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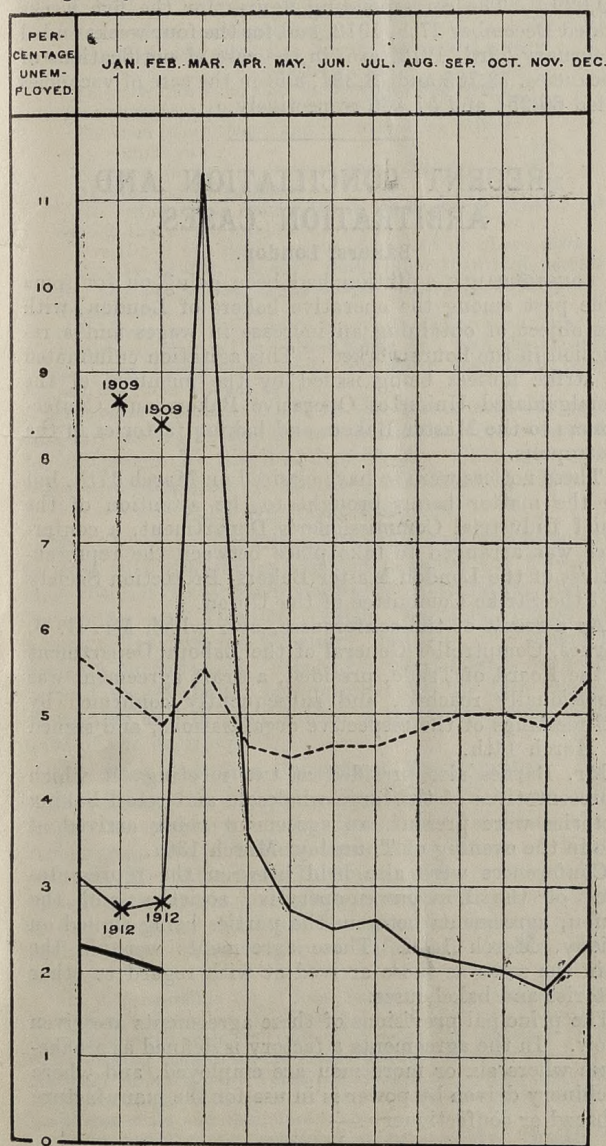
[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve = 1913. — Thin Curve = 1912.
----- Dotted Curve = Mean of 1903-1912.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1903-1912.



NOTE TO CHART.

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

THE LABOUR MARKET IN FEBRUARY.

EMPLOYMENT continued good generally in February. There was an improvement in the printing, building, woodworking, and brickmaking trades, but in the iron and steel and tinplate industries there was a decline.

It is reported by the Labour Exchanges that there was a continuance of the large demand for workmen in the shipbuilding and engineering trades. There was also a demand for workmen in the Leeds clothing trade. In the case of women, the demand exceeded the supply in the cotton, woollen and worsted trades and in laundry work, and in some districts in the boot, shoe, and clothing trades.

The percentage of "insured" workpeople unemployed fell from 5.0 at the end of January to 4.4 at the end of February.

The upward movement in wages continued.

Compared with a year ago, nearly all the principal industries showed an improvement, which was most marked in the iron and steel, engineering, printing, pottery, and brick trades.

TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.

(Based on 3,142 Returns.)

Trade Unions with a net membership of 903,503 reported 17,835 (or 2.0 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of February, 1913, compared with 2.2 per cent. at the end of January, 1913, and 2.8 per cent. at the end of February, 1912.

Trade.	Membership of Unions reporting.	Percentage Unemployed at end of Feb., 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
Building	74,985	4.7	- 1.1	- 0.3
Coal Mining*	163,793	0.5	...	- 0.4
Iron and Steel	31,240	2.7	+ 1.2	- 3.7
Engineering	215,176	1.5	- 0.1	- 0.9
Shipbuilding	72,415	2.4	- 0.3	- 0.4
Miscellaneous Metal... ..	31,968	1.5	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Textiles* :—				
Cotton	82,994	1.5	...	- 0.8
Woollen and Worsted	8,455	0.3	- 0.1	- 1.5
Other	50,611	2.2	- 0.3	- 2.1
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper.	62,372	3.7	- 0.7	- 1.4
Furnishing and Woodworking.	44,000	2.7	- 0.8	- 0.7
Clothing	53,312	1.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.
Leather	3,068	4.7	- 0.2	- 0.4
Glass	971	0.5	+ 0.2	...
Pottery... ..	6,021	1.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
Tobacco	2,122	4.5	- 0.2	- 1.6
Total... ..	903,503	2.0	- 0.2	- 0.8

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

EMPLOYERS' RETURNS OF WORKPEOPLE EMPLOYED AND WAGES PAID.

(Based on 1,943 Returns.)

Returns from firms employing 418,997 workpeople in the week ended February 22nd, 1913, showed no change in the number employed, and an increase of 0.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 1.2 per cent. in the number employed, and of 4.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Trade.	Number Employed.			Wages Paid.		
	Week ended 22nd Feb., 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 22nd Feb., 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
		per cent.	per cent.	£	per cent.	per cent.
Textiles:—						
Cotton ...	119,508	+ 0.0	+ 1.0	120,544	- 0.2	+ 3.3
Woolen ...	27,809	+ 0.2	+ 1.5	26,742	+ 0.8	+ 4.7
Worsted ...	41,237	- 0.2	+ 0.7	32,839	+ 1.1	+ 5.5
Linen ...	41,880	- 0.3	- 0.6	26,712	+ 1.8	+ 5.3
Jute ...	14,904	- 0.2	- 0.9	11,757	+ 0.0	+ 7.2
Hosiery ...	17,670	- 0.4	+ 2.3	14,436	- 0.1	+ 2.6
Lace ...	6,108	+ 0.6	+ 0.1	6,283	+ 1.2	+ 4.5
Other Textiles ...	16,868	+ 0.3	- 0.1	13,527	+ 1.4	+ 2.2
Bleaching, Dyeing, etc.†	21,338	+ 0.1	+ 1.9	24,199	- 0.1	+ 5.5
Total Textiles	307,322	- 0.0	+ 0.7	277,039	+ 0.4	+ 3.7
Boot and Shoe ...	68,903	+ 0.2	+ 3.0	69,638	+ 0.9	+ 4.8
Shirt and Collar ...	6,205	- 0.4	- 0.9	4,171	+ 3.3	- 0.6
Pottery ...	18,640	+ 0.4	+ 2.6	18,167	+ 2.5	+ 6.9
Glass ...	8,113	- 1.1	+ 0.8	10,798	+ 2.0	+ 5.0
Brick ...	9,814	+ 0.3	+ 2.6	11,472	+ 6.2	+ 9.8
Grand Total...	418,997	- 0.0	+ 1.2	391,285	+ 0.8	+ 4.5

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

OTHER EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

(Based on 848 Returns.)

The following Table summarises the returns from firms employing 869,968 workpeople in February in the industries mentioned:—

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for Feb., 1913.	February, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		
			Days worked per week by Mines.	Days.	Days.
Coal Mining ...	690,831	5.61	- 0.03	- 0.09	
Iron ...	16,547	5.84	+ 0.14	+ 0.23	
Shale ...	3,557	5.94	+ 0.05	+ 0.23	
Pig Iron ...	24,600	Furnaces in Blast. 332	- 2	+ 48	
Tinplate & Steel Sheet	28,000	Mills Working. 560	- 16	+ 3	
Iron and Steel ...	106,433	Shifts Worked (One Week). 598,000	- 1.0	+ 7.5	

Changes in Rates of Wages.—By the changes in rates of wages taking effect in February 228,700 workpeople benefited to the extent of £9,700 per week. The changes were all increases, the most important affecting 130,000 coal miners in Durham, 5,700 blastfurnacemen in the West of Scotland, Notts, Derby, and Lincoln, 10,000 engineers' labourers at Manchester, 13,440 dyeing and finishing operatives in Yorks and Lancs, 40,000 linen and jute preparers, spinners, weavers, &c., in the East of Scotland, and 3,500 carters at Glasgow.

Trade Disputes.—The number of disputes beginning in February was 80, and the number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress during the month was 45,382, as compared with 52,066 in January, 1913, and 164,650 in February, 1912. The estimated number of working days lost by disputes during the month amounted to 593,200, as compared with 651,200 in the previous month, and 463,500 in the corresponding month of last year.

Conciliation and Arbitration.—Cases dealt with during the month include bakers in London, lace workers at Newmilns, boot and shoe operatives at Leicester and at Northampton, painters at Bradford, Dumfries, and Manchester and Salford, bricklayers at Leicester, and stonemasons at Wigan. Further appointments were made in connection with the railway conciliation scheme.

Work of Labour Exchanges.—The total number of workpeople on the General Register of the Board of Trade Labour Exchanges at February 14th, 1913, for the 267 Exchanges which were open at the beginning of February, 1912, was 127,736, as compared with 46,887 at December 27th, 1912, and with 87,716 at February, 23rd, 1912. Comparisons with last year are affected by the fact that unemployed workmen lodging Unemployment books are now borne on the registers.

The number of vacancies notified to the same Exchanges during the four weeks ended February 14th, 1913, was 69,209, and the number of vacancies filled was 50,029. The corresponding figures for the five weeks ended December 27th, 1912, and for the four weeks ended February 23rd, 1912, are, in the case of notifications of vacancies, 73,735 and 73,384, and in the case of vacancies filled 60,251 and 57,466 respectively.

RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES.

Bakers, London.

A CONSIDERABLE agitation had been going on for some time past among the operative bakers of London, with the object of obtaining an increase in wages and a reduction in the hours worked. This agitation culminated in strike notices being issued by the members of the Amalgamated Union of Operative Bakers and Confectioners to the Master Bakers and baking factories in the Metropolis.

These notices were to have expired on March 17th, but on the matter being brought to the attention of the Chief Industrial Commissioner's Department, a conference was arranged to take place between the representatives of the London Master Bakers' Protection Society and the Strike Committee of the Union.

As a result of the conferences, over which Mr. G. S. Barnes, Comptroller-General of the Labour Department of the Board of Trade, presided, a draft agreement was provisionally reached, and subsequently confirmed by full meetings of the respective organisations, and signed on March 14th.

Mr. Barnes also presided at two meetings at which representatives of the large wholesale and retail baking factories were present, an agreement being arrived at late in the evening of Thursday, March 13th.

Conferences were also held between the representatives of the London co-operative societies and the Union, agreements between the parties being signed on Friday, March 14th. These agreements were in the main the same as those arrived at with regard to other factories and bakehouses.

The principal provisions of these agreements are given below. In the agreements a factory is defined as a bakehouse where six or more men are employed, and where machinery driven by power is in use for the manufacture of bread or confectionery:—

Factories.

The hours to be 54 per week, including one hour per day for meals.

The hours for men employed in the manufacture of "small goods" during the day time shall, however, be 60 per week, including one hour per day for meals.

In cases where less than nine hours per day are worked in the earlier portion of the week not more than four hours of the accrued shortage shall be worked in the latter portion as part of the ordinary time. Any excess of the four hours to be recognised as overtime.

Wages: Foremen, including "small goods" foremen, 48s. per week; second hands, 40s. per week; ovenmen in factories, 35s. per week. All other adult operatives, 32s. per week.

Overtime to be paid at ordinary rates for the first six hours beyond 54, provided that not more than five hours' overtime (including the four hours' accrued shortage) be worked at ordinary rates on any one day. Subject to this provision, overtime beyond the above to be at the rate of time and half.

Sunday labour: Sunday work, other than that necessary for the preparation of small goods or production of bread for Monday's supply, shall be paid at double time.

Jobbers per day of nine hours (including one hour for meals): Foremen, 7s.; other hands, 6s., with the exception of Good Friday bun work, for which they shall receive not less than 1s. per hour.

Bakehouses.

Hours to be 60 per week, including one hour per day for meals.

In cases where less than 10 hours are worked in the earlier portion of the week, not more than four hours of the accrued shortage shall be worked in the latter portion as part of the ordinary time. Any excess of the four hours to be recognised as overtime.

Wages:—

Foremen (not more than three operatives employed, including the foreman) ... 38s.
Foremen (more than three and not over five) 42s.
Second hands (according to the above-mentioned number of hands) ... 32s. and 36s.
Scotch fores or single hands ... 34s.
Small Goods men (i.e., biscuit bakers and pastry cooks):—

Foremen (not more than 2 operatives employed, including the foreman) ... 38s.
Foremen (more than 2 and not over 4 operatives employed) ... 42s.
Foremen (over 4 operatives employed) ... 48s.
All other adult workmen ... 30s.

No reduction in wages to be made where present rates exceed the above minimum scales.

Overtime to be paid at time and a half on above rates.
Sunday Labour.—Sunday work, other than that necessary for the production of Monday's bread, shall be paid at double time.

Jobbers per day of 10 hours (including one hour for meals):—Foremen, 7s.; other hands, 6s., with the exception of Good Friday bun work, for which they shall receive not less than 1s. per hour.

Provision was also made in the agreements for referring any matter in dispute to conciliation, and eventually for settlement by the Board of Trade. The agreements come into operation on Monday, March 17th, 1913.

Lace Workers, Newmilns.

Mr. Alderman T. Smith, J.P., the chairman appointed to deal with differences existing between the Newmilns and District Lace Manufacturers' Association and the Newmilns and District Textile Workers' Union (see LABOUR GAZETTE for February, 1913, p. 48), issued his decision on February 12th to the effect that a piecework rate of wages should be compiled for the lace trade of Newmilns and district within a reasonable time of the date of the decision.

Boot and Shoe Operatives, Northampton.

In response to an application, dated February 11th, from the secretary of the Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Boot and Shoe Trade of Northampton, Mr. Alderman T. Smith, J.P., was appointed to deal with certain points in connection with the Revised or Supplemental National Terms of Settlement of July 28th, 1909. The terms of reference to Mr. Smith were:—

"Is it permissible for a local branch of the National Union to require a Board of Arbitration to consider an application to fix a graduated scale and minimum wage for the stock or shoe room, having regard to the clause headed 'Exemptions' in the National Supplemental Terms of Settlement, dated July 28th, 1909, excluding work done in the stock or shoe room from the graduated scale and minimum wage."

At a conference presided over by Mr. Smith the following agreement was arrived at:—

"The operatives, on the recommendation of the chairman, agree to postpone the present application to the Northampton Board of Arbitration to fix a graduated scale and minimum wage for the stock or shoe room, on the understanding that the manufacturers recommend the Employers' Federation to meet the Council of the National Union at an early date to discuss the

particular question in dispute, which is the subject of the reference now before this Board."

Boot and Shoe Operatives, Leicester.

Mr. Alderman T. Smith, J.P., the independent chairman appointed to deal with questions of the fixing of piecework prices for operatives engaged on the Richardson, Blake, and similar sole sewing machines, and of a minimum weekly wage for sole sewers in connection with the Leicester boot and shoe trade (see LABOUR GAZETTE, December, 1912, p. 495), issued his award on March 6th. At the conferences presided over by Mr. Smith the proposals of the operatives that a "piecework rate be compiled for sole sewers employed on canvas and football boots and that a minimum weekly wage be fixed for all sole sewers" was, by consent, withdrawn. In the absence of sufficient data as to speed, quantities done, and rates of wages paid, it was also, by consent, agreed to postpone the fixing of piecework rates for the Weston Shipley machine. In respect to the fixing of piecework rates for the Richardson or No. 3 improved Blake, the overhead driven Blake, and the ordinary countershaft driven Blake machines, the Conciliation Committee was unable to arrive at an agreement, and the chairman accordingly fixed the piecework rates and conditions for these machines.

Bricklayers, Leicester.

Mr. Alderman T. Smith, J.P., has, in response to a joint application from the parties, dated March 8th, been appointed to preside at a Council meeting of the Leicester and District Building Trades Employers' Association and the Operative Bricklayers' Societies, with a view to arriving at a settlement of differences in regard to proposed alterations in the working rules.

Painters, Manchester and Salford.

Mr. A. A. Hudson, K.C., the arbitrator appointed to deal with certain matters upon which the master and operative painters of Manchester and Salford were unable to agree (see LABOUR GAZETTE for February, 1913, p. 48), issued his award on February 12th, deciding that the standard rate of wages should be raised from 9d. to 9½d. per hour and that no other alteration should be made in the working rules.

Painters, Dumfries.

A lockout of painters at Dumfries having commenced on February 17th in connection with a demand of the operatives for an advance in the rate of wages from 7½d. to 8½d. per hour and other alterations in the working rules, on February 22nd joint application was made for the appointment of an arbitrator to determine the matters in dispute.

Professor Richard Lodge, the arbitrator appointed, issued his award on March 5th in the form of a revised code of working rules, in which, among other changes, the standard rate of wages was fixed at 8d. per hour.

Painters, Bradford.

On March 3rd joint application was made by the master and operative painters of Bradford for the appointment of an arbitrator to decide certain differences with regard to the working rules.

Mr. A. A. Hudson, K.C., has been appointed to act in that capacity.

Stonemasons, Wigan.

In response to a joint application dated February 26th from the Wigan and District Building Trades Employers' Association and the Operative Stonemasons' Society for the appointment of an arbitrator, Mr. A. A. Hudson, K.C., has been appointed to decide certain proposed alterations in the working rules for that district.

RAILWAY CONCILIATION SCHEME.

In response to an application, dated February 26th, His Honour Judge Austin has been appointed to preside at a meeting of Conciliation Board "D" of the Great Northern Railway in accordance with clause 41 of the above scheme.

The Board of Trade have intimated that, in accordance with the selection of the parties, they are prepared to appoint Sheriff Substitute A. J. Louttit Laing as chairman of the Great North of Scotland Railway Conciliation Boards should the services of a chairman be required.

COAL MINES (MINIMUM WAGE) ACT, 1912.

Joint District Board for South Wales, including Monmouth.

INSTRUCTIONS AGREED UPON BY THE JOINT SUB-COMMITTEE OF OWNERS' AND WORKMEN'S REPRESENTATIVES ON THE 15TH FEBRUARY, 1913.

Colliers' Helpers.

Where prior to Viscount St. Aldwyn's Award of the 5th July, 1912, the earnings of colliers came below the Minimum through their having to pay their helpers or boys higher wages than were originally paid, owing to the Award, then such colliers should be made up to the Minimum.

Bottom Cutters.

Where bottom cutters were being paid the same rate as rippers prior to the Award, then the Minimum rate for rippers under the Award should be paid to such bottom cutters.

Minutes of Proceedings of Joint District Board.

The owners and the workmen are entitled to put in as evidence before the Umpire the Minutes of proceedings of the Joint District Board.

As to the Number of Shifts to be worked by Nightmen to enable them to qualify for the Minimum Wage.

That the arrangement agreed to by the Sub-Committee on the 13th January, 1913, is to be retrospective from the date when the men returned to work.

W. GASCOYNE DALZIEL,
THOMAS RICHARDS,
Joint Secretaries.

Cardiff, February 18th, 1913.

TRADE BOARDS ACT, 1909.

Ready-made and Wholesale Bespoke Tailoring Trade (Great Britain).

Obligatory Order.

THE Board of Trade have made an Order, dated February 20th, 1913, making obligatory the minimum time-rates of wages for male and female workers employed in those branches of the Ready-made and Wholesale Bespoke Tailoring trade in Great Britain which are engaged in making garments to be worn by male persons, notice of the fixing of which was given on August 19th, 1912, by the Tailoring Trade Board (Great Britain).* These rates are 6d. per hour for male workers, other than learners, and from 4s. 2d. to 2s. 11d. per week of 50 hours for male learners; and 3½d. per hour for female workers, other than learners, and from 3s. to 12s. 6d. per week of 50 hours for female learners.

Any agreement for the payment of wages at less than the above-mentioned minimum rates, clear of all deductions (except those made in pursuance of the National Insurance Act), will henceforth be void. The penalty for paying wages, after February 20th, at rates less than those which have now been made obligatory by the Board of Trade, is a fine not exceeding £20 for each offence; and, in addition, the worker is entitled to all arrears, calculated on the basis of the minimum rates. In certain circumstances, however, the Trade Board may, in the case of time-workers who are affected by infirmity or physical injury, grant permits exempting their employment from the operation of the minimum time-rates.

Hammered and Dollyed or Tommied Chain Trade.

THE term of office of the Trade Board established on January 3rd, 1910, having expired, the Board of Trade established on February 14th, 1913, a new Trade Board for the trade of Hammered and Dollyed or Tommied Chain-making, constituted in accordance with the Regulations of November 25th, 1909. The Trade Board consists of five representatives of employers who are factory occupiers, not being outworkers, one representative of other employers, and six representatives of men and women workers, in addition to the following "appointed members," viz.:—Mr. E. Aves (chairman), Mrs. M. Beer, and Mr. Alderman T. Smith, J.P.

Tailoring Trade Board (Ireland).

The Board of Trade have established a Trade Board for ready-made tailoring and certain branches of bespoke tailoring in Ireland, constituted in accordance with the Regulations dated July 3rd, 1912. The term of office of the Trade Board is three years from March 19th, 1913.

* See LABOUR GAZETTE for September, 1912, page 379.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IN FEBRUARY.

Claims to Benefit.

The following Table shows the number of claims to Unemployment Benefit under the National Insurance Act, Part II., made at the Labour Exchanges and other local offices of the Unemployment Fund during each of the four weeks of February, 1913:—

Division.	Week ended 7th Feb.	Week ended 14th Feb.	Week ended 21st Feb.	Week ended 28th Feb.	Total.
London and South Eastern ..	8,365	7,928	7,984	7,259	31,536
Scotland and Northern ..	4,432	4,169	5,710	3,221	15,532
North Western ..	3,460	2,991	2,762	2,500	11,713
Yorkshire and E. Midlands ..	2,472	2,448	2,413	2,153	9,486
West Midlands ..	1,496	1,443	1,448	1,504	5,891
South Western ..	1,897	1,690	1,512	1,374	6,473
Wales ..	771	719	655	482	2,627
Ireland ..	1,275	1,006	1,039	1,088	4,388
Total ..	24,168	22,394	21,523	19,561	87,646

The total number of claims made up to and including the 31st January, 1913, was 165,642, of which 62,905 were in the London Division, 23,870 in Scotland and Northern, 23,774 in the North-Western Division, 18,631 in Yorkshire and East Midlands, 11,375 in the South-Western Division, 3,820 in Wales, and 11,530 in Ireland.

The particulars of claims given above include the claims made by members of those associations of workmen in the insured trades which have effected arrangements with the Board of Trade under Section 105 of the National Insurance Act. Under these arrangements members are able to draw unemployment benefit from their associations instead of directly from the Unemployment Fund through the local offices of the Fund. The associations subsequently claim repayment from the Fund of the sums to which their individual members would have been entitled. The total number of such indirect claims made during February was 22,641, as compared with 65,005 direct claims.

Number and Amount of Claims Paid.

The total number of payments of unemployment benefit made during February to workpeople claiming benefit direct was 185,222, and the total amount paid out was £59,239. This amount was in respect of unemployment during the four weeks ended February 26th, 1913, and is exclusive of the sums due for benefits of members of the associations referred to in the preceding paragraph.

The number of direct payments made and the amount paid out in each Friday of the month are given below:—

Division.	7th Feb., 1913.	14th Feb., 1913.	21st Feb., 1913.	28th Feb., 1913.
Number of Payments.				
London and South Eastern	25,944	24,058	23,619	21,819
Scotland and Northern ..	3,762	3,988	3,761	3,282
North Western ..	3,881	3,409	3,412	3,190
Yorkshire and E. Midlands	4,827	4,942	5,023	4,109
West Midlands ..	2,535	2,504	2,328	2,183
South Western ..	3,776	5,523	3,778	3,346
Wales ..	893	941	804	722
Ireland ..	3,320	3,271	3,214	3,058
Total ..	48,938	48,636	45,939	41,709

Division.	£	£	£	£
Amounts Paid.				
London and South Eastern	8,402	7,868	7,830	7,011
Scotland and Northern ..	1,101	1,238	1,183	1,071
North Western ..	1,232	1,122	1,114	1,084
Yorkshire and E. Midlands	1,465	1,627	1,363	1,149
West Midlands ..	811	810	766	714
South Western ..	1,227	1,265	1,208	1,044
Wales ..	251	284	250	221
Ireland ..	1,110	1,140	1,247	1,240
Total ..	15,599	15,355	14,751	13,534

The corresponding amount paid out in respect of unemployment during the period from January 15th, 1913 (the first day for which unemployment benefit was payable), to January 29th, 1913, was £24,766, and the number of payments made was 64,522.

Unemployment in Insured Trades and Occupations.

Under Regulation 5 (4) of the General Regulations issued by the Board of Trade in accordance with Section 91 of Part II. of the National Insurance Act, every holder of an unemployment book has, when unemployed, to lodge it at a Labour Exchange or other local office of the Unemployment Fund. From returns made as to the number of unemployment books of unemployed workmen in the possession of the various local offices on February 28th, 1913, the following Table has been prepared, showing the proportion of unemployment books lodged to the total issued in the various industries. The percentages given may be taken to represent pretty fairly the proportion of workpeople in the industries who were unemployed on that date:—

District.	Building and Works of Construction.	Shipbuilding.	Engineering and Iron-founding.	Making of Vehicles.	Saw-milling.	Other Insured Workpeople.	All Insured Workpeople.
London and S.E.	11.1	8.3	4.0	4.7	3.7	2.5	8.6
Scotland and Northern ..	4.3	2.6	1.9	1.2	1.6	0.8	2.6
North Western ..	4.9	1.4	2.0	1.5	1.8	1.0	2.9
Yorkshire and E. Midlands ..	4.6	2.6	1.8	1.1	1.7	1.1	2.7
West Midlands ..	6.0	5.2	2.3	1.8	1.5	1.5	3.3
South Western ..	6.5	4.6	2.1	1.4	1.3	1.6	4.6
Wales ..	2.8	5.3	1.2	1.1	1.6	0.4	2.6
Ireland ..	13.0	4.7	3.6	4.6	3.3	2.2	8.2
Total ..	7.3	3.4	2.3	2.2	2.2	1.2	4.4
Total a month ago	8.8	3.3	2.1	2.2	1.9	1.5	5.0

The following Table shows, both by industry and district, the proportion of unemployment books lodged to the total books issued on each Friday from January 24th to February 28th, 1913:—

	24th Jan.	31st Jan.	7th Feb.	14th Feb.	21st Feb.	28th Feb.
INDUSTRIES.						
Building and Works of Construction.	Per Cent. 8.7	Per Cent. 8.8	Per Cent. 8.8	Per Cent. 8.3	Per Cent. 7.6	Per Cent. 7.3
Shipbuilding ..	3.0	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4
Engineering and Iron-founding ..	2.0	2.1	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
Making of Vehicles ..	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.2
Sawmilling ..	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.3	2.2
Other Industries ..	1.2	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2
All insured industries.	4.9	5.0	5.1	4.9	4.6	4.4
DISTRICTS.						
London and South-Eastern ..	9.0	9.4	9.7	9.2	8.7	8.6
Scotland and Northern ..	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.0	2.8	2.6
North Western ..	3.5	3.7	3.5	3.3	3.0	2.9
Yorkshire and East Midlands	3.4	3.6	3.4	3.2	3.0	2.7
West Midlands ..	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.3	3.4	3.3
South-Western ..	4.8	4.9	5.2	5.2	5.2	4.6
Wales ..	2.7	2.4	3.1	2.9	2.6	2.6
Ireland ..	8.4	8.2	8.7	8.3	8.2	8.2
United Kingdom	4.9	5.0	5.1	4.9	4.6	4.4

AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATIVE BANKS IN GERMANY.

THE Board of Agriculture and Fisheries have issued a Report,* by Mr. J. R. Cahill, on Agricultural Credit and Agricultural Co-operation in Germany.

The Report discusses the various systems of agricultural credit in Germany under two heads: (i.) mortgage (long-term) credit, and (ii.) personal (short-term) credit. As regards the first (mortgage credit), it may be mentioned that the facilities for obtaining mortgage loans by landowners in Germany are far greater than those existing in this country; and that the total amount of the mortgage loans outstanding on landed properties in Germany, granted by the main group of institutions alone, approaches £400,000,000. It is suggested in the Report that the development of this institutional mortgage credit has been greatly facilitated by the complete system of registration of title which obtains in Germany.

* Cd. 6626. Price 5s. 0d. Wyman & Sons, Ltd.

The present notice, however, deals principally with personal (short-term) credit, and especially with the co-operative agricultural credit banks which are associated with the name of Raiffeisen.

The first bank established by Raiffeisen on the basis of the collective liability of the members—the fundamental idea of his system in its developed form—was that at Anhausen in 1862. There were already in existence co-operative credit societies with unlimited collective liability, known as the Schulze-Delitzsch banks, from the name of their founder; but the Report shows that the two types of banks differ in several important respects. Thus, the Schulze-Delitzsch banks aim principally at meeting the needs of artisans, small employers, and small tradesmen in towns; the Raiffeisen banks are primarily for agriculturists. The Schulze-Delitzsch banks are conducted for profit by salaried staffs; the Raiffeisen banks are not conducted for profit, the dividends (if any) being usually limited, as a maximum, to the rate of interest paid by borrowers for loans, and the officers, with the exception of the secretary, being unpaid. The Schulze-Delitzsch banks have their offices in towns, cover large areas, and have very large memberships—one bank, that at Augsburg, which covers the whole of Bavaria, has over 11,000 members, and there are several with as many as 5,000 members; the Raiffeisen banks, on the other hand, make a point of working in a limited area, so as to secure that intimate mutual knowledge among the members which enables loans to be granted on personal security at very moderate rates: in the years 1908-10 72 per cent. of the banks, over 4,000 in number, which are affiliated to the Federation founded by Raiffeisen, were in villages, or groups of villages, having less than 2,000 inhabitants. The solvency of the banks is safeguarded by this intimate mutual knowledge among the members, by the fact that credit business is confined to simple, well-secured transactions with members, by a rigorous system of audit, and by the legal provision that the total amount of the savings deposits that may be accepted, and of the loans that may be contracted, as also the limits of the advances that may be made to individual members, must be annually fixed by the general meeting of members. The number of bankruptcies is, in fact, extraordinarily low, only 19 cases having been reported during the fifteen years, 1896-1910; and this though there have been over 10,000 (since 1909, over 15,000) rural credit societies in Germany during the period.

Loans are generally granted for fixed periods, with easy terms of repayment; but they are also granted to an increasing extent in the form of overdrafts on current account; at the end of 1910 28 per cent. of the outstanding loans which had been granted by 80 per cent. of the Raiffeisen banks were of this kind. Care is taken that such overdrafts do not become standing loans, debtors being required to repay at least a certain percentage every year. The greater part (over 90 per cent.) of the working capital of these banks is derived from the deposits of members and non-members resident within their own areas.

The rate of interest charged is low, generally between 4 and 5 per cent.; rates not exceeding 4½ per cent. predominate, except in the Eastern provinces of Prussia, where higher rates have to be charged, owing to the population being thinner and less prosperous, and deposits consequently less abundant. The cheapness of the credit is all the more remarkable when it is remembered that ordinary commercial credit is dearer in Germany than in England.

The local banks are affiliated to central banks, which draw their funds mainly from the local banks. These central banks are organised according to Provinces or States. In Prussia there has been, since 1895, a special State bank to balance supply and demand among the central banks, and when necessary to obtain for them outside credit; and in most of the other constituent States of the German Empire considerable financial assistance has been given to co-operative central banks by their respective governments.

The membership of 14,993 local banks existing on January 1st, 1910, was 1,447,766, a figure which represented one-sixth of the total agricultural population of Germany in 1907; most of these would be heads of

families, and would thus represent a considerably larger proportion of the total agricultural population. The total turnover in 1910 of 14,729 societies amounted to £261,665,000; and, at the end of that year, the loans outstanding amounted to £93,034,000; the savings deposits to £92,429,000; and the deposits on current account to £10,865,000. At the end of 1911 there were affiliated to 37 central banks (not including the Prussian State Co-operative Bank) 17,668 societies of all kinds, of which 14,508 were credit societies; and the total turnover of these central banks in that year amounted to £410,391,000. It may be added that the total number of local rural credit societies existing on January 1st, 1913, amounted to 16,927.

The Report also deals, in considerable detail, with the numerous other forms of agricultural co-operation which exist in Germany, including supply societies (for the supply of fertilisers, feeding stuffs, agricultural machinery, &c.); dairy societies; corn-selling and granary societies; cattle-selling societies; egg-selling societies; electricity societies (the use of electricity in country districts, both for power and for light, is increasing to an extraordinary extent); machine societies; and miscellaneous societies, such as (potato) distilling societies, co-operative beet sugar factories, breeding societies, &c. On January 1st, 1913, there were 2,409 supply societies, 3,488 dairy societies (of which 176 were only milk-selling societies), and the remaining groups comprised a total of 3,654 societies. A further section of the Report deals with live stock insurance.

In this Report also is to be found, perhaps for the first time in English, a complete and connected account, supported by statistics and documents, of the principles and of the actual working of the Raiffeisen scheme for providing smaller agriculturists and working men in rural districts with supplementary working capital, which, with certain variations, has been gradually adopted by practically every country in Europe.

CO-OPERATIVE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

DISTRIBUTION AND PRODUCTION. General Summary.

At the end of the year 1911 there were 768 separately registered societies engaged in agricultural distribution and production, with an aggregate membership of 94,884, and a total capital—share, loan and reserve—of £748,561. Their aggregate sales during the year amounted to £4,526,884, upon which a profit of £62,373 was made. The societies employed 2,748 persons, and paid £126,186 in wages during the year.

In addition, there were 72 industrial societies and one agricultural distributive society which had departments engaged in farming and dairying operations. These departments together employed 704 persons, and paid an aggregate wage amounting to £41,071. The total value of their produce was £330,267.

Of the 768 separately registered societies 431, with a membership of 47,473, were "distributive" societies, with a capital of £274,922. Their sales for the year amounted to £2,186,597, on which there was a profit of £20,848. The remaining 337 societies were engaged in production, mainly butter-making, but a few in farming, flax-growing, and threshing. These societies had a membership of 47,411, a capital of £473,639, sales for the year of £2,340,287, and a profit of £41,525.

The following Table shows the distribution between England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, respectively, of the whole of the distributive and productive sales in 1911:—

	Sales of Agricultural Distributive Societies.	Sales of Agricultural Productive Societies and Departments.	Total Sales.	
			Amount.	Percentage of Total.
England and Wales ..	£ 1,325,547	£ 297,047	£ 1,622,594	33.4
Scotland	335,470	219,405	554,875	11.4
Ireland	525,580	2,154,102	2,679,682	55.2
Totals, United Kingdom	2,186,597	2,670,554	4,857,151	100.0

Thus, more than half the sales of agricultural distributive societies in the United Kingdom were in England and Wales, while more than 80 per cent. of the sales of productive societies and departments were in Ireland.

Distribution.

The following Table shows the growth of agricultural distributive societies in England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, respectively, during the past ten years:—

Year.	England and Wales.		Scotland.		Ireland.	
	No. of Societies.	Sales.	No. of Societies.	Sales.	No. of Societies.	Sales.
1902	29	£ 58,080	1	£ 42,083	126	£ 360,509
1903	48	87,970	2	42,760	136	393,542
1904	65	146,197	2	44,850	155	372,080
1905	82	214,292	5	46,610	150	371,273
1906	111	387,775	8	51,511	161	420,223
1907	121	572,755	12	80,338	163	484,771
1908	131	751,445	19	99,530	167	469,556
1909	145	885,683	31	227,141	160	491,034
1910	165	1,036,515	43	291,838	168	521,193
1911	217	1,325,547	55	335,470	159	525,580

In 1902 the sales in Ireland were more than 3½ times those of England and Wales and Scotland combined, but the movement has made such rapid strides in Great Britain that in 1911 the amount of the sales there was more than three times the amount of those for Ireland. Compared with 1910, the year 1911 showed an increase of sales of 27.9 per cent. in England and Wales, of 15 per cent. in Scotland, and 0.8 per cent. in Ireland.

Production.

The following Table gives the number of societies in each of the two groups engaged in agricultural production and the amount of their sales and transfers:—

Year.	Special Farming and Dairying Societies.		Farming & Dairying Departments of Wholesale and Retail Distributive Societies.		Total Agricultural Production by all Classes of Societies.	
	No. of Societies.	Sales.	No. of Societies.	Sales and Transfers.*	No. of Societies.	Sales and Transfers.
1902	193	£ 1,101,611	48	£ 478,534	241	£ 1,580,145
1903	225	1,181,056	52	427,594	277	1,608,650
1904	256	1,232,868	61	401,383	317	1,634,051
1905	260	1,372,552	56	402,639	316	1,775,191
1906	272	1,683,120	61	473,258	333	2,156,378
1907	287	1,829,279	64	477,379	351	2,306,658
1908	302	1,835,522	70†	498,889	372	2,430,711
1909	317	2,005,314	72†	467,967	389	2,473,281
1910	335	2,205,140	72†	435,568	407	2,640,708
1911	337	2,340,287	73†	330,267	410	2,670,554

As compared with 1902 the value of the produce in 1911 showed an increase of 69 per cent. Societies devoted to farming and dairying showed an increase in sales of 112.4 per cent., while the farming and dairying departments of industrial societies showed a decrease of 31.0 per cent. As compared with 1910, however, the figures for 1911 showed an increase of only 1.1 per cent. in the total production. This is due to a reduction of 24.2 per cent. in the value of the produce of industrial societies, which almost neutralised an increase of 6.1 per cent. in that of special farming and dairying societies.

Profit Sharing.

The returns made to the Department show that 41 of the 431 agricultural distributive societies, employing 178 persons and paying £11,773 in wages, paid bonuses out of profits to their employees. The bonuses amounted to £904, which was equal to an addition of about 7.7 per cent. to the wages of the participants.

Of the 337 agricultural productive societies 51, employing 372 persons and paying £15,557 in wages, paid bonuses amounting in the aggregate to £868, or 5.6 per cent., on the wages of the participants.

Of the 72 agricultural departments of industrial societies, 10, employing a total of 155 persons and pay-

* The goods produced by the Distributive Societies are not usually sold direct by the productive departments, but are transferred to the distributive departments.
† Including the productive department of one distributive agricultural society.

ing £9,649 in wages, paid bonuses to their employees amounting to a total of £344, or 3.6 per cent. upon wages. The farming department of the Scottish Wholesale Society accounted for three-quarters of the whole amount paid in bonuses by this group.

CATTLE AND PIG INSURANCE SOCIETIES.

In addition to the co-operative societies engaged in production and distribution in 1911, there were 60 societies registered specially for the mutual insurance of the pigs and cattle belonging to their members.

The following Table shows the membership, receipts, expenditure, and funds of these societies for the years 1907-1911:—

	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.
Number of Societies making Returns	56	57	57	60	60
Total Membership	3,434	3,499	3,574	3,653	3,623
Receipts during Year:—					
Contributions	£ 1,665	£ 1,641	£ 1,761	£ 1,842	£ 1,818
Other Receipts	454	476	495	507	453
Total Receipts	2,119	2,117	2,256	2,349	2,271
Expenditure during Year:—					
Benefits to Members	£ 1,539	£ 2,088	£ 1,908	£ 1,757	£ 1,929
Working Expenses	421	364	387	388	258
Total Expenditure	1,960	2,452	2,295	2,145	2,187
Total Funds at end of Year ..	8,091	7,868	7,671	8,108	8,132

SMALL HOLDINGS AND ALLOTMENTS SOCIETIES.

There were also, in 1911, 94 co-operative small holdings and allotment societies, with a total membership of 10,245, as compared with 83 societies and 8,506 members in 1910. Their total capital was £22,968, consisting of £8,497 in shares, £12,071 in loans, and £2,400 in reserve funds.

These societies held 10,857 acres of land, for which £18,751 was payable by them in rent, rates and taxes; 10,614 acres were let to 8,423 tenants, who paid £21,890 to the societies for rent, rates and taxes.

A number of the societies have formed trading departments for the purchase of members' requirements and for the sale of their produce. The total sales of requirements to members were £2,356, and the sales of members' produce were £1,007.

The net result of the operations of the whole of the societies in 1911 was a loss of £209.

CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT ASSOCIATIONS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

At the end of 1911 there were at work 223 co-operative credit associations, with an aggregate membership of 22,054, as compared with 81 associations and 6,014 members in 1901.

In 1911, 45 of these associations with 4,088 members were in England (of which 18 with 3,364 members were urban); one (urban) association with 354 members was in Scotland; and 177 associations (all rural) with 17,612 members were in Ireland.

The amount of loans advanced to members in 1911 was £79,808, and the amount repaid, including interest, £77,623, and each of these figures is about four times as large as the corresponding figure for 1901. The total capital of the associations was £168,274, and the amount owing by borrowers £117,439.

The associations are usually managed by unpaid officials, and the expenses are therefore kept small. Thus the total working expenses, including interest on capital, of the whole of the 223 associations was only £7,919 in 1911. The aggregate net profit made by all the associations was £302.

TENANTS' CO-PARTNERSHIP SOCIETIES.

RETURNS for the year 1911 show that 24 Tenants' Co-partnership Societies were at work in that year, with an aggregate membership of 3,480 and a total capital of £1,267,565, consisting of shares, £187,481; loans, £1,076,435; and reserve funds, £3,649.

The rent receipts of the societies amounted to £61,644, which yielded a profit (before payment of interest on the share capital) of £9,681. The total cost

price of the land and buildings owned by the societies amounted to £1,260,864.

Ten of the 24 societies made returns showing the extent to which their tenants share in the membership and own the capital of the societies. The total membership of these ten societies was 1,248, of whom 682 (or 54.6 per cent.) were tenants; the total share capital amounted to £30,410, of which £7,144 (or 23.5 per cent.) belonged to tenant shareholders. The loan capital amounted to £177,366, of which £1,481 had been obtained from tenants, £62,442 from other shareholders, and £113,443 from non-members.

The ten societies owned land and buildings costing £213,953, including 746 dwellings, of which 727 were occupied at the end of 1911. The mean weekly rents (including rates and taxes) paid by the tenants were as follows:—

For 2 rooms, 5s. 10d.; 3 rooms, 6s. 3½d.; 4 rooms, 6s. 5½d.; 5 rooms, 7s. 6d.; 6 rooms, 9s. 3d.; more than 6 rooms, 10s. 7d.

The following Table shows the growth of Tenants' Co-partnership Societies from 1902 to 1911:—

Year.	No. of Societies.	Mem-ber-ship.	Capital.			Rent Re-ceived.	Profit.†	Cost Value of Land and Buildings owned.
			Share.	Loan.	Reserve and In-surance*.			
1902..	4	540	£ 8,384	£ 36,943	£ 1,424	£ 3,166	£ 454	£ 51,206
1903..	4	603	9,762	44,470	1,669	3,817	487	58,357
1904..	5	678	12,413	53,627	1,845	4,423	679	70,489
1905..	6	768	16,673	69,508	2,109	4,949	843	92,252
1906..	9	917	25,418	109,718	1,841	10,466	1,581	262,741
1907..	14	1,574	42,769	206,817	1,348	16,050	2,118	433,632
1908..	15	1,971	70,080	362,776	1,717	16,050	4,692	638,284
1909..	16	2,511	94,014	533,138	1,854	24,774	6,214	938,319
1910..	21	3,232	131,556	814,904	2,280	39,560	6,214	1,260,864
1911..	24	3,480	187,481	1,076,435	3,649	61,644	9,681	1,260,864

WHEAT ACREAGE OF THE WORLD.†

THE area under wheat in the United Kingdom in the year 1911 was 1,952,000 acres, showing an increase of 95,000 acres over 1910, and of 206,000 acres over 1901. The area in India and the three principal wheat-growing Dominions (Canada, Australia, and New Zealand) was 48,538,000 acres, showing an increase of 976,000 acres as compared with the previous year, and of 15,588,000 acres as compared with 1901. The increase in Canada alone during the 10 years was 6,152,000 acres, or 145.6 per cent., while the increase in India was 7,072,000 acres, or 30.2 per cent.

The area under wheat in 1911 in the 11 European countries for which figures are given was 115,105,000 acres, of which 63,726,000 acres, or 55 per cent. of the total, were in Russia. The increase of acreage, as compared with 1901, was 16,779,000 acres; of this increase 14,137,000 acres were in Russia alone, while France showed an actual decline of 1,143,000 acres.

The principal extra-European foreign countries in which wheat was grown in 1911 were the United States, with 49,543,000 acres; Argentina, with 17,036,000 acres; and Siberia and the Steppes, with 9,505,000 acres. Argentina showed an increase of 109.3 per cent. in the 10 years between 1901 and 1911, and Siberia an increase of 101.2 per cent.; whereas the acreage in the United States was practically stationary, although there was an increase of nearly 21 per cent. in the population during the decade.

During the three years 1909-11 the United Kingdom drew her largest supplies—an average of 5 million quarters each year—from Russia, which is mainly a rye-eating country, and a further 4 million quarters from India, which is mainly a rice-eating country; these quantities represented 5½ and 9 per cent. of the total wheat crops of Russia and India respectively. The United States exported to the United Kingdom nearly 5 million quarters a year on the average, or 6 per cent. of her total crop; Canada, 4½ million quarters (21 per cent.); Argentina, nearly 4 million quarters (21 per cent.); and Australia, 3 million quarters (28 per cent.).

* Exclusive of Sinking Funds.

† Before payment of interest on share capital.

‡ Agricultural Statistics, 1911: Colonial and Foreign Statistics. Cd. 6588, price 1½d.

The following Table shows, in summary form, the increase in the wheat area and in the population, respectively, of the British Empire, of the principal Continental countries, and of the other principal wheat-growing countries:—

Countries.	Wheat Area.				Population.			
	1901.	1911.	Increase.	Percentage.	1901.	1911.	Increase.	Percentage.
British Empire*	34.7	50.5	15.8	45.5	283	302	19	6.6
Europe(11 countries)	98.3	115.1	16.8	17.1	292	337	45	15.6
Other Countries†	67.9	81.4	13.5	19.9	140	169	29	20.6
Total ..	200.9	247.0	46.1	22.9	715	808	93	13.0

These figures include the greater part of the wheat-growing territories and most of the wheat-eating peoples of the world, and there is no reason to think that the inclusion of the countries for which figures are not forthcoming would substantially affect the general conclusion to be drawn from this table, viz., that the supply of wheat is at present keeping pace with the increasing demand for it. From the British point of view it is especially interesting to note that, within the limits of the Empire, the expansion of the wheat area has been much more markedly in excess of the growth of population than in other parts of the world.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE COLONIES.

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

Canada.

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

There is a good demand for farm labourers, railway navvies and mechanics from the beginning of April; the demand for female servants both in towns and on farms continues always. There are strikes of miners (500) at Porcupine (Ont.), of iron moulders (200) at Sault Ste. Marie, of sheet metal workers (95) at Edmonton, of halibut fishermen (150) near New Westminster, British Columbia, and of coal miners (1,000) on Vancouver Island.

Australia.

Assisted or nominated passages are granted—mainly to agriculturists and female servants—by the Governments of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania.

New South Wales.—In Sydney and suburbs the building (except stonemasons), furniture, clothing and iron trades have been fairly well employed, and factory workers have been busy; competent men in these trades and strong railway labourers are in some demand. Miners at Broken Hill and at Newcastle continue busy. There is a good demand for female servants and for tailoresses (factory). In country districts there is a good demand for farm labourers and lads.

Victoria.—There is a good opening for farmers, farm labourers, generally useful men, female servants, and female operatives in factories. The supply of men in the building and engineering trades, and of miners, is sufficient.

* United Kingdom, India, Canada, Australia, New Zealand.

† United States, Argentine, Siberia and the Steppes, Algeria, Japan, Uruguay.

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

South Australia.—Plasterers and brickmakers are well employed, and masons and plumbers are in fair request, but though trade as regards carpenters, joiners, and galvanised iron workers is fair, no additional hands are required, and the demand for cabinetmakers, stonecutters, bricklayers, painters, and builders' labourers is quiet. Carriage-trimmers are all well employed, but carriage-makers are not in great request. Competent tinsmiths are in fair demand, and all boilermakers available are kept busy, but men connected with other of the engineering trades are quiet. There has been a fair demand for experienced farm labourers and general labourers.

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

Western Australia.—There is a good demand for farmers, farm labourers, dairymen, fencers, clearers, orchardists, and female servants, but not much demand for more mechanics, and no demand for miners.

New Zealand.

The building trades have been busy in Auckland (where skilled labour has been in demand), Christchurch, Wellington, and several smaller places. The clothing trades have been very busy in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, Napier, and Dunedin, and have been busy elsewhere; and there has been a continued demand for dressmakers, for shirtmakers, for women in the woollen and hosiery mills, and for tailors and tailoresses. Other trades have been fairly well employed, and in country districts farm labourers are wanted.

Union of South Africa.

The building trades at Johannesburg continue to be fairly active, and bricklayers and plasterers are busy; the engineering trades are dull; practical miners can get work. There is no demand for more labour at Pretoria. At Cape Town employment has been good; but there is no demand for more labour except for a few skilled carpenters, tailors (coat hands), furniture hands, plumbers, and plasterers. At Durban there is a demand for a few skilled carpenters.

LABOUR ABROAD.

[NOTE.—The following reports include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment in foreign countries, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in these countries are, however, not the same as those for the United Kingdom, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 81-82 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that in foreign countries. (For further information on the subject of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries, see pp. xxiv.-xxvi. and 8-20 of the Fourth Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics, Cd. 5415 of 1911.)]

FRANCE.*

Employment in January.—There was seasonal slackness in the building trades, with increased unemployment, particularly among bricklayers and masons. In the metal trades employment continued good. There was a decided improvement in the textile trades, particularly in the Nord department, a decrease in the numbers of operatives out of work being reported. The printing trades were not quite so busy, especially in Paris. In the leather trades the level of unemployment, though still high, was lower than in December. There was a decline in activity among vineyard workers in the south of France owing to the heavy rains and the consequent suspension of pruning and fumigating operations. For woodmen employment improved somewhat owing to belated engagements for work in the forests, which are usually made about October. Gardeners in the Paris district reported only a very small proportion out of employment.

Returns showing the number of members unemployed at the middle of the month were received by the French

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

Labour Department from 794 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 230,127. Excluding returns from the miners' unions in the Pas-de-Calais department, 6.4 per cent. of the members were unemployed in January, as compared with 5.7 per cent. in the previous month and 8.5 per cent. in January, 1912.*

Coal Mining in January.—The average number of days worked per week by persons employed underground was 6.01 in January, as compared with 5.53 in the previous month and 6.01 in January, 1912. Taking surface and underground workers together, 97.5 per cent. worked full time (six days or over per week) and 2.5 per cent. from 5 to 6 days. In the previous month the corresponding percentages were 12.14 and 87.18, and in January, 1912, 89.5 and 10.4.

Labour Disputes in January.—Sixty-four labour disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in January, as compared with 57 in the previous month and 85† in January, 1912. In 61 of the new disputes 4,684 workpeople took part, as compared with 5,444 who took part in 51 disputes in the previous month, and with 6,906 who took part in 66 disputes in January, 1912. The groups of trades in which disputes were most frequent were textile (17 disputes), metal (11), transport (10), building (6), wood-working (5). Of 93 new and old disputes reported to have terminated, 19 ended wholly in favour of the workpeople and 47 wholly in favour of the employers, while 27 were compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in January.—Seven cases of recourse to the law of 1892 on conciliation and arbitration were reported to the French Labour Department during January, the initiative being taken in 3 cases by the workpeople, in one case by the employers and workpeople jointly, and in 3 cases by a Justice of the Peace. In 3 cases the employers declined to take part in conciliation proceedings, and in one case the strike was terminated before the committee could meet, but in the 3 remaining cases committees of conciliation were formed, resulting in the settlement of one dispute, a collective agreement being signed.

GERMANY.

Employment in January.—According to the Reichs-Arbeitsblatt‡ the state of the labour market in January could be described as favourable for the time of year.

Returns relating to unemployment were furnished to the Imperial Labour Department by 48 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 2,032,921. Omitting branches which failed to make returns, the membership covered was 1,963,445, of whom 62,676, or 3.2 per cent., were stated to be unemployed at the end of January, as against 2.8 per cent. in the previous month, and 2.9 per cent. in January, 1912.* Particulars for each of the principal unions that contributed to make up these general percentages are given below:—

UNION.	Member-ship reported on at end of January, 1913.	Percentage of Member-ship returned as unemployed at end of month.*		
		Jan., 1913.	Dec., 1912.	Jan., 1912.
All Unions making Returns —	1,963,445	3.2	2.8	2.9
PRINCIPAL UNIONS:—				
Metal Workers (Soc. Dem.) ..	556,712	2.2	2.1	2.0
Engineers and Metal Workers ..	25,261	2.0	1.8	1.0
(Hirsch-Duncker)				
Metal Workers (Christian) ..	42,035	2.9	3.1	0.8
Textile Workers (Soc. Dem.) ..	142,157	1.0	1.4	0.8
Textile Workers (Christian) ..	38,929	1.1	2.2	0.9
Boot and Shoe Makers ..	43,738	1.7	3.1	2.3
Transport Workers ..	227,388	6.7	1.9	5.5
Printers ..	65,535	3.5	4.7	2.7
Bookbinders ..	33,185	3.2	2.9	3.5
Woodworkers ..	192,286	4.5	6.9	4.3
Bakers ..	23,609	6.2	6.4	7.9
Brewery and Corn Mill Workers ..	48,984	1.4	1.2	2.6
Tobacco Workers ..	35,061	3.7	10.6	2.3
Factory Workers (irrespective of trade)	194,828	2.8	1.9	4.4
State and Municipal Workers ..	50,725	1.3	0.8	1.0

According to returns furnished by employers, employment for the most part was good in January. This was

* These figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentages for the United Kingdom shown on pp. 81-82. For reasons see Fourth Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics.

† Revised figure.

‡ The journal of the German Labour Department.

particularly the case with coal mining in the Ruhr district and in Upper and Lower Silesia, and with lignite mining in Central Germany and Niederlausitz (Western Silesia). There was no longer a scarcity of wagons, consequently there was activity in the branches engaged in production, and sales were good. Employment was good at blastfurnaces and in the iron, engineering, electrical and chemical trades. In the textile, clothing and paper trades the degree of activity was on the whole satisfactory. There was seasonal slackness in the building trades.

BELGIUM*.

Employment in January.—According to returns made to the Belgian Labour Department, rather more than 1.5 per cent. of the 73,050 members of trade unions reporting were unemployed at the middle of January, as compared with 1.1 per cent. in the previous month and 2.1 per cent. in January, 1912.† The above figures exclude returns relating to 3,650 diamond workers at Antwerp, who were still experiencing an exceptional amount of unemployment, the proportion out of work rising from 12.2 per cent. in December to 18.0 per cent. in January.

DENMARK.‡

Employment in December.—According to returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Office, 13.6 per cent. of the 105,800 members of trade unions reporting were unemployed at the end of December, as compared with 6.6 per cent. at the end of the preceding month and 15.1 per cent. at the end of December, 1911.† The average number of days lost through unemployment during December was 2.3 per member of the unions reporting, as compared with 1.4 per member in the previous month and 2.5 in December, 1911.

NORWAY.‡

Employment in January.—The following table shows the percentage of members reported unemployed at the end of January in certain Trade Unions making returns to the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics, comparative figures relating to the same unions being added for the previous month, and for January, 1912:—

Group of Trades.	Membership.			Percentage Unemployed.†		
	Jan. 31st, 1913.	Dec. 31st, 1912.	Jan. 31st, 1912.	Jan. 31st, 1913.	Dec. 31st, 1912.	Jan. 31st, 1912.
Bricklayers and Masons ..	764	711	551	12.3	0.6	14.0
Carpenters, &c. ..	1,522	1,498	1,104	3.6	6.3	7.6
Painters ..	370	376	280	13.5	10.9	16.1
Iron & other Metal Workers ..	7,948	7,772	7,062	1.8	1.6	1.1
Boot and Shoemakers ..	721	700	634	1.4	1.0	1.7
Bookbinders ..	510	496	451	0.4	0.3	0.4
Bakers ..	417	417	380	6.5	3.4	4.7
Cabinet Makers ..	550	536	517	2.4	2.2	2.3
Total ..	12,802	12,496	10,979	3.1	2.4	3.0

UNITED STATES.

Massachusetts.§

Employment at End of December, 1912.—For the quarter ending December 31st, 1912, complete returns relative to the state of employment were received from 994 labour organisations in Massachusetts, with an aggregate membership of 1,74,359, or approximately 80 per cent. of the entire trade union membership in the Commonwealth. The proportion of such members unemployed on December 31st, owing to causes other than labour disputes or disability—e.g., lack of work, shortage of materials, weather conditions, holidays and temporary shut-downs—was 7.3 per cent., as compared with 3.2 per cent. at the end of September, 1912, and 8.3 per cent. at the end of December, 1911.†

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

† These figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentages for the United Kingdom shown on pp. 81-82. For reasons see Fourth Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics.

‡ Statistiske Efterretninger (Journal of the Danish Statistical Office).

§ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Labour Department.

¶ Quarterly Report on the State of Employment, Dec. 31, 1912. Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics, Labour Division.

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES DURING FEBRUARY.

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT continued very good during February and was about the same as a month ago, but not quite so good as a year ago.

Returns relating to 1,256 pits, employing 690,831 workpeople, showed that the average number of days* worked per week during the fortnight ended February 22nd, 1913, was 5.61, compared with 5.64 a month ago, and 5.70 a year ago.

Of the 690,831 workpeople covered by the returns, 656,914 (or 95.1 per cent.) were employed at pits working 10 or more days during the fortnight ended February 22nd, 1913, while 563,865 (or 81.6 per cent. of the total) were employed at pits working 11 days or more.

The highest averages were in South Yorkshire (5.83 days) and North Wales (5.81 days), and the lowest averages were in Gloucester and Somerset and in West Scotland (5.22 days).

District.	No. of Work-people employed in Feb., 1913, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in February, 1913, as compared with a	
		Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Jan. 25th, 1913.	Feb. 24th, 1912.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.						
Northumberland	49,037	5.49	5.30	5.46	+ 0.10	+ 0.03
Durham	124,363	5.64	5.50	5.55	+ 0.04	+ 0.01
Cumberland	7,491	5.79	5.65	5.70	+ 0.14	+ 0.09
South Yorkshire	79,870	5.83	5.85	5.86	- 0.02	- 0.03
West Yorkshire	28,018	5.42	5.50	5.72	- 0.08	- 0.30
Lancashire and Cheshire ..	60,092	5.48	5.55	5.87	- 0.07	- 0.39
Derbyshire	50,847	5.69	5.71	5.73	- 0.02	- 0.04
Nottingham and Leicestershire	38,581	5.35	5.36	5.36	- 0.01	- 0.01
Staffordshire	30,440	5.67	5.68	5.72	- 0.01	- 0.05
Warwick, Worcester and Salop	10,456	5.73	5.69	5.64	+ 0.04	+ 0.09
Gloucester and Somerset ..	7,452	5.22	5.19	5.84	+ 0.03	- 0.62
North Wales	11,230	5.81	5.86	5.83	- 0.05	- 0.02
South Wales and Mon. ..	135,517	5.79	5.97	5.96	- 0.18	- 0.17
ENGLAND AND WALES	633,394	5.63	5.66	5.73	- 0.03	- 0.10
SCOTLAND.						
West Scotland	24,377	5.22	5.29	5.26	- 0.07	- 0.04
The Lothians	3,435	5.43	5.47	5.49	- 0.04	- 0.06
Fife	29,119	5.50	5.51	5.54	- 0.01	- 0.04
SCOTLAND	56,931	5.37	5.41	5.42	- 0.04	- 0.05
IRELAND						
IRELAND	506	5.95	5.42	5.35	+ 0.53	+ 0.60
United Kingdom	690,831	5.61	5.64	5.70	- 0.03	- 0.09

Employment in Northumberland was good and better than a month ago; it was about the same as a year ago. In Durham it continued good. In Cumberland employment was very good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. In South Yorkshire it continued very good, and was about the same as a year ago. In West Yorkshire and in Lancashire and Cheshire employment showed some decline on a month ago, and a considerable decline on a year ago. In Derbyshire it continued very good, and in Nottingham and Leicester fairly good, and about the same in both districts as a month ago and a year ago. In Staffordshire it was good in the Cannock Chase and Pelsall districts. In Warwick, Worcester and Salop it continued good, and was better than a year ago. In Gloucester and Somerset it showed a great decline as compared with a year ago, except in the Bristol district, where it was very good. In North Wales and in South Wales and Monmouthshire employment continued very good, but was not quite so good as a month ago; in the latter district it was worse than a year ago. In Scotland it continued good generally, but showed a slight decline on a month ago and a year ago.

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

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

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

Description of Coal.	No. of Work-people employed in Feb., 1913, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Pits in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1913, on a	
		Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Jan. 25th, 1913.	Feb. 24th, 1912.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Anthracite	7,011	5.36	5.80	5.86	- 0.44	- 0.50
Coking	34,779	5.72	5.68	5.71	+ 0.04	+ 0.01
Gas	47,616	5.51	5.44	5.58	+ 0.07	- 0.07
House	85,581	5.48	5.50	5.63	- 0.02	- 0.15
Steam	269,471	5.68	5.72	5.75	- 0.04	- 0.07
Mixed	246,373	5.69	5.62	5.69	- 0.03	- 0.10
All Descriptions	690,831	5.61	5.64	5.70	- 0.03	- 0.09

Compared with a month ago there was a marked decline at pits producing anthracite coal, but otherwise there was not much change. Compared with a year ago anthracite pits showed a large decline, and at house coal pits there was some decline.

The Exports (British and Irish) of coal, coke, and manufactured fuel during February, 1913, amounted to 5,822,925 tons, or 551,227 tons less than in January, 1913, and 38,521 tons more than in February, 1912.

IRON, SHALE AND OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING.

EMPLOYMENT was good at both iron and shale mines; it was better than a month ago, and showed a marked improvement on a year ago. It continued fairly good in tin mines, and good in lead mines.

In and about quarries employment was fairly good on the whole, and better than a month ago.

Mining.

Iron Mining.—During the fortnight ended February 22nd the weekly average number of days worked by all mines and open works included in the returns was 5.84, as compared with 5.70 a month ago, and 5.61 a year ago.

Districts.	Work-people employed in Feb., 1913.	Average Number of Days worked per week by Mines in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1913, on a	
		Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Jan. 25th, 1913.	Feb. 24th, 1912.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Cleveland	7,668	5.78	5.82	5.35	+ 0.26	+ 0.43
Cumberland and Lancashire	5,388	5.91	5.92	5.88	- 0.01	+ 0.03
South Wales	1,000	5.80	5.79	5.80	+ 0.01	+ 0.01
Other Districts	2,493	5.88	5.73	5.73	+ 0.15	+ 0.15
All Districts	16,547	5.84	5.70	5.61	+ 0.14	+ 0.23

Of the total number of workpeople covered by the returns 96.2 per cent. worked 11 days or more during the fortnight ended February 22nd, as compared with 79.6 per cent. a month ago, and 75.5 per cent. a year ago.

Shale Mining.—According to the returns received there were 3,557 workpeople employed in the fortnight ended February 22nd, who worked on an average 5.94 days per week, as compared with 3,538 workpeople in January, who worked 5.89 days, and 3,382 workpeople in February, 1912, who worked 5.71 days.

Tin Mining.—Employment was generally fairly good in Cornwall; it was good in the Camborne district, but showed a falling-off in the Liskeard district and was dull at Calstock.

Lead Mining.—Employment continued good in North Wales. It was also good in Weardale and fairly good in the Matlock district.

Quarrying.

Slate.—Employment in North Wales was still reported as fairly good in the Festiniog district, but as very quiet in the Carnarvon district. It continued very good at Delabole (Cornwall) and slack at Ballachulish (Argyll).

Granite.—Employment continued good in Leicester-shire and fair in Cornwall. It was good, and better than a month ago in the Aberdeen district.

Limestone.—Employment was good, and better than a

month ago, in the Weardale district and in Cumberland. It continued good at Buxton and in North Wales. It was moderate, but rather better than a month ago, in the Plymouth district.

Other Stone.—Employment was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago, in the Cleve Hill road-material quarries. It continued good with chert quarries at Bakewell. With freestone quarrymen on the Tyne it continued fair. It continued good at whinstone quarries in Upper Weardale. In sandstone quarries employment was slack in North Wales and in Farfarshire. Employment was slack at Barnsley and fair at Normanton.

Settmaking, etc.—Employment was generally good, and better than a month ago, with settmakers in Scotland and in Leicestershire. It continued good in North Wales, but was quiet in the Cleve Hill district. With monumental masons in the Aberdeen district employment was good, and better than a month ago.

China Clay.—Employment was very good in the St. Austell district, and was fair in the Lee Moor and Shaugh districts.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry during February continued good; it was much better than at the end of February, 1912, when it began to be affected by the strike in the coal-mining industry.

The returns show that 332 furnaces were in blast at the end of February, compared with 334 at the end of January, 1913, and 284 at the end of February, 1912. During February 3 furnaces were re-lit (2 in Staffordshire and 1 in Stirlingshire), while 5 were either damped down or blown out (2 in Staffordshire and 1 each in Lincolnshire, Stirlingshire, and the Cleveland district).

The number of workpeople employed at the end of February, 1913, was about 24,600; an increase of 15.7 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

District.	Number of Furnaces, included in the Returns, in Blast at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1913, on	
	Feb., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	A Month ago.	A Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES—Cleveland	88	89	78	- 1	+ 10
Cumberland & Lancs. S. and S.W. Yorks. Derby & Nottingham	33	33	24	..	+ 9
Leicester, Lincoln, and Northampton	12	12	11	..	+ 1
Stafford & Worcester	42	42	32	..	+ 10
S. Wales & Monmouth	30	31	28	- 1	+ 2
Other districts	34	34	32	..	+ 2
England & Wales	255	257	223	- 2	+ 32
Scotland	77	77	61	..	+ 16
Total	332	334	284	- 2	+ 48

The Imports of iron ore in February, 1913, amounted to 657,825 tons, or 30,897 tons less than in January, 1913, and 55,093 tons more than in February, 1912.

The Exports (British and Irish) of pig iron from the United Kingdom in February, 1913, amounted to 63,961 tons, or 38,003 tons less than in January, 1913, and 3,031 tons less than in February, 1912.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry during February, 1913, was good, but showed a decline as compared with a month ago. It was about the same as a year ago. There was a considerable falling off in the exports.

At the end of February 487 tinplate mills were in operation, a decrease of 16 on a month ago, and of 2 on a year ago. The steel sheet mills working numbered 73 in both January and February, 1913, compared with 68 in February, 1912.

The works to which these figures relate are principally in South Wales and Monmouthshire, and employ about 28,000 workpeople.

The following Table shows the number of works open and the number of mills in operation at the end of February, 1913, together with the increase or decrease on a month ago and a year ago:—

	Number of Works open			Number of Mills in operation		
	At end of Feb., 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	At end of Feb., 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Tinplate Works	80	- 1	..	487	- 16	- 2
Steel Sheet Works	10	..	..	73	..	+ 5
Total	90	- 1	..	560	- 16	+ 3

Exports (British and Irish).—The Table below shows the exports of tinplates and tinned sheets, and of black plates for tinning, for the months stated:—

	Feb., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1913, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets.					
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
To United States	170	286	246	- 116	- 76
British East Indies	5,270	6,136	3,882	- 866	+ 1,388
Germany	1,356	3,191	2,459	- 1,835	- 1,103
France	1,794	1,958	3,678	- 184	- 1,884
Netherlands	2,834	4,919	3,504	- 2,085	- 670
Russia	1,797	959	1,214	+ 838	+ 583
Norway	2,330	3,472	1,903	- 1,142	+ 427
Belgium	1,270	1,515	2,124	- 245	- 854
Portugal	465	1,572	1,943	- 1,107	- 1,478
Italy	1,544	1,279	1,634	+ 265	- 90
Roumania	181	1,196	5,001	- 1,015	- 4,820
China and Japan	2,508	4,324	2,786	- 1,816	- 278
Australia	2,016	2,057	2,424	- 41	- 408
Canada	892	456	1,082	+ 436	- 170
Argentina	2,403	1,603	822	+ 794	+ 1,541
Other Countries	6,544	11,331	7,963	- 4,787	- 1,419
Total	33,374	46,260	42,685	- 12,886	- 9,311
Black Plates for Tinning.					
Total	3,691	6,208	5,435	- 2,517	- 1,744

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works continued very good during February, but showed a slight decline compared with a month ago; it was much better than a year ago. According to returns from employers relating to 106,433 workpeople, the aggregate number of shifts worked during the week ended February 22nd, 1913, was 597,682, a decrease of 5,918 (or 1 per cent.) on a month ago, but an increase of 41,657 (or 7.5 per cent.) on a year ago.

Departments.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.	Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces	10,346	..	- 0.8	+ 9.8	60,137	- 1.9	+ 8.5
Crucible Furnaces	552	+ 1.3	- 3.2	3,107	- 0.7	- 2.8	
Bessemer Converters	1,841	+ 1.2	+ 3.2	9,547	+ 0.2	+ 5.3	
Puddling Forges	8,986	- 3.3	+ 0.1	45,642	- 6.3	- 1.2	
Rolling Mills	33,817	- 0.7	+ 4.0	182,002	- 1.5	+ 6.8	
Forging and Pressing	4,892	- 0.6	+ 14.0	27,800	- 0.4	+ 15.7	
Founding	12,838	+ 0.8	+ 6.8	75,240	+ 0.9	+ 7.1	
Other Departments	14,227	+ 0.2	+ 7.7	83,035	+ 0.2	+ 7.9	
Mechanics, Labourers	18,934	+ 0.6	+ 10.9	111,172	+ 0.4	+ 10.7	
Total	106,433	..	- 0.4	+ 6.6	597,682	- 1.0	+ 7.5
Districts.							
Northumberland & Durham	12,082	- 0.5	+ 4.9	69,066	- 0.7	+ 6.3	
Cleveland	8,873	- 0.3	- 1.4	49,995	- 0.4	- 1.6	
Sheffield and Rotherham ..	21,671	+ 1.1	+ 10.0	124,364	+ 0.4	+ 10.4	
Leeds, Bradford, &c.	4,803	- 0.5	+ 6.7	27,090	- 0.5	+ 7.4	
Cumberland, Lancs., and Cheshire	10,177	+ 0.7	+ 8.5	56,667	+ 0.4	+ 8.9	
Staffordshire	9,530	- 0.3	+ 4.3	51,687	- 1.9	+ 4.1	
Other Midland Counties	5,273	- 3.5	+ 8.5	29,677	- 3.8	+ 9.7	
Wales and Monmouth	14,030	+ 1.8	+ 4.0	77,827	+ 0.9	+ 10.4	
Total England & Wales	86,439	+ 0.3	+ 5.9	486,373	- 0.3	+ 7.4	
Scotland	19,994	- 3.0	+ 9.4	111,309	- 3.7	+ 7.8	
Total	106,433	- 0.4	+ 6.6	597,682	- 1.0	+ 7.5	

a decline, but in the remaining districts of England there was little change. In Scotland there was a decline. In the departments there was a considerable decline at puddling forges, and of the other departments four showed slight decreases and four slight increases. The total number of workpeople employed decreased by 379 (or 0.4 per cent.), and the average number of shifts worked per man by 0.03 of a shift.

Compared with a year ago, employment showed a marked improvement in all districts except Cleveland, where there was a slight decline; the largest increases were in the Sheffield and Rotherham, Wales and Monmouth, "other Midland counties," and Cumberland, Lancashire and Cheshire districts. As regards the departments, the improvement was most noticeable at forges and presses, open hearth melting furnaces, foundries, and rolling mills. The total number of workpeople employed increased by 6,557 (6.6 per cent.), and the average number of shifts worked per man by 0.05 of a shift.

The Imports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof during February, 1913, amounted to 175,681 tons, or 45,770 tons less than in January, 1913, and 25,177 tons more than in February, 1912.

The Exports (British and Irish) of iron and steel and manufactures thereof (excluding pig and puddled iron and tinned plates and black plates) during February, 1913, amounted to 251,007 tons, or 28,596 tons less than in January, 1913, and 24,590 tons more than in February, 1912.

ENGINEERING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the engineering trades continued very good during February, and was better than a year ago.

The percentage unemployed at the end of February among all classes of "insured" workpeople usually engaged in engineering and ironfounding was 2.3, compared with 2.1 at the end of January.

Returns from Trade Unions, with a net membership of 215,176, showed 1.5 per cent. unemployed at the end of February, compared with 1.6 per cent. at the end of January, and 2.4 per cent. at the end of February, 1912. The maximum percentage in any district was only 2.1 per cent. As compared with a month ago, little change was shown. As compared with a year ago, nearly every district shared in the improvement, which was most marked in the East of Scotland, the Belfast and Dublin, and the Oldham, Bolton, and Blackburn districts.

District.	No. of Members* of Unions at end of Feb., 1913.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1913, on a	
		Feb., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		1913.	1913.	1912.	Month ago.	Year ago.
North-East Coast	16,943	1.2	1.4	2.7	- 0.2	- 1.5
Manchester and Liverpool District	21,832	1.5	1.9	..	..	- 0.4
Oldham, Bolton, and Blackburn District	13,393	2.0	2.5	4.6	- 0.5	- 2.6
West Riding Towns	14,451	1.9	1.8	2.9	+ 0.1	- 1.0
Hull and Lincolnshire District	5,153	1.1	1.3	2.9	- 0.2	- 1.8
Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Coventry District	9,688	2.1	1.1	1.1	+ 1.0	+ 1.0
Nottingham, Derby, and Loughborough District	5,106	2.0	1.9	1.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
London and neighbouring District	12,990	1.8	1.9	2.0	- 0.1	- 0.2
South Coast	5,342	0.6	1.1	1.2	- 0.5	- 0.6
South Wales and Bristol District	7,565	1.0	1.8	2.1	- 0.8	- 1.1
Glasgow and District	19,860	1.9	2.0	3.1	- 0.1	- 1.2
East of Scotland	4,375	1.9	1.7	6.0	+ 0.2	- 4.1
Belfast and Dublin	3,961	1.2	2.5	4.3	- 1.3	- 3.1
Other Districts	6,707	0.6	0.9	1.1	- 0.3	- 0.5
United Kingdom (Including certain Unions for which District figures are not available)	215,176	1.5	1.6	2.4	- 0.1	- 0.9

Employment on the North-East Coast continued very good, with much overtime and night-shifts.

Employment in Lancashire and Cheshire was good, better than in the previous month and much better than in February, 1912; overtime was worked in several towns. Spindle makers, however, reported it as only moderate, and pattern makers at Bury and at Liverpool reported it as bad.

Employment in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire continued very good, with much overtime. Ironfounders at

* Exclusive of superannuated members.

Sheffield reported a decline, while coremakers at Sheffield and pattern makers and boiler makers at Leeds reported an improvement. At Lincoln it showed some decline in the heavy iron sections.

Employment in the Midland Counties continued good, with some overtime, especially in the motor-car and motor-cycle trades; employment at Birmingham was, however, slightly affected by a strike of labourers at one firm. At Nottingham the lace machinery trade was slack, with some short time; employment in other trades (except the motor-cycle trade) was not particularly good, though some overtime was still being worked. Employment was good in the Eastern Counties, with overtime in many towns; there was, however, a decline at Ipswich, some short time being worked.

Employment was good in London, and very good on the Medway, the South Coast, and the Bristol Channel.

In Scotland employment continued very good, overtime being fairly general, except at Falkirk, where it continued to be slack in some departments. At Dundee it was better than a month ago.

Employment in Ireland was very good, better than in January, and much better than in February of last year.

The Imports of machinery in February, 1913, amounted to £520,223, or £153,504 less than in January, 1913, and £10,654 more than in February, 1912.

The Exports (British and Irish) of machinery in February, 1913, amounted to £2,712,629, or £399,845 less than in January, 1913, and £365,973 more than in February, 1912.

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT was very good, and rather better than a year ago.

The percentage unemployed at the end of February among all classes of "insured" workpeople usually engaged in shipbuilding was 3.4, compared with 3.3 at the end of January.

Trade Unions with a membership of 72,415 reported 2.4 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of February, as compared with 2.7 per cent. at the end of January, and 2.8 per cent. at the end of February, 1912.

District.	No. of Mem- bers* of Unions at end of Feb., 1913.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1913, on a	
		Feb., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		1913.	1913.	1912.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Tyne and Blyth	10,999	2.6	2.5	3.9	+ 0.1	- 1.3
Wear	5,840	2.6	3.3	3.6	- 0.7	- 1.0
Tees and Hartlepool	5,800	2.1	1.9	5.5	+ 0.2	- 3.4
Humber	2,886	5.2	2.2	3.5	+ 3.0	+ 1.7
Thames and Medway	4,723	8.5	8.8	2.3	- 0.3	+ 6.2
South Coast	5,251	1.0	0.8	1.6	+ 0.2	- 0.6
Bristol Channel Ports	2,819	3.7	8.4	8.1	- 4.7	- 4.4
Mersey	5,607	1.2	1.4	4.1	- 0.2	- 2.9
Clyde	18,072	1.3	1.8	1.1	- 0.5	+ 0.2
Dundee, Leith and Aberdeen	2,611	2.8	4.5	2.9	- 1.7	- 0.1
Belfast	3,887	0.5	0.9	0.7	- 0.4	- 0.2
Other Districts	3,320	1.4	1.5	0.7	- 0.1	+ 0.7
United Kingdom	72,415	2.4	2.7	2.8	- 0.3	- 0.4

Employment on the North-East Coast was very good on the whole. Ship-joiners, however, at Middlesbrough reported it as bad. On the Humber employment remained good.

Employment on the Thames was fairly good on repairs, but slack on new work; barge builders again reported it as very good. On the South Coast and the Bristol Channel it continued very good, much overtime being worked at the South Wales ports. On the Mersey also it continued very good, boiler-makers working overtime on old and new work. At Barrow a shortage of riveters and drillers was reported.

On the Clyde employment continued very good, the weather being more favourable for outside work than in January; repair work, however, was somewhat slack, and joiners reported a further decline. On the East Coast of Scotland it was very good, and an improvement on last month was reported, especially on repair work at Leith, where boiler-makers and shipwrights worked much overtime.

Employment at Belfast was still very good; at Dublin it was fair.

* Exclusive of Superannuated Members.
† Revised figures.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good on the whole, and was about the same as in the previous month, and in February, 1912. Trade Unions, with 31,968 members, reported 1.5 per cent. unemployed at the end of February, 1913, as compared with 1.6 per cent. in the previous month, and 1.3 per cent. in February, 1912.

Brasswork, Bedsteads, &c.—Employment with brass-workers was good on the whole, but not quite so good as a month ago and a year ago. With bedstead workers at Birmingham it continued quiet.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, &c.—Employment at Birmingham and Smethwick was fairly good in the nut, bolt, wire nail, and rivet trades. It was also good on the Tyne and at Blackheath and Halesowen.

Wire.—Employment continued good, and showed little change compared with the previous month. It was, however, quiet with vermin trap makers at Wolverhampton.

Locks, Keys, and General Hardware.—Employment in the lock and latch trade at Wolverhampton and Willenhall was fair, but some short time was still worked. It was not so good as in January, and was about the same as a year ago. The hollow-ware trade at West Bromwich was reported as fairly good. Employment was good at Wolverhampton with makers of tin and enamelled hollow-ware, and with stampers and piecers; in the galvanised hollow-ware trade at Wolverhampton and in the neighbouring towns it was fair, but showed a decline on the previous month, and some short time was worked, owing to seasonal slackness.

Stoves, Grates, &c.—Employment was generally fair in England, but was slack, with some short time, in the Sheffield and Rotherham district. In Scotland it was bad, and worse than in either January, 1913, or February, 1912.

Cutlery, Tools, Bits, Stirrups, &c.—Employment at Sheffield continued good on the whole; much overtime was worked by saw-grinders, but with razor-grinders employment was slack. At Birmingham and at Wednesbury the various tool trades were well employed, and the edge tool trade at the latter place reported an improvement. Employment in the bit and stirrup, harness, and saddlery furniture trade at Walsall was very slack; in the buckle and cart-gear trade it was fair. At Redditch employment in the needle and fish hook trades continued good, but showed some decline on the previous month.

Tubes.—Employment in South Staffordshire was good, about the same as in the previous month, and better than in February, 1912. It was also good at Birmingham in the brass and copper tube trades, but only moderate in the bedstead tube trade.

Chains, Anchors, Springs, &c.—Employment in the chain trade at Cradley was good, but showed a decline on the previous month. Employment was fairly good on the Tyne and the Wear. Employment in the anvil and vice trade in Dudley and district was still good. With anchor smiths it was good on the North-East Coast, and fair, but not so good as a month ago, at Cradley. Employment was good at Wednesbury in the railway spring trade, and fairly good with spring makers at Birmingham and West Bromwich.

Sheet Metal Workers.—Employment with braziers and sheet metal workers generally continued good, and showed little change, on the whole, compared with the previous month, though a decline was reported at Dundee. With tinplate workers employment was good, and better than a month ago; a considerable amount of overtime was worked at Wolverhampton, but at Oldham there was some short time. Ironplate workers at Birmingham were well employed, and reported an improvement on the previous month.

Gold, Silver, and Britannia Metal.—The jewellery trade at Birmingham was reported as moderate; the gold section showed an improvement, but the silver section was quiet. Electro-platers, silversmiths, and britannia metal workers at Birmingham reported employment as

quiet, but better than in the previous month. The watch trade at Coventry was fair. Employment in these trades was quiet at Sheffield; in London it was fair for the time of year.

Imports and Exports.—The Table below shows the value of cutlery and hardware imported and exported for the months stated:—

Description.	Feb., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1913, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Cutlery	£ 11,602	£ 10,384	£ 11,153	+ 1,218	+ 449
Hardware	99,349	106,985	101,023	- 7,636	- 1,674
Exports (British & Irish):					
Cutlery	51,760	74,496	51,512	- 22,736	+ 248
Hardware	205,171	228,418	226,283	- 23,247	- 21,112
Implements and Tools	217,341	249,939	190,657	- 31,598	+ 26,684

COTTON TRADE.

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

Returns from firms employing 119,508 workpeople in the week ended February 22nd showed no change in the number employed, and a decrease of 0.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 1.0 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. The comparison with a year ago is affected by the advance in wages in July, 1912.

Departments.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing	14,719	+ 0.2	+ 1.2	13,695	+ 0.8	+ 3.5
Spinning	25,950	- 0.3	+ 1.6	25,445	- 0.7	+ 2.7
Weaving	54,318	- 0.2	+ 0.4	54,621	- 0.5	- 3.5
Other	9,513	+ 0.3	+ 3.1	11,632	+ 0.2	+ 1.9
Not specified	14,103	+ 1.2	+ 0.3	15,151	+ 0.8	+ 4.0
Total	119,508	+ 0.0	+ 1.0	120,544	- 0.2	+ 3.3
Districts.						
Ashton	6,941	- 0.2	- 0.1	7,127	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Stockport, Glossop, and Hyde	6,930	+ 0.5	+ 3.1	6,878	- 0.1	+ 5.8
Oldham	12,715	+ 0.3	+ 2.0	13,729	- 0.4	+ 1.8
Bolton and Leigh	14,108	- 0.2	+ 1.1	13,451	- 1.1	+ 2.0
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden, & Todmorden	10,197	- 0.0	+ 2.1	10,338	- 0.3	+ 5.8
Manchester	9,183	- 0.2	- 0.8	9,789	- 1.8	+ 1.9
Preston and Chorley	10,856	+ 0.0	+ 0.1	10,394	- 0.7	+ 4.3
Blackburn, Accrington, & Darwen	17,156	- 0.0	+ 2.6	18,248	+ 1.0	+ 6.1
Burnley, Padiham, Colne, and Nelson	14,005	- 0.2	- 0.5	17,459	+ 0.6	+ 2.1
Other Lancashire Towns	5,537	+ 4.1	+ 1.9	4,603	+ 2.2	+ 4.2
Yorkshire Towns	4,238	- 1.1	- 0.9	4,019	- 1.0	+ 0.3
Other Districts	7,582	- 1.1	- 0.9	6,459	- 1.9	+ 2.9
Total	119,508	+ 0.0	+ 1.0	120,544	- 0.2	+ 3.3

In the Oldham district employment continued good; in the Bolton district it showed some decline on a month ago. In the Stockport, Bury and Blackburn districts it was rather better than a year ago. In the Manchester district spinners and weavers continued well employed, though there was a slight slackening compared with a month ago. In Yorkshire employment was reported as good, and showed little change compared with either a month ago or a year ago.

Cotton forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns.

Particulars of the various descriptions of cotton forwarded from ports to inland towns are given in the following Table for the months stated:—

Description of Cotton.	Feb., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1913, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
American	257,070	314,568	302,478	- 57,488	- 45,408
Brazilian	9,377	9,819	5,374	- 442	+ 4,003
East Indian	3,912	3,253	3,564	+ 659	+ 358
Egyptian	33,370	67,761	43,087	- 34,391	- 9,717
Miscellaneous	8,702	11,020	8,841	- 2,318	- 139
Total	312,431	406,411	363,334	- 93,980	- 50,903

Prices of Cotton at Liverpool.

Description.	Feb., 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in February, 1913, on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.
Middling American:	Pence per lb.	Pence per lb.	Pence per lb.
Monthly average of Daily Quotations	6.86	- 0.05	+ 0.99
Highest Price on any one day	6.99	- 0.20	+ 0.96
Lowest	6.73	+ 0.05	+ 1.13
Good Fair Egyptian:	Pence per lb.	Pence per lb.	Pence per lb.
Monthly average of Daily Quotations	9.65	- 0.02	+ 0.74
Highest Price on any one day	9.80	- 0.10	+ 0.80
Lowest	9.55	+ 0.05	+ 0.80

The visible supply of American cotton for the United Kingdom on March 7th, 1913, was estimated by the Liverpool Cotton Association to be 1,337,780 bales, as compared with 1,358,720 bales on March 8th, 1912.

Exports of British Cotton Goods.

The Table below shows the quantity of exported cotton yarn and cotton piece goods for the months stated:—

Description.	Feb., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1913, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Cotton Yarn and Twist—	1,000 yds.	1,000 yds.	1,000 yds.	1,000 yds.	1,000 yds.
Grey	14,195	15,673	17,648	- 1,478	- 3,453
Bleached and Dyed	2,566	3,420	2,735	- 804	- 169
Total	16,761	19,093	20,383	- 2,332	- 3,622
Cotton Thread for Sewing..	1,694	1,880	1,703	- 186	- 9
Cotton Piece Goods—	1,000 yds.	1,000 yds.	1,000 yds.	1,000 yds.	1,000 yds.
Grey or Unbleached	194,789	214,772	124,174	- 19,983	+ 70,615
Bleached	171,879	196,816	160,979	- 24,937	+ 10,900
Printed	96,411	113,023	100,180	- 16,612	- 3,769
Dyed or Manufactured of Dyed Yarn	102,644	125,159	104,196	- 22,515	- 1,552
Total	565,723	649,770	489,529	- 84,047	+ 76,194

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

Woollen Trade.

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

Returns from firms employing 27,809 workpeople in the week ended February 22nd showed an increase of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 1.5 per cent. in the number employed, and of 4.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Departments.	Workpeople.		Earnings.	
	Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.
Wool Sorting	709	+ 31	£ 716	+ 27
Spinning	5,797	+ 0.8	5,669	+ 1.6
Weaving	11,460	- 0.2	10,517	+ 0.4
Other Departments	7,997	+ 0.2	8,467	+ 1.0
Not specified	1,846	+ 0.5	1,373	+ 0.7
Total	27,809	+ 0.2	26,742	+ 0.8
Districts.				
Huddersfield District	4,013	+ 1.2	4,396	+ 2.1
Leeds District	2,705	- 0.3	2,672	- 1.4
Dewsbury & Batley District	4,831	+ 0.8	5,256	+ 1.3
Other Parts of West Riding	2,509	- 1.7	2,585	- 0.1
Total, West Riding	14,058	+ 0.3	14,899	+ 0.8
Scotland	7,281	- 0.2	6,801	+ 0.8
Other Districts	6,470	+ 0.6	6,042	+ 0.5
Total	27,809	+ 0.2	26,742	+ 0.8

* The quotations of Egyptian cotton for January, 1913, and February, 1913, are for cotton sold new terms—f.o.b., without discount.

In the Huddersfield district employment continued good, and was better than a year ago; nightwork and overtime were reported at many of the mills. In the Leeds district and in the Dewsbury and Batley district a good deal of overtime was reported, and employment was better than a year ago; compared with a month ago, there was a slight decline in the weaving branch in both districts. In Scotland employment, on the whole, showed little change compared with either a month ago or a year ago.

Worsted Trade.

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

Returns from firms employing 41,237 workpeople in the week ended February 22nd showed a decrease of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed, and an increase of 1.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 0.7 per cent. in the number employed, and of 5.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Departments.	Workpeople.		Earnings.	
	Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.
Wool Sorting & Combing	5,460	+ 3.1	£ 6,066	+ 6.6
Spinning	21,028	- 0.9	12,650	- 0.1
Weaving	8,663	- 1.3	8,076	+ 0.2
Other Departments	4,267	+ 0.2	4,542	+ 0.4
Not specified	1,819	+ 1.9	1,505	+ 0.8
Total	41,237	- 0.2	32,839	+ 1.1
Districts.				
Bradford District	22,276	- 0.1	13,074	+ 1.6
Keighley District	6,476	- 0.8	4,997	- 1.2
Halifax District	3,189	- 0.1	2,274	+ 0.7
Huddersfield District	4,264	+ 0.5	3,858	+ 2.7
Other Parts of West Riding	2,379	- 1.4	1,636	+ 0.6
Total, West Riding	38,584	- 0.2	30,839	+ 1.2
Other Districts	2,653	- 1.0	2,000	+ 1.1
Total	41,237	- 0.2	32,839	+ 1.1

In the Bradford district employment was good; all the principal branches showed an improvement compared with a year ago; compared with a month ago, there was a slight decline in weaving, but an improvement in wool-combing and spinning. In the Keighley district there was a decline in the spinning branch, compared with both a month ago and a year ago, but employment, on the whole, was better than a year ago. In the Halifax and Huddersfield districts employment was good, and better than a year ago, especially in the latter district. A deficiency of labour was reported in Bradford, Halifax, and other parts of Yorkshire.

Imports and Exports.—The Table below shows the quantities of wool imported and exported, and of British and Irish Exports of woollen and worsted yarns and piece goods for the months stated. The wool imported during February, 1913, showed a large increase on the quantity for the previous month and for a year ago. In the case of woollen and worsted piece goods exported there was some decrease on both a month ago and a year ago.

Description.	Feb., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1913, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports and Exports of Wool (SHEEP OR LAMBS).					
Imports	1,000 lbs.	140,434	116,365	110,597	+ 24,069
Re-Exports	1,000 lbs.	2,223	3,342	2,897	- 1,119
Total	1,000 lbs.	32,901	23,428	53,166	+ 9,473
British and Irish Manufactures Exported.					
Woolen	1,000 lbs.	378	432	524	- 54
Worsted	1,000 lbs.	3,863	4,566	4,531	- 703
Alpaca and Mohair	1,000 lbs.	1,200	1,306	1,140	- 66
Total, Yarn	1,000 lbs.	5,441	6,304	6,195	- 813
Piece Goods:					
Woolen	1,000 yds.	8,628	11,631	9,059	- 3,003
Worsted	1,000 yds.	4,598	8,130	6,544	- 3,532
Total, Piece Goods	1,000 yds.	13,226	19,761	15,603	- 6,535

Prices of Wool.

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

Description.	Feb., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Feb., 1912.
Average Prices:			
Lincoln Hogs	11½	11½	9½
40's Crossbred tops	16½	16	13½
60's Super Botany tops	30	29¾	25½
Course of Prices:			
Lincoln Hogs	11½, 12	11½, 11¼	9½, 10
40's Crossbred tops	16, 16½	16	13½, 13¼
60's Super Botany tops	30	29¾, 30	25½, 25¼, 25½

LINEN TRADE.

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

Returns from firms employing 41,880 workpeople in the week ended February 22nd showed a decrease of 0.3 per cent. in the number employed, and an increase of 1.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 0.6 per cent. in the number employed, and an increase of 5.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Departments.	Workpeople.		Earnings.	
	Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.
Preparing	5,381	+ 0.8	£ 3,186	+ 1.4
Spinning	9,689	- 0.5	4,977	+ 2.3
Weaving	14,844	- 0.8	10,000	+ 2.7
Other	6,292	+ 0.7	5,060	- 0.7
Not specified	5,674	- 1.1	3,489	+ 2.7
Total	41,880	- 0.3	26,712	+ 1.8
Districts.				
Belfast	17,620	- 0.0	11,516	+ 3.0
Other Places in Ireland	11,196	- 0.6	6,522	+ 0.5
Total, Ireland	28,816	- 0.3	17,838	+ 2.1
Fife	5,929	- 0.5	4,074	+ 0.6
Other Places in Scotland	6,284	- 0.5	4,243	+ 2.1
Total, Scotland	12,213	- 0.5	8,317	+ 1.4
England	851	- 0.7	557	+ 0.7
United Kingdom	41,880	- 0.3	26,712	+ 1.8

In the Belfast district employment showed an improvement compared with a month ago, and was much better than a year ago, when short time was reported in all departments. In other parts of Ireland there was little change compared with a month ago, and some improvement compared with a year ago. In Scotland employment continued good, and was rather better than a year ago. There was still a general scarcity of women workers, especially weavers.

Imports and Exports.—The Table below shows the quantities of imported flax, and of British and Irish exports of linen yarn and manufactured goods, for the months stated:—

Description.	Feb., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1913, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Flax (Dressed and Undressed, Tow or Cordilla)	21,308	18,209	12,294	+ 3,099	+ 9,014
Exports (British & Irish):					
Linen Yarn	12,365	16,566	16,196	- 4,201	- 3,831
Linen Piece Goods	176,698	208,632	149,274	- 31,934	+ 27,424

JUTE TRADE.

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

Returns from firms employing 14,904 workpeople in the week ended February 22nd showed a decrease of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed, and no change in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago.

Compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 0.9 per cent. in the number employed, and an increase of 7.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Departments.	Workpeople.		Earnings.	
	Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.
Preparing	3,432	- 0.5	£ 2,589	- 0.6
Spinning	4,153	+ 0.4	2,909	+ 7.2
Weaving	5,224	- 0.6	4,132	+ 0.8
Other	2,095	- 2.0	2,127	+ 5.6
Total	14,904	- 0.2	11,757	+ 0.0

Compared with a month ago, there was little change in the number employed in any of the departments. Compared with a year ago the wages paid increased 10.3, 7.2, and 6.2 per cent. in the preparing, spinning and weaving departments respectively, mainly owing to recent advances in rates of wages. Of the 14,904 workpeople reported on, 12,851 (or 86.2 per cent.) were employed in Dundee and district: employment in this district was good, and better than in February, 1912, towards the end of which month it was disorganised by a dispute. A scarcity of both spinners and weavers was reported.

Imports and Exports.—The Table below shows the quantities of imported jute, and of British and Irish exports of jute yarn and manufactured goods, for the months stated:—

Description.	Feb., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1913, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Jute	35,166	62,758	51,408	- 27,592	- 16,242
Exports (British & Irish):					
Jute Yarn	37,823	37,794	41,497	+ 29	- 3,674
Jute Piece Goods	128,541	157,141	146,790	- 28,601	- 18,250

LACE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT, on the whole, continued fair, and was better than a year ago, especially in the plain net branch.

Returns from firms employing 6,108 workpeople in the week ended February 22nd showed an increase of 0.6 per cent. in the number employed, and of 1.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 0.1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 4.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Branches.	Workpeople.		Earnings.	
	Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.
Levers	1,456	+ 0.3	£ 1,948	+ 3.3
Curtain	2,595	+ 0.8	2,678	- 0.7
Plain Net	1,426	+ 0.8	1,178	+ 0.3
Others	631	- 0.2	479	+ 5.3
Total	6,108	+ 0.6	6,283	+ 1.2
Districts.				
Nottingham City	1,452	+ 2.6	1,390	+ 3.1
Long Eaton and other outlying districts	997	- 1.1	1,39	

Imports and Exports.—The Table below shows the values of lace imported and exported for the months stated:—

Description.	Feb., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1913, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Cotton Lace	250,569	235,340	242,252	+ 15,229	+ 8,317
Silk Lace	34,568	35,270	11,009	- 702	+ 23,569
Exports (British & Irish):					
Cotton Lace	370,766	452,118	349,828	- 81,352	+ 20,938
Silk Lace	1,048	1,672	3,717	- 624	- 2,659

HOSIERY TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT showed little change compared with a month ago, and was slightly better than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 17,670 workpeople in the week ended February 22nd showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 2.3 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

District.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Leicester	7,885	- 0.0	+ 1.0	6,691	- 0.0	- 0.8
Leicester Country District ..	2,325	+ 0.4	+ 3.6	1,850	- 0.1	+ 6.4
Notts and Derbyshire	4,806	- 0.4	+ 3.2	3,856	- 0.9	+ 0.8
Scotland	2,289	- 1.6	+ 3.7	1,716	+ 1.4	+ 5.8
Other Districts	365	- 3.7	+ 2.8	223	- 0.9	+ 8.3
Total, United Kingdom	17,670	- 0.4	+ 2.3	14,436	- 0.1	+ 2.6

At Leicester employment continued fairly good, and showed little change compared with a year ago. At Hinckley it was good in the seamless hose department, and fair in other branches; at Loughborough operatives were well employed. With power frame workers in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire employment continued good, and was slightly better than a year ago; with hand frame workers in the country districts it was fairly good. In Scotland employment continued good, and was better than a year ago.

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

Description.	Feb., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1913, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Hosiery, Woollen	43,597	37,940	44,270	+ 5,657	- 673
" Cotton	215,733	166,286	176,957	+ 49,447	+ 38,776
Exports (British & Irish):					
Hosiery, Woollen	187,587	221,704	187,545	- 34,117	+ 42
" Cotton	56,945	63,826	47,185	- 6,881	+ 9,760

SILK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good generally, and was about the same as a year ago.

Branches.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Throwing	888	- 0.7	- 12.9	401	+ 1.8	- 8.2
Spinning	2,226	- 1.5	- 6.9	1,801	- 2.5	- 2.4
Weaving	3,588	+ 1.4	+ 2.9	2,519	- 0.4	+ 1.2
Other	896	+ 1.2	- 4.5	686	+ 4.7	- 1.3
Not specified	790	-	- 3.5	601	+ 4.5	+ 4.2
Total	8,388	- 1.0	- 3.1	6,008	+ 0.1	- 0.6
Districts.						
Lancashire and W. Riding of Yorkshire	3,114	- 1.5	- 4.8	2,554	- 1.8	- 3.1
Macclesfield, Congleton and District	732	+ 0.1	+ 9.7	581	+ 1.9	+ 7.8
Eastern Counties	2,929	- 0.6	+ 3.4	1,845	+ 2.7	- 1.2
Other Districts, including Scotland and Leek	1,613	- 1.0	- 4.3	1,028	- 0.5	+ 2.8
Total	8,388	- 1.0	- 3.1	6,008	+ 0.1	- 0.6

Returns from firms employing 8,388 workpeople in the week ended February 22nd showed a decrease of 1.0 per cent. in the number employed, and an increase of 0.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 3.1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

At Macclesfield employment was good in most branches, and better than a month ago; with "outside" hand-loom weavers it continued bad, and with makers-up it was fair. At Leek and Congleton employment was good with throwsters and spinners, and moderate with trimming weavers. In the Bradford and Huddersfield district it continued fairly good, and was about the same as a year ago. In the Eastern Counties it was fair generally, rather better than a month ago, and about the same as a year ago. In Dublin employment continued fair.

Imports and Exports.

Description.	Feb., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1913, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Raw Silk lbs	44,424	98,400	116,647	- 53,976	- 72,223
Thrown Silk lbs	41,532	45,775	42,111	- 4,183	- 519
Spun Silk Yarn lbs	42,640	54,509	52,114	- 11,989	- 9,874
Silk Broad-Stuffs .. yds	6,666,400	6,232,426	6,509,266	+ 433,974	+ 157,134
Exports (British & Irish):					
Thrown silk lbs	5,414	5,960	7,289	- 546	- 1,875
Spun Silk Yarn lbs	71,578	97,107	76,612	- 25,529	- 5,034
Silk Broad-Stuffs .. yds	383,963	410,471	435,966	- 26,508	- 52,003

CARPET TRADE.

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

Returns from firms employing 8,480 workpeople, and paying £7,519 in wages, in the week ended February 22nd, 1913, showed an increase of 1.5 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 3.0 per cent. in the number employed, and of 4.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

In the Kidderminster district employment was better than a month ago. In the West Riding of Yorkshire it was very good. In Scotland employment continued fairly good.

BLEACHING, PRINTING, DYEING AND FINISHING.

EMPLOYMENT, on the whole, was good, and better than a year ago; it was, however, still affected by the dispute in Yorkshire, which continued during the whole of February.

Returns from firms* employing 21,338 workpeople in the week ended February 22nd showed an increase of 0.1 per cent. in the number employed, and a decrease of 0.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 1.9 per cent. in the number employed, and of 5.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Trades:—	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Bleaching	3,553	+ 0.1	+ 3.2	3,663	- 0.8	+ 4.8
Printing	907	+ 0.2	+ 4.3	1,174	- 0.2	+ 12.7
Dyeing	5,804	- 0.3	- 0.0	7,238	+ 0.1	+ 5.4
Trimming, Finishing, and Other Departments ..	10,275	+ 0.3	+ 2.5	11,187	+ 0.4	+ 5.9
Not specified	799	+ 0.1	- 0.7	937	- 3.3	- 3.0
Total	21,338	+ 0.1	+ 1.9	24,199	- 0.1	+ 5.5
Districts:—						
Yorkshire	3,725	+ 1.8	+ 3.6	4,756	+ 6.7	+ 9.9
Lancashire	10,404	- 0.4	+ 2.5	12,428	- 1.7	+ 6.7
Scotland	3,416	- 0.9	- 1.4	3,078	- 3.1	+ 0.9
Ireland	808	- 0.7	- 2.1	644	+ 1.9	- 2.1
Other Districts	2,985	+ 1.1	+ 2.6	3,293	- 0.5	+ 1.3
Total	21,338	+ 0.1	+ 1.9	24,199	- 0.1	+ 5.5

* Excluding those affected by the dispute.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

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

Returns from firms employing 68,903 workpeople in the week ended February 22nd showed an increase of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 3.0 per cent. in the number employed, and of 4.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

District.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
ENGLAND & WALES						
London	2,816	+ 2.2	- 1.3	3,156	+ 3.3	- 1.6
Leicester	13,910	+ 1.5	+ 4.3	16,005	+ 2.6	+ 4.9
Leicester Country District ..	3,121	+ 0.3	+ 1.9	3,147	- 2.0	+ 3.9
Northampton	11,379	+ 0.2	+ 2.7	11,720	+ 0.2	+ 6.5
Northampton Country District ..	9,686	+ 0.2	+ 5.7	9,521	+ 0.8	+ 6.3
Kettering	3,936	- 0.3	+ 4.1	4,004	+ 1.0	+ 6.3
Stafford & District	3,003	- 1.0	+ 7.5	3,000	- 0.9	+ 13.0
Norwich & District	4,146	- 0.5	+ 6.7	3,591	+ 1.2	+ 6.6
Bristol & District	1,392	+ 0.7	- 1.2	1,242	- 1.7	+ 7.3
Kingswood	1,904	- 1.2	+ 0.8	1,689	- 0.7	+ 4.5
Leeds & District	2,185	- 3.2	-	1,932	- 6.0	+ 0.7
Manchester & District	3,148	- 1.1	- 4.8	2,921	+ 4.9	- 5.2
Birmingham & District	900	+ 1.4	+ 10.3	678	- 8.4	- 3.1
Other parts of England and Wales	3,503	- 0.8	+ 3.7	3,104	+ 0.6	+ 2.0
ENGLAND & WALES	65,029	+ 0.2	+ 3.3	65,716	+ 0.8	+ 4.7
SCOTLAND	3,485	+ 0.3	- 1.0	3,670	+ 2.3	+ 6.5
IRELAND	389	+ 1.3	- 7.2	252	+ 9.1	- 3.4
UNITED KINGDOM	68,903	+ 0.2	+ 3.0	69,638	+ 0.9	+ 4.8

At Leicester employment was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. At Northampton and Kettering employment, on the whole, showed little change compared with a month ago, but was better than a year ago; with army bootmakers in Northamptonshire it was good. At Stafford employment showed a decline compared with a month ago, but was much better than a year ago. At Bristol employment was fairly good, and better than a year ago. In the heavy boot trade at Kingswood and at Leeds there was a further seasonal decline, but employment was better than a year ago at Kingswood. In Scotland it was fairly good, and better than a month and a year ago.

Imports and Exports of Boots and Shoes.—The following Table shows the quantities and values of the boots and shoes imported and exported for the months stated:—

Description of Boots and Shoe.	Feb., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1913, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports (less re-exports):					
Leather .. doz. pairs	16,710	15,331	17,254	+ 1,379	- 544
" value £	63,326	59,842	73,037	+ 3,483	- 9,712
Rubber .. doz. pairs	5,933	3,118	5,297	+ 2,815	+ 676
" value £	7,119	4,945	5,421	+ 2,174	+ 1,688
Other materials .. doz. pairs	3,172	5,492	4,468	- 2,320	- 1,696
" value £	2,352	3,727	3,464	- 1,375	- 1,112
Exports (British & Irish)					
Leather .. doz. pairs	120,782	127,223	115,609	- 6,441	+ 5,173
" value £	337,306	371,464	311,000	- 34,159	+ 26,305
Rubber .. doz. pairs	10,760	8,719	10,325	+ 2,041	+ 475
" value £	11,202	10,132	10,755	+ 1,070	+ 447
Other materials .. doz. pairs	11,946	10,809	14,535	+ 1,137	- 2,589
" value £	8,481	7,582	9,984	+ 899	- 1,503

HAT TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during February in the silk hat trade was moderate, and about the same as a year ago.

In the felt hat trade employment was on the whole fair, and not so good as a month ago and a year ago; there was an improvement in the percentage of members unemployed, but short time was reported at the principal centres. The percentage of trade union members unemployed at the end of February was 0.7, compared with 0.9 a month ago, and 1.2 a year ago. At Denton employment was reported as quiet, at Stockport it was good, in Warwickshire it was fairly good.

Imports and Exports.—The Table below shows the

Bleaching.—Employment with cotton bleachers in Lancashire showed a slight decline compared with a month ago, but was better than a year ago. At Basford and Bulwell it was good, at Dundee it was fair.

Printing.—Employment with calico printers and engravers was fairly good in England and good in Scotland; it was generally better than a year ago.

Dyeing.—Employment with woollen, worsted, and cotton dyers in Yorkshire was much affected by a dispute; with the firms not thus affected it was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. With cotton dyers in Lancashire employment showed a slight decline compared with a month ago, but was fairly good, and better than a year ago. With silk dyers it was good at Macclesfield, fair at Leek, and bad at Congleton. With lace dyers at Nottingham it was good.

Trimming, Finishing, &c.—Employment with hosiery trimmers at Leicester and Basford was good, and better than a month ago; at Hinckley and Loughborough it continued good. With calender workers at Dundee it was fair, but was not so good as either a month ago or a year ago.

LEATHER TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT, on the whole, continued fair, though still quiet, in the saddlery trade; it was about the same as a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 3,068 reported 4.7 per cent. unemployed at the end of February, compared with 4.9 per cent. a month ago, and 5.1 per cent. a year ago.

Skinner, Tanners, Curriers, Dressers, &c.—With skinner employment continued good at Leeds and fair at Birmingham; it was fair, and better than a month ago, and about the same as a year ago, in London. With curriers employment was bad in London, and at Walsall and Birmingham, a large amount of short time being reported at Birmingham; employment continued good at Glasgow and at Doncaster, and was fair at Edinburgh and at Leeds. With general leather workers it continued good at Northampton and Manchester, and fair at Bolton, Bury, and Wigan.

Saddle and Harness Makers.—At Walsall employment showed a further decline, and was bad with brown and gig saddlers, many of whom were on short time; employment was also slack with harness makers, bridle cutters, and makers of horse collars. In the saddlery trade at Birmingham and Dublin employment was fair, and better than a month ago. It continued quiet with saddle and harness makers in London.

Miscellaneous.—Employment was fair, but not so good as a month ago, with portmanteau makers in London and Manchester; in London it was about the same as a year ago, but at Manchester it was not so good as a year ago. Employment was also fair generally with fancy leather workers, and about the same as a year ago.

Imports and Exports.—The Table below shows the imports of hides and undressed skins and of leather, and the exports of leather goods for the months stated:—

Description.	Feb., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1913, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Hides, raw, and pieces thereof, dry .. cwt.	61,398	74,229	54,853	- 12,831	+ 6,545
Ditto, wet cwt.	84,400	65,847	78,443	+ 18,553	+ 5,957

number of hats and bonnets, trimmed and untrimmed, imported and exported for the months stated:—

Description.	Feb., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1913, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Hats, Felt .. dozens	12,453	9,947	7,288	+ 2,506	+ 5,165
„ Straw	18,772	15,993	13,034	+ 2,579	+ 5,538
„ Other sorts ..	76,967	107,962	53,647	- 31,315	+ 23,020
Total	107,692	133,922	73,969	- 26,230	+ 33,723
Exports (British & Irish):					
Hats, Felt	73,554	72,462	73,301	+ 1,092	+ 253
„ Straw	70,056	69,854	63,529	+ 202	+ 6,527
„ Other sorts ..	15,537	19,023	16,114	- 3,486	- 577
Total	159,147	161,339	152,944	- 2,192	+ 6,203

TAILORING TRADE. Bespoke Branch.

London.—Employment during February showed the usual seasonal improvement, and was better than a year ago.

Returns from firms paying £9,397 to their workpeople (indoor workers and outworkers) during the four weeks ended February 22nd showed an increase of 11·8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 8·7 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Other Centres.—Employment was reported as quiet but improved at Liverpool and at Edinburgh, bad at Manchester, slack at Glasgow, dull at Dublin, and fair at Belfast.

Ready-made Branch.

London.—Employment was fairly good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. The trade union cutters reported it as good on contract work and fair in other departments.

Leeds.—Returns from firms employing 9,334 workpeople in their factories (in addition to persons employed on work for them in workshops) in the week ended February 22nd showed an increase of 1·1 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 4·3 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment in this branch was fairly good, and a deficiency of women machinists, &c., was reported. The Jewish operatives reported employment as good.

Other Centres.—At Bristol employment continued moderate, and some short time was worked. At Glasgow it was good, and better than a month ago. At Norwich it continued good, and was about the same as a year ago.

The Imports of apparel, not waterproofed, in February, 1913, were valued at £333,735, as compared with £244,910 in January, 1913, and £286,776 in February, 1912; and the Exports (British and Irish) for the same months at £748,672, £830,881, and £787,018 respectively.

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in London in the dressmaking trades was moderate with retail firms and quiet with court and private dressmakers; in both branches there was a slight decline compared with a year ago; in the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, &c., trades employment was fairly good. In the shirt and collar trade it was fair in England and Scotland and good in Ireland; in the corset trade generally it was fairly good.

Dressmaking, Millinery, and Mantle Trades.—Returns from retail firms in London, chiefly in the West End, employing 1,561 dressmakers in the week ended February 22nd showed a decrease of 4·0 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 1·0 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment during the month was moderate. Court and private dressmakers employing 938 workpeople in the week ended February 22nd showed an increase of 6·2 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 2·7 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment during the month was quiet. With milliners in the West End employment was fair.

In the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, under-clothing and millinery trades, firms in London employ-

ing 3,336 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended February 22nd showed an increase of 3·4 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 2·8 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was fairly good; a deficiency of labour was reported by several firms, especially in the millinery branch.

In Manchester employment in the mantle trade was good, and better than a month ago. In the costume, skirt and blouse trades firms employing 2,070 workpeople in the week ended February 22nd showed a decrease of 0·5 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 6·0 per cent. compared with a year ago, but employment was reported as good, and as better than a year ago; a deficiency of machinists, &c., was reported.

In Glasgow employment in the mantle trade was fair, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

Shirt and Collar Trade.—Returns from shirt and collar manufacturers in England, Scotland and Ireland employing 6,205 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers), and paying £4,374 in wages to indoor workers and outworkers in the week ended February 22nd, showed an increase of 3·0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 1·8 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was fair in England and Scotland, and good in Ireland.

Corset Trade.—Returns from corset manufacturers employing 5,603 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended February 22nd showed an increase of 0·1 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 3·1 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was fairly good.

PRINTING, BOOKBINDING AND PAPER TRADES.

PRINTING TRADES.

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

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Feb., 1913.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Feb., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	21,259	4·4	5·8	7·0	- 1·4	- 2·6
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	5,721	3·0	4·3	4·0	- 1·3	- 1·0
Lancs. and Cheshire ..	7,230	4·0	4·7	6·3	- 0·7	- 2·3
East Midland and Eastern Counties	2,713	2·0	2·7	2·4	- 0·7	- 0·4
West Midlands	2,663	2·9	3·2	3·8	- 0·3	- 0·9
S. & S.W. Counties and Wales	4,053	2·3	2·8	2·3	- 0·5	..
Scotland	5,198	4·3	4·2	3·4	+ 0·1	+ 0·9
Ireland	2,564	6·4	7·2	8·5	- 0·8	- 2·1
United Kingdom ..	51,401	3·9	4·9	5·5	- 1·0	- 1·6

London.—Employment was fair generally, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

Other Centres.—With letterpress printers at Edinburgh employment was slack, and worse than a month ago. At Bradford and at Hull employment was only moderate. At other principal centres it was fairly good, and better than a month ago and a year ago, though at Glasgow there was some decline as compared with February, 1912. With lithographic printers employment was quiet generally.

BOOKBINDING TRADES.

In London, Edinburgh, and Manchester employment was quiet, and rather worse than a month ago. In London it was better than a year ago. At Glasgow it was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Feb., 1913.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Feb., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	3,456	4·9	4·0	5·7	+ 0·9	- 0·8
Other Districts	2,962	3·0	2·1	3·0	+ 0·9	..
United Kingdom ..	6,418	4·0	3·1	4·3	+ 0·9	- 0·3

PAPER TRADES.

Employment in these trades continued good. It showed a slight improvement as compared with a year ago. Returns from firms employing 20,041 workpeople in the last week of the month showed a decrease in the total number of workpeople employed by them of 0·1 per cent. as compared with a month ago, and an increase of 0·8 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Machine-made Paper and Milled Boards:	Workpeople paid Wages in last week of Feb., 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.
Northern Counties	5,852	- 0·3	- 0·6
Midlands, Wales and Ireland ..	1,335	- 0·8	- 0·6
Southern Counties	6,777	+ 0·2	+ 0·0
Scotland	5,231	- 0·3	+ 0·3
Total, Machine-made Paper, &c.	19,195	- 0·1	+ 0·7
Hand-made Paper	846	- 0·2	+ 2·4
Total	20,041	- 0·1	+ 0·8

Trade Unions in the machine-made paper trade, with 4,025 members, had 0·8 per cent. unemployed at the end of February, the same percentage as a month ago. The corresponding percentage for February, 1912, was 1·3. In the hand-made paper trade, Trade Unions with 523 members had 5·4 per cent. unemployed at the end of February, as compared with 5·1 per cent. in January, and 5·7 per cent. in February, 1912.

The Imports of paper in February, 1913, were valued at £618,067, as compared with £611,699 in January, 1913, and £496,946 in February, 1912; and the Exports (British and Irish) for the same months were valued at £310,899, £334,844, and £296,432 respectively.

BUILDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT generally was moderate. It was better than a month ago and a year ago, except in the case of plumbers, with whom a decline was reported.

The percentage unemployed at the end of February among all classes of "insured" workpeople usually engaged in building and works of construction was 7·3, compared with 8·8 at the end of January.

The percentage of Trade Union carpenters and joiners unemployed at the end of February was 4·1, as compared with 5·6 a month ago, and 5·1 a year ago.

Returns received from 906 firms show an increase in the total number employed by them of 3·8 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 11·2 per cent. compared with a year ago.

District.	No. paid on last pay-day in Feb., 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		No. paid on last pay-day in Feb., 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Skilled Tradesmen.		Labourers.		
London	8,143	+ 468	+ 770	6,046	+ 381	+ 814
Northern Counties & Yorks.	2,738	+ 16	+ 310	2,185	+ 99	+ 228
Lancashire and Cheshire ..	4,677	+ 132	+ 577	4,461	+ 276	+ 965
Midland & Eastern Counties	3,983	+ 76	+ 664	3,538	- 54	+ 564
S. & S.W. Counties & Wales	4,878	+ 241	+ 341	3,321	+ 5	+ 281
Other Districts	733	+ 52	+ 101	469	- 1	+ 9
England and Wales ..	25,152	+ 985	+ 2,763	20,020	+ 706	+ 2,861
Scotland	3,260	+ 64	- 4	2,059	+ 141	+ 64
Ireland	554	+ 32	- 43	523	+ 52	+ 51
United Kingdom ..	28,966	+ 1,081	+ 2,716	22,602	+ 899	+ 2,976
		Lads and Boys.		Total.		
London	423	+ 18	- 13	14,612	+ 867	+ 1,571
Northern Counties & Yorks.	423	- 1	- 31	5,346	+ 114	+ 507
Lancashire and Cheshire ..	827	+ 10	- 64	9,965	+ 418	+ 1,478
Midland & Eastern Counties	381	- 8	+ 6	7,902	+ 14	+ 1,234
S. & S.W. Counties and Wales	616	+ 18	+ 29	8,815	+ 264	+ 654
Other Districts	55	..	- 6	1,257	+ 81	+ 101
England and Wales ..	2,725	+ 37	- 79	47,897	+ 1,728	+ 5,545
Scotland	687	- 4	- 62	6,006	+ 201	- 2
Ireland	107	+ 8	- 28	1,184	+ 92	- 20
United Kingdom ..	3,519	+ 41	- 169	55,087	+ 2,021	+ 5,523

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

Employment on the Tyne and Wear declined with carpenters and painters; it was good with masons and labourers on the Tyne, but slack with plasterers. It was good with bricklayers at Middlesbrough and with painters at the Hartlepoons. It was slack with carpenters and plasterers at Leeds, and slack, and worse than a month ago, with carpenters, plumbres, and plasterers at Sheffield. It continued fairly good with bricklayers and carpenters at Hull.

At Manchester employment was slack with bricklayers, plumbers, and plasterers, but good with labourers. At Liverpool it declined with carpenters. It was slack with plumbers at Liverpool and at Oldham. At Blackburn it was slack generally, except with painters. Employment was slack with bricklayers at Stockport, Preston, Northwich, and Widnes, and with carpenters at Bury, Rochdale, and Warrington. It was good with painters at Blackpool, Southport, and Barrow, but slack at St. Helens, Macclesfield, and Crewe.

Employment remained slack with plumbers and plasterers at Birmingham. At Nottingham it remained slack with carpenters and masons, and declined with bricklayers. At Burton and Stoke it was worse than a month ago with carpenters, and also at Burton with bricklayers. At Norwich it was slack generally; while at Leicester and at Lincoln it was fairly good on the whole. At Cambridge it was good with masons, but slack with plasterers and bricklayers, while it was dull with bricklayers at Walsall, Dudley, Malvern, and Stourbridge.

At Bristol and Cheltenham employment declined with bricklayers and masons, and was slack on the whole. It was slack with carpenters and bricklayers at Brighton and Bournemouth, with bricklayers at Newport and Gloucester, with plasterers at Portsmouth and Cardiff, and with painters, bricklayers, and plasterers at Plymouth. At Swansea it was slack with carpenters, but good with masons.

Employment was slack with masons and plasterers at Edinburgh, and with carpenters, plumbers, and plasterers at Dundee. It declined with bricklayers at Glasgow.

In Ireland employment continued slack on the whole; an improvement was, however, reported at Cork.

FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades was fairly good on the whole, and better than a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions with a total membership of 44,000 reported 2·7 per cent. of their membership as unemployed at the end of February, as compared with 3·5 per cent. at the end of the previous month, and 3·4 per cent. at the end of February, 1912.

Furnishing Trades.

Employment in February continued fair for the time of year, and was better than a month ago and a year ago. At the end of the month Trade Unions reported 3·8 per cent. of their members unemployed, compared with 5·4 per cent. in the previous month, and 4·8 per cent. in February, 1912. Employment was moderate at Manchester, quiet at Hull, and good at Belfast; it was good with cabinet makers at Newcastle and Dublin, and bad with french polishers in London.

The Imports of furniture and cabinet ware in February, 1913, were valued at £34,728, as compared with £33,377 in January, 1913, and £31,915 in February, 1912; and the Exports (British and Irish) for the same months were valued at £97,959, £113,896, and £108,103 respectively.

Mill Sawyers and Woodcutting Machinists.

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

The percentage unemployed at the end of February among all classes of "insured" workpeople usually engaged in sawmilling was 2·2, compared with 1·9 at the end of January.

Trade Unions reported 2.4 per cent. of their members as out of employment at the end of February, as compared with 2.8 per cent. in the previous month, and 3.8 per cent. a year ago.

Employment was good at Birmingham and Glasgow; at Manchester, Bristol, Liverpool, Bradford and in London it was fair; at Sheffield and Nottingham it was quiet, and at Hull and Leeds, bad.

Imports.—The Table below shows the quantities of hewn and sawn timber, and the values of house frames, &c., imported for the months stated:—

Description.	Feb., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1913, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Timber, hewn	218,490	253,503	180,824	- 35,013	+ 37,666
" sawn	187,073	305,447	117,958	- 118,374	+ 69,115
House Frames, Fittings and Joiners' Work (value)	£ 16,635	£ 8,621	£ 12,863	£ + 7,014	£ + 2,772

Coopers.

Employment with coopers was dull on the whole, and worse than either a month ago or a year ago. It was good, however, at Manchester, Edinburgh, and Dublin, and was fair at Liverpool (for wet coopers) and at Glasgow.

Coachbuilding.

Employment was good on the whole, and showed an improvement on a month ago; it was also better than a year ago. Trade Unions reported 1.7 per cent. of their members as unemployed at the end of the month, as against 2.3 per cent. a month ago, and 2.0 per cent. a year ago. Employment was very good at Birmingham, Coventry and Belfast; at Manchester and Salford, Sheffield, Glasgow and in London it was good; at Liverpool and Leicester, fair; at Cork it was moderate, and at Dublin, bad.

Miscellaneous.

Brushmaking.—Employment was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions reported 0.7 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of February, compared with 1.4 per cent. a month ago, and 1.3 per cent. a year ago.

The **Imports** of brushes and brooms in February, 1913, were valued at £35,610, as compared with £33,848 in January, 1913, and £38,875 in February, 1912; the **Exports** (British and Irish) for the same months were valued at £16,916, £19,938, and £16,373 respectively.

Other Trades.—Employment continued moderate on the whole with general wheelwrights and smiths; it was good at Newcastle and at Cardiff, and bad in London and at Nottingham. Employment with packing case makers was generally good, and better than a month ago; in London, however, it was quiet, and showed a decline on a month ago. It continued good with skip and basket makers at Oldham, and was fair with cane and wicker workers at Basford.

GLASS TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT generally continued fairly good.

Returns from firms employing 8,113 workpeople in the week ended February 22nd showed a decrease of 1.1 per cent. in the number employed, and an increase of 2.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 0.8 per cent. in the number employed, and of 5.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Employment with glass bottle makers was good at Castleford, Mexborough and Leeds, and fair at Barnsley. At Wakefield it was bad owing to works being closed for repairs. Employment was good in Lancashire and at Sunderland, Glasgow, Portobello, Bristol, and Dublin. With sheet-glass flatteners at St. Helens employment was fairly good; with sheet and plate-glass workers it was good. At Birmingham it continued fair with flint-glass makers, and good with plate-glass bevellers, with some

overtime; with flint-glass cutters it declined to moderate. In the Wordsley and Stourbridge district it was good with flint-glass makers and cutters, but again showed a slight decline. With pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear employment was moderate. With glass blowers in London it was fair, rather better than a month ago, but not so good as a year ago.

Branches.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Glass Bottle	5,958	- 1.6	+ 1.2	8,368	+ 2.5	+ 6.2
Flint Glass Ware (not bottles)	1,615	- 0.8	- 0.2	1,781	- 1.2	+ 0.4
Other Branches	540	+ 2.5	+ 0.4	649	+ 4.5	+ 3.8
Total	8,113	- 1.1	+ 0.8	10,798	+ 2.0	+ 5.0
Districts.						
North of England	730	+ 8.1	+ 4.9	915	+ 0.2	+ 6.4
Yorkshire	4,720	- 3.0	+ 0.7	6,705	+ 2.6	+ 6.7
Lancashire	825	- 1.8	- 4.0	1,009	+ 1.2	- 1.7
Worcestershire and Warwickshire	980	+ 1.2	+ 2.9	1,210	+ 1.0	+ 3.6
Scotland	495	+ 0.4	- 1.4	604	+ 2.0	+ 3.2
Other parts of the United Kingdom	363	- 0.5	+ 3.7	355	- 0.8	- 0.3
Total	8,113	- 1.1	+ 0.8	10,798	+ 2.0	+ 5.0

Imports and Exports.—The Table below shows the quantities of the various descriptions of glass imported and exported during the months stated:—

Description.	Feb., 1913.	Jan., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1913, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Window and German sheet glass, including shades, &c.	111,204	124,290	117,632	- 13,088	- 6,428
Plate	39,873	39,555	33,870	+ 318	+ 6,003
Flint, plain, cut or ornamental, &c.	71,121	79,101	67,898	+ 7,960	+ 3,223
Manufactures, other sorts	241	249	1,655	- 8	- 1,414
Bottles	160,052	172,746	134,091	- 12,694	+ 25,961
Exports (British & Irish):					
Plate	20,580	28,580	17,544	- 7,910	+ 3,136
Flint	6,641	7,858	8,268	- 1,217	- 1,627
Manufactures, other sorts	40,139	53,170	55,864	- 13,031	- 15,725
Bottles	74,998	83,487	80,039	- 8,489	- 5,041

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the pottery trades continued good, and showed an improvement on both a month ago and a year ago. Returns from firms employing 18,640 workpeople, in the week ended February 22nd, showed an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with the previous month; compared with February, 1912, there was an increase of 2.6 per cent. in the number employed, and of 6.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Branches:—	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
China Manufacture	3,099	+ 1.2	+ 4.6	3,554	+ 3.2	+ 11.6
Earthenware Manufacture	11,585	+ 0.8	+ 1.3	10,863	+ 3.4	+ 6.4
Other Branches (including unspecified)	3,956	- 1.3	+ 3.4	3,650	- 0.2	+ 7.1
Total	18,640	+ 0.4	+ 2.6	18,167	+ 2.6	+ 6.9
Districts:—						
Potteries	14,007	+ 0.9	+ 2.5	13,107	+ 3.5	+ 6.9
Other Districts	4,633	- 1.0	+ 2.9	5,060	+ 0.5	+ 6.9
Total	18,640	+ 0.4	+ 2.6	18,167	+ 2.6	+ 6.9

In the Potteries, employment continued good and showed an improvement both in the china and in the earthenware branches.

* The comparison with a year ago is affected by an increase in rates of wages.

In Scotland it was adversely affected by the carters' strike at Glasgow, but there was some improvement in the latter half of the month.

The **Imports** of chinaware and earthenware in February 1913, were valued at £79,589, as compared with £68,517 in January, 1913, and £72,169 in February, 1912; the **Exports** (British and Irish) for the same months were valued at £265,631, £291,519 and £248,308 respectively.

BRICK AND CEMENT TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the brick trade was on the whole fair, and better than in the previous month, or in February of last year. Employment in the cement trade continued good.

Returns from brickmaking firms employing 9,814 workpeople in the week ended February 22nd showed an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the number employed, and of 6.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with January. Compared with February, 1912, there were increases of 2.6 per cent. in the number employed, and of 9.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Feb. 22nd, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	3,197	- 0.7	+ 4.0	£ 4,057	+ 6.7	+ 13.7
Midlands and Eastern Counties	3,502	+ 0.9	+ 4.0	3,827	+ 6.0	+ 11.5
South and South-Western Counties and Wales	2,300	- 0.3	- 0.1	2,650	+ 6.3	+ 4.7
Scotland	537	+ 4.1	- 1.5	614	+ 3.9	- 0.2
Other Districts	278	+ 3.7	- 3.1	324	+ 5.9	+ 6.6
Total	9,814	+ 0.3	+ 2.6	11,472	+ 6.2	+ 9.8

Employment in the Northern Counties and in Yorkshire was good on the whole, and in Lancashire it was fair; in all these districts it was considerably better than a year ago. Employment was generally moderate in the West Midlands; it continued fair in South Staffordshire, and was better than a year ago, a shortage of labour being reported. The fire-brick trade in the Stourbridge, Lye, and Brierley Hill districts was described as very good, and the glazed brick trade in Shropshire as good. In the East Midland and Eastern Counties employment was fair on the whole, and a slight improvement was reported in the Peterborough district; at Nottingham, however, it was bad. At Sittingbourne employment continued very good for the time of year. In South Devon it was generally quiet and in the Glasgow district it was described as bad, though slightly better than in the previous month.

Cement workers in Kent and in Essex continued to be very busy, with much overtime. Employment was also good at Middlesbrough, and fair at the Hartlepoons.

The **Imports** of cement during February, 1913, amounted to 5,812 tons, compared with 6,583 tons in January, 1913, and 3,820 tons in February, 1912. The **Exports** (British and Irish) for the same months were 77,182 tons, 81,361 tons, and 67,213 tons respectively.

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN ENGLAND.

LABOURERS not on the regular farm staff lost a little time through bad weather in most districts in the early part of February. There was a fair demand for drainers in a number of districts, and, as the state of the land improved towards the end of the month, for men to assist in carting operations. Threshing, hedging and ditching also offered a moderate amount of employment for extra men. Though generally the supply of such men was sufficient, some scarcity was reported in several districts.

Men for permanent situations were also reported as scarce in certain districts, particularly in the Midland and Southern and South-Western counties. Increases of £1 or more for the quarter were reported at the Candlemas hiring fairs held in Cumberland.

Districts in which there was some scarcity of extra men included parts of the Cocker mouth (Cumberland), Whiston (Lancashire), Leyburn (Yorkshire), Blyth-and-Cuckney (Nottinghamshire), Melton Mowbray (Leicestershire), Evesham (Worcestershire), Monks Kirby, Rugby, and Southam (Warwickshire), Daventry, Oundle, Potterspury, and Wellingborough (Northamptonshire), Banbury (Oxfordshire), Hitchin (Hertfordshire), Eaton Socon (Bedfordshire), Downham (Norfolk), Samford (Suffolk), Braintree and Tendring (Essex), Bridge (Kent), Winchester (Hampshire), Pewsey (Wiltshire), Cirencester (Gloucestershire), and Newton Abbot (Devonshire) Rural Districts.

A surplus of extra men was reported in the Patrington (Yorkshire), Hayfield (Derbyshire), Buntingford (Hertfordshire), Wisbech (Cambridgeshire), Thetford (Norfolk), Mildenhall (Suffolk), Rochford (Essex), Elham (Kent), Epsom (Surrey), Thakeham (Sussex), Hartley Wintney (Hampshire), and Blandford and Wareham-and-Purbeck (Dorset) Rural Districts.

Men for permanent situations were reported as in demand in the following Rural Districts:—Norton (Yorkshire), Shardlow (Derbyshire), Blyth-and-Cuckney (Nottinghamshire), Oswestry (Shropshire), Wellingborough (Northamptonshire), Banbury (Oxfordshire), St. Neots (Huntingdonshire), Downham (Norfolk), Wangford (Suffolk), Saffron Walden (Essex), Petworth (Sussex), Chippenham and Pewsey (Wiltshire), Taunton and Williton (Somerset) Chipping Sodbury, Cirencester, and Dursley (Gloucestershire), Newton Abbot and Tavistock (Devonshire), and West Penwith (Cornwall).

FISHING INDUSTRY.

THE fish (other than shell fish) landed in February, 1913, showed an increase in both quantity and value as compared with February, 1912. In the case of shell fish, for which values only are available, there was a decrease.

The following table shows the quantity and the value of the fish landed in February, 1913 and 1912:—

	Quantity.		Value.	
	Feb., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Feb., 1913.	Feb., 1912.
Fish (other than Shell):				
England and Wales	Cwts. 655,619	Cwts. 712,536	£ 602,814	£ 568,210
Scotland	576,774	496,307	235,960	172,939
Ireland	91,707	47,429	35,531	17,702
Total	1,324,100	1,166,272	874,305	748,851
Shell Fish			27,783	28,567
Total Value			902,088	777,418

Fishermen.—Employment with fishermen was fairly good on the whole, and better than a month ago and a year ago. At Grimsby it was good, and about the same as in January; at Lowestoft and Hull it was fair; at Yarmouth it continued bad. Employment at Aberdeen and Peterhead was good, and at Fraserburgh and Macduff fair. Off the south-western coasts of England fishing operations, though improving somewhat towards the end of the month, were only moderately successful.

Fish Dock Labourers.—Employment was fairly good. At Grimsby and Hull it was good, at Lowestoft fair, and at Yarmouth bad. It was fair at Aberdeen, good at Peterhead, and bad at Fraserburgh.

Fish Curers.—With fish curers employment was good at Grimsby and Hull, fair at Lowestoft, and bad at Yarmouth. At Aberdeen and Macduff it was fair, and at Peterhead and Fraserburgh good.

The **Exports** (British and Irish) of herrings, cured or salted, during February, 1913, were valued at £114,452, as compared with £99,010 in January, 1913, and £93,662 in February, 1912.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT was fair on the whole at the principal ports, including London; though there was a decline in London on the previous month.

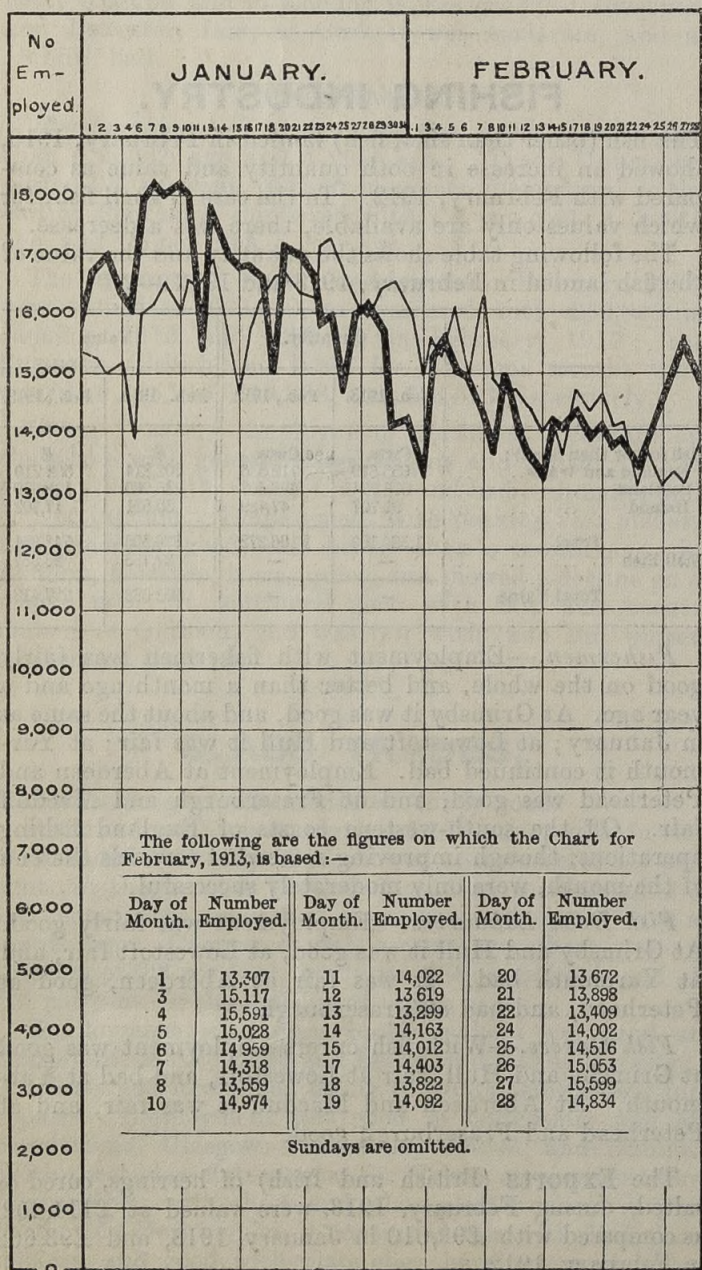
London.*—Employment was fair, and showed a decline on a month ago and a year ago. The average number of labourers employed at the docks and principal wharves in the four weeks ended February 22nd, 1913, was 14,390, a decrease of 13·8 per cent., as compared with the previous month, and of 3·9 per cent., as compared with February, 1912.

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.*				
	In Docks.			At 110 Wharves making Returns.	
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended Feb. 1st	4,772	3,045	7,817	7,083	14,900
" " " 8th	4,809	2,817	7,626	7,136	14,762
" " " 15th	4,441	2,790	7,231	6,784	14,015
" " " 22nd	4,540	2,503	7,043	6,835	13,878
Average for 4 weeks ended Feb. 22nd, 1913	4,640	2,790	7,430	6,960	14,390
Average for Jan., 1913	5,557	3,865	9,422	7,277	16,699
" Feb., 1912	5,866	3,045	8,911	6,559	14,970

* Exclusive of Tilbury.

During February, 1913, the number employed fluctuated between a maximum of 15,599 and a minimum of 13,299, as compared with a maximum of 16,482 and a minimum of 13,125 in February of last year.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed at all the Docks, and at 110 of the principal Wharves, for each day during the months of January and February, 1913. The corresponding curve for January and February, 1912, is also given for comparison. (The thick curve applies to 1913, and the thin curve to 1912.)



Tilbury.—The mean daily number employed at the docks was 1,537 in February, 1913, as compared with 1,600 a month ago and 166 in February, 1912.

Liverpool.—Employment with dock labourers was fair, with a slight decline towards the end of the month. With quay and railway carters it declined.

Other Ports.—Employment on the Tyne and Wear was fair, and with dock labourers at Hartlepool and Middlesbrough it continued good. Employment was moderate generally at Hull and Grimsby, and fair at Goole. Dock workers were fairly well employed at Plymouth, but with carters employment was quiet. It was good at the South Wales ports.

Employment with dock labourers at Glasgow was slack, and continued to be adversely affected by the carters' dispute. It was good at Leith and fair at Dundee. At Belfast employment was good on the whole.

SEAMEN SHIPPED IN FEBRUARY.

RETURNS received from certain selected ports (at which 83 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared) show that during February 38,749 seamen,* of whom 3,905 (or 10·1 per cent.) were foreigners, were shipped on foreign-going vessels. Compared with February, 1912, there was an increase of 596.

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in					
	February,			Two months ended February,		
	1912.	1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1913.	1912.	1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1913.
ENGLAND & WALES.						
East Coast.						
Tyne Ports	2,401	2,427	+ 26	4,595	4,517	- 78
Sunderland	353	263	- 90	588	671	+ 83
Middlesbrough	610	305	- 305	996	824	- 172
Hull	1,382	1,033	- 349	3,008	2,635	- 373
Grimsby	20	77	+ 57	58	144	+ 86
Bristol Channel.						
Bristol	766	690	- 76	1,588	1,620	+ 32
Newport, Mon.	897	914	+ 17	1,938	1,920	- 18
Cardiff	3,752	3,742	- 10	8,316	8,376	+ 60
Swansea	380	258	- 122	753	747	- 6
Other Ports.						
Liverpool	13,892	13,822	- 70	26,240	29,710	+ 3,470
London	7,950	7,359	- 591	16,606	15,729	- 877
Southampton	3,372	3,374	+ 2	7,555	7,452	- 103
SCOTLAND.						
Leith	203	381	+ 178	710	976	+ 266
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth	290	141	- 149	660	517	- 143
Glasgow	1,717	3,672	+ 1,955	4,336	6,885	+ 2,549
IRELAND.						
Dublin	105	42	- 63	262	132	- 130
Belfast	63	219	+ 156	225	437	+ 212
Total	38,153	38,749	+ 596	78,434	83,192	+ 4,758

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

NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT, 1911.

PART II.—Unemployment.

APPLICATIONS TO THE UMPIRE.

In pursuance of Regulations made by the Board of Trade and dated 26th day of March, 1912, Notice is hereby given that the Umpire (Unemployment Insurance) has received applications for decisions as to whether contributions are payable or not in respect of the following classes of workmen:—

- 243. Workmen described as masons and helpers, carpenters, and blacksmiths, engaged in repairs to galvanising pots.
- 244. Workmen employed by a railway company and engaged in the repairing of station platforms and cattle pens.
- 245. Workmen employed by a firm of tube makers and described as fitters and iron turners engaged in the manufacture of boiler tubes.
- 246. Workmen described as repairers, and engaged in fitting, turning and pattern making in brass and iron in connection with the making and repairing of museum models.
- 247. Workmen engaged in laying out a new golf course.
- 248. Workmen engaged in the manufacture or repair of time recorders and similar instruments. (This may involve a reconsideration of Decision 1107.)
- 249. Workmen engaged in the manufacture or repair of—(1) Miscellaneous chain attachments, &c., such as hooks, swivels, shackles, brackets, eyebolts; (2) coupling screws, drawbar hooks, buffer pins; (3) axle bolts, axle dogs.

DECISIONS BY THE UMPIRE.

[NOTE.—Where no reference is given to an Application, the question has been decided by the Umpire, without notice, as a matter not admitting of reasonable doubt, in accordance with paragraph (2) of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations.

Decisions relating to individual workmen which raise no question of general interest, or which merely apply a principle laid down in a previous decision, are not published.]

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

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

- 1275. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture or fixing of sliding and folding partitions forming part of the fittings of a building.
- 1276. Workmen employed on road work, including the relaying of the surface, in connection with the construction, reconstruction or alteration of tramway lines.
- 1277. Workmen employed by contractors as borers, to test the nature of the ground, in connection with the construction, reconstruction or alteration of works of construction.
- 1278. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture of wood block flooring for buildings.

This decision supersedes decision No. 678 (2) ("Board of Trade Labour Gazette" for August, 1912).

- 1280. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the making or repairing of jacquards and dobbies.
- 1284. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture or repair of coal and coke conveyors.
- 1285. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the construction, repair, decoration or demolition of covered markets.
- 1286. Workmen employed by a firm of electric lift, crane and process machine makers, and engaged wholly or mainly in turning and fitting parts of electric lifts, cranes, winches and process machinery.

- 1287. Workmen described as stonebreakers, and employed by a firm of contractors in their workshops or yards, or on the site of building or constructional work.
- 1291. Workmen employed at iron works, and engaged wholly or mainly in the erection of an aerial ropeway.
- 1293. Workmen employed in painting automatic machines of a kind commonly found in railway stations or other public places.
- 1294. Workmen engaged in the alteration of gas retorts from sloper beds to horizontal beds on old foundations.

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

- 1279. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the making or repairing of jacquard harness.
- 1281. Workmen described as masons, bricklayers, and labourers employed by a railway company, and engaged wholly or mainly in repairing tunnels on railway systems.
- 1282. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of wool combs.
- 1283. Workmen employed in the running sheds of a railway, and engaged wholly or mainly in removing from beneath coaches, washing, assembling, replacing and charging electrical accumulators, in connection with railway carriages which are in use.
- 1288. Contributions are not payable, except by agreement between employer and workman, in respect of agricultural labourers who have not previously worked in an insured trade, and who are employed for less than three months as builders' labourers in the rural district in which they usually reside, the work being sufficiently near their homes to enable them to return home each night without railway travelling.
- 1289. Workmen employed by a railway company in the running shed, and engaged wholly or mainly in examining locomotives and tenders, and reporting any repairs that may be necessary, and not engaged wholly or mainly in executing repairs or in examining in the repair shop in connection with the execution of repairs.
- 1290. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of fallers for use in connection with flax and jute preparing machinery.
- 1292. Workmen employed at iron works, and engaged wholly or mainly in—(1) fixing bands round blast furnaces and fixing tuyere pipes and connections; or (2) changing valves in hot blast stoves, if not engaged in connection with the construction, reconstruction or alteration of furnaces.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

(1) Workmen's Compensation Act.

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF, AND IN THE COURSE OF, THE EMPLOYMENT: TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT.

Where a workman is injured by accident, he is entitled to compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, only when the accident was one arising out of and in the course of the employment. A ship arrived in dock from a foreign voyage, and the captain

was ordered to berth her at a certain dolphin. This dolphin was a floating stage belonging to the Port Authority, fitted with cranes, &c. It was over 30 feet from the quay, with which it was connected by steps and a bridge. Soon after the ship was berthed the fires were drawn and the voyage was declared to be at an end. From that moment the engagement of the crew was completed, and they were at liberty at once to leave the ship. On the way up the river they had been given their pay sheets, with an advance of part of their wages, and were to be paid the balance at the office of the shipowners the next day. After the word was given that the voyage was complete, a sailor put his effects into a bag, put the bag on his shoulder, and started for the quay, it being then 10 o'clock at night. He passed safely from the ship on to the dolphin, but he never reached the bridge from the dolphin to the quay, as he fell into the water between the dolphin and the quay, and was drowned. His widow claimed compensation, but the county court judge refused to make an award in her favour, on the ground that the employment of the deceased had come to an end before the accident, and that therefore the accident did not arise out of and in the course of the employment. The claimant appealed. The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal, holding that the dolphin was part of the dock premises, and that therefore the employment of the deceased had come to an end when, after leaving the ship, he arrived at the dolphin. *Cook v. Owners of Steamship Montreal—Court of Appeal (Reported)—8th February, 1913.*

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF, AND IN THE COURSE OF, THE EMPLOYMENT: ASSAULT ON WORKMAN DURING EMPLOYMENT: DEATH.

A workman was employed by a firm as a van driver. One day, while in charge of a horse and van belonging to his employers, he was standing in the street beside the horse when a drunken man came up and appeared to be about to touch the horse. The workman warned him that the horse might hurt him. The drunken man then struck the workman twice, knocking him down, and injuring him so seriously that he died. The assault was entirely unprovoked, and the guilty man was subsequently tried and convicted of manslaughter. The widow of the deceased then claimed compensation in the county court, and the judge decided that the deceased had been killed in an accident arising out of, and in the course of his employment, and that the claimant was therefore entitled to compensation, and an award in her favour was accordingly made. The employers appealed.

The Court of Appeal held that though there might be an accident within the meaning of the Act, though it was due to felonious conduct on the part of another person, still the risk of being assaulted by a drunken man in the street was in no way specially incident to the employment of a driver. Hence in this case what had happened did not arise out of the employment, and the claimant was not entitled to compensation. The appeal was therefore allowed. *Mitchinson v. Day Brothers—Court of Appeal—6th February, 1913.*

PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION FOR ACCIDENT: ILLNESS SUPERVENING FROM OTHER CAUSE: TOTAL INCAPACITY CAUSED BY ILLNESS.

Where compensation is payable under the Act, it is payable during total or partial incapacity resulting from the injury. A workman met with an accident which produced partial incapacity, and for several months his employers paid him weekly compensation amounting to half his wages. During this time heart disease, which was in no way caused by the accident, supervened, and the man became totally incapacitated from doing work of any sort. The employers applied to the county court judge to review the compensation. The judge held that, though the workman would have been entitled to compensation if the heart disease had not supervened, yet, by reason of the heart disease, he was totally incapacitated, and that therefore compensation was no longer payable. He, therefore, made an award that the payments should be terminated. The workman appealed.

The Court of Appeal held that if the man had completely recovered from the effects of the accident at the date of the application to review, the application for compensation must fail, but where the man had not completely recovered it was not necessary for him to prove that his then incapacity was due entirely to the accident. The county court judge was therefore wrong in terminating the payments, and the case must go back to him to make an award of such weekly sum as he thought fit. The appeal was therefore allowed. *Harwood v. Wyken Colliery Company, Limited, Court of Appeal, 13 February, 1913.*

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS: BASIS OF COMPUTATION: ABNORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES: GRADE OF WORKMAN.

Where incapacity for work results from an injury suffered by a workman in circumstances entitling him to compensation, the maximum weekly payment to which he is entitled is a sum not exceeding 50 per cent. of his average weekly earnings during the previous twelve months if he has been so long employed, but, if not, then for any less period during which he has been in the employment of the same employer. The average weekly earnings are to be computed in such manner as is best calculated to give the rate per week at which the workman was being remunerated; provided that where, by the reason of the shortness of the time during which the workman has been in the employment of his employer, or the casual nature of the employment, it is impracticable at the date of the accident to compute the rate of remuneration, regard may be had to the average weekly amount which during the twelve months previous to the accident was being earned by a person in the same grade employed at the

same work by the same employer, or, if there is no person so employed, by a person in the same grade employed in the same class of employment and in the same district.

A man, whose regular employment was that of an able seaman, was, at the end of 1911, working at rough ship's painting, rigging, and various kinds of work on board ship. On January 24th, 1912, having no better work to do, he went to the docks, and was taken on as an extra casual labourer, earning 4s. 4d. in the day. On January 25th, while engaged in the same class of work, he was injured in circumstances entitling him to compensation. The employers offered him a weekly payment of 9s., but this he refused, and took proceedings for an award. At the hearing before the county court judge the employers gave evidence that they employed two different classes of casual labourers. One received tickets called "B" tickets, and were given preference in being employed next after the permanent men. To the other class no tickets were given, and they were only extra casuals employed when the supply of "B" casuals was exhausted. The pay for the "B" casuals and the extra casuals was the same, i.e., 7d. an hour with overtime. The "B" workman was usually employed for three days a week, and obtained another day's work outside, earning in all about 21s. a week. The extra casual workman, of whom the claimant was one, was only employed on an average one day a week and two days outside, earning not more than 18s. a week. The claimant gave evidence that he was able to do rigging work, and had had steady employment during the twelve months before the accident, earning about 35s. a week. The judge held that the "B" casuals and the extra casuals were not separate grades within the meaning of the Act; that the average daily earnings of a casual labourer were 4s. 3d., plus chances of overtime, and that the claimant's earnings ought to be estimated at 5s. a day for five days a week, or 25s. a week. Compensation was accordingly awarded on that basis. The employers appealed.

The Court of Appeal held that the judge was wrong in holding that the "B" casual workmen and the extra casuals could not be separate grades, and that the case must be remitted to the judge for a fresh decision on the facts. The appeal was therefore allowed.—*Barnett v. Port of London Authority. Court of Appeal. February 5th, 1913.*

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS : TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT : BASIS OF COMPENSATION.

A carpenter who had worked for many years for a firm left them, and went to Canada early in 1911. In that country he earned very high wages. After some months he returned to England to fetch his wife and family, with the intention of settling permanently in Canada. Having to remain in this country for some weeks, with very little to do, he applied to his old employers for temporary work, and was taken on by them on the understanding that the employment was temporary, and that he was going to Canada. He worked for the firm for nine weeks, including the months of January and February, 1912, when he met with a serious accident, by which he was totally incapacitated for some time. He claimed compensation under the Act, and the only question was as to the proper basis of computation. According to the evidence the earnings of a carpenter were higher in summer than in winter, and the claimant contended that his average weekly earnings ought to be calculated on the amount that he would have earned in a year. The judge, however, decided to take the actual sum earned during the nine weeks, and divided that sum by nine. An award was accordingly made on that basis. The claimant appealed.

The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal, holding that, as the employment was clearly understood to be of a temporary nature, the judge was not obliged to give the claimant the benefit of the higher wages which he might have earned in the summer, and that they could not interfere with the judge's method of computation. *Godden v. Cowlin & Sons—Court of Appeal—5th February, 1913.*

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF, AND IN THE COURSE OF, THE EMPLOYMENT : UNAUTHORISED USE OF MACHINERY.

A workman injured by accident is entitled to compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, only where the accident was one arising out of, and in the course of, the employment.

A workman was employed in a flour mill as a sack foreman, his duty being to sort and stack the sacks in a certain room. Along the top of this room ran a shaft which was driven by belting, and used for various purposes in the mill, but with which the man was not in any way concerned. With the view, apparently, of expediting his work, he devised a way of raising sacks to the top of the stack by throwing a rope over the shafting, making one end fast to a bundle of sacks, and then when the revolving shaft had hauled the bundle to the top of the stack removing the rope. The second day upon which he used the shaft in this way his arm became entangled with the machinery, and he was severely injured. The method he adopted was not known to, or approved by, his employers. He claimed compensation under the Act, and obtained an award; the County Court judge holding that he had acted in the interests of his employers in order to carry out his work more expeditiously, and had not acted for his own convenience or pleasure or profit, although the method he had adopted was unwise, and would not have been allowed if his employers had known of it. The employers appealed.

The Court of Appeal held that the County Court judge was wrong. The workman was not employed to use machinery of any sort, but to do certain work with his hands. It was alto-

gether outside the scope of his employment to use a shaft as he had done for a purpose for which it was not intended. He was not employed to pile sacks by any method that he thought fit, and there was no justification for him using a method which was dangerous and not permitted. Therefore the accident did not arise out of, and in the course of, his employment. The appeal was therefore allowed. *Plumb v. Cobden Flour Mills Company, Limited—Court of Appeal—January 29th, 1913.*

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF, AND IN THE COURSE OF, THE EMPLOYMENT : ACCIDENT WHILE RETURNING FROM WORK.

A quarryman, while returning home from his day's work along a footpath over his employer's land, met with an accident, which incapacitated him. He claimed compensation. The employers resisted the claim on the ground that, though the accident took place on their land, it happened on a path over which was a public right of way, and that the accident therefore did not arise out of, or in the course of, the employment. The county court judge accepted this contention, and refused to make an award of compensation. The workman appealed.

The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal, holding that the man was exposed to no more risk than any other member of the public using the path, and that it was irrelevant that the soil over which the public had a right of way belonged to the man's employers. Therefore there was no ground for saying that the accident arose out of, and in the course of, the employment. *Williams v. Assheton-Smith—Court of Appeal—22nd January, 1913.*

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS : WORKING IN GANG : DEDUCTION FROM WAGES.

Where a workman is injured, in circumstances entitling him to compensation, the maximum compensation to which he is entitled is a weekly payment during incapacity not exceeding 50 per cent. of his average weekly earnings before the accident.

A workman, employed in getting iron-stone, worked as one of a gang, which gang was paid according to the number of tons of iron-stone which they got. The employers supplied the powder, and the cost of this powder was deducted from the total amount earned, the balance being then divided among the gang in proportion to the number of hours worked by each man. This workman was injured in circumstances entitling him to compensation. His employers admitted liability, and the only question was the amount of the weekly payment. To settle this question proceedings were taken in the County Court. The claimant insisted that his average weekly earnings amounted to £1 9s. 2d. The employers contended that they amounted only to £1 6s. 2d. The difference was due to the question whether the cost of the explosives ought or ought not to be deducted from the man's wages. The County Court judge decided in favour of the workman. The employers appealed.

The Court of Appeal held that there never was a contract by the employers to pay £1 9s. 2d. a week, or any sum other than the claimant's aliquot share of the net earnings of his gang. Those earnings were the gross earnings less the value of the powder used by them. Hence the workman's average weekly earnings were £1 6s. 2d., and his compensation should be computed on that basis. The appeal was therefore allowed. *Shipp v. Frodingham Iron and Steel Company, Limited—Court of Appeal—20th January, 1913.*

(2) Trade Union Act.

USING FUNDS OF UNION FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES : LEVY ON MEMBERS : OPTIONAL PAYMENTS.

The rules of a duly registered trade union provided for the amounts of the contributions to be made by members, such contributions to include the amount of a Parliamentary levy. A member of this society brought an action against the society for an injunction to restrain them from using their funds for Parliamentary purposes, or from levying contributions for such purposes from the members.

Application was then made to the court for an interlocutory injunction to restrain the society from acting in the way objected to until the hearing of the action.

The plaintiff filed an affidavit in support of the application, to the effect that the society were continuing to levy contributions for Parliamentary purposes from the members, and to apply their funds to such purposes; and that in one instance a demand note had been served on a member for a sum, which included a sum of 3d. for the Parliamentary fund. Failure to comply with such a demand would entail exclusion from the benefits of the society.

On behalf of the defendants an affidavit was filed, stating that since the *Osborne Case* the society had taken active steps to put all matters connected with their Parliamentary funds on a strictly legal footing. In a report which was sent to every member it was notified that the Parliamentary levy was to be treated as entirely voluntary, and the secretaries of all branches were given instructions to the same effect. The society consists of 133 branches, with over 22,000 members; and the demand served upon the man referred to in the plaintiff's affidavit was an isolated case of oversight, which the man knew to be irregular so far as regarded the demand for the levy of 3d., and which was repudiated and withdrawn by the society, as was well known to the plaintiff and his solicitors two months before the issue of the writ.

The judge refused to grant the interlocutory injunction asked for, holding that the application was a vexatious and harassing

one; that the society were honestly trying to comply with the law as laid down in the *Osborne Case*; that it was common knowledge that a Bill was before Parliament which would legalise the procedure of the society, and that there had been delay on the part of the plaintiff in bringing his action. The plaintiff was ordered to pay the society's costs of the application in any event. *Alpe v. Friendly Society of Ironfounders—Chancery Division—31st January, 1913.*

(3) National Insurance Act.

RATE OF REMUNERATION : CONTRIBUTIONS BY EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYED.

By the National Insurance Act, 1911, the employed rate of contribution in the case of men is 7d. a week, and in the case of women 6d. a week. In the case of women who are employed contributors, where the rate of remuneration exceeds 2s. a working day, the contribution paid by the employer is 3d. a week, and by the employed is also 3d. a week. Where, however, the rate of remuneration exceeds 1s. 6d., but does not exceed 2s. a working day, 4d. a week must be paid by the employer, 1d. by the contributor, and 1d. out of moneys provided by Parliament.

A woman employed contributor was paid wages at the rate of 11s. 7d. a week. Her hours of work were ten hours a day for five days of the week and five hours on Saturday. A question arose as to whether in these circumstances the employers were to pay 4d. or 3d. a week, and whether the woman was to pay 3d. or 1d. a week. The employers contended that she worked five and a half days a week, and that therefore she was being remunerated at the rate of about 2s. 1½d. a working day. The Insurance Commissioners, however, decided that her working week consisted of six working days, and that therefore her remuneration did not exceed 2s. a day, and that therefore the employers' contribution was 4d. a week, and the contributor's was 1d. From this decision of the Insurance Commissioners an appeal was made to the Court of Session, but the appeal was dismissed by the Lord Ordinary, on the ground that the question raised having been determined in good faith and *intra vires* by the Commissioners the Court had no jurisdiction to set aside the determination.

On appeal to the Judges of the First Division, the Court adhered to the Interlocutor of the Lord Ordinary, holding that the Commissioners had determined the question after hearing the parties, and had not acted *ultra vires*. In such circumstances, therefore, the Court could not interfere with the decision of the Commissioners, even if they were of opinion that the decision was wrong. No real case had been made out for a reduction of the Commissioners' award, and the appeal was therefore dismissed. *Don Brothers, Buist and Company, Limited v. Anderson and the Scottish National Insurance Commissioners—Court of Session—5th February, 1913.*

PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT, AND FLOUR.

I.—BREAD.

RETURNS have been received from the principal Co-operative Societies and Master Bakers' Associations in Great Britain, and from local correspondents, showing the price of bread on March 1st, 1913.

The figures in the following Table are based on returns from 224 Co-operative Societies in England and Wales, and 130 in Scotland :—

District.	Predominant price per 4 lbs. on Mar. 1st, 1913.			Predominant price per 4 lbs. on Dec. 2nd, 1912.			Predominant price per 4 lbs. on March 1st, 1912.		
	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.
ENGLAND AND WALES.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
N. Counties and Yorkshire ..	7½	5½	6'38	7½	5½	6'41	7½	5½	6'38
Lancs. & Cheshire ..	6½	5	5'93	6½	5	5'90	7	4½	5'75
N. Mid. Counties ..	6	5	5'41	6	5	5'43	5½	5	5'22
W. do. do. ..	6	5	5'69	6	5	5'69	6	5	5'50
S. do. do. ..	6	5	5'49	6	5	5'50	6	5	5'26
Eastern Counties ..	6	5	5'85	6	5	5'88	6	5	5'61
London ..	6	5½	5'88	6	5½	5'88	6	5½	5'63
S. E. Counties ..	6½	5½	5'98	6½	5½	6'04	6	5½	5'94
S. W. Counties, Wales & Mon. } ..	6	5	5'75	6	5	5'79	6	5	5'66
England and Wales } ..	7½	5	5'79	7½	5	5'80	7½	4½	5'63
SCOTLAND.									
Northern Counties ..	7	5½	6'29	7	5½	6'24	7	5	5'98
Eastern Counties ..	7	5	6'29	7	5	6'35	7	5	6'28
Lanarkshire ..	6½	6	6'03	6½	6	6'03	6½	6	6'03
Other Southern Counties ..	6½	6	6'42	6½	6	6'42	6½	6	6'41
Scotland ..	7	5	6'30	7	5	6'31	7	5	6'23
Great Britain ..	7½	5	5'98	7½	5	5'99	7½	4½	5'85

As compared with December 2nd, 1912, the mean of the prices shows little change. As compared with March 1st, 1912, an increase of 13d. per 4 lbs. is shown.

Returns showing the predominant prices of 4 lbs. of bread on March 1st, 1913, have been received from 140

of the principal Master Bakers' Associations in the United Kingdom, and 30 from other sources. The returns are summarised in the following Tables :—

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

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

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

Place.	Predominant Price per 4 lbs. on Mar. 1st, 1913.*	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Last change.
		Month ago.	Year ago.	
London ..	d. 5½ & 6	d.	d.	Feb. '12 + ¼
Birmingham ..	5½ & 6	..	..	May '12 - ¼
Bolton ..	5½	..	..	Jan., '13 - ½
Bristol ..	5½ & 6	..	..	Feb. '12 + ½
Cardiff ..	6	..	+ ½	1st Apl. '12 + ½
Derby ..	5½	..	+ ½	April '12 + ½
Hull ..	5½	..	..	June '10 - ½
Leicester ..	6	..	+ ½	March '12 + ½
Ipswich ..	6½	..	..	May '10 - ½
Leeds ..	6½	..	+ ½	April '12 + ½
Liverpool ..	6	..	+ ½	May '12 + ½
Manchester ..	5½	..	..	Oct. '11 + ½
Middlesbrough ..	5½ & 6	..	+ ½	July '12 + ½
Norwich ..	5	..	..	Nov. '09 - ½
Nottingham ..	5½	..	..	June '10 - ½
Oldham ..	5	..	+ ½	April '12 + ½
Plymouth ..	6	..	..	June '10 - ½
Portsmouth ..	6	..	..	Oct. '10 + ½
Potteries ..	5½	..	+ ½	April '12 + ½
Southampton ..	5½ & 6	..	..	May '12 + ½
Wolverhampton ..	5	..	..	July '12 - ½
Aberdeen ..	6	..	+ ½	May '12 + ½
Dundee ..	5½	..	..	Sept. '12 - ½
Edinburgh ..	6½	..	..	Nov. '12 - ½
Glasgow ..	6	..	..	Oct. '11 + ½
Belfast ..	6½	..	+ ½	June '12 + ½
Dublin ..	6	..	- ½	Feb. '13 - ½

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

As compared with February 1st, 1913, only one change is reported: a fall of ½d. per 4 lbs. in Dublin. As compared with March 1st, 1912, the price is higher by ½d. per 4 lbs. in 10 of the towns; in the remaining towns no change is shown.

II.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.

Month.	British Wheat Mean London Gazette Price (England and Wales).	Imports. (Average Declared Value.)		Average Monthly Price of Flour (Town Households ex Mill for Cash).
		Wheat.	Wheat-meal and Flour.	
1912	Pe gr. of 480 lbs. s. d.	Per gr. of 480 lbs. s. d.	Per quarter.* s. d.	Per sack of 280 lbs. s. d.
February ..	34 3	36 1	33 1	28 4
1913				
January ..	30 7	36 3	33 9	27 5
February ..	30 11	35 11	33 5	28 3

The imports of wheat during September, 1912—February, 1913, amounted to 12,613,170 qrs., or 1,838,619 qrs. more than in the corresponding months of 1911-12. The imports of wheat-meal and flour during September, 1912—February, 1913, amounted to 1,895,531* qrs., or 202,497 qrs. more than September, 1911—February, 1912.

* In addition to the equivalent of the weight of flour, 23 per cent. of offal, &c., the result of the process of converting grain into flour, is included.

TRADE DISPUTES IN FEBRUARY.*

Number and Magnitude.—The number of disputes beginning in February was 80, as compared with 67 in the previous month, and 45 in February, 1912. In these new disputes 17,625 workpeople were directly, and 4,137 indirectly involved; and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople involved in disputes which began before February and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 45,382 workpeople involved in trade disputes in February, 1913, as compared with 52,066 in January, 1913, and 164,650 in February, 1912.

New Disputes in February, 1913.—In the following Table the new disputes for February are summarised by trades affected:—

Groups of Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Building	4	301	6	307
Coal Mining	11	3,717	2,991	6,708
Iron Mining	1	125	—	125
Engineering	7	1,802	—	1,802
Shipbuilding	7	1,297	—	1,297
Other Metal	6	401	372	773
Textile	19	2,803	641	3,444
Clothing	3	1,236	—	1,236
Transport	9	4,228	—	4,228
Other Trades	10	960	31	991
Employees of Local Authorities	3	755	96	851
Total, February, 1913	80	17,625	4,137	21,762
Total, January, 1913	67	34,421	10,578	44,999
Total, February, 1912	45	146,040	1,815	147,855

Causes.—Of the new disputes, 47 arose on various wages questions, viz., 36, directly involving 7,783 workpeople, on demands for advances in wages, and 11, directly involving 2,983 workpeople, on other wages questions. Of the remaining disputes, 14, directly involving 1,395 workpeople, arose on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 10, directly involving 4,612 workpeople, on questions of trade union principle; 6, directly involving 316 workpeople, on details of working arrangements; and 3,

Principal Disputes that began or ended in February.

Occupations.†	Locality.	Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.†	Result.†
		Directly.	Indirectly.				
Coal Mining—Miners	Aberdare ..	2,700	—	1913 1 Feb.	15	Refusal to work with non-unionists and men belonging to rival Trade Union.	Non-unionists and members of other Trade Union joined the South Wales Miners' Federation.
Cotton Spinnin ^g —Cardroom workers, spinners, piecarns and other workpeople.	Oldham† ..	223	16	1912 2 Oct.	110	Refusal of employers to discuss, under the Brooklands Agreement, a claim for payment of compensation to a worker who had been injured while cleaning machinery in motion.	Arrangement arrived at that claims for personal injuries do not come within the Agreement, and that any question arising as to whether a dispute comes within such shall be discussed at a joint meeting.
Spinners, piecarns, cardroom workers, jobbers, &c., and daymen.	Oldham† ..	177	21	14 Aug.	152	For reinstatement of a dismissed spinner.	Man not to be reinstated, but no obstacle to be placed in way of his obtaining situation in any other mill.
Spinners, cardroom workers, winders, warpers and reellers.	Manchester (near)†	244	57	11 July	174	Alleged bad material	Every effort to be made to ensure satisfactory conditions of work; any grievance alleged after the expiration of 14 days from restarting to be dealt with immediately by Joint Committees.
Spinners, cardroom workers, reellers, winders and packers.	Oldham† ..	230	72	14 Nov.	73	Alleged bad material	Every effort to be made to ensure satisfactory conditions of work; any grievance alleged after the expiration of 14 days from restarting to be dealt with immediately by Joint Committees.
Bleaching, Dyeing, &c.—Dyers, &c.	Yorkshire ..	5,000	—	1913 10 Jan.	41	For advance in wages to minimum of 7d. per hour for workpeople over 22 years of age, equivalent advances to those under 22, and other concessions.	System of collective piecework to be established with rates not less than would enable full-rated men to earn minimum of 7d. per hour; day rates to be advanced 10 per cent. pending introduction of piecework, and agreement arrived at on other points.
Transport—Carters and other workpeople	Glasgow ..	3,500	300	26 Jan.	32	For advance in wages of 2s. per week, and reduction in hours of labour from 62½ to 60.	Advance granted of 2s. per week to men receiving 25s. and under, and 1s. per week to those with 25s. and over.
Dock workers, &c.	Grimaby ..	2,000	—	15 Feb.	3	For advance in wages of 6d. per day and payment of overtime after noon on Saturdays instead of after 5 p.m.	Advance in wages granted of 4½d. per day, overtime to be paid after noon on Saturdays, and certain other concessions made.
Employees of Local Authorities—Navvies, general labourers, joiners, painters, crane drivers, &c.	Liverpool ..	463	88	17 Feb.	..	For advance in wages from 5½d. to 6d. per hour.	No settlement reported.

* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration exceeded 100 days.
† The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly involved," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.
‡ These disputes, with three smaller disputes in the cotton spinning industry on the question of alleged bad material, were settled by an agreement arrived at on 7th February, 1913.

directly involving 536 workpeople, on questions of hours of labour.

Results.—During the month settlements were effected in the case of 61 new disputes, directly involving 12,256 workpeople, and 24 old disputes, directly involving 12,319 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 26, directly involving 4,316 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 20, directly involving 2,293 persons, were settled in favour of the employers; and 39, directly involving 17,966 persons, were compromised. In the case of 3 other disputes, directly involving 484 persons, work was resumed pending further negotiations.

Aggregate Duration.—The number of working days lost in February by disputes which began or were settled in that month amounted to 328,800. In addition, 264,400 working days were lost during February owing to disputes which began before that month and were still in progress at the end of the month. Thus the total duration in February of all disputes, new and old, was 593,200 working days, as compared with 651,200 in the previous month, and 463,500 in the corresponding month of last year.

Summary for January and February, 1912 and 1913:—

Groups of Trades.	Jan. and Feb., 1912.			Jan. and Feb., 1913.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople Involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople Involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Building	3	135	2,200	7	417	7,500
Coal Mining	10	125,813	324,200	24	20,167	124,100
Other Mining and Quarrying	2	391	8,500	1	125	100
Engineering	10	2,333	56,500	13	3,684	33,300
Shipbuilding	5	3,449	20,700	9	1,385	16,300
Other Metal	7	972	7,300	10	2,278	18,800
Textile	19	13,808	2,563,400	41	16,439	412,500
Clothing	10	1,220	6,100	7	1,518	22,100
Transport	16	24,652	166,100	17	18,636	593,000
Other Trades	28	4,676	28,100	18	2,112	18,400
Total	110	182,449	3,183,100	147	66,761	1,244,400

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.*

Wages.

Changes taking effect in February.—The result of all the changes taking effect in February, 1913, was an increase of £9,687 per week, as compared with one of £28,509 per week in January, 1913, and one of £2,522 per week in February, 1912. The number of workpeople affected was 228,738, all of whom received increases. The total number affected in January, 1913, was 523,152, and in February, 1912, 56,459.

Two changes, affecting 133,500 workpeople, were arranged by conciliation boards; and six changes, affecting 9,341 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting 85,897 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives. In twelve cases, affecting 10,043 workpeople, the changes were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

Summary for the two completed months of 1913.—The total number of workpeople (separate individuals) whose rates of wages were changed, as far as reported, during the two months ended February 28th, 1913, was 751,890, as compared with 149,418 in the corresponding period of 1912. The changes arranged were all increases, and amounted to £38,196 per week, as compared with an increase of £5,770 per week in January and February, 1912.

Summarised by trades, the number of workpeople affected and the net effect of the changes on their weekly wages were as follows:—

Groups of Trades.	January and February.			
	1912.		1913.	
	No.	£	No.	£
Building	5,370	+ 552	10,870	+ 1,047
Coal Mining	54,150	+ 1,659	548,200	+ 26,187
Iron, &c., Mining	—	—	10,125	+ 829
Quarrying	61	—	2,500	+ 184
Pig Iron Manufacture	14,052	+ 148	15,990	+ 1,060
Iron and Steel Manufacture	38,463	+ 1,084	16,762	+ 770
Engineering and Shipbuilding	21,584	+ 1,210	65,607	+ 3,575
Other Metal Trades	1,162	+ 212	1,573	+ 86
Textile Trades	4,007	+ 155	58,124	+ 2,917
Clothing Trades	534	+ 30	291	+ 16
Transport Trades	2,760	+ 271	4,847	+ 350
Printing, &c., Trades	911	+ 67	2,192	+ 142
Glass, &c., Trades	4,861	+ 273	10,104	+ 670
Other Trades	25	+ 2	3,404	+ 254
Employees of Local Authorities	1,478	+ 110	1,301	+ 109
Total	149,418	+ 5,770	751,890	+ 38,196

Hours.

The changes in hours of labour taking effect in February, 1913, affected 2,541 workpeople, whose working time was reduced by 5,167 hours per week. In the two months ended February 28th, 1913, the number of workpeople whose hours were reduced was 4,361, and the aggregate amount of the reduction was 7,492 hours per week.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR IN FEBRUARY, 1913.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in Italics.)	
					Increase.	Decrease.
Coal Mining ..	Durham ..	10 Feb.	Underground workers (including deputies, enginemen, boiler-minders, mechanics and cokemen) and surface workers.	130,000	..	Increase of 3¼ per cent., making wages 50 per cent. above the standard of 1879.
Ironstone Mining	North Lincs. ..	Feb.	Ironstone quarrymen	1,000	..	Increase, under sliding scale, of 6¼ per cent., making wages 16¼ per cent. above the standard of May, 1909.
			Blastfurnacemen,	1,200	..	
Pig Iron Manufacture	Derby and Notts. ..	1st pay Feb.	Blastfurnacemen, &c.	1,000	..	Increase, under sliding scale, of 5 per cent., making wages 17½ per cent. above the standard of 1905.
	West of Scotland ..	1 Feb.	Blastfurnacemen and labourers ..	3,500	..	
Iron and Steel Manufacture	England and Scotland.	2 Feb.	Steel melters, pitmen, &c.	2,400	..	Increase, under sliding scale, of 1¼ per cent.
	England and Scotland.	3 Feb.	Gas producermen and charge wheelers.	730	..	
Engineering	England and Scotland.	11 Feb.	Moulders and others engaged in the manufacture of light castings	13,000	..	Increase on time rates of 1s. per week, and on piece rates of 2½ per cent.
	Manchester, Salford and District	11 Feb.	Engineers' labourers	10,000	..	
Textile	Yorks. ..	20 Feb.	Warp and hank dyers	3,000	..	Increase of 2s. per week to those in receipt of 18s. and over, and of 1s. to those receiving under 18s.; with corresponding increase on piece rates.
	Bradford, Brighouse, Halifax, Leeds and Liversedge	1st pay Feb.	Dyeing trade operatives	5,000	..	
Textile	Leeds, Huddersfield and district	1st pay Feb.	Cotton, stuff, piece and slubbing dyers.	2,400	..	Increase of 10 per cent. and of 1s. to those receiving under 18s., and increase of 5 per cent. on piece rates.
			Milling, scouring, crabbing (topside) and whizzing operatives.	2,900	..	
Textile	Leeds, Huddersfield and district	1st pay Feb.	Finishing department operatives ..	2,900	..	Increases to minimum rate of 6d. per hour.
			Dyers' labourers .. .. .	..	..
Textile	Leeds, Huddersfield and district	1st pay Feb.	Indigo dyers	140	..	Increase of 2s. per week or ¼d. per hour to those in receipt of 18s. and not more than 25s. per week, and of 1s. or ¼d. per hour to those receiving under 18s. Those receiving over 25s. and less than 27s. to be raised to 27s. Increases to 27s. per week for those of and above 22 years of age, and increase of 1s. per week to those under 22 years.
			Linen and jute preparers, spinner, reellers, wingers, weavers and tenters.	40,000	..	
Transport ..	Dundee, Forfar, Brechin and Kirriemuir.	28 Feb.	Carters	3,500	..	Increase of 5 per cent. (limited to 1s. per week).
Other	Glasgow ..	25 Feb.	Carters	3,500	..	Increase of 2s. per week to those receiving 25s. and under, and of 1s. to those receiving 25s. and over.
Other	Kirkcaldy ..	6 Feb.	Linoleum workers	2,000	..	Increase of 1s. per week.

II.—HOURS OF LABOUR.

Building ..	Hull ..	21 Feb.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, plasterers, slaters and labourers	2,291	Decrease of 3 hours per week in summer (53 to 50).
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NOTE.—Full particulars will appear in the April Gazette of the following important changes arranged to take effect in March. Coal Mining.—Increase of 3¼ per cent. in the wages of miners in Northumberland and of 12½ per cent. in Scotland.
* Exclusive of agricultural labourers, seamen and railway servants.

BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR EXCHANGES—FOUR WEEKS ENDED 14TH FEBRUARY.

The total number of workpeople remaining on the Register* of the Board of Trade Labour Exchanges on February 14th, 1913, was 150,396, of whom 122,269 were men, 17,083 women, 5,419 boys under 17, and 5,625 girls under 17. The corresponding figures for the four weeks ended February 23rd, 1912, were 88,666 (men 59,939, women 17,452, boys 6,278, and girls 4,997). The total number of registrations of workpeople during the four weeks was 243,892 (men 173,360, women 41,214, boys 15,267, girls 14,051), a daily average of 10,162 compared with a daily average of 7,257 in the corresponding period a year ago. The total number of vacancies filled during the period was 62,086, a daily average of 2,587, as compared with a total of 57,532 and a daily average of 2,397 in February, 1912.

The vacancies filled during the period include 6,524 cases in which persons were placed by Exchanges in districts other than those in which they were registered.

The number of Exchanges open at February 14th, 1913, was 425, and at February 23rd, 1912, 272.

Comparisons with a year ago are affected by the coming into operation of Part II. of the National Insurance Act. Regulations made by the Board of Trade under this part of the Act require a workman in the insured trades on becoming unemployed to deliver his Unemployment Book to a local office of the Unemployment Fund, and leave it there until he again obtains employment in an insured trade. The Labour Exchanges are local offices of the Fund for this purpose, and in addition 1,055 local agents have been appointed for districts not adequately covered by the Exchanges. All workmen lodging their Unemployment Books either at Labour Exchanges or local agencies are, if unemployed, included in the registers of the Exchanges. The insured trades are accordingly dealt with separately below.

INSURED TRADES.

Registrations.—The number of registrations effected during the period was 114,407 (men 112,557, women 265, boys 1,558, and girls 27). The total number of workpeople on the Register at some time or other during the period was 214,773 (men 212,019, women 346, boys 2,374, and girls 34). These figures exclude 10,444 cases in which persons who obtained employment during the period were re-registered on again becoming unemployed, and represent separate individuals.

The number of workpeople remaining on the Register at the end of the period was 94,440 (men 93,590, women 143, boys 700, and girls 7).

Vacancies Notified and Filled.—The number of vacancies notified to the Exchanges during the period was 28,672 (men 27,057, women 103, boys 1,470, and girls 42), and the number filled was 22,760 (men 21,652, women 93, boys 980, and girls 35). The percentage of vacancies filled to vacancies notified was 79.4.

The following Table shows, for men, the percentage of registrations, vacancies notified and vacancies filled respectively in each group of occupations:—

Groups of Occupations.	Registrations.	Vacancies Notified.	Vacancies Filled.
Building and Works of Construction	66.6	43.7	44.8
Sawmilling	0.7	0.7	0.5
Shipbuilding	9.8	20.8	21.1
Mechanical Engineering	20.9	32.2	31.5
Making of Vehicles	1.5	2.2	1.8
Cabinet Making, etc.	0.5	0.4	0.3

UNINSURED TRADES.*

Registrations.—The number of registrations effected during the period was 112,603 (men 47,144, women 38,582, boys 13,201, and girls 13,676). The total number of workpeople on the Register at some time or other during the period was 190,768 (men 89,219, women 60,627, boys 20,350, and girls 20,572). These figures are exclusive of re-applications from persons already

* Excluding workmen in certain occupations of a more or less casual nature (i.e. dock labourers, cloth porters and cotton porters), which are dealt with separately below.

placed in vacancies by the Exchanges during the period, which numbered 6,438, and represent separate individuals, except in so far as there may have been duplicate registration in London and other places, where more than one Exchange is easy of access to the same person.

The total number of workpeople remaining on the Register at February 14th was 55,956 (men 28,679, women 16,940, boys 4,719, and girls 5,618).

Vacancies Notified and Filled.—The number of vacancies notified during the period was 56,858 (men 19,506, women 18,907, boys 10,448, and girls 7,997), and the number filled during the period was 39,326 (men 13,910, women 13,638, boys 6,254, and girls 5,524), representing 69.2 per cent. of the vacancies notified.

Of the vacancies filled during the period 6,295 (men 4,239, women 1,661, boys 251, and girls 144) were temporary in the sense of being known to be for less than a week's employment. Of the total temporary vacancies for men filled 1,540 were in conveyance of men, goods and messages, 934 were general labourers, 361 were in gas, water, &c., service, and 297 in textiles; while of the total for women 1,013 were in domestic offices and services, 268 in food, tobacco, drink and lodging, and 259 in textiles.

Of the 11,778 vacancies for boys and girls filled during the period 3,026 (of which 1,416 were for boys and 1,610 for girls) were filled by applicants who obtained their first situations since leaving school, representing 25.7 per cent. of the vacancies filled by juveniles.

The following Table shows the proportion of registrations, vacancies notified, and vacancies filled in certain groups of trades to the total for the uninsured trades.

Trade Group.	Registrations.	Vacancies Notified.	Vacancies Filled.
Men:—			
Conveyance of Men, Goods, &c.	23.2	23.2	25.6
General Labourers	25.5	18.0	21.9
Commercial Occupations	6.6	5.2	4.3
Textiles	4.8	10.5	9.8
Women:—			
Domestic Offices or Services	51.3	51.6	51.2
Textiles	8.8	15.6	15.8
Food, Tobacco, Drink, &c.	8.5	8.1	9.5
Dress	7.0	8.0	7.0

The following Table gives the figures both for insured and uninsured occupations, for the 267 Exchanges which were open at the beginning of February, 1912:—

	4 weeks ended Feb. 14th, 1913.	5 weeks ended Dec. 27th, 1912.	4 weeks ended Feb. 23rd, 1912.
Registrations during period	201,200	166,844	173,234
Total Number	8,383	5,959	7,218
Daily Average	69,209	73,735	73,384
Vacancies notified during period	2,884	2,633	3,058
Total Number	50,029	60,251	57,466
Daily Average	2,084	2,152	2,394
Workpeople on register at beginning of end	155,076	81,096	96,566
Total	127,736	46,887	87,716

CASUAL EMPLOYMENT.

The number of men given casual employment through the Exchanges was 2,436, and the number of casual jobs given was 16,523. Of these jobs 10,173 were for dock labourers, 6,074 for cloth porters at Manchester, and 276 for cotton porters at Liverpool. The corresponding figures for the four weeks ended February 23rd, 1912, were 3,813, 5,156, and 447 respectively.

During the period there were 2,295 cases in which men were given employment through the clearing-house system now in operation for dock labourers at Liverpool.

UNSATISFIED DEMAND FOR LABOUR.

During the period covered by the returns there was a continuance of the large demand for workmen of all classes in the shipbuilding trade, and in the engineering trades there was still a scarcity of workers in some districts, especially of moulders in the West Midlands. There was also a demand for workmen in the Leeds clothing trade. In the case of women, the demand exceeded the supply in the cotton, woollen and worsted trades and in laundry work, and in some districts in the boot, shoe and clothing trades.

I.—DISTRICT TABLES.*

Registrations, Vacancies Notified, and Vacancies Filled in the Period of Four Weeks ended February 14th, 1913.

A.—ADULTS AND JUVENILES.

Exchanges Open.	London and South Eastern.	Scotland and North of England.	North Western.	Yorkshire and East Midlands.	West Midlands.	South Western.	Wales.	Ireland.	Total.	
	73	77	78†	70	43	27	34	22	424‡	
Registrations	Insured Trades	37,431	25,433	16,324	14,050	8,544	8,292	9,216	5,561	124,851
	Uninsured Trades	38,743	17,812	19,613	15,305	10,127	7,777	3,937	5,727	119,041
	Total	76,174	43,245	35,937	29,355	18,671	16,069	13,153	11,288	243,892
Vacancies Notified	Insured Trades	3,616	6,703	3,818	4,483	2,401	2,395	4,677	579	28,672
	Uninsured Trades	14,978	7,760	12,657	8,714	5,174	3,737	1,891	1,947	56,858
	Total	18,594	14,463	16,475	13,197	7,575	6,132	6,568	2,526	85,530
Vacancies Filled	Insured Trades	2,964	5,147	2,785	3,786	1,700	2,048	3,919	411	22,760
	Uninsured Trades	10,530	5,570	8,560	6,209	3,103	2,912	1,210	1,232	39,326
	Total	13,494	10,717	11,345	9,995	4,803	4,960	5,129	1,643	62,086
Live Register at end of month.	Insured Trades	39,968	12,258	10,747	10,033	4,986	7,260	2,946	6,242	94,440
	Uninsured Trades	20,558	6,703	7,401	6,915	5,051	4,020	1,957	3,351	55,956
	Total	60,526	18,961	18,148	16,948	10,037	11,280	4,903	9,593	150,396

B.—ADULTS.

District.	REGISTRATIONS.									VACANCIES.					
	Live Register at Beginning of Period.			Registrations during Period.†			Live Register at End of Period.			Notified during Period.			Filled during Period.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
London and South Eastern	57,118	8,780	65,898	52,460	13,369	65,829	51,059	5,744	56,803	6,767	5,036	11,803	5,061	3,801	8,862
Scotland and North of England	12,586	2,228	14,814	31,498	6,766	38,264	14,728	2,395	17,123	9,078	2,748	11,826	6,854	2,118	8,972
North Western	19,506	3,759	23,265	25,006	7,514	32,520	14,177	2,816	16,993	8,660	4,827	13,487	6,334	3,446	9,780
Yorkshire and East Midlands	16,960	2,288	19,248	20,503	4,923	25,426	13,561	2,009	15,570	7,105	2,763	9,868	5,855	1,960	7,815
West Midlands	9,653	1,978	11,631	12,407	3,188	15,595	7,388	1,430	8,818	3,922	1,412	5,334	2,598	872	3,470
South Western	10,915	928	11,843	12,474	2,029	14,503	9,523	985	10,508	4,255	820	5,075	3,704	569	4,273
Wales (including Mon.)	3,997	796	4,793	10,824	1,438	12,262	3,829	649	4,478	5,443	696	6,139	4,350	483	4,833
Ireland	10,802	1,369	12,171	8,188	1,987	10,175	8,004	1,055	9,059	1,333	708	2,041	806	482	1,288
Total	141,537	22,126	163,663	173,360	41,214	214,574	122,269	17,083	139,352	46,663	19,010	65,673	35,562	13,731	49,293
Total December, 1912	66,971	18,306	85,277	133,716	34,807	168,523	42,817	8,283	51,100	56,173	20,243	76,416	47,048	15,625	62,673
Total a Year ago	67,410	17,112	84,522	109,211	37,478	146,689	59,939	17,452	77,391	40,788	16,516	57,304	33,820	13,152	46,972

C.—JUVENILES.‡

District.	REGISTRATIONS.									VACANCIES.					
	Live Register at Beginning of Period.			Registrations during Period.†			Live Register at End of Period.			Notified during Period.			Filled during Period.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
London and South Eastern	3,768	2,479	6,247	6,004	4,341	10,345	2,124	1,599	3,723	4,087	2,704	6,791	2,724	1,908	4,632
Scotland and North of England	806	1,066	1,872	2,076	2,905	4,981	681	1,157	1,838	1,473	1,164	2,637	857	888	1,745
North Western	653	915	1,568	1,816	1,601	3,417	438	717	1,155	1,891	1,097	2,988	936	629	1,565
Yorkshire and East Midlands	806	861	1,667	1,700	2,229	3,929	580	798	1,378	1,853	1,476	3,329	1,117	1,063	2,180
West Midlands	595	778	1,373	1,522	1,554	3,076	579	640	1,219	1,237	1,004	2,241	673	660	1,333
South Western	591	285	876	966	610	1,566	480	292	772	693	364	1,057	461	226	687
Wales (including Mon.)	215	270	485	371	520	891	179	246	425	263	166	429	167	129	296
Ireland	531	249	780	822	291	1,113	358	176	534	421	64	485	299	56	355
Total	7,965	6,903	14,868	18,267	14,051	29,318	5,419	5,625	11,044	11,918	8,039	19,957	7,234	5,589	12,793
Total December, 1912	5,287	4,897	10,184	18,196	9,274	22,470	3,123	2,202	5,325	9,647	6,170	15,817	6,708	4,491	11,199
Total a Year ago	7,069	5,355	12,424	16,076	11,412	27,488	6,278	4,907	11,275	10,155	6,084	16,239	7,109	4,451	11,560

* Exclusive of Casual employments. † Including re-registrations of persons placed in vacancies through the Exchanges during the period. ‡ Excluding the Manchester Cloth Porters' Exchange, which deals only with casual employment. § Persons under 17 years of age are termed juveniles.

II.—TRADE TABLES.

A. INSURED TRADES.

Registrations, Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the Four Weeks ended Feb. 14th, 1913.

OCCUPATION GROUPS.	ADULTS.					JUVENILES.				
	REGISTRATIONS.			VACANCIES.		REGISTRATIONS.			VACANCIES.	
	Live Register at Beginning of Period.	Registrations during Period.	Live Register at End of Period.	Notified during Period.	Filled during Period.	Live Register at Beginning of Period.	Registrations during Period.	Live Register at End of Period.	Notified during Period.	Filled during Period.
Building :-										
Carpenters, Joiners, etc.	7,873	11,127	7,833	2,144	1,783	44	64	22	59	30
Bricklayers	5,821	7,371	5,584	1,099	906	2	5	3	9	2
Masons	2,580	3,390	2,770	462	319	2	3	—	12	4
Painters, Decorators, &c.	28,303	18,880	24,203	1,394	1,269	17	25	7	101	36
Plumbers and Glaziers	1,661	2,554	1,918	384	281	31	43	26	53	30
Other skilled occupations	2,974	4,257	3,238	521	402	—	5	1	14	7
Labourers	18,725	21,235	17,036	2,825	2,382	22	45	19	57	50
Works of Construction	4,435	6,927	4,064	2,988	2,361	—	4	—	4	2
Sawmilling	699	790	625	191	100	9	16	2	45	24
Shipbuilding :-										
Platers, Riveters, &c.	2,036	6,250	2,396	2,171	1,607	35	69	33	45	34
Shipwrights	443	1,606	354	1,022	895	6	25	13	12	11
Labourers	3,652	7,794	3,574	2,427	2,063	196	237	171	116	86
Mechanical Engineering :-										
Moulders (Iron and Steel)	1,711	2,708	1,720	860	686	30	72	13	111	84
Smiths	834	1,147	810	364	213	12	27	6	36	20
Erectors, Fitters, Turners	4,852	7,714	4,878	2,542	2,020	214	513	207	219	137
Metal Machinists	1,481	2,383	1,416	739	487	41	84	40	61	42
Wiremen	720	1,142	710	503	339	29	36	29	24	19
Other skilled occupations	3,158	4,623	3,086	1,092	741	51	109	38	191	105
Labourers	5,378	8,703	5,478	2,609	2,346	35	106	33	122	100
Making of Vehicles	1,576	1,682	1,373	588	397	31	76	26	81	61
Cabinet Making, &c.	560	581	464	122	55	9	19	11	45	14
Total Males	99,462	122,964	93,590	27,057	21,652	816	1,583	700	1,470	980
Total Females	81	276	143	103	93	7	28	7	42	35
Grand Total	99,543	123,240	93,733	27,160	21,745	823	1,611	707	1,512	1,015

* Including cases in which persons who obtained employment during the period were re-registered on again becoming unemployed.

B. UNINSURED TRADES.

1.—ADULTS.

Registrations, Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the Four Weeks ended Feb. 14th, 1913.

TRADES.	REGISTRATIONS.									VACANCIES.								
	Live Register at Beginning of Period.			Registrations during Period.			Live Register at End of Period.			Notified during Period.			Filled during Period.					
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.			
Mining and Quarrying	451	3	454	739	2	741	280	—	280	752	1	753	313	1	314			
Miscellaneous Metal Trades	801	523	1,324	1,022	976	1,998	485	395	880	619	496	1,115	410	341	751			
Textiles :-																		
Cotton	624	839	1,463	1,770	2,546	4,316	414	540	954	1,574	2,119	3,693	1,033	1,525	2,558			
Wool and Worsted	424	112	536	583	424	1,017	263	113	376	310	280	590	222	186	408			
Other Textiles	449	481	930	612	1,113	1,725	302	392	694	157	548	705	102	440	542			
Dress :-																		
Boot and Shoe Makers	813	87	900	1,161	283	1,444	557	70	627	436	169	605	251	111	362			
Others	486	1,624	2,110	566	2,398	2,964	310	1,039	1,349	192	1,337	1,529	61	843	904			
Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages :-																		
On Railways	287	198	485	355	289	644	111	8,586	8,697	740	626	1,366	70	3,626				
On Roads, Seas, Rivers, &c.	12,193	50	12,243	13,208	100	13,308	111	1,086	1,197	3,783	122	4,645	77	415				
Agriculture :-																		
Paper, Prints, Books and Stationery	826	613	1,439	942	925	1,867	670	359	1,029	317	400	717	207	275	482			
Wood, Furniture, Fittings and Decorations	200	26	226	260	40	300	150	17	167	148	16	164	62	14	76			
Chemicals, Oil, Grease, Soap, &c.	282	148	430	462	236	698	179	93	272	530	187	717	492	183	675			
Bricks, Cement, Pottery and Glass	389	351	740	401	427	828	213	183	396	280	196	476	146	138	284			
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging :-																		
Bread, Biscuit, &c., Makers	545	112	657	621	150	771	410	79	489	184	82	266	93	38	131			
Others	1,547	1,940	3,487	1,594	3,208	4,820	1,029	1,327	2,356	527	1,456	1,983	352	1,261	1,603			
Skins, Leather, Hair, Feathers	282	147	429	294	236	530	216	66	282	100	97	197	45	75	120			
Precious Metals, Jewels, Watches, Instruments and Games	215	63	278	219	101	320	120	32	152	127	113	240	43	75	118			
Gas, Water, Electricity Supply and Sanitary Service	168	—	168	365	—	365	110	—	110	611	—	611	596	—	596			
Commercial :-																		
Domestic (Outdoor) :-																		
Laundry and Washing Service	2,870	823	3,693	2,610	1,975	4,585	2,090	695	2,785	588	1,392	7,277	343	1,071	8,348			
Others	—	9,848	9,848	—	19,645	—	—	—	—	—	8,132	—	—	5,907	—			
General Labourers	10,118	—	10,118	13,445	—	13,445	6,643	—	6,643	3,511	—	3,511	3,040	—	3,040			
Shop Assistants	1,210	1,563	2,773	1,396	2,192	3,588	905	1,337	2,242	249	333	582	97	190	287			
All Others	2,157	1,305	3,462	2,968	2,122	5,090	1,590	939	2,529	1,958	544	2,502	1,503	429	1,932			
Total	42,075	22,045	64,120	50,396	40,938	91,334	28,679	16,940	45,619	19,506	18,907	38,413	13,910	13,638	27,542			
Casual Employments	2,418	—	2,418	1,346	—	1,346	2,055	—	2,055	—	—	—	16,523	—	16,523			

† Including re-registrations of persons placed in vacancies through the Exchanges during the period.

2.—JUVENILES.

Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the Four Weeks ended February 14th, 1913.

TRADES.	NOTIFIED DURING PERIOD.			FILLED DURING PERIOD.			TRADES.	NOTIFIED DURING PERIOD.			FILLED DURING PERIOD.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
	Mining and Quarrying	28	2	30	10	2		12	Total brought forward	7,050	4,218	11,268	3,963	2,983	6,946
Miscellaneous Metal Trades	437	406	843	245	316	561	Skins, Leather, Hair, &c.	117	166	283	60	119	179
Textiles	409	772	1,181	210	581	791	Precious Metals, Jewels, Watches, Instruments, &c.	135	100	235	70	61	131
Dress	366	1,272	1,638	199	772	971	Gas, Water, Electricity Supply and Sanitary Service	20	—	20	19	—	19
Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages :-							Commercial	1,040	273	1,313	646	211	857
Agriculture	111	36	147	50	23	73	Domestic (Outdoor)	318	2,580	2,898	203	1,692	1,895
Paper, Prints, Books, &c.	281	498	779	167	399	566	General Labourers	420	—	420	338	—	338
Wood, Furniture, Fittings, &c.	43	48	91	29	28	57	Shop Assistants	320	174	494	324	175	499
Chemicals, Oil, Grease, &c.	75	209	284	57	174	231	All Others	1,028	486	1,514	631	283	914
Bricks, Cement, Pottery, &c.	124	81	205	62	115	177							
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging	415	544	959	263	426	689							
Total carried forward	7,050	4,218	11,268	3,963	2,983	6,946	Total	10,448	7,997	18,445	6,254	5,524	11,778

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

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

The total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act during February, 1913, was 73, of which 64 were due to lead poisoning, 2 to mercurial poisoning, and 7 to anthrax; 4 deaths due to lead poisoning were also reported. In addition, 17 cases of lead poisoning (2 of which were fatal) were reported among house painters and plumbers.

During the two months ended February, 1913, the total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported under the Factory and Workshop Act was 121, as compared with 103 in the corresponding period of 1912. The number of deaths was 6 in 1913 as compared with 9 in 1912. In addition, there were 32 cases of lead poisoning (including 5 deaths) among house painters and plumbers during the first two months of 1913, as compared with 30 cases (including 5 deaths) in the corresponding period of 1912.

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

Analysis by Industries.

INDUSTRY.	CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Month of Feb., 1913.	Two months ended Feb.,		Month of Feb., 1913.	Two months ended Feb.,			
		1913.	1912.		1913.	1912.		
Lead Poisoning.								
Among Operatives engaged in—								
Smelting of Metals	3	4	14	1	1	1	—	
Brass Works	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping	1	3	7	—	—	—	—	
Plumbing and Soldering	1	3	2	—	—	—	—	
Printing	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	
File Cutting	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	
Tinning of Metals	1	1	4	—	—	—	—	
White Lead Works	1	3	6	—	—	—	—	
Red and Yellow Lead Works	3	4	1	—	—	—	—	
China and Earthenware	10*	10	17	3	3	4	—	
Litho-Transfer Works	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	
G								

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN FEBRUARY, 1913.

(NOTE.—These are not connected with the Board of Trade Labour Exchanges.)

DURING February 738 fresh applications (376 from domestic servants, &c.) for work were registered by 10 Bureaux furnishing returns, and 944 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 226 persons, of whom 128 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 226 situations found for applicants, 193 were of a more or less permanent character, while 33 were temporary only.

The demand for cooks, parlourmaids, housemaids, and children's nurses much exceeded the supply; the supply of ladies' maids and companions exceeded the demand.

	Applications by Work-people during		Situations offered by Employers during		Number of Workpeople engaged by Employers.			
	Feb., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Feb., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Perma- nently.	Feb., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Tem- porarily.
Summary by Bureaux.								
Central Bureau :— 5, Princes Street, Cavendish Square, W.	77	100	100	82	30	32	3	5
Y.W.C.A. :— 26, George Street, (1).. Hanover Sq. (2).. Dublin :— 30, Molesworth Street..	317 103	380 118	594 84	503 110	66 24	66 39	22 4	27 2
Other Bureaux (Liver- pool, Manchester, Bir- mingham, Leeds, Edin- burgh, and Glasgow) ..	13	27	19	26	3	3	—	3
Total of 10 Bureaux ..	738	822	944	880	193	195	33	46
Girls' Friendly Society : 39, Victoria St., S.W. ...	234	—	333	—	70	—	3	—
Summary by Occupations.								
Superintendents, Forewomen, &c. Shop Assistants .. Dressmakers, Milliners, &c. Secretaries, Clerks, Typists Apprentices and Learners Domestic Servants .. Miscellaneous ..	63 21 29 96 13 376 140	56 21 62 87 17 448 131	38 10 44 48 25 694 85	19 4 78 35 15 623 89	9 3 14 18 15 105 29	6 1 30 12 17 105 24	— — 1 7 — 23 27	2 1 3 10 — 3 3
Total of 10 Bureaux ..	738	822	944	880	193	195	33	46

In addition to the above registered applications, the returns show that 84 persons in London, and 23 in the provinces were referred to other agencies; 270 persons in London, and 44 in the provinces, were given advice as to training, &c., but were not registered.

PASSENGERS TO AND FROM PLACES OUT OF EUROPE.*

British.—During January, 1913, 24,286 British subjects left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe, while 8,441 entered the United Kingdom, the balance outward thus being 15,845, compared with a balance outward of 10,048 in January, 1912. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase in the number of passengers outward and in the balance outward, especially to Australia.

Particulars of the movement of British subjects to and from places out of Europe are given in the following Table :—

	January.		
	1912.	1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1913.
Outward :			
Total	18,121	24,286	+ 6,165
To British N. America	2,673	3,743	+ 1,070
To Australia	5,226	9,047	+ 3,821
To United States	3,856	4,493	+ 637
Inward :			
Total	8,073	8,441	+ 368
From British N. America	1,732	1,983	+ 251
From Australia	489	806	+ 317
From United States	3,251	3,006	- 245
Balance Outward :			
Total	10,048	15,845	+ 5,797
To British N. America	941	1,760	+ 819
To Australia	4,737	8,241	+ 3,504
To United States	605	1,487	+ 882

Aliens.—For aliens there was a balance outward in January, 1913, of 2,206, compared with a balance inward of 845 a year ago.

* Exclusive of passengers travelling indirectly via Continental ports.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Summary for February, 1913, and for the two months ended February, 1913.

Imports.—During February, 1913, the total value of foreign and Colonial merchandise imported into the United Kingdom was £263,792,000, an increase of 6.8 per cent. compared with February, 1912, and of 13.8 per cent. compared with February, 1911.

For the two months ended February, 1913, the amount was £134,985,000, an increase of 6.6 per cent. and of 13.7 per cent. respectively compared with the corresponding periods of 1912 and 1911. Compared with 1912 the chief increases were raw wool, £1,793,000; grain and flour, £1,509,000; metal manufactures, £1,106,000; hides and undressed skins, £1,015,000; textile raw materials (other than cotton and wool), £954,000; iron and other metallic ores, £916,000; and wood and timber, £855,000. In the case of food and drink (other than grain, flour and meat) there was a decrease of £3,741,000.

Compared with the first two months of 1911 the most marked increases were grain and flour, £3,007,000; metal manufactures, £2,157,000; textile raw materials (other than cotton and wool), £1,995,000; hides and undressed skins, £1,390,000; raw wool, £1,250,000; and wood and timber, £1,153,000. Raw cotton showed a decrease of £4,202,000.

Exports.—The total value of the exports of produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom during February, 1913, was £40,173,000, an increase of 7.2 per cent. on the amount for February, 1912, and of 12.7 per cent. on that for February, 1911.

During the two months ended February, 1913, the exports amounted to £85,618,000, an increase of 9.9 per cent. and of 16.7 per cent. on the total for the corresponding periods of 1912 and 1911 respectively. Compared with 1912 the chief increases for the two-months period were cotton manufactures, £2,180,000; coal, coke and manufactured fuel, £1,289,000; metal manufactures, £1,503,000; and machinery, £812,000. Compared with 1911 the principal increases were metal manufactures, £2,383,000; coal, coke and manufactured fuel, £2,346,000; cotton manufactures, £1,508,000; machinery, £1,111,000; apparel, £561,000; chemicals, &c., £507,000; and ships (new), £503,000.

IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL MERCHANDISE.

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

	February, 1913.		Two months ended Feb., 1913.	
	Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 1912.	Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 1911.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco	20,725	+ 722	42,819	- 1,365
II.—Raw Materials & Articles mainly Unmanufactured*	27,181	+ 2,236	59,403	+ 7,045
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured†	15,600	+ 1,106	32,165	+ 2,564
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcels Post)	286	+ 13	598	+ 61
Total value of Imports	63,792	+ 4,077	134,985	+ 8,305

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

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

	February, 1913.		Two months ended Feb., 1913.	
	Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 1912.	Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 1911.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco	2,093	- 39	4,366	- 69
II.—Raw Materials & Articles mainly Unmanufactured†	5,222	+ 321	11,031	+ 1,234
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured‡	32,144	+ 2,280	68,744	+ 6,473
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcels Post)	714	+ 120	1,477	+ 73
Total value of Exports of British Produce	40,173	+ 2,682	85,618	+ 7,711

The exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise amounted to £10,746,000 during February, 1913, an increase of £22,000 compared with February, 1912, and of £752,000 compared with February, 1911. During the two months ended February, 1913, they amounted to £21,452,000, an increase of £1,133,000, and of £2,817,000 on the amounts for January-February 1912 and 1911 respectively.

* Raw cotton, wool, wood and timber, metallic ores, oils and oil-seeds, hides and skins, &c.

† Yarns and textile fabrics, metal manufactures, leather and leather manufactures, chemicals, &c.

‡ Coal, wool, oil and oil-seeds, hides and skins, &c.

§ Yarns, textile fabrics and apparel, metal manufactures, machinery, chemicals, &c.

DISTRESS COMMITTEES IN FEBRUARY.

The total number of Distress Committees in operation at the end of February, 1913, was 66, as compared with 68 at the end of January, 1913, and 80 at the end of February, 1912. Of the Distress Committees in operation at the end of February, 1913, 36 were in London and "Outer London," 26 in other places in England and Wales, 3 in Scotland, and 1 in Ireland.

The registers of the Distress Committees at Cardiff and Plymouth were closed during the month.

The total number who received employment relief during February, 1913, was 4,154, of whom 1,712 were in London and "Outer London," 1,620 in the provincial towns of England and Wales, 250 in Scotland, and 572 in Ireland. The average duration of employment relief was 16.7 days* per person employed, and the wages paid amounted to about 66s. 11d. per head, or about 4s. 1d. per day.*

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

Districts.	No. of Applicants given Employment Relief.		Aggregate Duration of Employment Relief.		Total Amount of Wages Paid.	
	Feb., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Feb., 1913.	Feb., 1912.	Feb., 1913.	Feb., 1912.
London :— County	572	2,133	28,937	36,870	5,429	6,833
Outer	1,140	1,979	10,989	15,537	2,002	2,810
Total, London ..	1,712	4,112	39,926	52,407	7,431	9,643
Northern Counties ..	—	56	—	443	—	84
Lancs. and Cheshire ..	—	77	—	638	—	72
Yorkshire	254	258	656	578	131	116
Midlands	55	219	88	630	45	142
Eastern Counties ..	598	585	8,764	7,782	3,690	887
Southern Counties ..	638	1,106	5,940	13,619	910	1,390
Wales and Monmouth ..	75	441	1,687	8,208	375	756
England and Wales ..	3,332	6,853	57,061	84,305	12,582	13,090
Scotland	250	541	4,340	9,848	504	891
Ireland	572	525	6,228	6,300	807	739
United Kingdom ..	4,154	7,919	68,189	100,453	13,893	14,720

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

RAILWAY GOODS AND MINERAL TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

(Based on information published weekly in the "Times.")

The goods and mineral traffic receipts of nineteen of the principal railways in the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended March 1st, 1913, amounted to £4,913,007, an increase of £188,551 (or 4.0 per cent.) on the total for the corresponding period of 1912.

During the nine weeks ended March 1, 1913, the receipts amounted to £10,560,603, an increase of £339,965 (or 3.3 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1912. There were large increases on the lines serving the North and Midlands. On the lines serving the South-eastern part of England there was a decrease.

	4 weeks ended March 1st, 1913.		9 weeks ended March 1st, 1913.	
	Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on 1912.	Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on 1912.
English Lines :—				
L. & N. W., Midland, N. London, and N. Staffs ..	1,569,468	+ 64,917	3,388,646	+ 111,573
Gt. Northern, Gt. Central, and Gt. Eastern	867,700	+ 39,300	1,891,800	+ 63,300
N. Eastern and Lancs and Yorks	893,951	+ 53,226	1,897,316	+ 111,819
Gt. Western, and L. & S. W.	730,700	+ 18,894	1,603,100	+ 45,894
S. E. & C., and L. B. & S. C.	149,734	- 2,699	324,042	- 8,370
Scottish Lines :—				
Caledonian, N. British, and Glasgow & S. Western ..	581,600	+ 5,500	1,181,200	+ 6,900
Irish Lines :—				
Gt. Southern and Western, Midland & Gt. Western, and Gt. Northern ..	129,854	+ 9,413	274,499	+ 8,849
Total	4,913,007	+ 188,551	10,560,603	+ 339,965

* The necessary deductions having been made on account of those who were engaged on piecework.

PAUPERISM IN FEBRUARY.

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

THE number of paupers relieved on one day in February, 1913, in the 35 urban districts named below corresponded to a rate of 200 per 10,000 of the population.

Compared with January, 1913, the total number of paupers relieved decreased by 2,380 (or 0.7 per cent.), and the rate per 10,000 by 2. The number of indoor paupers increased by 249 (or 0.1 per cent.), while the number of outdoor paupers decreased by 2,629 (or 1.4 per cent.). There were decreases in 22 districts, the highest being 11 per 10,000 in the Paisley and Greenock district; 6 per 10,000 in the Paisley and Greenock district and the Dundee and Dunfermline district; and 5 per 10,000 in the Manchester district. In 4 districts there were increases, all of small amount, while the remaining 9 districts showed no change.

Compared with February, 1912, the rate per 10,000 decreased by 13. The number of indoor paupers decreased by 5,507 (or 3.0 per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers by 9,350 (or 4.9 per cent.). There were decreases in all but two of the districts, the most marked being in the Leicester district (41 per 10,000), in the Manchester district (27 per 10,000), in the Coatbridge and Airdrie district (24 per 10,000), and in the Stockton and Tees and Dublin districts (each 20 per 10,000). In 13 other districts the decrease ranged from 10 to 19 per 10,000. In West Ham and in the Cork, Waterford and Limerick district there were small increases.

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of February, 1913.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Month ago.	Year ago.
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.			
ENGLAND & WALES.*						
Metropolis.						
West District	12,432	2,357	14,789	185	..	- 7
North District	16,642	9,021	25,663	252	+ 3	- 8
Central District	6,487	1,404	7,891	471	+ 4	- 5
East District	15,295	5,327	20,622	305	..	- 3
South District	26,618	14,355	40,973	220	- 2	- 15
Total, Metropolis ..	77,474	32,464	109,938	243	..	- 10
West Ham	5,537	11,838	17,375	239	..	+ 3
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District ..	2,709	4,992	7,701	164	- 2	- 13
Stockton & Tees District ..	1,324	3,310	4,634	191	- 11	- 20
Bolton, Oldham, &c. ..	4,643	4,493	9,136	114	- 4	- 18
Wigan District	2,493	5,553	8,046	187	- 1	- 7
Manchester District ..	11,720	7,574	19,294	192	- 5	- 27
Liverpool District ..	12,737	10,424	23,161	269	- 1	- 15
Bradford District ..	2,248	1,800	4,048	109	- 2	- 4
Halifax & Huddersfield ..	1,402	2,931	4,333	114	- 1	- 15
Leeds District	3,029	3,663	6,692	141	- 3	- 11
Sheffield District ..	983	2,698	3,581	122	- 2	- 4
Hull District	3,307	3,391	6,698	139	- 3	- 4
North Staffordshire ..	2,186	5,463	7,649	251	..	- 7
Nottingham District ..	2,440	5,347	7,787	197	..	- 17
Leicester District ..	2,426	4,566	6,992	155	..	- 3
Wolverhampton District ..	1,760	3,171	4,931	214	- 2	- 41
Birmingham District ..	3,810	8,246	12,056	178	- 2	- 19
Bristol District	7,055	6,536	13,591	161	..	- 11†
Cardiff & Swansea ..	3,158	4,566	7,724	200	- 1	- 7
Total, "Other Districts" ..	71,898	95,060	166,958	171	- 2	- 15
SCOTLAND.*						
Glasgow District	6,112	17,363	23,475	248	- 3	- 15

CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETIES.

Quarterly Returns of Sales.

Names of Societies and Nature of Business.	Sales* in the fourth quarter of			Percentage Increase compared with	
	1912.	1911.	1907.	A year ago.	Five years ago.
ENGLISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY :- Distributive Departments .. Productive ..	8,093,002 1,948,759	7,605,689 1,741,446†	6,817,516 1,414,857	6.4 11.9	18.7 37.7
SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY :- Distributive Departments .. Productive ..	2,297,976 764,230	2,158,965 723,240	2,093,379 698,046	6.4 5.7	9.8 9.5
ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETIES' JOINT COMMITTEE :- Productive Departments ..	58,886	54,667	36,294	7.7	62.2
IRISH AGRICULTURAL WHOLESALE SOCIETY :- Distributive Departments ..	28,361	16,290	4,560	74.1	522.0
Total—Distributive Depts. .. " Productive ..	10,419,339 2,771,875	9,780,944 2,519,352	8,915,455 2,149,197	6.5 10.0	16.9 29.0
Grand Total ..	13,191,214	12,300,296	11,064,652	7.2	19.2

* The figures given for the productive departments represent sales and transfers to distributive departments.
† Revised for comparison.
‡ This Society has no productive departments.

APPOINTMENT OF CERTIFYING FACTORY SURGEONS DURING FEBRUARY, 1913.

District.	Certifying Surgeon.	Place and time for examination.*
Buckle (Banff)	Dr. W. R. Duguid, 14, West Church Street, Buckle	Weekdays, 9-10 a.m.
Burton Latimer (Northants)	Dr. T. A. B. Harris, High Street, Burton Latimer, Kettering	Weekdays, 9.30-10.30 a.m.
Egremont (Cumberland)	Dr. E. A. Braithwaite, Home Lea, Egremont	Surgery, West Croft, weekdays, 9-10 a.m.
Hatherleigh (Devon)	Dr. W. F. Mitchell, Hatherleigh, Devon	Tuesday, 9-10 a.m.
Kettering (Northants)	Dr. J. Allison, Fuller House, Gold Street, Kettering	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Lanark (Lanark)	Dr. D. V. Maxwell-Adams, Friarsfield, Lanark	Consulting Rooms, 36, Bloomgate, Lanark, weekdays, 9-9.30 a.m., and 6-8 p.m.
Llandyssil (Carmarthen)	Dr. A. T. Evans, Glangwern, Llandyssil	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Monasterevan (Kildare)	Dr. D. J. Ryan, Monasterevan	Thursday, 11.30 a.m.-12.30 p.m.
Perranporth (Cornwall)	Dr. M. S. Double, Somerleigh, Perranporth	Weekdays, 9-10.30 a.m.
Sandhead (Wigtown)	Dr. J. Dunlop, Lake Cottage, Sandhead	Weekdays, 9-10 a.m.

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

INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED DURING FEBRUARY. (Based on information supplied to the Department by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.)

In the following Tables particulars are given as to the number of each of the various classes, unions and societies, which were (1) registered and (2) dissolved during February, 1913—

Class of Society.	Number Registered.	Class of Society.		Number Registered.
		(1) Registered.	(2) Dissolved.	
Trade Unions ..	4	Friendly Societies ..	16	
Industrial and Provident Societies ..	39	" Branches ..	51	
		Building " ..	2	

Class of Society.	Notices received in Feb. of		Registry Cancelled.
	Commencement of Dissolution or Winding-up.	Termination of Dissolution or Winding-up.	
Trade Unions	1	..
Industrial and Provident Societies	4	1
Friendly Societies	58	19
" Branches	24	..
Building " ..	2	7	..

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING FEBRUARY.

UNITED KINGDOM.

All the United Kingdom Official Publications, including Consular Reports, may be purchased either directly or through any Bookseller from Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, London, E.C., and 54, St. Mary Street, Cardiff; H.M. Stationery Office (Scottish Branch), 28, Forth Street, Edinburgh; or E. Consonby, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street, Dublin; or from the Colonial and Foreign Agencies of T. Fisher Unwin, London, W.C.

Census, 1911. Scotland, Vol. 1. Part 36. County of Sutherland. [Cd. 6097—xxxv. : pp. 34 : price 4d.] *Part 35. County of Selkirk.* [Cd. 6097—xxxii. : pp. 34 : price 4d.] *Part 34. County of Shetland.* [Cd. 6097—xxxiii. : pp. 37 : price 4d.] *Part 35. County of Stirling.* [Cd. 6097—xxxiv. : pp. 35 : price 8½d.]

Agricultural Statistics, 1911. Vol. xlv. Part 5. Colonial and Foreign Statistics. With Index to Vol. xlv. [Cd. 6588 : pp. 122 : price 7½d.] *Vol. xlvii. 1912. Part 1. Acreage and Live Stock Returns.* Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. [Cd. 6597 : pp. 109 : price 5½d.]

Annual Report on the Distribution of Grants for Agricultural Education and Research, 1911-1912. Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. [Cd. 6601 : pp. xv. + 112 : price 6d.]

Report to the Board of Trade on the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act of Canada, 1907, by Sir George Askwith, K.C.B., K.C. [Cd. 6603 : pp. 53 : price 3½d.]

Report of the London Traffic Branch of the Board of Trade, 1912. Roads, public carriages, tramways, railways, bridges and tunnels. [Cd. 6608 : pp. 132, with maps and diagrams : price 6s.]

Casualties to Vessels stated to have been carrying Deck Loads. Return. Reports of Inquiries held in the United Kingdom during the last ten years, and the reports of Foreign and Colonial Inquiries received and published by the Board of Trade during the same period. [Cd. 6620 : pp. 10 : price 1½d.]

Return of the Deaths of Seamen and Fishermen reported to the Board of Trade in the year ended June 30th, 1912. [Cd. 6629 : pp. vi. + 87 : price 9d.]

Report on the Outbreak of an Unusual Illness among Weavers of Cotton Cloth, by Edgar L. Collis, H.M. Medical Inspector of Factories. Home Office. [S.O. Publication : pp. 4.]

Aliens Act, 1905. Return of Alien Passenger Traffic to and from the United Kingdom during the three months ending December 31st, 1912; with the number of Expulsion Orders made during that period. Home Office. [Cd. 6615 : pp. 10 : price 1½d.]

Copy of Third Annual Report of the Port of London Authority for the year ended March 31st, 1912. [H.C. 523 : pp. 20 : price 2½d.]

Gas Authorities (Residual Products). Report of Joint Select Committee to consider whether any, and if any, what restrictions should be imposed on Gas Authorities with respect to the purchase and manufacture of the residual products resulting from the manufacture of gas by other Gas Authorities, or of other chemicals. [H.C. 185 : pp. xi. + 201 : price 1s. 9d.]

BRITISH COLONIES.

Canada.—The Labour Gazette, January, 1913. Proceedings under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act during December, 1912; prices in Canada during 1912; wholesale and retail prices, trade disputes and accidents during December. [Ottawa : C. H. Parmelee, King's Printer : pp. 119.]

Census and Statistics Monthly, December, 1912. Field Crops of Canada for the year ended December 31st, 1912.

Commonwealth of Australia.—Census Bulletin, No. 14. Mortality Investigation, 1881-1910 (pp. 37). No. 15. Families (pp. 13). [Melbourne : McCarron, Bird and Co.]

Court of Conciliation and Arbitration. Dispute between the Australian Tramway Employees' Association and various Authorities. Judgment. [pp. 32.]

Victoria.—Wages Board Determinations. Carters' Board, dated December 4th, 1912, cancelling that of July 21st, 1912. *Aerated Water Trade Board,* dated December 23rd, 1912, cancelling that of December 8th, 1910. *Bricklayers' Board,* dated December 19th, 1912, cancelling that of September 28th, 1911. *Country Saddlery Board,* dated December 16th, 1912.

Queensland.—Wages Board Determinations. House Painting and Decorating Trade Board for the South-Eastern Division, dated December 12th, 1912, cancelling that of July 6th, 1911.

Tasmania.—Report on the Friendly Societies of Tasmania for 1911. By the Government Statistician. [Hobart : John Vail, Government Printer : pp. 11.]

South Africa.—Report of the Labour Department for the month of December, 1912. Applications for employment, work found, building plans, etc. [pp. 11.]

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

International.—International Association for Labour Legislation. Report of Congress at Zurich, September, 1912. [Paris, 1912 : Berger-Levrault.] English edition. [London : P. S. King & Son : price 4s.]

Bulletin of the International Labour Office, No. 1, 1913. English edition. [London : The Pioneer Press.] No. 10, 1912. French edition. [Paris : Berger-Levrault.] No. 2, 1913. German edition. [Jena : Gustav Fischer.]

Bulletin of the Bureau of Economic and Social Intelligence, November, 1912. Agricultural co-operation in Germany; rural co-operative credit banks in France. International Institute of Agriculture. [Rome : price 1s. 7d.]

Bulletin of Social Insurance. No. 1, 1913. Report on proceedings, etc., of International Congress on Social Insurance held at Zurich, September, 1912. [Paris : 4, rue du Moulin-Vert : price 2s. 5d.]

United States.—13th Census, 1910, Bulletins, Agriculture. Live Stock Products and Domestic Animals sold or slaughtered on Farms, by States. [pp. 16.] Tenure, Mortgage Indebtedness, Colour and Nationality of Farmers, and Size of Farms, by States. [pp. 24.] Farm Crops, by States. [pp. 59.] *Mining.* Statistics of Mining, for Industries and States. [pp. 24.]

Volume IX. Manufactures. Reports by States, with Statistics for Principal Cities. Bureau of the Census. [Washington, Government Printing Office : pp. 1401.]

—Census Bulletin 115. Supply and Distribution of Cotton for the year ending August 31st, 1912. [pp. 31.]

—Bulletin of the Bureau of Labour. Retail Prices and Cost of Living Series. No. 105. Part II. Retail Prices, 1890 to 1911. [pp. 452.] *No. 106. Part II. Retail Prices, 1890 to June, 1912.* [pp. 205.] *No. 108. Retail Prices, 1890 to August, 1912.* [pp. 154.] *No. 110. Retail Prices, 1890 to October, 1912.* [pp. 151.] [Washington : Government Printing Office.]

—New York. Bulletin of the New York Department of Labour, December, 1912. State of employment, wages and earnings, and strikes and lock-outs in third quarter of 1912; labour organisations in the half-year ended September, &c. [Albany : J. B. Lyon Co., Printers : pp. 95.]

—Massachusetts. Sixth Annual Report on the State Free Employment Offices for the year ending November 30th, 1912. [Boston : Wright and Potter Printing Co., State Printers : pp. 23.]

—Pennsylvania. Annual Report of the Secretary of Internal Affairs. Part III. Industrial Statistics, 1911. Industrial accidents, statistics of manufactures, wage earners employed, total wages paid, &c. [Harrisburg : C. E. Aughinbaugh, State Printer : pp. 464.]

—Proceedings of the International Association of Bureaux of Labour, Factory Inspection and Industrial Commissioners. 28th Annual Convention.

—The Cotton Manufacturing Industry of the United States. M. T. Copeland. Harvard Economic Studies, VIII. [Cambridge, Mass : Harvard University : pp. 415.]

France.—Journal of the French Labour Department, January, 1913. Labour disputes in December; comparative table showing legal regulation of hours of labour of women and children in industrial employment in each European country; co-operative credit societies on January 1st, 1912. [Paris : Berger-Levrault : price 2d.]

—Journal of the French Statistical Department, January, 1913. Unemployment, prices, &c. [Paris : Félix Alcan : price 3s. 2d.]

—Journal of the French Ministry of Agriculture, December, 1912. Prices of wheat in French towns, and of bread in Paris, November, 1912. [Paris : Imprimerie Nationale : price 6d.]

Germany.—Journal of the German Labour Department, January, 1913. Employment in 1912 and in December; principal statistics relating to accident and infirmity insurance, 1911; co-operative societies on January 1st, 1912. [Berlin : Carl Heymann : price 1d.]

—Annual Reports of Factory and Mine Inspectors in Germany, 1911. Volumes I-IV. Summary tables and index in Volume IV. [Berlin, 1912 : G. Schenk.]

—Statistics of Sickness Insurance, 1911. Imperial Statistical Office. [Berlin : Puttkammer und Mühlbrecht : pp. 19 + 81 : price 1s. 2½d.]

—Statistical Year Book of Alsace-Lorraine, 1912. Market prices of wheat, straw, hay, meat, &c.; wages of forestry workers, miners and saltworkers in 1911; assessed daily wages of ordinary labourers in 1912; statistics of sickness, accident, old age and infirmity insurance. Statistical Office of Alsace-Lorraine. [Strassburg : R. Schultz u. Co. : price 1s.]

—Journal of the Statistical Office of Prussia, 1912. Part III. [Berlin, 1912 : Verlag des Königlichen Statistischen Landesamts.]

—Journal of the Statistical Office of Saxony, 1912. Part II. Statistics of savings banks in Saxony, 1904-10. [Dresden : Von Zahn & Jaensch : pp. 163-430 : price 1s. 6d.]

—Statistical Journal of the Grand Duchy of Baden, January, 1913. Work of Federation of Baden Labour Exchanges in 1912; retail prices in January, 1913.

—Statistical Yearbook of Dresden, 1911. Statistics of retail prices, 1901-1911, census of unemployed on October 12th, 1911. [Dresden, 1912 : Von Zahn & Jaensch : pp. viii. + 243 + 66.]

—Journal of the Imperial Insurance Office, December 31st, 1912. [Berlin : Behrend and Co. : price 8d. each part.]

—Statistics relating to the Food Supply of Large Towns in Germany. Dr. H. Silbergleit. [Berlin, 1912 : pp. 75.]

—Statistics of Wages and Labour Conditions in Bookbinding and Allied Trades in Germany, as at November, 1910. Federation of German Bookbinders. [Berlin, 1912 : E. Kloth : pp. 561.]

—(1) The Food of German Workpeople and Its Cost, by Prof. Dr. Lichtenfeld. *(2) Increased Cost of Living at Basle as shown by Household Budgets,* by Dr. F. Krömmelbein. Basler Volkswirtschaftliche Arbeiten. Edited by Stephan Bauer. [Stuttgart, 1912 : W. Kohlhammer : pp. xx. + 315.]

—Wages of Municipal Employees. Results of an inquiry made on May 15th, 1911, by the Federation of Municipal and State Workers. [Berlin, November, 1911 : Selbstverlag des Verbandes der Gemeinde-und Staatsarbeiter.]

The Constituent Elements of Prices. Section B. Industrial Products, Part I. General editor, F. Eulenburg. Verein für Sozialpolitik. [Munich, 1912 : Duncker & Humblot : pp. 251.]

—Central Office of German Employers' Associations. Report to Congress of December 14th, 1912, by Dr. Tänzler. [Berlin, 1912 : pp. 24.]

Austria-Hungary.—Journal of the Austrian Labour Department, January, 1913. Labour exchanges in December; new Swedish law (of June, 1912) on protection of workpeople; Russian laws (of June, 1912) on accident and sickness insurance, and on accident compensation for railway employees. [Vienna : A. Hölder : price 2d.]

—Labour Exchanges in Austria; Report for 1911. Austrian Labour Department. [Vienna, 1912 : Alfred Hölder : pp. 47.]

—List of Compulsory Trade Guilds in Austria. Part I. Volumes II., III., IV. Austrian Ministry of Commerce. [pp. 697, 524 and 203 respectively.]

—Journal of the Austrian Central Statistical Commission, December, 1912. [Brünn : F. Irgang.]

—Journal of Trade and Industrial Regulations, No. 1, 1913. Austrian Ministry of Commerce. [Vienna : Verlag der Manzschon k.k. Hof-Verlags- und Universitäts-Buchhandlung : price 10d.]

—Journal of the Austrian Ministry of the Interior, February 1st, 1913. [Vienna : k.k. Hof- und Staatsdruckerei.]

—Statistical Journal of Hungary, December, 1912. Strikes and lock-outs in Hungary in 1909. [Vienna : A. Hölder.]

Italy.—Census of June 10th, 1911. Population of each commune in the Kingdom. Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce. [Rome : F. Nitti.]

—Journal of the Italian Labour Department, January, 1913. Labour disputes and retail prices of food in December. [Rome : Fratelli Treves : price 4d.]

Belgium.—Journal of the Belgian Labour Department, January 15th, 1913. Employment in December, 1912; law approving Belgian-German convention of January 8th on industrial accidents. Ditto January 31st, 1913. Labour disputes in December; number of technical schools subsidised by the Government and of pupils attending at end of 1911. [Brussels : E. Daem : price 1d. each part.]

Holland.—Journal of the Central Statistical Office, January 31st, 1913. Employment and labour disputes in December; labour disputes in 1912 (preliminary figures). [The Hague : Gebroeders Belinfante : price 2d.]

—Statistical Yearbook of Holland, 1911. Central Statistical Office. Results of census of occupations of December 31st, 1909; trade unions; wages and hours of labour on Government works; strikes and lock-outs; prices of food; accident insurance. [The Hague : Gebroeders Belinfante.]

—Reports of the Chambers of Labour for 1911. Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce. [The Hague : Gebroeders Belinfante.]

—Demographic Statistics of Large Cities of the World, 1880-1909. Part II. (Asia, Africa, America, Australia). Births, marriages, deaths, infant mortality, causes of death, &c. Municipal Statistical Bureau. [Amsterdam, 1912 : Johannes Müller : price (2 parts) 5s.]

Denmark.—Journal of the Danish Statistical Department, February, 1913. Unemployment in November, 1912. [Copenhagen : Gyldendalske Boghandel-Nordisk Forlag : price 1½d.]

Norway.—Census of December 1st, 1910. Part II. [Christiania : H. Aschehoug & Co. : price 6d.]

Spain.—Journal of the Spanish Labour Department, January, 1913. Prices of commodities in certain provinces and towns, October 1911-March, 1912, Bill regulating employment of persons in shops, labour disputes in fourth quarter of 1912. [Madrid : D. V. Suarez : price 2½d.]

Russia (Finland).—Journal of the Finnish Labour Department, 1913, No. 1. Factory inspection in 1911; labour exchanges and prices of food in fourth quarter of 1912. [Helsingfors : price 2½d.]

Chile.—Journal of the Labour Department of Chile, No. 4 (January-June, 1912). Wages and conditions of labour in Iquique, statistics of industrial accidents, 1911, and strikes in first quarter of 1912. Ministry of Industry and Public Works. [Santiago de Chile.]

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, FEBRUARY, 1913.

ADMIRALTY : WORKS DEPARTMENT.
GRAB DREDGER FOR H.M. DOCKYARD, CHATHAM.—*Priestman Bros., Ltd.,* Holderness Foundry, Hull.
RAILWAY MATERIALS FOR H.M. DOCKYARD, PORTSMOUTH.—*R. White & Sons,* Widnes, Lancs; *T. Summerson & Sons, Ltd.,* Albert Hill Foundry, Darlington.

WORKS SERVICES :—
Aeroplane Sheds for Isle of Grain.—*W. Harbrow,* South Bermondsey Station, London, S.E.
Foundations for Oil Tanks and Reinforced Concrete Dolphins, Jetty and Steel Bridge, Portland.—*Playfair & Toole,* Northam Bridge Works, Southampton.
Tanks for Fuel Oil Storage.—*Newton Chambers & Co., Ltd.,* Thorncliffe Ironworks, nr. Sheffield; *Westwood & Wrights,* Brierley Hill, Staffordshire.

ADMIRALTY; CONTRACT BRANCH.

- BEESWAX.—*J. Houghton & Sons*, 27, Bartholomew Close, E.C.
 BELL, BELL FITTINGS, GONGS, &c.—*Hawkers, Ltd.*, The Crescent, Hockley, Birmingham; *India Rubber, Gutta Percha, &c., Co., Ltd.*, Silvertown, E.; *McGeoch & Co., Ltd.*, Coventry Rd., Birmingham; *Mechan & Sons, Ltd.*, Scotstoun Ironworks, Scotstoun, Glasgow; *Player & Mitchell*, Cambridge St., Birmingham; *Reid Bros., Engineers, Ltd.*, 12, Wharf Rd., City Rd., N.; *Spagnoletti, Ltd.*, Goldhawk Rd., Shepherd's Bush, W.
 BLOCKS, DERRICK, WROUGHT IRON.—*J. Broadfoot & Sons, Ltd.*, Inchholm Works, Whiteinch, Glasgow; *Laird & Son*, Irvine, Ayrshire.
 BLUE-TINT COMBINATION SUITS.—*G. Glanfield & Son*, 1, 3, and 5, Brick Lane, E.; *E. Milns & Co.*, 69/72, Hatfield St., Blackfriars, S.E.
 BOOTS, HALF.—*Adams Bros.*, Raunds; *R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd.*, Raunds; *Finedon Co-operative Boot & Shoe Manufacturing Society, Ltd.*, Finedon; *J. Horrell & Son*, Raunds; *C. E. Nichols*, Raunds; *W. Nichols & Son, Ltd.*, Kettering; *Northamptonshire Productive Society, Ltd.*, Wollaston; *Pocock Bros.*, 235, Southwark Bridge Rd., S.E.; *St. Crispin Productive Society, Ltd.*, Raunds; *Owen Smith*, Raunds; *Tebbutt & Hall Bros.*, Raunds; *Wilkins & Denton, Ltd.*, 24, London Wall, E.C.
 BOOTS, SEA, KNEE, AND WATER.—*Adams Bros.*, Raunds; *J. Horrell & Son*, Raunds; *St. Crispin Productive Society, Ltd.*, Raunds; *Owen Smith*, Raunds.
 BOOTS, STOKERHOLD.—*Adams Bros.*, Raunds; *J. Horrell & Son*, Raunds; *St. Crispin Productive Society, Ltd.*, Raunds.
 BRACKETS, PENDANTS, &c.—*Evered & Co., Ltd.*, Surrey Works, Smethwick; *Edison & Swan, &c., Co., Ltd.*, 36 and 37, Queen St., Cheapside, E.C.; *Gabriel & Co.*, 4 and 5, A. B. Row, Birmingham; *General Electric Co., Ltd.*, 67, Queen Victoria St., E.C.; *Mechan & Sons, Ltd.*, Scotstoun Iron Works, Glasgow; *W. McGeoch & Co., Ltd.*, 46, Coventry Rd., Birmingham; *Player & Mitchell, Ltd.*, Cambridge St., Birmingham; *David Shanks & Co., Ltd.*, 115, Wainwright St., Aston, Birmingham; *Spagnoletti, Ltd.*, Goldhawk Rd., W.
 BUNTING.—*Wm. Bancroft & Sons (of Halifax), Ltd.*, King Cross, Halifax, Yorks; *Cyrus Brook & Sons, Ltd.*, Central Mills, Bradford, Yorks; *C. B. Brook & Co.*, 39, Swaine St., Bradford, Yorks; *J. Clough & Son*, Baildon Green Mills, Shipley, Yorks; *G. H. Eady & Co.*, 6, Drake St., Bradford, Yorks; *H. Farrar & Co.*, Clay Pits Mills, Halifax, Yorks; *John Knox*, Airedale Shed, Silsden, near Keighley; *Morton & Holcroft*, Fenton Road Works, Halifax, Yorks; *Thos. Riley & Co.*, 32, Charles St., Bradford, Yorks; *Whitworth & Co., Ltd.*, Luddenden Foot, S.O., Yorks.
 CALICO.—*Kershaw, Leese & Co., Ltd.*, India Mills, Stockport; *J. Parkyn & Co.*, 70, Mosley St., Manchester; *F. Taylor & Sons*, 17, Bloom St., Manchester.
 CANDLES, STEARINE.—*Palmer & Co., Ltd.*, Victoria Works, Stratford, E.
 CAPS, FORAGE.—*Myers & Co.*, 222/6, Cambridge Rd., N.E.
 CHART BOXES.—*A. Lloyd & Sons, Ltd.*, Pier Wharf, Deptford Green, S.E.; *E. Spencer & Co.*, Longfellow Rd., Bow, E.
 CLOTHING, WATERPROOF.—*New Pegamoid, Ltd.*, Queen Victoria St., E.C.
 CLOTHS, COTTON CLEANING.—*A. Worsley & Sons, Ltd.*, Fountain Street Mills, Bury, Lancs; *Fairlea Mill Co., Ltd.*, Luddenden Foot, Yorks.
 CLOTHS, SPONGE.—*Wild & Co.*, Moss Mill, Heywood, Lancs.
 COCKS, ASBESTOS PACKED.—*W. N. Baines & Co., Ltd.*, Phoenix Brass Works, Rotherham; *Hayward, Tyler & Co., Ltd.*, 99, Queen Victoria St., E.C.
 COCKS, GUN METAL AND PLATED.—*Hayward, Tyler & Co., Ltd.*, 99, Queen Victoria St., E.C.; *Sir J. Laing & Sons, Ltd.*, Deptford Yard, Sunderland; *T. Lister & Co. (Brassfounders), Ltd.*, Brighouse, Yorks; *J. Livingston & Sons, Ltd.*, Middlesbrough; *Stroud Metal Co., Ltd.*, Dudbridge, Stroud, Glos.; *Shipham & Co., Ltd.*, Trinity Brass and Copper Works, Hull; *Smith, Bros. & Co. (Hyson), Ltd.*, Hyson Green Works, Nottingham; *J. Russell & Co., Ltd.*, Belmont Works, Brookfields, Birmingham; *United Brassfounders & Engineers, Ltd.*, Holloway Head, Birmingham.
 COPPER, &c., ARTICLES.—*H. Brathwaite & Co., Ltd.*, Swingate, Leeds; *Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd.*, 153, Camden St., Birmingham; *Burt Bros.*, Edward St., Parade, Birmingham; *J. Hudson & Co.*, 244, Barr St., Hockley, Birmingham; *W. H. Johnson & Co.*, 420, Caledonian Rd., N.; *Lauden & Poole*, Hope Works, Newtown Row, Birmingham; *John Levick*, Alma St., Aston, Birmingham; *Orme, Evans & Co., Ltd.*, Elgin Works, Wolverhampton; *J. Stone & Co., Ltd.*, Deptford, S.E.
 COUNTERPANES AND COVERLETS.—*Barlow & Jones, Ltd.*, 2, Portland St., Manchester; *H. Bond & Co.*, 12, Tariff St., Dale St., Manchester.
 DECK FITTINGS, &c., CAST STEEL.—*Ley's Malleable Castings Co., Ltd.*, Derby; *Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd.*, 23, Royal Exchange Square, Glasgow; *Caledonian Steel Castings Co., Ltd.*, Govan, Glasgow.
 FILES.—*H. Rossell & Co., Ltd.*, Waverley Works, Sheffield; *S. Osborn & Co., Ltd.*, Clyde Steel Works, Sheffield; *Hobson, Houghton & Co., Ltd.*, Don Steel Works, Sheffield; *J. Twyny & Co.*, Suffolk Works, Sheffield.
 FLANNEL.—*Thomas Heap & Sons, Ltd.*, Haugh, near Rochdale; *Kershaw Bros.*, Sladen Mills, Littleborough, near Manchester; *John Lee & Sons, Ltd.*, Bank Field Mills, Rochdale; *T. & C. Littlewood & Co.*, Yorkshire St., Rochdale; *J. Smith (Milnrow), Ltd.*, 64, Dale St., Milnrow, nr. Rochdale; *Robert Schofield*, Well 'n' th' Lane Mills, Rochdale; *J. Woolfenden*, Vicars Moss Mills, Rochdale.
 FLANNELLETTE.—*Pickles Bros., Ltd.*, 57, Faulkner St., Manchester.
 HAIR, CURLER.—*J. Boyd & Co., Ltd.*, Castle Cary, Somerset; *Booth & Fox, Ltd.*, 86, Hatton Garden, E.C.; *S. Laycock & Sons, Ltd.*, Portobello Place, Sheffield; *W. List & Sons, Ltd.*, 51, Bunhill Row, E.C.; *R. & J. MacCrae, Ltd.*, 13, Queen St., Glasgow; *E. Meyer & Co.*, Victoria Hair Factory, Hythe Rd., Willesden, N.W.; *J. Martin & Co.*, 4, Jordan St., Liverpool.
 HELMETS, SUN.—*Almond & Smith*, 67, Willow Walk, S.E.; *J. Compton & Sons*, 419, Old Kent Rd., S.E.; *Vero & Everitt, Ltd.*, Atherstone; *W. Vero Everitt & Co.*, 43, East Dulwich Rd., S.E.
 HOSES, FLEXIBLE METALLIC.—*United Flexible Metallic Tubing Co., Ltd.*, Ponders End, Middlesex.
 IRON, FIG.—*W. Baird & Co., Ltd.*, 168, West George St., Glasgow; *Carron Co.*, Carron, Stirlingshire; *Goldendale Iron Co.*, Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent; *Kettering Iron & Coal Co., Ltd.*, Kettering; *Newton Chambers & Co.*, Thorncliffe Ironworks, nr. Sheffield; *Pease & Partners, Ltd.*, 8, Eastcheap, E.C.; *Summerlee Iron Co., Ltd.*, 176, West George St., Glasgow.
 IRON PLATE WORKERS' WARES.—*A. J. Austin*, Hack St., Deritend, Birmingham; *W. B. Bawn & Co., Ltd.*, 49, West India Dock Rd., E.; *F. Braby & Co., Ltd.*, Ida Works, Deptford, S.E.; *Burney & Co., Ltd.*, Westferry Rd., Millwall, E.; *S. W. Bullas & Sons, Ltd.*, Cradley Heath; *Cockburns, Ltd.*, Cardonald, nr. Glasgow; *Davies, Brothers & Co., Ltd.*, Crown Works, Wolverhampton; *Froggatt & Tyler, Ltd.*, Oxford St., Bilston; *G. Hill (The Hayes Galvanised Ironworks), Ltd.*, The Hayes, Stourbridge; *Lancaster & Co.*, Bromley-by-Bow, E.; *Orme, Evans & Co., Ltd.*, Wolverhampton; *J. Sankey & Sons, Ltd.*, Albert Street Works, Bilston; *Sheet Ironworkers, Ltd.*, Mill St., Cradley, Cradley Heath; *Walls, Ltd.*, Fazeley St., Birmingham.
 LAMP HOLDERS AND INSULATORS FOR.—*Edison & Swan, &c., Co., Ltd.*, 36 and 37, Queen St., E.C.; *General Electric Co., Ltd.*, 71, Queen Victoria St., E.C.; *W. McGeoch & Co., Ltd.*, 46, Coventry Rd., Birmingham.
 LAMPS, INCANDESCENT.—*British Union Lamp Works, Ltd.*, Huyton Quay, nr. Liverpool; *British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd.*, 77, Upper Thames St., E.C.; *Cryselco, Ltd.*, Kempston Works, Bedford; *Edison & Swan, &c., Co., Ltd.*, 36 and 37, Queen St., Cheapside, E.C.; *General Electric Co., Ltd.*, 71, Queen Victoria St., E.C.; *The Rugby Lamp Co., Ltd.*, 10, Bush Lane, E.C.; *Pope's Electric Lamp Co., Ltd.*, Hythe Rd., Willesden.
 LINEN GOODS.—*Baxter, Bros. & Co., Ltd.*, Dundee; *J. Boath, Jun. & Co.*, Forfar; *D. & R. Duke*, Brechin; *C. Fox & Son*, Holbeck, Leeds; *J. Gunning & Son, Ltd.*, 35, Adelaide St., Belfast; *J. Lambert & Co.*, Auchtermuchty, Fife; *N. Lockherb & Sons*, Kirkcaldy, Fife; *J. Lowson, Jun. & Co., Ltd.*, Victoria Works, Forfar; *J. Lornie & Sons*, Kirkcaldy, Fife; *Richards, Ltd.*, Broadford Works, Aberdeen; *R. Stocks & Co.*, Abden Linen Works, Kirkcaldy; *Ulster Weaving Co., Ltd.*, Linfield, Belfast; *R. Usker & Co., Ltd.*, Granhills Factory, Drogheda; *Walton & Co.'s Successors*, Castle Mills, Knarborough.
 NAILS, COPPER.—*King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd.*, King's Norton, nr. Birmingham; *D. Powis & Sons*, Floodgate St., Birmingham; *Tower Manufacturing Co., Ltd.*, Central Works, Worcester.
 POWDER, CLEANSING.—*J. Riley & Sons*, Hapton, nr. Accrington.
 REFRIGERATORS.—*Hoskins & Son, Ltd.*, Upper Trinity St., Bordesley, Birmingham; *Wrinch & Sons*, St. Lawrence Works, Ipswich.
 REPS, DAMASKS, &c.—*Glover Bros. (Leeds), Ltd.*, Wortley Low Mills, Leeds; *Greenwood & Scatchard*, Forest Mills, Ovensden, Halifax; *J. Holdsworth & Co.*, Shaw Lodge Mill, Halifax; *J. Hoyle & Son*, Prospect Mills, Longwood, Huddersfield; *H. C. McCrea & Co., Ltd.*, Eastfield Mills, Halifax; *Walsh & McCrea, Ltd.*, Arches Street Mills, Halifax.
 RINGS, HOLDING DOWN.—*Vickers, Ltd.*, Broadway, Westminster, S.W.
 ROPES, STEEL WIRE.—*Bullivant & Co., Ltd.*, 72, Mark Lane, E.C.; *Craven & Speeding Bros.*, Sunderland; *J. Crawhall & Sons*, Eldon St., Gateshead-on-Tyne; *Edwin Ellis & Co., Ltd.*, Alpha Road, Millwall, E.; *Excelsior Wire Rope Co., Ltd.*, Cardiff; *Glaholm & Robson, Ltd.*, Sunderland; *W. J. Glover & Co.*, St. Helens, Lancashire; *W. D. Houghton & Co., Ltd.*, Warrington; *Rylands Bros., Ltd.*, Warrington; *Warrington Wire Rope Works, Ltd.*, 13, Goree Piazza, Liverpool; *Whitecross Co., Ltd.*, Warrington.
 SEMAPHORES, SHIPS.—*H. Hughes & Son, Ltd.*, 59, Fenchurch St., E.C.; *Tyer & Co., Ltd.*, Ashwin St., Dalston Junction, N.E.
 SHOES, BLACK LEATHER.—*Adams Bros.*, Raunds; *R. Coggins & Son, Ltd.*, Raunds; *J. Horrell & Son*, Raunds; *St. Crispin Productive Society, Ltd.*, Raunds.
 SLIPPERS, BASIL.—*Adams Bros.*, Raunds; *Pocock Bros.*, 235, Southwark Bridge Rd., S.E.; *Wilkins & Denton*, 24, London Wall, E.C.
 TAPE, WORSTED.—*J. Carr & Sons*, Clarence Mills, Chester Rd., Manchester; *Dalton, Barton & Co., Ltd.*, 49/52, Jewin St., E.C.
 THREADS.—*W. Barbour & Sons, Ltd.*, Hilden, Lisburn, Ireland; *Finlayson, Bousfield & Co., Ltd.*, Johnstone, Scotland; *W. & J. Knox, Ltd.*, Kilbirnie, Ayr; *R. Tucker & Sons*, Bridport.

- TOOLS, PNEUMATIC.—*Consolidated Pneumatic Tool Co., Ltd.*, 9, Bridge Rd., Westminster, S.W.
 WORSTED AND WOOL.—*Harrap Bros.*, Bective Mills, Alverthorpe, Wakefield; *R. Poppleton & Sons, Ltd.*, Albert Mills, Horbury, Yorks.
 ZINC NAILS, ANGLES, &c.—*Locke, Lancaster & W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, Ltd.*, 94, Gracechurch St., E.C.; *London Zinc Mills, Ltd.*, Wenlock Rd., N.
 WAR OFFICE.
 APPARATUS, DRAIN-CLEANING.—*Cakebread, Robey & Co.*, High Rd., Wood Green, N.
 BADGES, EMBROIDERED.—*S. Hess & Son, Ltd.*, 44, Bethnal Green Rd., E.; *P. W. Hoare*, 21, Rosebery Avenue, E.C.; *Hobson & Sons*, 1-5, Lexington St., W.; *G. Kenning & Son*, Little Britain, E.C., and Great Queen St., W.C.; *Nutting & Kent*, 13, Little Britain, E.C.; *Read & Spence*, 493, Battersea Park Rd., S.W.; *R. Stevenson*, 10, Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Rd., E.C.; *Stokoe & Co.*, 21, Sister's Avenue, Lavender Hill, S.W.; *R. Virgo & Co.*, 3, Rectory Grove, Clapham, S.W.
 BAGS, KTT.—*T. Briggs (London), Ltd.*, 2 and 4, Southgate Rd., N.; *C. Groom, Ltd.*, Ramornie Works, Dod St., Limehouse, E.
 BALANCES.—*W. & T. Avery, Ltd.*, Birmingham; *E. & G. Corderoy*, Millwall, E.; *Day & Millward, Ltd.*, Birmingham; *Geo. Salter & Co.*, West Bromwich.
 BANDOLIERS.—*T. Briggs (London), Ltd.*, 2 and 4, Southgate Rd., N.; *J. Compton & Sons*, Swindon, and Old Ford, E.; *G. Glanfield & Son*, 1, 3, and 5, Brick Lane, E., and 4 and 5, Osborne Place, E.; *C. Groom, Ltd.*, Ramornie Works, Dod St., Limehouse, E.; *T. & D. Henry*, Duncan St., Leman St., E.; *Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd.*, Grange Mills, Bermondsey, S.E.; *Hoare, Marr & Co.*, Dundee Works, Brew-house Lane, Wapping, E.; *Sly, Dibble & Co., Ltd.*, 209-213, Cable St., E.; *M. Wright & Sons, Ltd.*, Quorn Mills and Mill St. Factory, Loughborough.
 BASINS.—*S. J. & E. Fellows, Ltd.*, Wolverhampton.
 BEDSTEADS.—*T. Smith & Sons, of Saltley, Ltd.*, Saltley Mill, Birmingham; *J. Williams & Co.*, Dennispark, Stourbridge.
 BELTS, GYMNASIA, &c.—*G. G. Bussey & Co., Ltd.*, Peckham, S.E.; *F. Bryan*, Long Lane, S.E., and Woodstock; *D. Mason & Sons, Ltd.*, Birmingham and Walsall; *Spencer, Heath & George, Ltd.*, 5, Domingo St., E.C.
 BINOCULARS.—*Ross, Ltd.*, 3, North Side, Clapham Common, S.W.; *W. Watson & Sons, Ltd.*, High Barnet.
 BLANKETS, SADDLE.—*D. Lee & Sons*, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury; *T. Lee & Sons*, Bank Top Mills, near Dewsbury.
 BOARDS, GLAZED, &c. (Running Contract).—*Jackson's Millboard and Paper Co., Ltd.*, Bourne End, Bucks; *H. & J. W. Wright*, Freedom Mills, Morton, Bingley.
 BOTTLES, OIL.—*A. G. Scott & Co., Ltd.*, Deptford, S.E.
 BRUSHES.—*Chadwick & Shapcott, Ltd.*, 56, Durham Rd., N.; *D. Clark & Sons*, Walsall; *S. Ludbrook & Co., Ltd.*, Mile End, E.; *D. Matthew & Son, Ltd.*, Tariff Rd., Tottenham, N.; *S. D. Page & Sons, Ltd.*, Wymondham and Norwich; *A. Reid & Sons*, 283, Tabard St., S.E.; *I. S. Varian & Co.*, 92, Talbot St., Dublin; *W. H. Voules & Sons, Ltd.*, Bristol and Stonehouse, Glos.
 BUCKLES, &c.—*Bent & Parker, Ltd.*, Northwood St., Birmingham; *Bodill, Parker & Co., Ltd.*, Albion Works, Great Hampton Rd., Birmingham; *C. Edkins & Sons, Ltd.*, Friday Bridge Works, Birmingham; *M. Harvey & Co., Ltd.*, Bath St., Walsall; *Smith & Wright, Ltd.*, Brearley St., Birmingham; *C. C. Walker, Ltd.*, Stafford St., Walsall.
 CANVAS.—*Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd.*, Dens Works, Dundee; *Boase Spinning Co., Ltd.*, Arbroath; *J. Boath, Junr., & Co.*, Forfar; *Cox Bros., Ltd.*, Lochee; *Craik, Ltd.*, Manor Works, Forfar; *J. & A. D. Grimond, Ltd.*, Dundee; *Richards, Ltd.*, Broadford Works, Aberdeen; *D. Smith & Sons, Ltd.*, Alyth; *J. & D. Wilkie*, Kirriemuir.
 CAPS, FORAGE (Running Contract).—*Hobson & Sons*, 154-164, Tooley St., S.E.
 CASES, PACKING (Running Contract).—*F. J. Farwig & Co.*, 1, Upper Thames St., E.C.; *A. Lloyd & Sons, Ltd.*, Pier Wharf, Deptford, S.E.; *Priddy & Hale, Ltd.*, Woodford Rd., N.W.; *Redmond, Sons & Co.*, Belfast; *J. Tomlinson & Son*, White Post Lane, Old Kent Rd., S.E.; *J. Watt Torrance & Co.*, Woolwich.
 CELLS, ELECTRIC, DRY.—*Atlas Carbon & Battery Co., Ltd.*, Ewer St., S.E.; *Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd.*, Woolwich.
 CLOTHING (UNIFORM).—*T. Briggs (London), Ltd.*, 2 and 4, Southgate Rd., N.; *J. Compton & Sons*, Swindon and Old Ford, E.; *English Fustian Manufacturing Co., Ltd.*, Scarbottom Mills, Mytholmroyd and Vale Mills, Todmorden; *D. Gurteen & Sons*, Chauntry Mills, Haverhill; *J. Hammond & Co., Ltd.*, Enderley Mills, Newcastle, Staffs; *Limerick Clothing Factory, Ltd.*, Limerick, and 9-10, Lower Bridge St., Dublin.
 CLOTHS AND TOWELS.—*J. S. Brown & Sons, Ltd.*, Shaws Bridge, Co. Down; *R. Buckton & Son*, Hunslet, Leeds; *D. & R. Duke*, Brechin, N.B.; *J. Lambert & Co., Ltd.*, Auchtermuchty, N.B.; *J. Mathewson & Son, Ltd.*, Dunfermline, Fife.
 CORD AND LINE.—*W. Edwards & Son*, Bridport; *W. Gale & Sons*, Bridport; *J. & E. Wright, Ltd.*, Universe Works, Birmingham.
 CYLINDERS.—*Baldwins, Ltd.*, Blackwall, E.; *F. Francis & Sons, Ltd.*, Trundleys Rd., Deptford, S.E.; *Griffiths & Browett, Ltd.*, Birmingham.

DESKS AND SEATS, SCHOOL (Running Contract).—*North of England School Furnishing Co., Ltd.*, Darlington.

DOWLS, LINEN, &c.—*Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd.*, Dens Works, Dundee; *D. & R. Duke*, Den Burn Works, Brechin, N.B.; *J. Lambert & Co., Ltd.*, Auchtermuchty, N.B.; *Richards, Ltd.*, Broadford Works, Aberdeen.

DRUMS, OIL.—*L. Berger & Sons, Ltd.*, Homerton; *Haynes Bros.*, Rodsley St., Old Kent Rd., S.E.

FELT, ROOFING (Running Contract).—*Engert & Rolfe, Ltd.*, Barchester St., Poplar, E.

FIRE-IRONS.—*J. Gadd & Sons, Ltd.*, Blackheath, Birmingham; *Leedham & Heaton, Ltd.*, Leeds; *J. Sankey & Sons, Ltd.*, Bilston; *J. Truman & Co.*, Smithfield Passage, Birmingham.

FITMENTS, STABLE (Running Contract).—*Widmer & Sons*, High St., Stratford, E.

FLAGS.—*T. Briggs (London), Ltd.*, 2 and 4, Southgate Rd., N.; *W. J. Cave*, 31, Waverley St., Hull; *Kirk, Hall & Co.*, Kid-acre St., Leeds; *Lane & Neeve, Ltd.*, Britannia Works, Millwall, E.

FLANNELLETTE.—*W. N. Berry & Sons*, Spring Mill, Earby, near Colne; *Pickles Bros., Ltd.*, Pendle View Shed, Brierfield, near Burnley; *Scholfield, Preston & Co., Ltd.*, Manor Mill, Nelson.

HIDES.—*J. & F. J. Baker & Co., Ltd.*, Colyton, Devon; *W. Beckwith & Sons, Ltd.*, Leeds; *R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd.*, Raunds; *J. Conyers & Sons*, Leeds; *R. Davies*, Riverhead, Kent; *Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd.*, Grange Mills, Bermondsey, S.E.; *D. Mason & Sons, Ltd.*, Birmingham and Walsall; *J. Tullis & Sons, Ltd.*, Bridgeton, Glasgow; *J. Vassie*, Lanark; *J. J. Williamson & Son*, Canterbury and Dartford.

LANTERNS.—*Fountayne Lamp and Engineering Co. (1910), Ltd.*, South Tottenham; *Reform Lighting Co.*, 154, Bermondsey St., S.E.

LATHES.—*J. Holroyd & Co., Ltd.*, Milnrow, near Rochdale.

LIGHTERAGE OF COAL (Running Contract).—*W. Isard, Ltd.*, Essex Wharf, Lea Bridge, Clapton.

LINOLEUM.—*Barry, Ostlere & Shepherd, Ltd.*, Kirkcaldy; *M. Nairn & Co., Ltd.*, Kirkcaldy.

MACHINE, DRILLING.—*J. Buckton & Co., Ltd.*, Well House Foundry, Leeds.

MATTRESSES.—*T. Briggs (London), Ltd.*, 2 and 4, Southgate Rr. N.; *Rundle, Rogers & Brook, Ltd.*, Kinterbury St., Plymouth.

METAL ROAD.—*Emborough Stone Co., Ltd.*, Emborough, near Bath; *W. P. Goose & Sons*, 124, Milton Rd., Gravesend.

MUSLIN.—*Jones Bros., Ltd.*, 12, York St., Manchester; *Tootal Broadhurst, Lee Co., Ltd.*, 56, Oxford St., Manchester.

NAILS, HORSE SHOE.—*D. Bennie & Sons, Ltd.*, Glasgow; *Cape-well Horse Nail Co., Ltd.*, Harley, Salop.

NETTING, MOSQUITO.—*Heymann & Alexander*, Nottingham.

OUTFITS, X-RAY.—*F. R. Butt & Co.*, 147, Wardour St., W.

OIL, LUBRICATING.—*Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd.*, Purfleet, Essex; *Palmer & Co., Ltd.*, Stratford, E.; *Silvertown Lubricants*, Silvertown, E.; *Young's Paraffin Light and Mineral Oil Co., Ltd.*, Addiewell, N.B.

OIL, MACHINERY (Running Contract).—*Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd.*, Purfleet, Essex.

PAINT, DIPPING, &c.—*Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd.*, Poplar, E.

PAINT, LEAD, WHITE.—*Walkers, Parker & Co., Ltd.*, Chester.

PUMPS, CENTRIFUGAL.—*W. H. Allen, Son & Co., Ltd.*, Queen's Engineering Works, Bedford.

ROPES, HEEL.—*Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd.*, Grange Mills, Bermondsey; *D. Mason & Sons, Ltd.*, Birmingham and Walsall; *Rawle & Son*, Blackfriars Rd., S.E.

RUBBERS, HORSE.—*D. & R. Duke*, Brechin, N.B.; *Lamb & Scott, Ltd.*, Brechin, N.B.

RUGS, &c.—*Hampton & Sons, Ltd.*, 43, Belverdere Rd., S.E.; *Maple & Co., Ltd.*, 145, Tottenham Court Rd., W.; *J. A. Wood, Ltd.*, Mount St. Mill, Harpurhey, Manchester; *Wylie & Lochhead, Ltd.*, Mitchell St., Glasgow.

SHEETS, COTTON.—*T. Briggs (London), Ltd.*, 2 and 4, Southgate Rd., N.; *J. Hoyle, Ltd.*, Hebden Bridge; *J. Parkyn & Co.*, Oldham.

SHEETS, GROUND.—*Broadhurst & Co., Ltd.*, Gibbon St., Bradford, Manchester; *C. Macintosh & Co., Ltd.*, Cambridge St., Manchester; *North British Rubber Co., Ltd.*, Castle Mills, Edinburgh; *Victoria Rubber Co., Ltd.*, Leith Walk, Edinburgh.

SHEETS, LINEN.—*T. Briggs (London), Ltd.*, 2 and 4, Southgate Rd., N.; *R. Buckton & Son*, Hunslet, Leeds; *D. & R. Duke*, Brechin, N.B.; *J. Jeffrey & Co.*, Kirkcaldy; *Lamb & Scott, Ltd.*, Brechin, N.B.; *Richards, Ltd.*, Broadford Works, Aberdeen.

SHOES, HIGHLAND.—*Adams Bros.*, Raunds; *R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd.*, Raunds; *J. Horrell & Son*, Raunds; *W. Nichols & Son, Ltd.*, Kettering.

SOAP.—*J. Knight, Ltd.*, Silvertown, E.; *E. Cook & Co., Ltd.*, Bow, E.; *R. Wheen & Sons, Ltd.*, Deptford, S.E.; *Hull Manufacturing Co., Ltd.*, Stoneferry, Hull.

STOVES, SOYERS.—*Griffiths & Browett, Ltd.*, Birmingham; *Orme, Evans & Co., Ltd.*, Wolverhampton.

TENTS.—*T. Briggs (London), Ltd.*, 2 and 4, Southgate Rd., N.; *T. Dobbin & Co.*, 23, Emmett St., and Bridge Rd., Poplar, E.; *C. Groom, Ltd.*, Ramornie Works, Dod St., Limehouse, E.; *H. James & Smith*, Salmon Lane Wharf, Limehouse, E.; *Sly, Dibble & Co., Ltd.*, 209-213, Cable St., E.; *J. Smith & Co.*, 290, Cable St., E., and 44, Upper East Smithfield, E.C.

TROUGHS, WATERPROOF.—*C. Macintosh & Co., Ltd.*, Cambridge St., Manchester.

VALISES, &c.—*T. Briggs (London), Ltd.*, 2 and 4, Southgate Rd., N.; *H. James & Smith*, Salmon Lane Wharf, Limehouse, E.; *Richards, Ltd.*, Broadford Works, Aberdeen.

WASTE, COTTON.—*C. E. Austin & Sons, Ltd.*, Marlborough Mills, Manchester; *Spencer & Curedale, Ltd.*, Bury.

WEB, HEMP, &c.—*E. Bird & Co.*, South St., Crewkerne; *F. Drake & Co.*, North Coker, near Yeovil; *A. Hart & Son*, Crewkerne.

WORKS SERVICES.—
Additions to Signalling School, Stanhope Lines, Aldershot.—*Martin, Wells & Co., Ltd.*, Aldershot.

Alterations to New Inn Barracks, Dunbar.—*A. Melville & Sons*, 114, High St., Dunbar.

Construction of Roads, &c., Birdhopecraig, Rochester, Northumberland.—*G. E. Simpson*, Grantham Rd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Erection of Quarters, Curragh.—*Fleming Bros.*, Naas, County Kildare.

Extension of Mobilisation Store, Burscough.—*R. Holt*, 50, Badger St., Bury.

Installation of Electric Light, Officers' Houses, Tidworth.—*Malcolm & Allan, Ltd.*, Kingsway House, Kingsway, W.C.

Installation of Heating Apparatus at:—
Mooltan Barracks, Tidworth.—*E. Deane & Beal, Ltd.*, 3, Monument St., E.C.

Fort Pitt Hospital, Chatham.—*Falkirk Iron Co., Ltd.*, Craven House, Kingsway, W.C.

Periodical Works Service, Tidworth.—*F. Holdsworth*, 32, Salsaire Rd., Shopley.

Protection to Sea Wall, Southsea Castle.—*The British Steel Piling Co.*, Dock House, Billiter St., E.C.

Reconstruction of West Block, &c., Carlisle.—*D. Rae*, 26, Seaview Terrace, Joppa, Edinburgh.

Repair and Maintenance of W.D. Buildings at—
Holywood.—*J. Miskimmin*, 5, Donegall Lane, Belfast.

Kinsale.—*Kelly & Sons*, Higher St., Kinsale.

Supply and Erection of Repair Workshop, South Farnborough.—*W. Harbrow*, South Bermondsey Station, S.E.

Supply and Erection of Steel Framework for Buildings at Barnard Castle.—*Darlington Construction Co., Ltd.*, Darlington.

PRISON COMMISSION.

BOARDS, COVERS, STOCKS, &c., FOR BRUSHMAKING.—*Leif, Sundt & Co.*, 101, Leadenhall St., E.C.; *S. Ludbrook & Co., Ltd.*, Mile End, E.; *A. W. Lyne & Co.*, 86, Upper Ground St., Blackfriars, S.E.; *Pryke & Palmer*, 40/41, Upper Thames St., E.C.

BRUSHMAKING MATERIALS.—*J. Clark*, Monarch Works, Abbey Lane, Stratford, E.; *Co-operative Bass Dressers, Ltd.*, 105, Charles St., Stepney, E.; *J. Griffin*, 270, Tabard St., S.E.; *Leif, Sundt & Co.*, 101, Leadenhall St., E.C.; *A. W. Lyne & Co.*, 86, Upper Ground St., Blackfriars, S.E.; *Pryke & Palmer*, 40/41, Upper Thames St., E.C.

CANVAS.—*Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd.*, Dundee; *The Boase Spinning Co., Ltd.*, Dundee; *T. Briggs (London), Ltd.*, 2, Budge Row, E.C.; *D. & R. Duke*, Den Burn Works, Brechin; *H. Hewitson & Co.*, 27, Watling St., E.C.; *J. Jeffrey & Co.*, Kirkcaldy; *Leadbetter Bros. & Co.*, Dundee; *A. McGregor & Co.*, 21, Lawrence Lane, E.C.; *McLean & Co.*, 10, Trump St., E.C.; *The Port Glasgow & Newark Sailcloth Co.*, Port Glasgow; *Richards, Ltd.*, Broadford Works, Aberdeen; *W. Ritchie & Son*, 3, East India Avenue, E.C.; *Woods, Sons & Co.*, 62/3, Queen St., E.C.

COTTON MATERIALS.—*Cottrill & Co.*, 14, Palace Square, Manchester; *D. Gurteen & Sons*, Chantry Mills, Haverhill; *R. Haworth & Co., Ltd.*, 35, Dale St., Manchester; *A. E. & C. A. Jones Bros.*, 12, Park Place, Leeds; *E. Milns & Co.*, 69/72, Hatfield St., Blackfriars, S.E.; *Ogdens & Madeleys, Ltd.*, 3, China Lane, Manchester; *C. Openshaw & Sons*, 74, Newton St., Manchester; *J. Parkyn & Co.*, 70, Mosley St., Manchester; *W. Ritchie & Son*, 3, East India Avenue, E.C.; *R. Stocks & Co.*, Abden Works, Kirkcaldy; *R. Ward & Co.*, 11, Stevenson Square, Manchester; *Woods, Sons & Co.*, 62/3, Queen St., E.C.

GRINDERY.—*W. Barbour & Sons*, Lisburn, Ireland; *H. Campbell & Co., Ltd.*, 41, Royal Avenue, Belfast; *H. Knowles & Sons, Ltd.*, Manchester St., Liverpool; *Pocock Bros.*, 235, Southwark Bridge Rd., S.E.; *Pryke & Palmer*, 40/41, Upper Thames St., E.C.; *Wilkins & Denton, Ltd.*, 24, London Wall, E.C.; *Woods, Sons & Co.*, 62/3, Queen St., E.C.

HABERDASHERY, TRIMMINGS, &c.—*H. Appleton & Sons*, Morwell St., Bedford Square, W.C.; *E. H. Barker & Co.*, Rutland Mills, Wakefield; *W. Barillet & Sons, Ltd.*, Abbey Mills, Redditch; *Bent & Parker, Ltd.*, Northwood St., Birmingham; *Bodill, Parker & Co., Ltd.*, Albion Works, Gt. Hampton Row, Birmingham; *J. Bond & Co.*, 75, Southgate Rd., N.; *Brough, Nicholson & Hall, Ltd.*, Cross St., Leek; *Buttons, Ltd.*, Portland St., Birmingham; *Carr Bros., Ltd.*, Royal East St., Leicester; *Crawford Bros., Ltd.*, Beith, Ayrshire; *Firming & Sons, Ltd.*, 108/9, St. Martin's Lane, W.C.; *G. Kenning & Son*, 1/4, Little Britain, E.C.; *W. Milner & Sons, Ltd.*, Leek; *E. Milns & Co.*, 69/72, Hatfield St., Blackfriars, S.E.; *Newey Bros., Ltd.*, Brearley St., Birmingham; *J. F. Percival*, Valentine Place, Blackfriars, S.E.; *Smith & Wright, Ltd.*, Brearley St., Birmingham; *W. G. & J. Strutt, Ltd.*, Belper, Derbyshire; *A. Ward & Co., Ltd.*, Albion Works, Leek; *Watson & Co. (Leek), Ltd.*, London Mills, Leek; *T. Whittles, Ltd.*, Wellington Mills, Leek; *Woods, Sons & Co.*, 62/3, Queen St., E.C.

LEATHER.—*Nobes & Hunt, Ltd.*, 75, Rockingham St., S.E.; *Pocock Bros.*, 235, Southwark Bridge Rd., S.E.; *W. R. Shaw & Son, Ltd.*, Wild's Rents, S.E.; *Wilkins & Denton, Ltd.*, 24, London Wall, E.C.

LINEN MATERIALS.—*R. Buckton & Son*, Hunslet Linen Works, Leeds; *A. McGregor & Co.*, 21, Lawrence Lane, E.C.; *Hollich Bros. & Abbott*, 8, Miles Lane, E.C.; *S. A. Jones & Co.*, 73, Aldermanbury, E.C.; *E. Milns & Co.*, 69/72, Hatfield St., Blackfriars, S.E.; *W. Ritchie & Son*, 3, East India Avenue, E.C.; *R. Stocks & Co.*, Abden Works, Kirkcaldy; *Woods, Sons & Co.*, 62/3, Queen St., E.C.

MATERIALS FOR BELTS AND LEGGINGS.—*Bent & Parker, Ltd.*, Northwood St., Birmingham; *Bodill, Parker & Co., Ltd.*, Albion Works, Gt. Hampton Row, Birmingham; *F. Doubler & Sons*, Wainwright St., Aston Manor, Birmingham; *Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd.*, Grange Mills, Bermondsey, S.E.; *E. Milns & Co.*, 69/72, Hatfield St., Blackfriars, S.E.; *Pocock Bros.*, 235, Southwark Bridge Rd., S.E.; *Pryke & Palmer*, 40/41, Upper Thames St., E.C.; *C. C. Walker, Ltd.*, Stafford St., Walsall.

ROPE, TWINE, &c.—*W. Barbour & Sons, Ltd.*, Lisburn, Ireland; *T. Briggs (London), Ltd.*, 2, Budge Row, E.C.; *W. Good & Son*, 52, King William St., E.C.; *Hollich Bros. & Abbott*, 8, Miles Lane, E.C.; *The Port Glasgow & Newark Sailcloth Co.*, Port Glasgow; *J. & E. Wright, Ltd.*, Universe Works, Birmingham; *W. Terrell & Sons, Ltd.*, Arno's Vale, Bristol; *Woods, Sons & Co.*, 62/3, Queen St., E.C.

SUNDRIES.—*Bodill, Parker & Co., Ltd.*, Albion Works, Gt. Hampton Row, Birmingham; *J. G. Ingram & Son*, Hackney Wick, N.E.; *W. & J. Knox & Co., Ltd.*, Kilbirnie, Ayrshire; *E. Milns & Co.*, 69/72, Hatfield St., Blackfriars, S.E.; *Pryke & Palmer*, 40/41, Upper Thames St., E.C.; *C. C. Walker, Ltd.*, Stafford St., Walsall; *Woods, Sons & Co.*, 62/3, Queen St., E.C.

TIN PLATES.—*W. Bate*, Central House, Birmingham; *C. Hatton & Co.*, 107, Upper Thames St., E.C.; *D. Laybourn & Co.*, 3, Dutton St., Liverpool.

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