1 per 1,000 effective members, compared with 255 5 per 1,000 in 1898, and 225 9 in 1897. The total capital of the societies at the end of 1899 amounted to £1,257,362, or £13 8s. 5d. per member. Particulars of membership, funds, investments and the experience of all the societies taken together for each of the 22 years 1878-99 are contained in an appendix.

Labour Disputes in Maryland, U.S.A.—The Ninth Annual Report of the Bureau of Industrial Statistics of Maryland, U.S.A., for 1900, states that thirty-four disputes involving stoppage of work were reported during that year. The establishments in which these disputes occurred employed 26,415 persons; the number of persons actually thrown out of employment was 590 females and 10,432 males. Of thirteen strikes undertaken by organised labour only four were unsuccessful; of the twenty-one undertaken by workers who were unorganised, sixteen were unsuccessful. Detailed accounts are given of the more important disputes.

PAUPERISM IN APRIL.

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

THE number of paupers relieved in 35 selected Urban Districts of the United Kingdom on one day in the second week of April was 335,874, corresponding to a rate of 205 per 10,000 of the estimated population of those districts in 1901.

Compared with March, 1901, a decrease of 8,031 is shown in the number relieved, and of 5 in the rate per 10,000 of the population. Decreases are shown in 31 districts, the most marked falling off being in the Dublin district (22 per 10,000), West Ham (21), Galway (16), Central London (14), Cork, Waterford and Limerick District (11), and North Staffordshire (10). Coatbridge and Airdrie district shows an increase of 3 per 10,000, while in the remaining 3 districts there is no change in the rate.

Compared with April, 1900, the number of persons relieved has increased by 11,441, and the rate per 10,000 of the population by 5. Twenty-six of the 35 districts show increases, the principal being in the Dublin district (20 per 10,000), Manchester (19), Birmingham (12), Leeds (11), and Leicester (10). In 7 districts the rate per 10,000 has decreased, the most marked decreases occurring in Galway district (18 per 10,000), and Wigan (11). In the remaining 2 districts the rate was unchanged.

Table with columns: Selected Urban Districts, Paupers on one day in second week of April, 1901 (In-door, Out-door, TOTAL), Rate per 10,000 of estimated population (A month ago, A year ago). Rows include ENGLAND & WALES, SCOTLAND, and IRELAND.

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

LABOUR BUREAUX IN APRIL.

DURING April the 8 Bureaux furnishing returns registered 1,564 fresh applications for work, as compared with 1,257 in April, 1900, an increase of 307. Work was found by these Bureaux for 902 persons, of whom 685 (488 males and 197 females) were engaged by private employers, 28 by Local Authorities, and 189 by the Salvation Army. The number engaged by private employers in April, 1900, was 583.

The number remaining on the registers at the end of April was 904, as against 814 a year ago.

(I.) Work done in April.

Table with columns: Name of Labour Bureau, No. of Fresh Applications by Workpeople during (Apr. 1901, Apr. 1900), No. of Situations offered by Employers during (Apr. 1901, Apr. 1900), No. of Workpeople found Work by Bureaux (Engaged by Private Employers, Engaged by Local Authorities) (Apr. 1901, Apr. 1900). Rows include London, Provincial, and Total of 8 Bureaux.

(II.) Employments found for Workpeople during April, 1901.

Table with columns: Category (Engaged by Private Employers, Local Authorities, Salvation Army), Sex (Men, Women and Girls, Lads and Boys), Occupation, No. permanently engaged, No. temporarily engaged, Total. Rows include Building Trades, Domestic Servants, etc.

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

Table with columns: Occupation, No. on Register at end of (April, 1901, April, 1900). Rows include Men, Lads and Boys, Women and Girls, and Grand Total for 8 Bureaux.

\* Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN APRIL.

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

THE total number of workpeople reported as killed by accidents during April was 312, or 306 less than in March, and 130 less than in April, 1900.

In the first group of industries shown in the following summary Table, including railways, mines, quarries, shipping, and factories, and employing 5,485,461 persons (according to the latest available figures), 283 were reported killed and 6,926 injured by accidents, as compared with 409 reported killed and 6,699 injured in April, 1900. These figures give one death in April, 1901, for every 19,383 persons employed in those industries. During the four completed months of 1901, 1,578 persons were reported killed and 30,928 injured, as against 1,746 reported killed and 29,281 injured in the corresponding period of 1900.

In the remaining occupations included in the Tables, 29 persons were reported killed, and 908 injured in April, as compared with 33 killed and 885 injured in April, 1900.

SUMMARY TABLE.

Table with columns: Industry, Killed (April 1901, April 1900), Injured (April 1901, April 1900), Number Employed according to latest Returns. Rows include Railway Service, Quarries, Shipping, Factories, Workshops, and Grand Total.

DETAILED TABLES.

Table with columns: Industry, Killed, Injured, Total. Rows include Railway Service, Mines, Quarries over 20 feet deep, and Under Factory Act, 1895.

Table with columns: Killed, Injured, Total. Rows include Shipping (On Trading Vessels, On Fishing Vessels) and Total for April, 1901.

Table with columns: Males, Females, Total. Rows include Factories (Accidents reportable by Certifying Surgeons, Other Accidents) and Total Factories.

Table with columns: Males, Females, Total. Rows include Workshops (Adults, Young Persons, Children) and Total Workshops.

Table with columns: Males, Females, Total. Rows include Factories & Workshops (Textiles, Non-Textiles) and Total for April, 1901.

Table with columns: Males, Females, Total. Rows include Under Factory Act, 1895 (Docks, Wharves and Quays, Warehouses) and Total for April, 1901.

Table with columns: Construction or Repair, Use or Working, Total. Rows include Under the Notice of Accidents Act, 1894 (Bridges, Canals, Railways) and Total for April, 1901.

\* The figures relate to seamen who have been reported during the month to have been killed or injured by accidents at sea, or in rivers and harbours, whilst they were members of the crews of sea-going vessels (except yachts) registered in the British Islands under Part I. of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894. † Accidents during the working of railways being reportable under other Acts are not notified under the Act of 1894. ‡ Authorised by any local or personal Act of Parliament. § Or other steam engine or machine in the open air.

TRADE DISPUTES.

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

**Number and Magnitude.**—Sixty-six disputes were reported as having begun in April 1901, compared with 52 in March, and 52 in April, 1900. In these 66 disputes, 9,581 workpeople were directly, and 25,741 indirectly affected, a total of 35,322, which compares with 20,779 in March, and 31,181 in April 1900.

**Trades Affected.**—In the building trades 20 disputes took place, involving 1,679 workpeople; in the mining industry 20 disputes, involving 30,700 workpeople; in the metal, engineering and shipbuilding trades 9 disputes, involving 1,240 workpeople; in the textile trades 4 disputes, involving 273 workpeople; and in miscellaneous trades 13 disputes, involving 1,430 workpeople.

**Causes.**—Of the 66 disputes, 19 arose on demands for advances, and 13 on objections to reductions in rates of wages. Eight disputes arose on other wages questions, 8 on questions of employment of particular classes or persons, 9 on questions of working arrangements, 6 on questions of trade unionism, and 3 from other causes.

**Results.**—Forty new disputes, involving 32,137 workpeople, and 17 old disputes, involving 6,029 workpeople, were reported as having terminated. Of the 57 new and old disputes terminated, 16, involving 2,203 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 8, involving 27,613 persons, in favour of the employers; and 26, involving 7,270 persons, resulted in compromise. With regard to the remaining 7 disputes, involving 1,080 persons, certain points are still under consideration. At the end of April, 25 old disputes were reported to be still unsettled, involving altogether about 12,000 workpeople.

**Duration of Disputes in Working Days.**—The aggregate duration in April of all the disputes, new and old, was about 605,000 days, compared with 320,000 in March last, and 210,000 in April 1900.

**Summary for the First Four Months of 1901.**—For the four completed months of 1901 the aggregate number of workpeople involved in the 202 disputes which commenced in these months was 82,202, as compared with 67,246 in the 174 disputes reported in the corresponding period of 1900. The total aggregate duration in working days was about 1,532,000, as compared with 530,000 in the corresponding period of 1900.

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

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN APRIL, 1901.

20 Disputes.		BUILDING TRADES.		1,679 Workpeople affected.			
Darlington ...	Bricklayers and Labourers	80	20	April 15	15	For advance in wages from 9d. to 10d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	Work resumed on guarantee of existing rules for two years.
Stockton-on-Tees ...	Painters	11	...	18	3	Refusal to work overtime while a movement for advance in wages was in progress	No overtime to be worked until wages question was settled.
West Hartlepool ...	Bricklayers' and Plasterers' Labourers	129	...	27	...	Against proposed reduction in wages	No settlement reported.
Harrogate ...	Plasterers	75	...	1	28	Against proposed reduction in wages from 10½d. to 9½d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	Work resumed at the reduced rate.
Morley ...	Carpenters and Joiners	40	...	1	18	For advance in wages from 7½d. to 8d. per hour, reduction in hours of labour, and other alterations in working rules	Advance of ½d. per hour granted, with reduction of half an hour per week.
Bury ...	Painters	160	...	1	19	Against alteration in rule as to giving notice of change in working regulations	Compromise effected.
Rosendale ...	Painters	105	...	1	12	Against notice by employers to abrogate rule compelling non-unionists to join the trade union within 54 hours of commencing work	Rule substituted providing that no stoppage on account of non-unionists shall take place without four days' notice.
Coventry ...	Bricklayers and Labourers	132	...	1	4	Against notice of reduction in wages from 8½d. to 8d. per hour for bricklayers, and from 6d. to 5½d. for labourers	Notice of reduction withdrawn.
Dudley ...	Carpenters and Joiners	50	...	1	...	Against proposed reduction in wages from 8½d. to 8d. per hour	No settlement reported.
Hinckley ...	Bricklayers	60	...	1	...	For advance in wages from 7½d. to 8½d. per hour	No settlement reported.
Kenilworth ...	Builders' Labourers	52	...	1	...	For advance in wages from 5½d. to 6½d. per hour	No settlement reported.
Leicester ...	Painters	16	...	1	14	For advance in wages from 6½d. to 7½d. per hour, and a code of working rules	Advance of ½d. per hour granted, but no code of working rules.
Leicester ...	Bricklayers' Labourers and Bricklayers	34	30	5	20	Against employment of navvies at concreting	Work resumed pending arbitration (see p. 137).
Newmarket ...	Bricklayers	10	...	23	...	Against employment of tilers on work claimed by bricklayers	No settlement reported.
Norwich ...	Painters	176	...	1	...	For advance in wages from 6d. to 7½d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	No settlement reported.
Yarmouth ...	Bricklayers & Labourers	112	107	1	...	For advance in wages from 7d. to 8d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	No settlement reported.
Arbroath ...	Carpenters & Joiners	122	...	1	...	For advance in wages from 7d. to 8d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	No settlement reported.
Falkirk ...	Joiners	12	...	1	15	Refusal of employers to sign bye-laws submitted by workmen	Work resumed unconditionally.
Falkirk ...	Painters	70	...	1	11	For a code of working rules involving changes in remuneration for country work	Changes conceded.
Perth ...	Carpenters and Joiners	76	...	1	7	Against proposed reduction in wages from 8½d. to 7½d. per hour	Wages to remain at 8½d. per hour till 1st July, and then to be reduced to 8d.

20 Disputes. COAL MINING. 30,700 Workpeople affected.

Harrington ...	Coal Miners	320	...	5	13	Dispute arising out of change in system of working	Work resumed pending reference to Conciliation Board.
Hebburn ...	Coal Miners	560	...	29	5	Against deduction from wages of a fine imposed by magistrates for leaving work without notice in March, 1901	Payment of a lesser amount agreed to.
Barnsley ...	Coal Miners, Trimmers, and Surface Workers	83	10	9	...	Dispute as to tonnage and day work rates	No settlement reported.
Castleford ...	Miners and Daymen	1,000	...	2	9½	Dissatisfaction at men being brought in from a neighbouring colliery	Work resumed unconditionally.
Dewsbury ...	Colliery Workpeople generally	320	130	5	...	Dispute as to prices to be paid for coal getting	No settlement reported.

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

TRADE DISPUTES—(continued).

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

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN APRIL, 1901—(continued).

COAL MINING—(continued).							
Pontefract ...	Enginemmen	40	...	April 19	...	In sympathy with miners in same employ who struck work on 9th Jan. on question of fixing price lists	No settlement reported.
Tyldesley ...	Coal Miners and Other Colliery Workpeople	60	100	4	3	Dispute as to fixing price lists, and demand for higher rate for moving "dirt"	Compromise arranged.
Wigan (near) ...	Underground and Surface Workers	164	56	3	25½	Dispute as to tonnage rate to be paid on change from day to piece work	A tonnage rate agreed to.
Stapleford (Notts.) ...	Hewers, Boys, Drivers, Banksmen & Labourers	245	103	11	8	To compel non-unionists to join the trade union	Non-unionists promised to join the trade union.
Sutton-in-Ashfield ...	Miners and Labourers	532	...	17	4	Grievances as to wages, employment of non-unionists, and other matters	Compromise arranged.
Neath (near) ...	Hewers, Trammers, Engineers & Tipplers	66	...	15	12½	Against proposed reduction of prices in a certain vein	Reduction of 12½ per cent. agreed to.
Pantypool ...	Miners, Repairers and Labourers	42	...	1	2	Against change from fortnightly to day-to-day contract system	Work resumed on fortnightly contracts.
Lanarkshire ...	Enginemmen and Colliery Workpeople generally	628	25,000	1	5½	Demand for an 8 hours day for all classes of enginemmen at collieries where day and night shifts are worked	Work resumed on terms offered previous to cessation of work, viz., 10 hours day for winding enginemmen except at pits with outputs less than 200 tons daily.
Armadale ...	Coal Miners	75	...	17	...	Objection to proposed "dirt" scale	Still unsettled.
Dreghorn ...	Coal Miners, Brushers, &c.	47	12	8	23½	For reduction in "darg" by one hutch per day	Advance of ½d. per ton granted in lieu of reduction in "darg."
Fauldhouse ...	Coal Miners	85	...	16	4	Objection of employers to dirty coal	A "dirt" scale agreed upon.
Larkhall Niddrie ...	Coal Miners and Colliery Workpeople generally	17	...	16	6½	Against reduction in wages consequent on reorganisation of working conditions	No settlement reported.
Sanquhar ...	Coal Miners and Oncoast Workers	205	...	9	...	To restrict working time to 5 days per week instead of 11 days per fortnight, as previously worked	Reduction withdrawn. Work resumed on old conditions.
Sanquhar ...	Coal Miners and Oncoast Workers	205	...	9	...	To compel non-unionists to join the trade union	No settlement reported.

9 Disputes. METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	Machinemmen	35	...	18	...	Against proposed reduction in piece rates	1,240 Workpeople affected. No settlement reported.
Leeds ...	Rivetters & Holders-up	9	...	2	11	Dispute as to quantity of work to be done for a given rate or in a given time	Work resumed on daywork system
S. Staffs. and N. Worcs. ...	Chainmakers (Hammered and Country Workers)	800	...	22	...	To maintain the 1900 price list	No settlement reported.
Wednesbury ...	Machinists, Fitters and Labourers	66	...	22	...	Because of attitude of foreman as to number of machines to be worked per man, and employment of boys	No settlement reported.
Briton Ferry ...	Smiths, Fitters, Firemen, &c.	12	...	23	11	Against proposed reduction in wages	Readjustment of rates in a few cases agreed to.
Dundee ...	Rivetters, Rivet Boys, and Holders-on	128	...	16	6	For provision of detailed pay slips, extra remuneration on certain work, and erection of staging by employers	Demands granted.
Govan ...	Caulkers, Rivetters, & Holders-on	152	...	15	6	Dispute as to extra payment for caulking unplanned work	Work resumed pending further negotiations.
Leith ...	Caulkers, Rivetters, & Ship Joiners	8	...	26	...	Dispute as to whether certain repair work should be done by caulkers or drillers	Work given to caulkers.
Leith ...	Ship Joiners	8	...	26	...	Against employment of patternmakers on work claimed by joiners	No settlement reported.

4 Disputes. TEXTILE TRADES. 273 Workpeople affected.

Halifax (near) ...	Worsted Weavers	70	...	26	...	Against introduction of a new price list	Work resumed pending investigation as to prices paid at other mills.
Haslingden ...	Cotton Weavers	47	...	19	2	For advance in wages	A temporary advance granted.
Nottingham ...	Curtain Readers, Punchers & Corrector	16	...	8	6	Objection to employment of a man who had been expelled from the trade union	Man to be readmitted to trade union, but to give up his situation pending re-admission.
Hawick ...	Woollen Weavers, Winders, Warpers and Finishers	72	68	15	5	Dispute as to prices for new class of work	Satisfactory compromise agreed to.

13 Disputes. MISCELLANEOUS TRADES. 1,430 Workpeople affected.

Huddersfield ...	Masons (Local Authority)	12	...	23	...	Against employment of labourers on work claimed by masons	No settlement reported.
Leeds ...	Jewish Tailors, Machinists and Pressers	78	...	28	...	To abolish sub-contracting, obtain recognition of trade union, and remedy other grievances	No settlement reported.
Birkenhead ...	Paviors (Local Authority)	15	...	22	...	Against employment of labourers to lay wood blocks in streets	No settlement reported.
Liverpool ...	Flatmen	300	...	11	2	For revised scale of rates	A revised scale agreed to.
Birmingham ...	Brickmakers	46	...	1	3	Against proposed reduction in wages of 10 per cent.	Work resumed at old rate of wages.
Birmingham ...	Lappers, Tube Strippers, Tube Masters, Cutters, &c. (Rubber Works)	66	102	26	...	Against revised price list stated to involve reduction in earnings	No settlement reported.
Lenton (Notts.) ...	Parchment Makers	36	...	25	...	For advance in wages	No settlement reported.
London, E.C. ...	Cardboard Box Makers and Cutters	16	...	19	...	Against discharge of a fellow workman	No settlement reported.
London, E. ...	Dock Labourers	600	...	22	2	Dispute as to method of engaging men	Work resumed on old conditions.
London, W.C. ...	Carmen	55	...	22	...	For advance in wages	No settlement reported.
Mitcham ...	Parchment Makers and Attendants	12	3	29	...	For advance in wages	No settlement reported.
Dundee ...	Boot and Shoe Operatives	65	...	5	1	To compel a non-unionist to join the trade union	Man joined the trade union.
Kirkcaldy ...	Tailors	24	...	19	4	For advance of ½d. per hour on "log" rate (4½d. to 5d.)	Advance granted.

II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE APRIL, 1901, AND TERMINATED IN THAT MONTH.

3 Disputes.		BUILDING TRADES.		1,165 Workpeople affected.			
Bridlington ...	Carpenters and Joiners	100	...	1900, 2 April 1901.	309	For advance in wages from 7½d. to 8½d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	Work resumed on old conditions.
Aberdeen ...	Plasterers	115	...	25 Feb.	45	Against proposed reduction in wages from 8½d. to 7½d. per hour	Work resumed at 8d. per hour.
Belfast ...	Carpenters and Joiners and Other Workpeople	650	300	1 May	295	Against employment of labourers on work claimed by carpenters, for advance in wages from 8½d. to 9d. per hour, reduction in hours from 54 to 52½ per week, and other alterations	Work resumed under terms arranged by an Arbitrator.

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

TRADE DISPUTES—(continued).

Locality.	Occupation.*	Number of Workpeople Affected.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
		Directly.	Indirectly.*				

II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE APRIL, 1901, AND TERMINATED IN THAT MONTH—(continued).

5 Disputes.		COAL MINING.		1,080 Workpeople affected.			
Wigan (near) ...	Underground and Surface Workers	160	70	26 Mar. 1901.	17	Against proposed withdrawal of a special allowance for difficult work	Work resumed on old conditions.
Bridgend (near) ...	Coal Hewers, &c.	120	...	18 Mar. 1901.	19	Failure to agree as to price list	Work resumed on reduced day wages, pending reference to Sliding Scale Committee.
Port Talbot (near) ...	Coal Miners	70	...	25 Feb. 1901.	38½	Against proposed reduction in wages	Work resumed at modified reduction.
Shotts ...	Coal Miners, Oncost Men, Labourers and Surface Men	390	50	25 Mar. 1901.	27	Against withdrawal of special allowance of 2d. per ton conceded for harder conditions of working, said now to be at an end	Work resumed pending arbitration.
West Craigs ...	Coal Miners and Other Colliery Workpeople	200	20	29 Mar. 1901.	4	Against proposed reductions in tonnage rates in places where average wage was said to be largely in excess of standard rate	Work resumed at half the proposed reductions.

4 Disputes.		METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES.		2,802 Workpeople affected.			
South Staffs. ...	Iron Pot Casters, Dressers, &c.	73	65	15 Oct. 1900.	164	For advance in wages	Work resumed at old rates of wages.
Portsmouth ...	Fitters	29	...	26 Mar. 1901.	20	Against working one hour more per week as a condition of receiving an advance in wages	Advance conceded at same hours of labour as before.
Glasgow (near) ...	Forgers	10	...	13 Feb. 1901.	42	Dispute as to payment for defective forgings	Settled by Board of Conciliation and Arbitration, which arranged conditions as to defective forgings.
Govan ...	Shipbuilding Employees generally	2,625	...	28 Mar. 1901.	22	Against proposed change in system of time checking	New system, with certain concessions, accepted.

2 Disputes.		TEXTILE TRADES.		100 Workpeople affected.			
Rochdale ...	Silk Dressers	36	...	9 Oct. 1900.	173	Against proposed reduction from 9d. to 8d. per lb. on a certain class of work	Work resumed on trial at a modified reduction pending further negotiations.
Rochdale ...	Silk Weavers	64	...	29 Nov. 1900.	114	Refusal to accept new price list, alleged to involve a reduction in earnings	A price list agreed to, stated to involve a reduction of about 12 per cent.

3 Disputes.		OTHER TRADES.		882 Workpeople affected.			
Whitehaven ...	Dock Labourers	60	...	18 Mar. 1901.	22	For advance in wages of 2d. per hour day-work and 1d. per hour night-work, and for double time after 1 p.m. on Saturdays	Work resumed on old conditions.
Wakefield (near) ...	Wagon Builders	42	...	9 Mar. 1901.	38	Against proposed reduction in piece prices on account of improved wood-working machinery	Re-arrangement of piece prices arrived at.
Longton and Fenton ...	Oven Men and Other Workpeople (Pottery Trade)	180	600	25 Mar. 1901.	22	For advance in wages of 10 per cent.	Work resumed at advances of from 5 to 7 per cent.

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

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

**Total Emigration.**—The number of passengers that left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during April was 30,919, or 2,611 more than in April, 1900. Comparing the four completed months of 1901 with the corresponding period of last year, there is an increase of 8,331, viz., from 70,305 in 1900 to 78,636 in 1901.

**British and Irish.**—Of the 30,919 passengers in April, 17,461 were of British or Irish origin, an increase of 303 as compared with a year ago. For the first four months of 1901 the British and Irish passengers numbered 42,287, as compared with 39,917 in the corresponding period of 1900, an increase of 2,370.

The following Table gives the figures for the different periods:—

Destination.	April, 1901.		April, 1900.		Total for four months ended—	
	April, 1901.	April, 1900.	April, 1901.	April, 1900.	April, 1901.	April, 1900.
United States ...	13,422	12,663	27,079	25,221		
British North America ...	1,316	1,896	2,115	3,816		
Australasia ...	798	661	4,437	3,380		
South Africa ...	1,163	1,218	4,838	4,094		
Other places ...	762	720	3,818	3,406		
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>17,461</b>	<b>17,158</b>	<b>42,287</b>	<b>39,917</b>		

**Foreign.**—Of the 30,919 passengers in April, 13,458 (or 43.5 per cent.) were foreigners or persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being an increase of 2,308, as compared with April, 1900. For the four months ended April, their number was 36,349, as against 30,388 in the corresponding period of last year, the difference being chiefly due to an increase in the numbers proceeding to the United States and British North America.

**Alien Immigration.**—The number of aliens that arrived in the United Kingdom during April was 17,711. Of these 11,859 were stated on the Alien Lists to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, compared with 9,801 so stated in April, 1900. Those not stated to be on their way to America or other places out of the United Kingdom numbered 5,852 (including 1,538 sailors), the corresponding figures for April, 1900, being 5,581 (including 1,365 sailors). The figures for April,

1901 and 1900, and also for the four months ended April in each year, are as follows:—

	April, 1901.		April, 1900.		Total for four months ended—	
	April, 1901.	April, 1900.	April, 1901.	April, 1900.	April, 1901.	April, 1900.
Aliens not stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom	5,852*	5,581*	20,120*	20,063*		
Aliens en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom	11,859	9,801	26,789	21,417		
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>17,711*</b>	<b>15,382*</b>	<b>46,909*</b>	<b>41,480*</b>		

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

**Cotton Statistics.**—The following Table shows the number of bales of cotton imported, forwarded from ports to inland towns and exported during the month of April, and also during the four completed months of 1901, with corresponding figures for 1900:—

	Month of April.		Four Months ended April—	
	1901.	1900.	1901.	1900.
Imported	335,661	343,097	1,351,410	1,413,649
Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns	268,351	267,576	1,091,935	1,189,516
Exported	35,330	26,166	106,561	125,055

**Traffic Receipts.**—The total receipts of 21 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the 5 weeks ended April 6th amounted to £8,130,365, a decrease of £28,693 (or 0.4 per cent), as compared with the corresponding period of 1900. The receipts from passenger traffic were £3,361,286, an increase of £246,328, and those from goods and mineral traffic £4,769,079, a decrease of £275,021.

**Fishery Statistics.**—The total value of the fish (including shell-fish) landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom during April

\* These figures are inclusive of sailors to the number of 1,538 in April, 1901, 1,365 in April, 1900; and 5,197 and 5,275 respectively for the four months ended April in each year.

amounted to £754,383, an increase of £15,402 as compared with April, 1900. In England and Wales there was an increase of £16,304, in Scotland of £4,158, and in Ireland a decrease of £5,060.

**Bankruptcies.**—The bankruptcies gazetted during April numbered 361, being 58 more than in April, 1900, 44 more than in April, 1899, and 36 more than in April, 1898.

FOREIGN TRADE OF UNITED KINGDOM.

The following statement has been communicated to the LABOUR GAZETTE by the Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

Summary for April.

The trade returns for April, 1901, show an increase as compared with the corresponding period of 1900 in the value of the imports from foreign countries and British possessions, and in the exports of foreign and colonial merchandise, but a decrease in the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures.

The imports for April, 1901, were valued at £46,392,892, as compared with £42,681,876 for April, 1900, an increase of £3,711,016, or 8.5 per cent., and the total exports amounted in value to £28,273,040, as against £28,505,694 in April, 1900—a net decrease of £232,654. The exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures alone, however, were valued at £21,987,033 in April, 1901, and £22,645,147 in April, 1900—a decrease of £658,114, or 2.9 per cent. On the other hand, the value of foreign and colonial merchandise exported in April, 1901, shows an increase as compared with April, 1900, of £425,460, or 6.7 per cent.

**Imports.**—The following Table shows the value of the imports for April, 1901, as compared with April, 1900, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

	Month ended 30th. Apr.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1900.	1901.		
Food, Drink, and Tobacco	£ 17,272,158	£ 20,513,208	£ 3,241,050	—
Metals	2,507,877	2,393,835	—	114,042
Chemicals, Dye stuffs, and Tanning Substances	500,206	626,985	126,779	—
Oils	874,687	929,133	54,446	—
Raw Materials for Manufactures	12,134,380	12,522,905	388,525	—
Manufactured and Miscellaneous Articles	9,392,568	9,495,826	14,258	—
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>£ 42,681,876</b>	<b>£ 46,392,892</b>	<b>£ 3,711,016</b>	<b>—</b>

The imports of wheat in April, 1901, show an increase of 474,400 cwts. in quantity, and £179,141 in value, as compared with April, 1900. Wheat meal and flour, oatmeal, peas, maize meal or Indian corn meal, and "other kinds of corn and meal" also show increases. The descriptions of "corn," the imports of which have decreased in April, 1901, as compared with April, 1900, are barley, beans and maize or Indian corn. Oats show a decrease in quantity, but an increase in value. The imports of raw cotton have increased 176,737 cwts. in quantity and £497,944 in value, and flax, hemp, silk (thrown), and sheep or lambs' wool also show increases in quantity and value, the latter to the extent of 23,703,989 lbs. and £179,092. Other kinds of silk, alpaca, vicuna and llama wool and mohair show decreases in quantity and value.

**Exports.**—The following table shows the value of the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures for the month ended April 30th, 1901, as compared with the like period of 1900, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

	Month ended Apr. 30th.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1900.	1901.		
Animals, living	£ 63,619	£ 47,245	—	£ 16,374
Articles of Food and Drink	845,324	982,265	136,941	—
Raw Materials	2,970,219	2,668,46	—	301,759
Articles Manufactured and Partly Manufactured, viz.—				
Yarns and Textile Fabrics	7,759,139	7,880,549	121,410	—
Metals, and Articles Manufactured therefrom (except Machinery and Ships)	3,968,656	3,507,680	—	460,956
Machinery and Millwork	1,725,320	1,544,614	—	180,706
Ships, new (not registered as British)	540,371	500,472	—	39,899
Miscellaneous	4,772,519	4,855,748	83,229	—
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>£ 22,615,147</b>	<b>£ 21,987,033</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>£ 658,114</b>

The exports of coal, coke, and fuel in April, 1901, show an increase of 204,406 tons in quantity, but a decrease of £270,508 in value as compared with April, 1900; and the exports of sheep and lambs' wool show a decrease in quantity of 1,092,200 lbs., and in value of £39,896. The exports of cotton yarn have increased

368,600 lbs. in quantity and £43,591 in value, and the exports of cotton piece-goods have increased 10,904,400 yards in quantity and £297,235 in value. Jute piece-goods have increased in quantity 4,956,600 yards, and in value £47,652. Linen yarn and piece-goods, silk thrown twist and yarn, worsted yarn, woollen and worsted tissues, and wool flannels and woollen blankets and carpets, have all decreased in both quantity and value.

**Tonnage of Shipping Entered and Cleared with Cargoes.**—The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during April, 1901, amounted to 3,054,169 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,461,587 tons, as against 2,905,627 tons entered and 3,437,144 tons cleared in April, 1900. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during April, 1901, amounted to 2,436,513 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,417,157 tons, as against 2,476,700 tons entered, and 2,398,473 tons cleared in April, 1900.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN APRIL.

DURING April 682 fresh applications for work were registered by eight Bureaux (see LABOUR GAZETTE, February, 1899, p. 36) furnishing returns, and 874 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 210 persons, of whom 121 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps).

The Returns for the London Girls' Friendly Society business agency, and the Manchester, Liverpool and Edinburgh Bureaux are for the present grouped together in the following Table, which shows the work done by the eight Bureaux during April.

WORK DONE IN APRIL.

	No. of Fresh Situations offered by Employers.	No. of Fresh Applications of Workpeople seeking Situations.	No. of Workpeople engaged by Employers.	
			Permanently.	Temporarily.
<b>Summary by Bureaux.</b>				
Central Bureau—9, Southampton-street, W.C.	46	75	17	7
Society for Promoting Training and Employment—22, Berners-street, W.	37	37	11	21
Y.W.C.A.—26, George-street (1)	578	412	80	21
Harover-square, W. (2)	168	66	25	8
Other Bureaux	45	92	14	6
<b>Total of 8 Bureaux ...</b>	<b>874</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>Summary by Occupations.</b>				
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc.	24	63	9	—
Shop Assistants	1	8	—	—
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc.	135	48	25	13
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists	23	53	4	14
Apprentices and Learners	44	10	9	—
Domestic Servants	601	394	89	32
Miscellaneous	46	106	11	4
<b>Total Number in April, 1901 ...</b>	<b>874</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>Total Number in March, 1901 ...</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>709</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>Total Number in April, 1900 ...</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>49</b>

The number of fresh applications for domestic servants rose from 565 in March to 601 in April, and the number of servants applying for permanent employment fell from 97 to 89. The number of fresh applications from employers for dressmakers and milliners rose from 102 to 135; the number requiring such situations fell from 58 to 48; the number engaged through the Bureaux was 38, compared with 39 in March. Of the 18 persons obtaining clerical work, only 4 were engaged permanently.

**Work of Public Employment Office at Seattle, U.S.A.**—The Second Biennial Report of the Labour Commissioner of the State of Washington, U.S.A., for 1899-1900, contains particulars of the working of the Public Employment Office at Seattle. There were 22,752 positions furnished through this free employment bureau in 1899, of which 15,994 were found for males, 4,076 for females and 2,682 were for hop-pickers unclassified. Of the 15,994 men and boys, 59.3 per cent. were unskilled labourers, 25.2 per cent. followed vocations requiring some knowledge or skill, and 15.4 per cent. pursued a trade. Of the 4,076 women and girls, more than half found household employment.



## INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS

## REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN APRIL.

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

FROM the following summary of the changes in the Register of Industrial Organisations in April it will be seen that 5 Trade Unions, 4 Co-operative Associations for Distribution, 3 Co-operative Associations for Production, 7 Miscellaneous Industrial and Provident Societies, 27 Friendly Societies, 24 branches of existing Friendly Societies, and 5 Building Societies were added to the Register of the United Kingdom during the month. One Trade Union, 4 Co-operative Societies, 100 Friendly Societies (including 78 branches), and 11 Building Societies, are reported as having ceased to exist, commenced to "wind-up," or had registration cancelled.

## ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

**Trade Unions.**—*England and Wales.*—Portsmouth United Drillers' Soc., "Sultan" Tavern, Conway-street, Portsmouth; Amal. Journeymen Butchers' Apprentice and Assistants' Assoc., Kirtlan's Dining Rooms, Ainsworth-street, Blackburn; London Soc. of Tin and Iron Plate Sheet Metal Workers and Gas Meter Makers, "White Swan" Inn, Tudor-street, E.C.; National Seamen's Fed. Union of Gt. Brit. and Ireland, 8, Commercial-road, S. Shields; Malvern Branch of Builders' Labourers' Protective Accident and Burial Soc., "Red Lion" Inn, Gt. Malvern. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

**Industrial and Provident Societies.**—(A) *Associations for Distribution.*—*England and Wales.*—South Bristol Working Men's Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 88, West Street, Bedminster, Bristol; Monk's Kirby and District Agric. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., High Cross, Rugby; Conisbro' Working Men's Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Society's Store, High Street, Conisbro' Rotherham. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Lough Egish Co-op. Home Industries, Shantonagh, co. Monaghan. (B) *Associations for Production.*—*England and Wales.*—Halifax Builders, Ltd., 7, Norland View, King Cross, Halifax. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Ballytrain Co-op. Agric. and Dairy, Ballytrain, co. Monaghan; Solohead Co-op. Agric. and Dairy, Solohead, Limerick Junction, co. Tipperary. (C) *Miscellaneous.*—*England and Wales.*—Langley Moor and District Social Club and Institute, Ltd., Club House, Langley Moor, Durham; Castle Donington Land Soc., Ltd., Co-operative Buildings, Borough-street, Castle Donington, Derby; Agricultural Organization Soc., Ltd., Dacre House, Victoria-street, Westminster, S.W.; British Imperial Bands, Military and Orchestral, Ltd., 3, Catherine-street, Strand, W.C.; Ealing Tenants, Ltd., 1, Manor-road, West Ealing, W. *Scotland.*—Burghead Co-op. Boat Insurance Soc., Ltd., 65, Granary-street, Burghead; Armadale Public House Soc., Ltd., Armadale. *Ireland.*—None.

**Friendly Societies.**—(A) *New Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—Ordinary Friendly, 4; Dividing, 5; Orders, 1; Collecting, 1; Specially Authorised, 6; Working Men's Clubs, 7. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Dividing, 1; Specially Authorised, 2. (B) *New Branches of Existing Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—20. *Scotland.*—4. *Ireland.*—None.

**Building Societies.**—*England and Wales.*—5. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

## ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

**Trade Unions.**—*England and Wales.*—London Wheelwrights' Operatives Soc., 5, Fowler-street, Islington, N. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

**Industrial and Provident Societies.**—*England and Wales.*—Liquidator's final account received.—Iver and District Co-op. Soc., Ltd., High-street, Iver. *Amalgamated.*—Didsbury and Barlow Moor Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Wilmslow-road, Didsbury. *Resolution to wind-up.*—East Dereham Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 57, High-street, East Dereham; Bedford Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 31 and 33, Gwyn-street, Bedford. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

**Friendly Societies.**—*England and Wales.*—By instrument of dissolution.—Ordinary Friendly, 5; Dividing, 3; Juvenile, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 2; Branches, 2. *Registration cancelled:* Ordinary Friendly, 3; Benevolent, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 1. *Dissolved otherwise:* Ordinary Friendly, 1; Juvenile, 2; Collecting, 1; Branches, 76. *Scotland.*—By instrument of dissolution: Ordinary Friendly, 1. *Ireland.*—By instrument of dissolution: Ordinary Friendly, 1.

**Building Societies.**—*England and Wales.*—By instrument of dissolution, 6; Notice of commencement of dissolution, 2; Notice of termination of dissolution, 2; Notice of termination of winding-up, 1. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

## EXAMINATION FOR MINING MANAGER'S CERTIFICATES.

**North Staffordshire District.**—An examination for Certificates of Competency as Manager or Under Manager of a mine will be held for this district on the 25th and 26th days of June next. Intending candidates should communicate on or before the 15th June next with the Secretary of the Examination Board, Mr. Joseph Knight, Newcastle, Staffordshire.

## INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN APRIL.

## I.—Under Factory and Workshop Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Cases.	Con- victions.	Amount of Penalties.	Amount of Costs.
<b>By Owners, Managers, &amp;c.:</b>			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Neglecting to Limewash...	2	2	8 0 0	0 10 6
Allowing Factory or Workshop to be over-crowded...	2	2	4 0 0	0 4 0
Neglecting to maintain reasonable temperature...	4	4	—	3 5 0
Neglecting to Fence Machinery...	19	19	70 8 9	11 6 0
Allowing Children to clean Machinery in motion, &c.	2	2	2 0 0	1 6 0
Employing Young Persons without necessary Certificates...	43	43	28 6 0	16 13 10
Employing Children under legal age...	1	1	0 10 0	0 4 0
<b>Illegal Hours or Times of Employment—</b>				
Before or after the legal hour...	60	56	44 3 6	21 0 7
During meal times, or without proper intervals for meals...	27	27	11 1 0	10 6 1
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day substituted...	6	6	4 1 0	2 6 2
On Sundays or holidays, or children on successive Saturdays...	10	10	15 15 0	4 6 0
At night...	15	15	26 12 0	7 7 0
Employing Children full time, otherwise than in morning and afternoon sets, &c.	3	3	0 15 0	1 12 6
In prohibited room during meal times...	1	1	1 0 0	0 14 0
<b>Neglecting Rules as to Registers, Abstracts, Notices, &amp;c.—</b>				
Not keeping Registers...	36	36	32 0 0	11 9 6
Not affixing or properly filling up Notices and Abstracts...	16	16	13 0 0	5 11 6
Not sending Notices required by Act...	6	6	9 0 0	3 15 6
Obstructing an Inspector in the execution of his Duty...	1	1	2 0 0	0 5 6
Not supplying sufficient or correct particulars for Prosecutions for Breach of (or not affixing) Special Rules...	13	7	2 10 0	5 18 6
Prosecutions under Cotton Cloth Factories Act, 1889...	2	—	—	0 18 0
Prosecutions under Truck Acts...	4	3	6 0 0	3 6 0
<b>By Parents—</b>				
Allowing Children to be illegally employed...	1	1	0 2 6	0 13 0
<b>Total for April, 1901</b> ...	<b>276</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>282 14 9</b>	<b>114 5 2</b>
<b>Total for April, 1900</b> ...	<b>232</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>262 14 6</b>	<b>108 16 1</b>

## II.—Under the Mines and Quarries Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Con- victions.	Cases with- drawn.	Cases dis- missed.	Amount of Fines and Costs.
UNDER THE MINES ACTS.					
<b>By Owners, Managers, &amp;c.:</b>					£ s. d.
Fencing...	1	1	—	—	1 9 6
Miscellaneous...	7	6	—	1	37 11 8
<b>By Workmen:</b>					
Safety Lamps...	3	3	—	—	5 10 0
Shot-firing and Explosives...	5	5	—	—	5 3 0
Timbering...	6	5	—	1	*11 4 0
Lucifer Matches, Smoking, &c.	5	5	—	—	4 18 9
Riding on Trams...	8	8	—	—	10 13 6
Miscellaneous...	25	24†	1‡	—	27 19 0
<b>Total for April, 1901</b> ...	<b>60</b>	<b>57†</b>	<b>1‡</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>*104 9 5</b>
<b>Total for April, 1900</b> ...	<b>45</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>54 18 6</b>
UNDER THE QUARRIES ACT.					
<b>By Owners, Managers, &amp;c.:</b>					£ s. d.
Registers, Notices, Returns, &c.	7	7	—	—	15 14 6
Fencing...	1	1	—	—	10 0 0
<b>Total for April, 1901</b> ...	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>25 14 6</b>
<b>Total for April, 1900</b> ...	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>19 13 0</b>

## III.—Under the Merchant Shipping Acts.

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

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Con- victions.	Total Penalties.	Total Costs.
<b>By Owners or Masters of Ships:</b>			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Submersion of disc...	4	4	42 0 0	18 12 10
Excessive deck load...	3	3	14 10 0	2 5 6
<b>By Seamen:</b>				
False name of last ship...	1	1	1 4 0	0 16 0§
<b>By Boarding House Keepers and others:</b>				
Inducing to desert...	1	1	2 0 0	0 9 6
<b>Total for April, 1901</b> ...	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>59 14 0</b>	<b>22 3 10</b>
<b>Total for April, 1900</b> ...	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>77 5 0</b>	<b>3 9 0</b>

\* Including a fine of £2, for nonpayment of which defendant underwent 30 days' imprisonment.

† In one case defendant was sentenced to one month's hard labour without the option of a fine.

‡ Withdrawn on payment of costs.

§ Defendant went to prison for one month.

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