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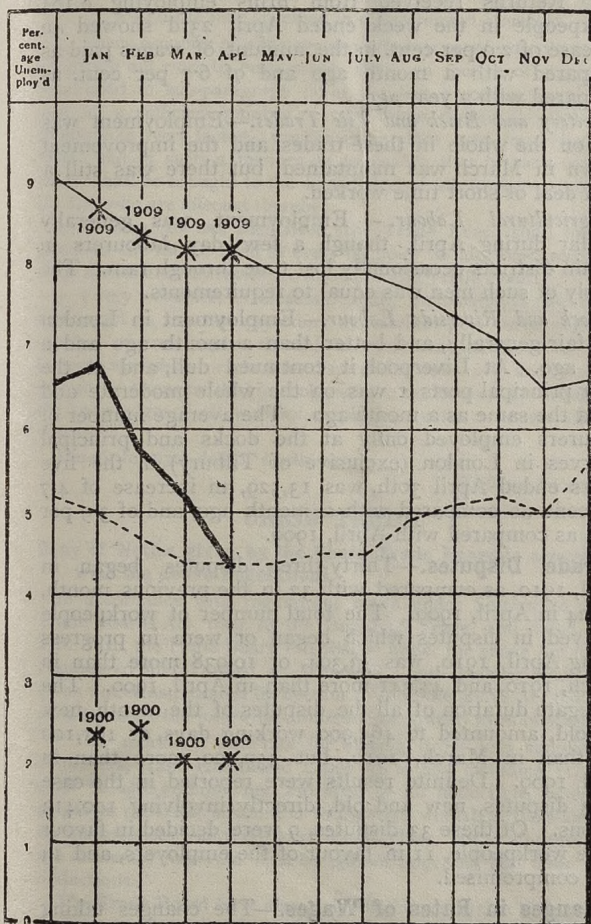
PRICE ONE PENNY.

EMPLOYMENT CHART

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve = 1910. — Thin Curve = 1909.
----- Dotted Curve = Mean of 1900-1909.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed during the years 1900-1909 with the dates thereof.



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. For April, 1910, the general and branch Returns of Unions related to 699,932 members in the following trades:—

Building	55,313	Paper, Printing & Book-binding	59,444
Coal Mining	145,869	Woodworking and Furnishing	34,112
Engineering	169,352	Miscellaneous	18,977
Shipbuilding	57,862		
Other Metal Trades	41,363		
Textiles	117,640		
		Total	699,932

STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN APRIL.

[In addition to the 2,834 Employment Returns from Trade Unions used for the Chart, 3,733 were received from employers relating to 1,122,963 workpeople employed in coal and iron mining, the cotton, woollen, worsted and other textile trades, the building trades, the boot and shoe and other clothing trades, and the paper and glass trades. Besides these 6,567 statistical returns, a large number of returns of a non-statistical character were received from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, Local Correspondents, and other sources.]

EMPLOYMENT in April continued to improve generally. The improvement was particularly noticeable in the metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades, and there was increased seasonal activity in the building and other industries.

As compared with a year ago, employment in all industries, except cotton, showed considerable improvement.

In the 416 trade unions with a net membership of 699,932 making returns, 30,475 (or 4.4 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of April, 1910, compared with 5.2 per cent. at the end of March, 1910, and 8.2 per cent. at the end of April, 1909.

Coal Mining.—Employment continued good during April, and showed improvement as compared with a year ago. The average number of days worked per week during the four weeks ended April 23rd, 1910, was 5.19, as compared with 5.49 in March, and 4.86 in April, 1909. The averages for April, however, were affected by holidays which amounted to 0.32 of a day per week in April, 1910, and 0.59 of a day per week in April, 1909.

Iron Mining.—Employment was good, and showed little change on the whole compared with a month ago and a year ago.

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment during April, was fair and better than either a month ago or a year ago. Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters employing 23,000 workpeople showed 310 furnaces in blast at the end of April, 1910, as compared with 304 in March, 1910, and 280 in April, 1909, when 11 furnaces were damped down owing to a dispute.

Iron and Steel Works.—Employment showed a slight improvement on a month ago, and was much better than a year ago. The volume of employment (*i.e.*, number employed multiplied by the number of shifts worked) during the week ended April 23rd, 1910, at the works from which Returns were received showed an increase of 0.5 per cent. on a month ago, and of 13.9 per cent. on a year ago.

Tinplate and Steel Sheet Manufacture.—Employment continued very good and was much better than a year ago. The number of tinplate and steel sheet mills working at the end of April was 482, as compared with 479 a month ago, and 438 a year ago.

Engineering Trades.—Employment continued to improve, and was much better than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 169,352 reported 6.1 per cent.

In addition to the numbers employed as shown above, 10,877 outworkers were returned as borne on the books of the employing firms, viz., 1,697 in the making up of linen goods in Ireland, 4,113 in the lace trades, 4,950 in the hosiery trade, and 117 in the match trade. As it is possible that the total of 10,877 does not represent as many individual persons, and as most outworkers are not in constant employment, they have not been taken into account in calculating the net output per person employed, but in comparing the figures given above an allowance should be made for them.

In connection with the figures of net output per person employed, it should be observed that the high figures shown for certain groups result from the inclusion in those groups of a considerable quantity of proprietary articles which involve heavy expenses of sale and advertisement. This is especially the case in the chemical, drug, and perfumery trades, the paint, colour, and varnish trades, the soap and candle trades, the fertilizer, glue, sheep-dip, and disinfectant trades, and the ink, gum, and sealing-wax trades.

The figures now available with regard to the work of bleaching, dyeing and printing afford some indication of the quantity and value of cotton piece-goods of various descriptions manufactured in the United Kingdom. Taking into account the 5,265,000 yards of bleached cotton piece-goods (including bleached dhooties) returned by weaving firms (see Part I. of the Preliminary Tables, Cd. 4896, page 22), the output of bleached, dyed and printed cotton piece-goods was as follows:—

Cotton Piece-Goods:—	Yards.
Bleached, but not Dyed or Printed ...	2,192,504,000
Dyed, but not Printed ...	1,121,778,000
Printed, whether Dyed or not ...	1,326,061,000

The total yardage of these three classes was 4,640,343,000 yards, and as the whole output returned by weaving firms was 7,091,485,000 yards the balance of 2,451,142,000 may be taken as the output of grey goods and coloured cottons sold or exported as such without further treatment. It is not, however, possible to divide this yardage between the two classes indicated as there is no means of knowing what proportion of the 651,541,000 yards of coloured cottons woven was subsequently bleached and included in the yardage of bleached goods above shown. Taking into account the sums paid for bleaching, dyeing, printing, and finishing of cotton piece-goods, as well as for the cutting of velvets and fustians, it appears that the value of the cotton piece-goods produced in the United Kingdom in 1907, calculated when ready for consumption, exclusive of merchants' and warehousemen's profits, was about 94½ million pounds sterling.

FEEDING OF CHILDREN IN PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

A REPORT* recently issued by the Board of Education contains an account of the working of the Education (Provision of Meals) Act, 1906, up to March 31st, 1909.

The Act, which came into force on December 21st, 1906, provides that a local education authority in England and Wales may furnish land, buildings, plant and service to assist any committee on which the authority is represented (to be called a "school canteen committee") who will undertake to provide food for children in public elementary schools. The authority must not incur any expense in the purchase of food unless they resolve that some of the children attending an elementary school within their area are unable by reason of lack of food to take full advantage of the education provided for them, and have ascertained that funds, other than public funds, are not available or are insufficient in amount to defray the cost of food furnished under the Act; when these circumstances exist the authority may, if authorised by the Board of Education, spend a sum not exceeding the proceeds of a halfpenny rate in the provision of food. The cost of meals (as fixed by the authority) is in all cases to be recovered from the parent of the child fed, unless the authority are satisfied that the parent is unable to pay by reason of circumstances other than his own default.

* Report on the Working of the Education (Provision of Meals) Act, 1906, up to March 31st, 1909. A 5131; Wyman & Sons, Ltd. Price 3d.

The Board of Education judged it best to interfere as little as possible with the discretion of Local Education Authorities in applying the Act in the manner most suitable to local circumstances and as a consequence the Report, which was compiled from information supplied in response to circulars of enquiry issued by the Board, discloses considerable variety in the methods of application.

In the year ending March 31st, 1909, 113 Local Education Authorities (out of 328) had School Canteen Committees in operation. In many of the cases, however, where no action was taken under the act, voluntary organisations, e.g., committees administering funds raised by the Mayor, were sufficient to meet local requirements.

The constitution of the School Canteen Committees varied considerably. Sometimes they consisted entirely of members of the Education Committee; but in the great majority of cases they comprised other persons who, as members of Boards of Guardians or of voluntary organisations, such as the Charity Organisation Society, the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, and local societies for promoting the welfare of children, had come into close contact with the necessitous classes. School attendance, relieving and medical officers, and representatives of the teachers, have also served.

The number of authorities authorised by the Board of Education to provide food at the expense of the rates was as follows: In the period from December 21st, 1906 to March 31st, 1907, one (Aston Manor); in the year ending March 31st, 1908, 40; in the year ending March 31st, 1909, 85; in the year ending March 31st, 1910, 96.

The sums fixed by the Authorities as the charge to be recovered from parents in respect of meals was as a rule 1d., 1½d., or 2d. The total amount recovered from or contributed by parents in 1909 was only £295 (of which £150 was obtained at Bradford) out of a total expenditure of nearly £66,000.

On the whole a mid-day dinner appears to have been regarded by Local Education Authorities as the most useful meal.

Various methods were adopted for the selection of the children who should receive meals. In a very large number of cases the recommendations were made by the teachers; but the school medical officers, the school nurses and the attendance officers also called attention to cases which came under their observation. The ultimate selection appears to have been left largely in the hands of the canteen committee or a sub-committee; but in some cases it was determined by the teachers or attendance officers. Only in a comparatively small number of cases was the final selection in the hands of the school medical officer, or subject to his recommendation, but the Report suggests that this may have been largely due to the fact that many authorities had not fully developed their medical service. As regards the effect of the meals upon the mental efficiency of the children fed, the information received by the Board testifies on the whole to an improvement. Some authorities lay stress on the fact that the meals increased the regularity of attendance and thus promoted the education of the children. It has also been found that on the whole good use has been made of the opportunity offered by the provision of meals for training the children in habits of orderliness and decorous behaviour. The Act expressly provides that no teacher shall be required as part of his duties to supervise or assist in the provision of meals; but the voluntary assistance of teachers has been the rule rather than the exception. In many cases also help has been given by other voluntary workers.

The total number of meals supplied (elsewhere than in London) in England and Wales was 2,751,326, in 1907-8 and 9,671,789 in 1908-9. From the returns which stated the number of children fed it appears that, in 1907-8, 1,809,897 meals were supplied to 44,106 children (or 41 per child) and in 1908-9, 7,198,297 meals to 116,840 children (or 61.6 per child). As a general rule each child appears to have received meals for a long period. In the year 1908-9 the sum spent out of the rates in England and Wales on the provision of food was £31,967; the total amount of the Canteen Committees' expenditure, including the above sum and also money

WAGES IN THE UNITED STATES.

REPORTING under date of April 12th, the Secretary in Charge of Commercial Affairs at H.M. Embassy at Washington stated that the labour situation at the beginning of the year was such as to give cause for anxiety. A recovery in business had inspired labour organisations with a desire to participate in increasing profits. The increase in the cost of living, which had been proceeding continuously for a number of years, had been interrupted somewhat by the abnormal conditions of 1907-8, but, with the return of prosperity, had resumed its upward course at an accelerated rate, and the increased strain was felt all the more for the temporary relaxation. While unorganized labour was suffering without hope of relief, organized labour proceeded to obtain better terms for itself. The outstanding features of the labour movement since the beginning of the year have consisted in strikes undertaken or threatened in order to obtain increased wages, and, in some cases of voluntary concessions on the part of employers who have realised the futility of resistance. The demands of labour have, on the whole, been obtained with less difficulty from the public service enterprises (e.g., railway companies) than from other industrial employers. Thus the Pennsylvania-Reading Railway, which holds a predominant position among the Eastern Railways, has granted a 6 per cent. increase of wages to 195,000 employees earning less than 300 dollars (£62 10s.) a month. Among railways which have followed this example are the Baltimore-Ohio (10,000 employees granted an increase of 5 to 6 per cent.) and the Chicago and Western Railway (12,000 yardmen increased 1½d. per hour). Ten thousand miners employed by the Consolidated Coal Company have obtained a 5 per cent. advance, and 11,000 miners of the Berwind White Coal Company an advance of 6 per cent. Five thousand sugar refinery workers have also received advances ranging from 5 to 10 per cent.

Reporting under dates of April 19th and 23rd, H.M. Consul-General at Chicago stated that advances in wages ranging from 8 to 10 per cent., and dating from April 1st, were granted to some 15,000 miners employed in the Lake Superior region by a company working under the control of the United States Steel Corporation. The increase has been given as the result of an investigation into the cost of living made by the company, whose officers decided that, under existing conditions, the men needed more money. Other subsidiary companies of the Corporation have also decided upon increases in wages; the exact advances were not fully determined at the time of reporting, but they were expected to be about 6 per cent., and to take effect from May 1st.

An earlier despatch from the same source reports a "walk out" of the coalminers in the bituminous coal-fields of the United States, which began on April 1st. The miners declare that this is not a "strike," but a suspension of work pending a readjustment of the wages scale for another year, the old scale having expired on March 31st. The number of men affected in the Chicago Consular district alone was 113,000, viz., 72,000 in Illinois, 18,000 in Indiana, 15,000 in Iowa, 5,000 in Colorado, and 3,000 in Michigan.

Up to the present the Western States seem to have been less affected by the movement for increased wages than those in the East and Middle West.

LOCK-OUT IN THE GERMAN BUILDING TRADES.

In a despatch to the Foreign Office dated April 22nd, 1910, H.M. Minister Resident at Dresden reports that, in the month of March last, the National Association of Master Builders of Germany met at Dresden and resolved that the agreement with the trade unions, terminating on March 31st, should not be renewed except on the basis of a Model Agreement containing the following stipulations—

spent otherwise out of the rates (£16,313), money provided by voluntary contributions (£17,393) and contributed by or recovered from parents (£295), was £65,968. In addition, a sum estimated at £3,559 represents the share of the local education authorities' office expenses, salaries of officers, &c., chargeable to work done under the Act.

The London County Council, which had carried on operations by means of voluntary contributions, was authorised on December 30th, 1908, to apply the proceeds of a half-penny rate to the provision of food. In the year ending March 31st, 1909, they supplied 4,546,771 meals at 132 schools, 218 centres, and 87 restaurants. The greatest number of children fed during the year was 55,181 in March, 1909, and the smallest 2,749 in August, 1908. The weekly average was 39,632, and the average cost of a meal about 2d. The charge fixed was 1½d. for dinners and 1d. for breakfasts. The total expenditure for the year was £19,722, including £9,122 spent on food, £10,122 provided out of the rates for purposes other than the supply of food, £438 provided by voluntary contributions, and £40 contributed by or recovered from parents; in addition, the estimated share of salaries of the Council's officers was £1,250.

FOOD PRICES IN CANADA.

EARLY in the year 1909, the Department of Labour of Canada began an investigation into the course of wholesale prices in the Dominion from the year 1890 up to the present time. The inquiry extends to 225 commodities divided into 13 groups. For three of these groups, viz. (a) Animals and Meats, (b) Grain and Fodder, and (c) Dairy Produce and Fish, the provisional results of the investigation have been published by the Canadian Government in the February, March and April issues of the LABOUR GAZETTE.*

For each article the price on the opening market day of each month is quoted from a reliable authority back to January, 1890. The average price of the article for each year is then calculated. From these averages index numbers have been constructed showing the fluctuations in the average price of each article during the twenty years 1890 to 1909, the average price for the ten years 1890-1899 being taken as representing 100.

A. Animals and Meats.—The commodities covered by this part of the inquiry number 14, and include live cattle, sheep and swine; dressed beef, mutton, veal and pork; also ham, poultry and "English boneless breakfast bacon." Combining all the animals and meats included in the investigation, it is found that, during the year 1909, prices were approximately 48 per cent. higher than during the ten-year period 1890-1899, and that, compared with 1896, they were fully 80 per cent. higher.

B. Grain and Fodder.—The 13 commodities comprised in this group include two qualities each of wheat, barley and oats, also standard qualities of bran, hay, Indian corn, peas and rye. Taking the course of grain and fodder as a whole, it is found that the lowest prices were reached in the years 1896 and 1897. Since then there has been a pronounced upward movement, so that in 1909 prices were about 86 per cent. higher than in 1897, and about 50 per cent. above the average price for 1890-1899.

C. Dairy Produce and Fish.—In "Dairy Produce" are included two qualities of butter, and one quality each of cheese, eggs and milk. Prices have been collected for nine varieties of fish.

Dairy products are found to have been at their lowest in 1896-1897, and at their highest in 1908, when the general level was 36.3 per cent. above the average for 1890-1899. Prices in 1909 were slightly lower than in 1908, though eggs were considerably higher, being 71.5 per cent. above the average for 1890-1899. In the case of dairy produce generally, prices have advanced 48 per cent. since 1897.

In fish there has been a similar rise in price, the average being 34 per cent. higher in 1909 than in the decade 1890-1899.

* Ottawa, 1910. Printed by C. H. Parmelee. Price 1½d.

(a) All agreements to be concluded directly between the National Association of Master Builders and the respective national unions of building operatives. The branch associations of master builders and the district unions of operatives, nevertheless, to retain the power of settling the special terms (rates of wages, &c.) having reference to local conditions.

(b) The possibility of agreeing as to the method of remuneration best suited to individual unions to be secured by means of the Model Agreement aforesaid. It is not intended, however, that a reduction of the rate of wages should result from any change in the method of remuneration.

(c) The piece-work method to be not only recognised, but special facilities for its application to be secured in each agreement.

(d) The non-interference on the part of trade unions with existing and future employers' labour registries to be guaranteed by a special declaration.

(e) The duration of any agreement to be for not less than three years.

The workmen's representatives especially opposed the first and third proposals, and negotiations between the parties having been broken off early in April, notice was given that a general lock-out would take place on the 15th of that month. On the 8th a conference was held at the instance of the Imperial Home Office, with a view to mediation by the Government, but the proposal by the Home Secretary to refer the points in dispute to three impartial arbitrators was rejected by the employers' representatives.

In the meantime separate negotiations had taken place in Hamburg and Berlin between the representatives of the local employers and workmen respectively. On March 26th an amicable agreement was arrived at affecting Hamburg and district, and on April 22nd the dispute in Berlin came to an end, both parties accepting the award made in the matter by the Berlin Industrial Court. Agreements appear also to have been arrived at between the local organizations at Magdeburg, Bremen, Gladbeck, and other smaller towns.

The threatened lock-out was put into effect on April 15th in other districts where organizations of the parties are in existence, and is still continuing; the number of workmen directly affected, according to a computation by the Employers' Association, amounted to about 186,000 at the end of April.

LEGAL RESTRICTION OF HOURS OF LABOUR OF WOMEN IN THE UNITED STATES: ILLINOIS STATE LAW DECLARED CONSTITUTIONAL.*

The Illinois State Legislature, in its session of 1909, passed a law limiting the hours of labour of women employed in factories to ten per day. After the date fixed for the coming into operation of the new law an injunction was granted by the Circuit Court restraining the factory inspectors and State Attorney from enforcing the Act on the ground that it was unconstitutional, inasmuch as it deprived women of the right of freedom of contract accorded them by the Constitution.

On April 21st the Supreme Court of the State, before which the case had been laid, declared the law to be constitutional. The terms of the decision were as follows:—

"It is known to all men, and what we know as men we cannot profess to be ignorant of as judges, that woman's physical structure and the performance of maternal functions places her at a great disadvantage in the battle of life; that while a man can work for more than ten hours a day without injury to himself, a woman, especially when the burdens of motherhood are upon her, cannot; that while a man can work standing upon his feet for more than ten hours a day, day after day, without injury to himself, a woman cannot; and that to require a woman to stand upon her feet for more than ten hours in any one day and perform severe manual labour while thus standing has the effect of

* Based on despatches from H.M. Consul-General at Chicago, dated September 25th, 1909, and April 22nd, 1910.

impairing her health, and, as weak and sickly women cannot be the mothers of vigorous children, it is of the greatest importance to the public that the State take such measures as may be necessary to protect its women from the consequences induced by long continuous manual labour in those occupations which tend to break them down physically.

"It would, therefore, seem obvious that legislation which limits the number of hours which women shall be permitted to work to ten hours in a single day in such employments as are carried on in mechanical establishments, factories and laundries, would tend to preserve the health of women and ensure the production of vigorous offspring by them and would directly conduce to the health, morals and general welfare of the public, and that such legislation would fall clearly within the police powers of the State."

PROHIBITION OF TRUCK STORES: NEW FRENCH LAW.

By a Law dated March 25th, 1910, and published in the *Journal Officiel* of the 27th of that month it is forbidden to any employer (i.) "to connect with his establishment any store at which he shall sell, directly or indirectly, to his employees or to their families, provisions or goods of any description whatsoever"; (ii.) "to impose upon his employees the obligation to spend the whole or any part of their wages or salaries at particular shops indicated by him."

All stores of the kind contemplated by this law must be suppressed within two years of the date of its promulgation.

Stores connected with railways controlled by the State do not come under this law provided (a) that the staff be not obliged to make their purchases at the store; (b) that no profit accrue to the employer from the sale of provisions and goods thereat; (c) that the store be conducted under the supervision of a board, of which at least one-third of the members are the elected delegates of the staff.

Five years from the date of promulgation of this law the Minister of Public Works is to take steps for ascertaining the wishes of the staff as to the maintenance or suppression of the stores attached to each State-controlled railway system. A similar referendum will take place at the end of each subsequent period of five years.

The same rules are to be applied to stores annexed to industrial establishments owned by societies, the greater part of whose capital is owned by the employees (present or past) of the enterprise, and the greater part of whose membership consists of such persons. Infractions of the law are punishable by fines ranging from £2 to £80 (or £200 in the case of a second offence).

EMPLOYMENT IN THE COLONIES.*

Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 31, Broadway, Westminster, S.W., from the latest official and other reports, newspapers, &c.

Canada.

The following regulations are important to emigrants:—

(A) Made on March 19th, 1910.

1. If an immigrant, male or female, other than a member of a family provided for under the next following regulation, intending to enter Canada, arrives at the border or at any place of landing in Canada between the first day of March and the thirtieth day of October, both days inclusive, he or she shall, as a condition of permission to enter Canada, have in his or her possession at the time of arrival, money, belonging absolutely to such immigrant, to the amount of at least 25.00 dols. in addition to a ticket or such sum of money as will purchase a ticket or transport for such immigrant to his or her destination in Canada.

2. If an immigrant so intending to enter Canada is the head of a family and is accompanied by his or her family or any member or members thereof the foregoing regulations shall not apply to such family or the members thereof, but the said immigrant head of family shall have in his or her possession, in addition to the said sum of money and means of transport hereinbefore required, a further sum of money, belonging absolutely to such immigrant, equivalent to 25.00 dols. for each member of the said family of the age of eighteen years or upwards, and 12.50 dols. for each member of the said family of the age of five years or upwards and under the age of eighteen years, and in addition tickets or a sum of money

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

equivalent to the cost of transport for all the said members of the family to their place of destination in Canada.

3. Every such immigrant arriving at the border or at any place of landing in Canada between the first day of November and the last day of February, both inclusive, shall be subject to the foregoing regulations, with the substitution of 50.00 dols. for 25.00 dols. and 25.00 dols. for 12.50 dols., wherever the said sums of 25.00 dols. and 12.50 dols. are mentioned in the said regulations.

4. Provided, however, that the immigration agent may, notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained, exempt any immigrant from the operation of the foregoing regulations if it is shown to his satisfaction that—

(a) The immigrant, if a male, is going to assured employment at farm work, and has the means of reaching the place of such employment; or

(b) That the immigrant, if a female, is going to assured employment at domestic service, and has the means of reaching the place of such employment; or

(c) That the immigrant is one of the following descriptions, and is going to reside with a relative of one of the following descriptions, who is able and willing to support such immigrant, and has the means of reaching the place of residence of such relative:—

(i.) Wife going to husband. (ii.) Child going to parent. (iii.) Brother or sister going to brother. (iv.) Minor going to married or independent sister. (v.) Parent going to son or daughter.

(B) All emigrants sent out to Canada by British charitable societies or by public funds must obtain certificates from the Canadian Emigration authorities, Charing Cross, London, S.W., that they are suitable settlers for Canada; and now such consent can only be given to persons suited for, willing to accept, and for whom positions at farm work have been guaranteed from Canada, no matter whether they have the landing money or are going to friends or relations.

(c) Special attention is drawn to the fact that whenever an immigrant has within two years of his or her landing in Canada become a public charge, or an inmate of a penitentiary, gaol, prison, or hospital or other charitable institution, he or she may, after investigation of the facts, be sent back to the United Kingdom, together with all those dependent on him or her.

The spring season opened in Canada earlier this year than usual, and railway construction employees, and the building, mining, printing and manufacturing trades benefited accordingly. In Western Canada there has been an active demand for competent labourers for railway construction at 30 dols. to 40 dols. a month, with board. There is a large demand in all parts for farm labourers. In view of the stringent regulations restricting immigration which have been recently issued by the Canadian Government, no person should emigrate unless he can fulfil the required conditions.

There has been little change in the situation of the strike of 1,700 coal miners at Springhill, Nova Scotia; the places of some of the strikers have been filled, and a small daily output is now reported.

No settlement has yet been reached in the strike of carpet weavers (about 38 in number) at Guelph, Ontario, but a number of men have left the town and secured employment elsewhere. There is a scarcity of female labour in biscuit, knitting and clothing factories at two or three places.

Commonwealth of Australia.

New South Wales.—Considerable numbers of farm labourers have lately received assisted passages to New South Wales, but the demand is still unsatisfied, and competent men of this class—including a limited number of married men with families—have no difficulty in getting good places. Female servants also are much wanted. According to the Report of the State Labour Bureau for February last, a busy time was expected in Sydney and suburbs for brickmakers, brickcarters, bricklayers, and stonemasons, the prospects of the latter being very good. Employment in factories was much more brisk, and it was estimated that 1,200 hands, who were idle as a result of the Coal Miners' Strike, were re-employed during the month. Ship painters and dockers had a very busy month, a number of vessels being docked and cleaned in anticipation of coal supplies becoming available again. Storemen had a very busy month, and flour millers were exceptionally busy.

Hardly any improvement occurred among the Maritime and allied trades. Order tailors had a very slack month, but matters were expected to brighten shortly. Factory tailoring showed improvement. The iron and furniture trades were very dull. Coachmakers reported trade as fair, except among railway carriage builders; quite a number of the latter have left this State for work in South Australia. Able-bodied navvies and first-class labourers were well employed, but the lighter class of labourers found considerable difficulty in obtaining work. House painters and decorators reported trade as very quiet; plasterers were fairly well employed. The boot trade had a bad month, but an improvement was looked for during March. Speaking generally, the outlook for tradesmen was good, and some of them, notably the building trades and waterside workers, expected a fairly busy time in the immediate future.

Victoria.—The wheat harvest has been excellent, and there is a good opening for competent farm hands who land with a little money. There is a good demand for skilled workers in factories, especially for females in clothing factories.

South Australia.—There is a scarcity of skilled mechanics in several trades, such as the coach-building and metal trades. A limited number of competent tin smiths and sheet metal workers would be likely to find work in Adelaide. There is a good demand for farm labourers also from September to March, but the supply of miners is sufficient.

Queensland.—There is a good demand for farm labourers, country blacksmiths and wheelwrights, tailors, tailoresses and female servants. Cheap passages are granted to suitable emigrants.

Western Australia.—In Western Australia farm labourers and female servants are wanted, and cheap passages are granted to suitable persons of these classes. The deposit of £5 hitherto required has, moreover, just been withdrawn in the case of fully-qualified domestic servants between 18 and 30 years of age, and such persons can obtain assisted passages at £5 each. Application must be made to the Agent-General at 15, Victoria Street, London S.W. There is little demand for mechanics; 160 acres of land are given to suitable settlers.

New Zealand.

Reduced passages to New Zealand are offered to female domestic servants who will have £2 on landing, and for this class of emigrant there is a good demand. The last report of the Department of Labour shows as follows:—The cycle and motor, coachbuilding, printing, woodworking, building, engineering, leather and clothing trades were fairly active everywhere, and the meat-freezing trades were busy, but the local supply of hands was generally sufficient. There is little demand for more unskilled labourers. There is a continued demand for practical coal miners near Greymouth.

South Africa.

Cape Colony.—There has been a general improvement at Cape Town in the brushmaking (first-class hands being in constant demand), coach and wagon building, tanning, saddlery and harness (good workmen being wanted), bootmaking (leading hands being in demand), printing, stonedressing, furniture, and tailoring trades. But there is no demand for more men—except as mentioned above—either there or in other towns.

Transvaal.—The building trade is stated to be in a better position than it has been for some years, and a great many buildings are being constructed. There is not, however, reported to be any difficulty in procuring sufficient labour. Female servants are in some demand here and in the other States of South Africa, and the South African Colonisation Society, 23, Army and Navy Mansions (No. 2), 115, Victoria Street, London, S.W., is prepared to assist suitable applicants.

In *Natal* and the *Orange River Colony* the supply of male labour is sufficient.

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, so 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 p. 149 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that of foreign countries. (For further information on the subject of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries, see p. 104 of Cd. 2337 of 1904, and pp. 521-4 of Cd. 4032 of 1908.)]

FRANCE.*

Employment in March.—The building and allied trades recovered from the stagnation reported in February. In the metal trades there was no change as compared with that month, employment being particularly satisfactory in machine shops at Paris. In the textile trades as a whole employment continued very fair, in spite of the continuance in certain cotton manufacturing districts of the depression reported in February. As regards the silk industry, employment continued plentiful for power-loom weavers in the Lyons district, while in the town itself there was a revival of employment in the small workshops of the Croix-Rousse quarter. At St. Etienne employment again declined, owing to the cessation of orders for velvet. A revival of activity was reported in the tailoring, dressmaking and hat-making trades. Scarcely any unemployment was reported in the printing trades, owing to the large amount of work caused by the approach of the Parliamentary elections. Among coopers, on the other hand, the proportion of unemployed continued high, and at Limoges the situation in the pottery trade still left much to be desired. There was full employment in almost all the vineyards of the South of France, a situation which compares favourably with that of a year ago. Woodcutting came to an end in most of the forest districts, but the workpeople found employment in agricultural operations, the resumption of which was accelerated by fine weather. Gardeners around Paris continued well employed.

Returns showing the number of members unemployed on a given date in March were received by the French Labour Department from 1,039 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 254,508. Excluding returns from the Miners' Unions of the Pas-de-Calais Department, 6.5 per cent. of the members were described as unemployed, as compared with 14.0 per cent. in the previous month, and 9.5 per cent. in March, 1909.

Coal Mining in March.—The average number of days worked per week by persons employed underground in coal mines in France during March was 5.91, as compared with 5.89 in the previous month, and 5.94 in March, 1909. Taking surface and underground workers together, 79.21 per cent. worked full time (six days or over per week), and 18.96 per cent. from five to six days. In the previous month the corresponding percentages were 72.46 and 26.46, and in March, 1909, 84.31 and 14.92.

Labour Disputes in March.—One hundred and fifty-three disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in March, as compared with 55 in the preceding month, and 99 in March, 1909. In 145 of the new disputes 15,613 workpeople took part, as compared with 5,818 who took part in 51 of the February disputes, and 10,469 who took part in 90 of the disputes of March, 1909. The groups of trades in which the greatest number of disputes occurred were the building (39), textile (36), pottery, &c. (13), woodworking (12), metal (12) and transport (12). Of 131 new and old disputes which were reported to have terminated, 27 ended in favour of the workpeople, and 46 in favour of the employers, while 58 were compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in March.—Ten instances of recourse to the law on conciliation and arbitration were reported to the French Labour Department in March. In six cases committees of conciliation were formed, and succeeded in settling four of the disputes. In three of the four remaining cases the employers declined the proposed conciliation; in the fourth the workpeople resumed work before a conciliation committee could be formed.

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

† Revised figure.

GERMANY.

Employment in March.—The following is a summary of the state of the labour market in March, as described in the Reichs-Arbeitsblatt (the journal of the German Labour Department) for April:—

The state of the labour market in March was on the whole more favourable than in the previous month. With the exception of coal mining and the textile trades, marked activity characterised all industries.

Coal Mining.—Employment was slack in the Ruhr district, while the demand for coal continued weak in the Saar district and in Upper Silesia. In the lignite industry employment was unsatisfactory in consequence of the lessened demand for house coal.

Metal Trades.—The improvement noted in these trades in the previous month continued during March. The output of the establishments of the Steel Works Federation showed an increase as compared with February.

Textile Trades.—These trades continued to feel the adverse effect of the high price of raw material: this was especially the case in cotton weaving.

Building Trades.—Employment was good except in Berlin, Cassel, Chemnitz, Erfurt Forst i. L., and certain towns in Western Germany.

Clothing Trades.—The clothing trades were favourably affected by the Easter season, full employment being forthcoming for all hands.

Employment in First Quarter of 1910*.—The Reichs-Arbeitsblatt states that returns relating to unemployment during the first quarter of 1910 were supplied to the Imperial Statistical Office by trade unions with an aggregate membership at the end of the quarter of 1,434,601. From certain branches of the unions reporting, however, no returns were available; omitting these, the membership covered was 1,430,526, of whom 24,684 (or 1.7 per cent.) were stated to be unemployed on April 2nd, as compared with 31,168 (or 2.2 per cent.) on February 26th, and 36,980 (or 2.6 per cent.) on January 29th. The corresponding percentage for the end of the first quarter of 1909 was 3.5.

The following Table shows for all unions reporting, and for each of the nine principal unions for which figures are available, the membership at the end of the first quarter of 1910, the percentage of members returned as out of work on a certain day near the end of each month of the quarter, and the corresponding percentage for the end of the first quarter of 1909:—

Table with 6 columns: Name of Union, Membership at end of First Quarter, and Percentage of Membership returned as unemployed at end of March, Feb., Jan., and March, 1909. Includes rows for All Unions making Returns, Principal Unions (Miners, Metal Workers, etc.), and Factory Workers.

In the current number of the Reichs-Arbeitsblatt an attempt is made for the first time to measure the fluctuation of the volume of unemployment in Germany by calculating the proportion of possible working days lost through lack of employment. For this purpose the Imperial Statistical Office makes use of the data regularly furnished by the Trade Unions as to the number of days of unemployment (whether with or without unemployed benefit) amongst their members during the quarter. In the first three months of 1910, the total number of such days was found to be 1,998,834, or 1.7 per cent. of the

* These figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentage for the United Kingdom given on page 149. See also Note above under "Labour Abroad."

† The precise date to which the figures relate is April 2nd.

total number of day's work that could have been performed in the quarter by the members of the Unions reporting had none of them been unemployed for a single day. The corresponding percentage for the previous quarter was 1.5, and for the first quarter of 1909, 3.2.

HOLLAND*.

Employment in March.—Employment revived in the building trades. In iron and steel works there was some seasonal slackness, otherwise employment was fair; in the engineering trades there was a slight increase in the number of unemployed. In shipbuilding employment in general improved somewhat as compared with February. It continued favourable in the diamond cutting trade, the proportion of trade unionists unemployed being below 1.5 per cent. In the textile trades employment on the whole continued at about the same level as in February. In the printing trades employment continued good, with a slight decline, however, in some of the large towns.

Labour Disputes in March.—The number of labour disputes reported as having begun in March was 12, in which 368 workpeople were directly concerned. During the month 12 disputes came to an end (including 9 of the new ones.) Of these 2 terminated in favour of the workpeople and 2 in favour of the employers, while 6 were compromised; in the two remaining cases the result was not known.

NORWAY.†

Employment in March.—The following Table shows the percentage of members reported unemployed at the end of March in trade unions making returns to the Norwegian Central Statistical Office, comparative figures relating to the same unions for the previous month and for March, 1909, being added:—

Table with 7 columns: Group of Trades, Membership (Mar. 31st, Feb. 28th, Mar. 31st, 1910), and Percentage Unemployed (Mar. 31st, Feb. 28th, Mar. 31st, 1909). Lists various trades like Bricklayers and Masons, Carpenters and Joiners, etc.

SWEDEN.

Non-Employment of German Labour in Sweden pending Dispute in German Building Trades.—Reporting to the Foreign Office under date of April 30th, H.M. Secretary of Legation at Stockholm states that the Swedish Association of Employers of Labour has issued a circular letter to its members requesting them to assist the employers in Germany by refusing to employ workmen coming from that country in consequence of the lock-out in the building trades (see pp. 155-6).

The prohibition is to hold good until an announcement is made in the press to the effect that the dispute in the German building trade is at an end.

DENMARK.

Unemployment in February.‡—According to returns made to the Central Federation of Danish Trade Unions, out of 63,700 members of affiliated Unions, 11,774, or 18.5 per cent. were unemployed at the end of the month. In January, out of 71,000 members covered by the returns, 14,583, or 20.5 per cent. were unemployed, while the corresponding percentage for February, 1909, was 23.3.†

* Maandskrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek (Journal of the Dutch Central Statistical Office).

† Arbeidsmarkedet (Journal of the Norwegian Central Statistical Office).

‡ These figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentage for the United Kingdom given on p. 149. See also note under "Labour Abroad."

§ Arbejdereren (the journal of the Central Federation of Danish Trade Unions).

UNITED STATES.

Employment in New York State: July-December, 1909.—In the Bulletin of the Department of Labour of the State of New York for March, 1910, are published statistics of unemployment in New York State from July to December, 1909, based on returns received from 190 representative trade unions.* Of 91,162 members reporting at the end of December, 17.7 per cent. were unemployed owing to causes other than disputes and disability, as compared with 9.5 per cent. in the previous month, and 25.9 per cent. in December, 1908. The membership reporting and percentage unemployed at the end of each month from July to December, 1909, were as under, corresponding percentages for the previous year being added for comparison:—

Table with 4 columns: Month, Members reporting in 1909, and Percentage Unemployed owing to causes other than disputes and disability (1909, 1908). Rows for July, August, September, October, November, December.

The following Table shows the percentage reported unemployed classified according to groups of trades:—

Table with 5 columns: Group of Trades, Membership reporting at end of Dec., 1909, and Unemployed Percentage reported through causes other than disputes or disability at end of Dec., Nov., Dec., 1909, 1909, 1908. Lists trades like Building, Stoneworking, &c., Metal, Engineering, and Shipbuilding, etc.

NOTE.—The percentage of unemployment in New York State for September, 1909, as given in the GAZETTE for February (p. 46), was 8.7, while the percentage for the same month is now shown (in the first of the above Tables) as 11.0. The difference is due to the earlier figure (which was the only one then available) being based on returns from all the trade unions in the State, while the present figure is based on returns from certain representative unions only.

It may be added that statistics based on returns from all trade unions in the State are compiled by the New York State Department of Labour for two months only in each year, viz., March and September, whereas statistics based on returns from certain representative trade unions are compiled for each month of the year.

Strike of Tramway Employees at Philadelphia.—Despatches from H.M. Ambassador at Washington and H.M. Consul at Philadelphia received during March and April report a strike of about 4,000 employees of a tramway company, which began on February 19th. The primary cause of the dispute was the alleged unjust discharge of 173 men, but besides the reinstatement of these men the strikers demanded an increase of wages from 11½d. to 1s. 0½d. per hour, and the recognition of the union. Much rioting took place, involving destruction of property and loss of life. On March 5th the Trade Unions of the city began a general sympathetic strike, in which at one time 60,000 men were involved; one estimate placed the number at 100,000, two-thirds of whom struck, and the other third were forced to cease work owing to the strike.

[According to newspaper reports, the sympathetic strike was abandoned on March 28th, and was followed by a general resumption of work in the town. On April 15th it was stated that the tramway employees had accepted the company's terms, and the dispute had thereupon come to an end.]

* These figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentage for the United Kingdom given on page 149. See also Note under "Labour Abroad."

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES IN APRIL.

COAL MINING.

(Based on 499 Returns—435 from Employers, 48 from Trade Unions, and 16 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the coal mining industry during April continued good, and showed a slight improvement as compared with a year ago.

Returns relating to 1,328 pits employing 635,445 workpeople showed that the average number of days* worked during the four weeks ended April 23rd, 1910, was 5'19, as compared with 5'49 in March and 4'86 in April, 1909.

Of the 635,445 workpeople covered by the Returns, 471,706 (74'2 per cent.) were employed at pits working 20 or more days during the four weeks ended April 23rd, 1910, while 204,998 (32'3 per cent. of the whole) were employed at pits working 22 days or more.

The highest average number of days worked per week in April was in North Wales (5'51 days), and the lowest in Nottingham and Leicester (4'60 days).

The following Table shows the average number of days worked per week by the pits during the four weeks ended April 23rd, 1910, together with the figures for similar periods in March, 1910, and April, 1909. (Collieries at which there were stoppages owing to disputes are excluded from the figures):—

Table showing average number of days worked per week by pits in different districts for April 1910, March 1910, and April 1909. Includes columns for Districts, No. of Work-people employed, and Average number of days worked per week by the pits in 4 weeks ended.

Compared with a month ago (after making allowance for holidays) there was some improvement in Northumberland, South Wales and Mon., Fife, and in Ireland; in the other districts there was not much change.

Compared with a year ago (after making allowance for holidays) there was a slight decline in Northumberland, Durham, and Cumberland, and an improvement in all other districts; this improvement was most marked in Scotland and in Gloucester and Somerset.

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

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

Table showing average number of days worked per week by pits in the four weeks ended April 23rd, 1910, March 19th, 1910, and April 24th, 1909. Includes columns for Description of Coal, No. of Work-people employed, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Apr., 1910, on a Month ago.

Compared with a year ago there was an improvement at pits producing coking, gas, steam and mixed coal, and a decline at anthracite and house pits.

The Exports of coal, coke, and manufactured fuel in April, 1910, amounted to 5,435,101 tons, or 258,230 tons more than in March 1910, and 67,363 tons more than in April, 1909.

IRON, SHALE, AND OTHER MINING, AND QUARRIYING.

(Based on 76 Returns—59 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 2 from Trade Unions, and 15 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was good in iron mines and showed little change on the whole compared with a month ago and a year ago. It continued fair in shale mines.

Employment continued moderate in tin mines. It was moderate and worse than in the previous month in lead mines. In quarries employment continued fair on the whole.

Mining.

Iron Mining.—During the four weeks ended April 23rd, the average number of days worked per week by all mines and open works included in the Returns was 5'88, as compared with 5'90 a month ago, and 5'60 in April, 1909.

Table showing average number of days worked per week by mines in different districts for April 1910, March 1910, and April 1909. Includes columns for Districts, Work-people employed, and Average Number of Days worked per week by Mines in 4 weeks ended.

Of the total number of workpeople covered by the Returns 92'5 per cent. were employed at mines working 22 or more days during the four weeks ended April 23rd, as compared with 96'0 per cent. a month ago, and 87'6 per cent. a year ago.

Shale Mining.—At the mines respecting which Returns were received 3,201 workpeople were employed during the four weeks ended April 23rd, as compared with 3,177 in March, and 3,320 in April, 1909. The average number of days worked per week during the four weeks ended April 23rd was 5'64, as compared with 5'69 a year ago.

Tin Mining.—Employment in Cornwall was moderate, and rather better than in the previous month.

Lead Mining.—Employment was slack in North Wales, and worse than a month ago. There was also a decline in Weardale, where employment was dull.

Quarrying.

Slate.—Employment showed an improvement in North Wales, particularly in the Festiniog district. At Ballachulish (Argyll) employment was slack, and worse than a month ago. It continued good at Delabole (Cornwall), and some overtime was reported.

Granite.—Employment continued good in Leicestershire, and fair in Aberdeenshire. It was dull in Cornwall, and worse than a month ago; at Princetown it was bad.

* Easter Holidays are included in this period.

Limestone.—Employment continued good in North Wales and Cumberland; it was fairly good and better than a month ago in South Durham and in the Somerset blue lias quarries. At Buxton employment was slack and worse than in the previous month. It continued quiet in the Plymouth district.

Other Stone.—Employment was good, and better than a month ago in the Clee Hill road material quarries, and continued good in sandstone quarries in North Wales and chert quarries at Bakewell. In the Sheffield district and at Barnsley employment was good; at Normanton it was fair and at Rotherham dull. Employment was good in the Gloucestershire pennant stone quarries, and fair in the Bath stone quarries. In grindstone and building stone quarries in the Rowsley district employment was moderate, but rather better than a month ago. There was also some improvement in Forfarshire, though employment was still reported as bad.

Sett-making.—Employment was generally fair in Scotland, and good in Leicestershire, North Wales, the Clee Hill district, and at Rowley Regis (Staffs).

China Clay.—Employment continued good in the St. Austell district and on Lee Moor.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

(Based on 117 Returns—110 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 3 from Trade Unions, and 4 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during April, was fair and better than either a month ago or a year ago.

Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters showed that the total number of furnaces in blast at the end of April, 1910, was 310, as compared with 304 in March, 1910, and 280 in April, 1909, when 11 furnaces were damped down owing to a dispute. Eight furnaces were relit during the month (three in the Cleveland district, two each in Lancashire and Derbyshire, and one in Lanarkshire), while two were blown out (one in Staffordshire and one in Lanarkshire).

The number of workpeople employed at the works covered by the Returns was 23,000; an increase of 13 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Table showing number of furnaces included in the Returns, in Blast at end of April, 1910, March, 1910, and April, 1909. Includes columns for Districts, Number of Furnaces, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1910, on a Month ago.

The Imports of iron ore in April, 1910, amounted to 644,139 tons, or 41,995 tons less than in March, 1910, but 156,474 tons more than in April, 1909.

The Exports of pig iron from the United Kingdom in April, 1910, amounted to 133,582 tons, or 43,254 tons more than in March, 1910, and 27,464 tons more than in April, 1909.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET WORKS.

(Based on 59 Returns—55 from Employers, 3 from Trade Unions, and 1 from a Local Correspondent.)

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

At the works covered by the Returns, 424 tinplate mills were working at the end of April, as compared with 421 in March and 392 a year ago. The number of sheet mills working at the same dates was 58, 58 and 46 respectively. The supply of and demand for labour continued about equal. The works to which these figures relate are principally in South Wales and Monmouthshire, and employ about 24,100 workpeople.

* Eleven Furnaces damped down owing to a dispute.

Table showing number of works open and number of mills in operation at the end of April, 1910, March, 1910, and April, 1909. Includes columns for At end of April, 1910, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, and Year ago.

Exports.

Table showing exports of tinplate and steel sheet works to various countries (United States, British East Indies, Germany, France, Netherlands, Other Countries) in Tons, for April, 1910, March, 1910, and April, 1909. Includes columns for Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1910, on a Month ago, and Year ago.

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

(Based on 203 Returns—190 from Employers, received partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 3 from Trade Unions, and 10 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works showed a slight improvement on a month ago, and was much better than a year ago.

The volume of employment during the week ended April 23rd, 1910 (i.e., number employed multiplied by the number of shifts worked), showed an increase of 0'5 per cent. on a month ago, and of 13'9 per cent. on a year ago. The total number of shifts worked during the week was about 506,000.

Table showing number of workpeople employed and average number of shifts worked per man in different departments (Iron, Steel, Iron or Steel) for the week ended April 23rd, 1910, March, 1910, and April, 1909. Includes columns for Departments, Number of Workpeople employed, and Average Number of Shifts worked per man.

still being worked; employment was good at Wakefield. It continued moderate in the North of England; at Seaham Harbour it was quiet, but better than a month ago. It continued moderate in Lancashire, but was better than a year ago.

continued fair in Shropshire and at Stourbridge and Oldham, and moderate in the Hartlepool district. It remained bad, with much short time, in the South Staffordshire district.

The Imports of chinaware or porcelain and earthenware in April, 1910, were valued at £71,307 as compared with £79,426 in March, 1910, and £76,661 in April, 1909; and the Exports for the same months at £218,986, £217,117, and £182,541 respectively.

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN ENGLAND.

(Based on 220 Returns from Correspondents in various districts).

AGRICULTURAL employment was generally regular, though a few day labourers lost time occasionally through rain. There was a moderate demand for day labourers in the Northern and Midland Counties, with a supply tending to be somewhat in excess of requirements;

Northern Counties.—Employment was generally regular in these counties, except in the case of a few day labourers, who lost a little time through rain. Potato planting, cleaning meadows, hedging, &c., caused a moderate demand for such men, but the supply was invariably sufficient, and a surplus was reported in several districts in Cumberland and the West Riding of Yorkshire.

Midland Counties.—There was occasional interruption from showery weather to the employment of day labourers in some districts, but employment on the whole was regular. The demand for men of this class was not generally so good as a month ago, and correspondents in several counties mentioned a surplus in the supply.

Eastern Counties.—Some slight loss of time through rain was reported among day labourers in Lincolnshire, Norfolk, and Suffolk; otherwise agricultural employment in this group of counties was regular, and, except for a small surplus of day labourers in parts of Norfolk, the supply was generally fully equalled by the demand.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—Regularity of employment was general, although in some districts a few day labourers lost a day or two through rain. There was only a moderate demand for day labourers in Kent and Sussex, but such work as spreading manure, threshing, and planting potatoes, and hoeing provided a fair amount of work in other counties, and the supply of and demand for men of this class were generally about equal.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

(Based on 137 Returns—117 from Employers, 7 from Trade Unions, and 13 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in London was fair generally, and better than a month ago and a year ago. At Liverpool it continued dull, and at the other principal ports it was moderate, and about the same as a month ago.

London.*—Employment was fair generally, and better than a month ago and a year ago. The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves in London in the five weeks ended April 30th was 13,529, an increase of 4·7 per cent., as compared with a month ago, and of 3·9 per cent., as compared with April, 1909.

* Exclusive of Tilbury.

Table showing Workpeople and Earnings by Branches and Districts. Includes columns for Week ended April 23rd, 1910, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago, and Per cent.

Table showing Imports and Exports. Includes columns for Description, April, 1910, Mar., 1910, April, 1909, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, and Year ago.

POTTERY AND BRICK AND TILE TRADES.

(Based on 24 Returns—7 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 4 from Trade Unions, and 13 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was fair on the whole in the Pottery and Brick and Tile trades, and the improvement shown in March was maintained; but there was still a good deal of short time worked.

Pottery Trade.—In Staffordshire employment was fair, and slightly better than a year ago; most of the firms were still working only five days a week. In Devonshire it remained fair on the whole. At Bristol it was good with earthenware potters, and fair with stone potters: at Bridgwater it was good. It continued slack in the china trade at Worcester and Coalport.

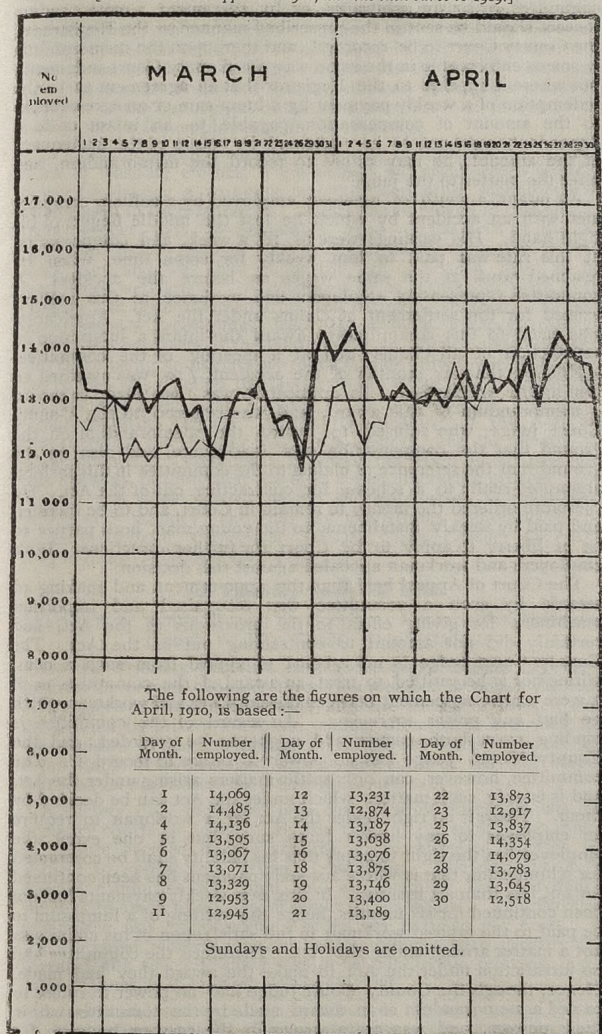
Brick and Tile Trades.—Employment was fairly good on the whole in the Peterborough district, and better than both a month ago and a year ago; it remained good at Market Harborough. It continued bad, with much short time, in the Nottinghamshire district. It

2nd. During April, 1909, the corresponding numbers ranged from 12,185 on the 5th, to 14,422 on the 23rd.

Table showing Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London. Columns include Period, In Docks (By Port of London Authority, By Ship-owners &c., Total), At 110 Wharves making Returns, and Total Docks and Principal Wharves.

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 March and April, 1910. The corresponding curve for March, and April, 1909, is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1910, and the thin curve to 1909.]



The following are the figures on which the Chart for April, 1910, is based:—

Table showing Day of Month, Number employed, Day of Month, Number employed, Day of Month, Number employed for April 1910.

Sundays and Holidays are omitted.

The mean daily number employed at Tilbury Dock was 1,242 in April, 1910, as compared with 1,154 in the previous month, and 867 in April, 1909.

Employment with dock labourers at Liverpool was dull.

Other Ports.—Employment on the Tyne and Wear was bad; some improvement towards the end of the month was reported with trimmers and teamers. At Hartlepool employment was moderate, and better than a month ago and a year ago; a similar improvement took place at Middlesbrough, where employment was fair generally.

* Exclusive of Tilbury.

fair. It continued bad at Manchester. At Glasgow and Leith it was moderate. Employment was dull at Dundee.

SEAMEN SHIPPED IN APRIL.

(Based on 27 Returns received through the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.)

RETURNS received from certain selected ports (at which about 83 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared) show that during April 41,327* seamen, of whom 3,788 (or 9·2 per cent.) were foreigners, were shipped on foreign-going vessels. As compared with April, 1909, there was a net increase of 1,852.

During the four months ended April, 1910, the total number of seamen shipped was 147,088, a decrease of 696 on the number for the corresponding period of 1909.

Table showing Number of Seamen shipped in Principal Ports for April and Four months ended April. Includes columns for 1909, 1910, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1910, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1910.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

(Based on 17 Returns—2 from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, 8 from the Collectors of Fishery Statistics of England and Wales and the Fishery Board for Scotland, 1 from the Department of Agriculture, Ireland, and 6 from Local Correspondents.)

The fish landed in April, 1910, showed a decrease both in quantity and value as compared with April, 1909.

Employment at the principal ports was fair. At Grimsby employment was good with fishermen and fish dock labourers and fair with fish curers. At Yarmouth and Lowestoft it was fair with fishermen and fish dock labourers, and bad with fish curers. Employment at Hull was moderate with fishermen, and fair with fish dock labourers and fish curers. At Aberdeen employment was good with all classes. At Fraserburgh and Macduff it was bad generally. At Peterhead it was moderate. Off the South-Western Coast of England fishing operations were fairly successful.

Table showing Quantity and Value of fish landed in April 1910 and April 1909. Columns include Quantity (Cwts., £) and Value (£) for April 1910 and April 1909.

The Exports of herrings, cured and salted, in April, 1910, were valued at £42,039, as compared with £58,467 in March, 1910, and £26,091 in April, 1909.

* 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.

§ Revised figure.

PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT, AND FLOUR.

I.—BREAD.

RETURNS showing the predominant prices of 4 lb. of bread on May 2nd, 1910, have been received from 140 of the principal Master Bakers' Associations in the United Kingdom and 30 from other sources.

Table showing predominant prices of bread per 4 lb. for various districts in 1910, 1909, and 1908.

In the next Table the predominant price is shown for 27 of the principal towns.

Table showing predominant price per 4 lb. on May 2nd, 1910, for 27 principal towns, including London, Birmingham, Bolton, etc.

As compared with a month ago, the price of bread has fallen 1/2d. per 4 lb. in Glasgow. As compared with a year ago Dublin shows an increase of 1/2d. per 4 lb.

II.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.

Table showing monthly prices of British Wheat and Imports (Average Declared Value) from April 1909 to April 1910.

The imports of wheat during September, 1909-April, 1910, amounted to 65,707,980 cwt., or 5,691,595 cwt.

more than in the corresponding months of 1908-9. The imports of wheat-meal and flour during September, 1909-April, 1910, amounted to 8,165,240 cwt., or 57,024 cwt. less than in September, 1908-April, 1909.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

(1) Workmen's Compensation Act.

METHODS OF DETERMINING COMPENSATION: COMMITTEE REPRESENTING EMPLOYER AND WORKMEN: JURISDICTION OF COMMITTEE AND COUNTY COURT.

It is provided by the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, that for the purpose of settling any matter, which under the Act is to be settled by arbitration, if any committee representative of an employer and workmen exists with power to settle matters under the Act, the matter shall be settled by the arbitration of such committee unless either party objects in the manner provided.

An infant, a youth of nineteen, employed by a colliery company met with an accident by which he lost the middle fingers of his right hand. His earnings were 9s. 1d. a week, and compensation at this rate was paid to him weekly for some time, when he resumed work at the same wages as before the accident.

The Court of Appeal held that the appointment and making of awards by such a committee was recognised and important machinery for giving effect to the provisions of the Act, and certainly did not amount to contracting out of the Act.

CUSTOM FOR MINER TO RECEIVE COAL WHEN INCAPACITATED: AWARD OF COMPENSATION: SUBSEQUENT ACTION FOR VALUE OF COAL.

By the provisions of the Act an employer is not liable to any proceedings in respect of an injury by accident independently of the Act except in case of personal negligence or wilful act of the employer, or of some one for whom the employer is responsible, in which case the workman has an option either to claim compensation under the Act or to take proceedings independently of the Act.

It was the custom in a colliery district for each miner to be given a load of coal for domestic use for every 24 shifts he worked, and if he were incapacitated by an accident the custom was that he should receive a load of coal every five weeks during incapacity.

The High Court held that the claim was not one for compensation under the Act but a claim founded on the contract between the workman and his employer which was independent of the services to be rendered and might endure after the services had terminated.

(2) Factory Acts.

LAUNDRY: "MANUFACTURING PROCESS": EMPLOYMENT OF YOUNG PERSON.

By the Factory and Workshop Acts, 1901 and 1907, the expression "non-textile factory" as used in the Acts includes a laundry carried on by way of trade or for the purpose of gain, in which steam, water, or other mechanical power is used in aid of the manufacturing process carried on there.

In a certain laundry, carried on by way of trade for the ordinary work of washing clothes, a gas engine was used which supplied power for driving a wringing machine, and other machines commonly used in such laundries.

(3) Friendly Societies Acts.

ARBITRATION UNDER RULES OF SOCIETY: FINALITY OF DECISION: ODDER TO PAY COSTS: JURISDICTION.

By the Friendly Societies Act, 1896, every dispute between a member or person claiming through a member or under the rules of a registered society or branch, and the society or branch shall be decided by arbitration in the manner directed by the rules, and any decision so given is binding on all parties without appeal, and is not liable to be interfered with by any court of law, but may be enforced on application by a County Court.

A society duly registered was composed of district courts and ordinary courts or lodges. By the rules of the society any matter in dispute decided by the arbitration committee of a lodge was subject to appeal to a district committee.

A father and son were both members of the society, and the son having become mentally afflicted was removed to an asylum where his father paid for his maintenance. The father, acting in form on his son's behalf, but really in order to recoup himself the cost of the son's maintenance, claimed his son's sick pay from the society.

The House of Lords held that there was a dispute between a member and the society; that the father, though acting in form on behalf of the son, was himself a party to the proceedings; that

nothing had been done beyond the powers of the society; that the High Court had no jurisdiction to interfere, and the appeal must be dismissed.—Catt v. Wood and others, House of Lords, April 28th, 1910.

(4) Trade Union Acts.

RIVAL UNIONS: SIMILARITY OF NAME.

By the Trade Union Act, 1871, any seven or more members of a trade union may, under certain conditions, register such trade union under the Act.

A trade union was registered under the name of the National Society of Operative Printers' Assistants, and was composed of workers in certain branches of the printing trade. The general secretary of the union, who had held the post for many years, severed his connection with the society in March, 1909.

(5) Miscellaneous.

FLAT: LIFT SUPPLIED BY LANDLORD: DUTY OF LANDLORD TO ENSURE SAFETY: INJURY TO SERVANT OF TENANT.

The owners of a block of flats supplied for the convenience of their tenants a lift for the raising of goods brought by tradesmen to the various flats. It was in the form of a box outside the building, and capable of being pulled up and down from the ground to the scullery windows.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

Appointment of Certifying Surgeons during April, 1910.

Table listing District, Certifying Surgeon, and Place and time for examination of young persons and children from factories and workshops.

NOTE.—Except where otherwise stated, the place of examination is at residence.

BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR EXCHANGES IN APRIL.

THE two Tables given below show the work of the Board of Trade Labour Exchanges during April, analysed by trades and districts. The period covered is 24 working days. The total number of Exchanges included in the return is 98, a few of which had only been open during a portion of the period.

The "workpeople's applications remaining on the register" at any date are the applications of persons who have registered or renewed their registration during the seven days ending on that date, and have not had their registration cancelled on obtaining employment either through the Exchanges or by their own efforts. The total number on the register was 81,523 at the end of April, the corresponding number at the end of March being 90,627. The decrease is almost entirely among men, the number of women and girls having increased. These numbers represent separate individuals, except in so far as there may have been duplicate registration in London and in other places where more than one Exchange is easy of access to the same person.

The total number of applications received during April was 116,523 (men 83,422, boys 11,613, women 17,402, and girls 4,086), as compared with 126,119 (men 95,242, boys 9,822, women 17,246, and girls 3,809) during March. The number of women and girls in this case also has slightly increased, showing that they are making greater use of the Exchanges. The figures given above do not include renewals, but do include re-applications by persons whose registration had lapsed or been cancelled. For this reason and also on account of the possibility of duplicate registration previously referred to the numbers cannot be taken as in any way representing separate individuals.

Large numbers of applicants have reported that they have obtained employment otherwise than through the Exchanges. Such persons are not, of course, included in the statistics of "Vacancies Filled" which only relate to applicants for whom situations have been found by the Exchanges.

While the number of applications has fallen, the number of vacancies filled has increased from 20,395 in March to 23,858 in April. The proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified has also risen from 69 per cent. in March to 75 per cent. in April (men 79 per cent., boys 75 per cent., women 64 per cent., and girls 67 per cent.).

Of the applications on the register at the end of April the largest percentages occur in the following groups of trades:—Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages, 19.1; Metals, Machines, Implements and Conveyances, 14.2; General Labourers, 14.1; and Building and Works of Construction, 10.1.

Of the vacancies filled during April the largest percentages are yielded by the same groups of trades in different order:—Building and Works of Construction, 18.1; Metals, Machines, Implements and Conveyances, 13.3; General Labourers, 12.6; and Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages, 11.9.

The demand for workers exceeds the supply in the case of textiles, boot and shoe manufacture (men), clothing (women), painters and coachbuilders, and female laundry hands.

In addition to the 93 Exchanges specified in the list published in the LABOUR GAZETTE for March, returns from the undermentioned Exchanges which were opened in April are included in the Tables:—

Barry, 7, Dock View Road; Bath, Municipal Buildings; Birkenhead, 61, Hamilton Square; Gorton, Town Hall; Merthyr Tydfil, Castle Chambers, Castle Street.

The following Exchanges are also now open, or are expected to be opened before the end of May, making a total of 104 Exchanges:—

Ashton-under-Lyne, 117, Stamford Street; Devonport, 49, St. Aubyn Street; Manchester (Warehouse Quarter), 31, Dickinson Street; Pontypridd, Municipal Buildings; Soho, 8, Dean Street.

The Soho office has been opened for the registration of women and girls seeking employment in the dressmaking and millinery and other trades in the West End of London.

Table showing by Trades the Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled during April, 1910*, and the number of Applications by Workpeople remaining on the Register at the end of the month.

Table with 17 columns: Trades, Vacancies Notified (Men, Boys, Women, Girls, Total), Vacancies Filled (Men, Boys, Women, Girls, Total), Workpeople's Applications remaining on Register at April 29th (Men, Boys, Women, Girls, Total), and Total on Register at April 2nd.

* April 2nd to April 29th inclusive.

Table showing by Districts the Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled during April, 1910*, and the number of Applications by Workpeople remaining on the Register at the end of the month.

[SUBJECT TO REVISION.]

Table with 17 columns: Districts, Vacancies Notified (Men, Boys, Women, Girls, Total), Vacancies Filled (Men, Boys, Women, Girls, Total), Workpeople's Applications remaining on Register at April 29th (Men, Boys, Women, Girls, Total), and Total on Register at April 2nd.

* April 2nd to April 29th inclusive.

CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

RETURNS received by the Department from Co-operative Credit Societies in the United Kingdom for the year 1908, show that there were then 240 societies at work, with an aggregate membership of 20,848, and a total capital (share, loan and reserve) of £146,761. These societies had made advances to members during the year amounting to £70,817; repayments by borrowers—including interest—amounted to £75,386, and the amount still owing at the end of the year was £105,149.

Many of these societies are managed by honorary officials, and the working expenses thus being kept small, the total expenses during 1908, including interest on capital, amounted to £5,929 only for the whole of the 240 societies, or an average of less than £25 per society. The total net profits of all the societies amounted to £1,004.

Of the 240 societies 32, with a total membership

of 3,228, were in England and Wales, one, with 357 members, was in Scotland, and 207, with 17,263 members, were in Ireland.

Eighteen of the societies (17 in England and one in Scotland) were in urban districts, the remaining 222 (of which 207 were in Ireland) being all in agricultural districts.

Table with 5 columns: Year (1908, 1907, 1906, 1905, 1904), Number of Societies making returns, Number of Members, Total Capital (Share, Loan & Reserve), Amount of Loans (Advanced, Repaid, Owing), Working Expenses, and Net Profit.

PAUPERISM IN APRIL.

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

THE number of paupers relieved on one day in April, 1910, in the 35 urban districts mentioned below, corresponded to a rate of 224 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Compared with March, 1910, the total number of paupers relieved decreased by 10,702 (2.5 per cent.) and the rate per 10,000 by 6. The number of indoor paupers decreased by 5,062 (2.7 per cent.) and the number of outdoor paupers by 5,640 (2.4 per cent.) There were decreases in 32 districts, the most marked being in the Stockton district (40 per 10,000). In two districts there were slight increases, and in one there was no change.

Compared with April, 1909, there was a decrease of 5 per 10,000. The number of indoor paupers increased by 52, less than 0.1 per cent., and the number of outdoor paupers decreased by 5,358 (2.3 per cent.) In 24 districts there were decreases, the greatest being in the Stockton and Tees district (144 per 10,000); in 10 districts there were increases, and in one no change occurred.

Table with columns: Selected Urban Districts, Paupers on one day in second week of April, 1910 (In-door, Out-door, TOTAL), Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population on a Month ago, Year ago. Rows include ENGLAND & WALES, SCOTLAND, and IRELAND.

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

DISTRESS COMMITTEES IN APRIL.

THE Table given below summarises the information received from the various Distress Committees as to their operations in April, 1910.

Table with columns: Distress Committees, Net No. of Applicants on Registers at end of April, 1910, No. given Employment-relief, Aggregate duration of Employment-relief, Total Amount of Wages paid. Rows include London Central Unemployed Body, Outer London, Provincial Towns in England and Wales, Lancashire and Cheshire, Yorkshire, Midlands, Rest of England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland.

Committees at Barking, Croydon, Hornsey, Tottenham, Willesden, Aston Manor, Bournemouth, Bristol,

* The registers of the London Committees were closed for ordinary purposes as from March 15th. † Register closed to new applicants. ‡ Some not registered under Act. § Register closed for males. ¶ Since the opening of the Board of Trade Labour Exchange no record has been kept of the number of individuals unemployed. Ten men were given 1 hour's employment each. ** No employment-relief was provided by the Distress Committee, but the Municipality found work for some of the men.

Burton-on-Trent, Cardiff, Cheltenham, Darwen, Great Yarmouth, Hartlepool, Hyde, King's Norton, Salford, Wigan, Greenock and Paisley reported that their registers were closed for the season.

The total number who received employment relief was 11,571, of whom 3,646 were in London and "outer London," 5,711 in the provincial towns of England and Wales, 1,345 in Scotland, and 869 in Ireland. The average number of days employment-relief provided was 10.9 per man employed; and the wages paid amounted to about 35s. od. per man, or 3s. 2½d. per day.

The following Table affords a comparison between the work done by Distress Committees in April, 1910, March, 1910, and April, 1909:—

Table with columns: No. of Distress Committees in operation, No. of applicants given Employment-relief, Aggregate Duration of Employment-relief, Total Amount of Wages Paid. Rows include London, Other Places in England and Wales, United Kingdom, and a comparison between April 1910, March 1910, and April 1909.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN APRIL, 1910.

DURING April 1,011 fresh applications (639 from domestic servants, &c.) for work were registered by 13 Bureaux furnishing returns, and 1,068 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 287 persons, of whom 183 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 287 situations found for applicants, 210 were of a more or less permanent character, while 77 were temporary only.

The demand for cooks and parlourmaids was greatly in excess of the supply; the supply of housemaids, ladies' maids, and companions was in excess of the demand.

Table with columns: Applications by Work-people during, Situations offered by Employers during, Number of Workpeople engaged by Employers (Permanently, Temporarily). Rows include Summary by Bureaux, Summary by Occupations, and a list of Bureaux.

* Registers closed.

In addition to the above registered applications, the returns show that 30 persons in London and 81 in the provinces were referred to other agencies; 244 persons in London and 86 in the provinces were given advice as to training, &c., but were not registered.

Returns received from 2 Labour Bureaux (Westminster and Salvation Army) show that during April, 1910, 1,785 new applicants were registered, and that 643 situations were found (74 permanent and 569 temporary). The total number remaining on the register at the end of the month was 692.

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING APRIL.

UNITED KINGDOM.

(All the United Kingdom Official Reports may be obtained from Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, London, E.C., direct, or through any bookseller.) Royal Commission on the Poor Laws. Appendix Volume VIII. Minutes of Evidence (123rd to 138th days). Oral and written evidence of Witnesses relating chiefly to the subject of Unemployment. [Cd. 5066; pp. x. + 646; price 5s. 4d.] Appendix Volume VIIIa. Index to Minutes of Evidence, Appendix Volume VIII. [Cd. 5067; pp. 225; price 1s. 6d.] Appendix Volume XIXa. Report by Rev. J. C. Pringle, on the Effects of Unemployment or Assistance given to the Unemployed since 1886, as a means of Relieving Distress outside the Poor Law in Scotland. [Cd. 5073; pp. xii. + 193 with charts; price 3s. 6d.] Factories and Workshops. Summary of Reports on the Administration of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, by Local Authorities in respect of Workshops, Outwork, &c., in the year 1908. [Cd. 5110; pp. 14; price 2½d.] Explosion of Coal Dust at Darvan Colliery, Cardiff. Report to Home Office on the circumstances attending, on October 29th, 1909, by W. N. Atkinson and F. A. Gray. [Cd. 5112; pp. 13; price 3½d.] Shop Hours Orders. Return of Closing Orders made by Local Authorities under the Shop Hours Act, 1904, and submitted to the Central Authority for confirmation during the period from August 15th, 1904, to December 31st, 1908. [Cd. 4506; pp. 20; price 2½d.] Deaths from Starvation or accelerated by Privation (England and Wales). Return for the year 1908. [H. C. 337; pp. 38; price 4d.] General Abstract of Marriages, Births and Deaths registered in England and Wales in the year 1909. [Cd. 5104; pp. 5; price 1d.] Fifty-fifth Annual Report of the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages registered in Scotland during the year 1909, and Forty-fifth Annual Report on Vaccination. [Cd. 5108; pp. xxiv. + 107; price 7d.] Police (England and Wales), 1909. Reports of H.M. Inspectors of Constabulary on the County and Borough Police Forces for the year ended September 29th, 1909. Ranks, number, rates of pay and travelling allowances of the several police forces, police pension funds, &c. [H. C. 106; pp. 133; price 1s. 2d.] Fifty-second Annual Report of H.M. Inspector of Constabulary for Scotland, 1909. Contains census of vagrants, beggars, migratory poor, &c., on the nights of June 27th and December 26th, 1909, and analysis of the census of vagrancy for the years 1900 to 1909. [Cd. 5085; pp. 78; price 8½d.] Board of Education. Report on the Working of the Education (Provision of Meals) Act, 1906, up to March 31st, 1909. [Cd. 5131; pp. 50; price 3d.] Agricultural Statistics, 1909. Volume XLIV, Part II. Returns of Produce of Crops in Great Britain, with Summaries for the United Kingdom. [Cd. 5095; pp. 80; price 4½d.] Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland. Ninth Annual General Report of the Department, 1908-09. Technical instruction, aid to fisheries, rural industries, dairying, tobacco growing, &c. [Cd. 5128; pp. vi. + 475; price 1s. 11d.] Emigration Statistics of Ireland for the year 1909. Showing the number, ages, occupations, conjugal condition and destination of emigrants. [Cd. 5088; pp. 16; price 2d.] BRITISH COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES. East India (Trade). Tables relating to the Trade of British India with British Possessions and Foreign Countries, 1904-1905 to 1908-1909. [Cd. 5109; pp. 135; price 1s. 1d.] Canada. The Labour Gazette, March, 1910. Proceedings under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act during February; labour organisations in Canada during 1908; Commission on hours of labour in Nova Scotia; result of special investigation into wholesale prices of grain, fodder and meats during the past twenty years; retail prices of staple commodities in Canada during February. Ontario. Tenth Report of the Bureau of Labour, 1909. [Toronto: L. K. Cameron, King's Printer; pp. 282.] Victoria. Determinations of Wages Boards. Carriage Board, dated 23rd February, 1910. Cycle Trade Board, dated 17th February, 1910, cancelling all previous Determinations. Grocers' Board, dated 10th February, 1910. Wood Workers' Board, dated 18th February, 1910, cancelling Determination of 20th February, 1908. South Australia. Progress Report of the Select Committee of the Legislative Council on Wages Boards. [Adelaide: R. G. E. Rogers, Government Printer; pp. 54.] New Zealand. (1) Report of the Labour Bills Committee on the Sunday Labour Bill and the Shops and Offices Act Amendment Bill. (2) Report of Committee on the New Zealand Local Time Bill. [Wellington, John Mackay, Government Printer; pp. 50 and 23 respectively.]

STOVES, SOYERS—
Falkirk Iron Co., Falkirk Iron Works, Falkirk, Scotland.
Flavell Range and Imperial Gas Stoves, Ltd., Old Town Foundry, Leamington Spa.

TRACTOR, STEAM—C. Burrell & Sons, Ltd., St. Nicholas Works, Thetford, Norfolk.

TROUGHS, WATERPROOF—Victoria Rubber Co., Ltd., Leith Walk, Edinburgh.

TURPENTINE—C. Price & Co., Belvedere, Kent.

TYRES (Running Contract)—
Dunlop Pneumatic Tyre Co., Ltd., Aston Cross, Birmingham.
D. Moseley & Sons, Ltd., Ardwick, Manchester.
Palmer Tyre, Ltd., 119/123, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.

WALLS, TENT—
T. Briggs (London), Ltd., 2 & 4, Southgate Road, N.
C. Groom, Ltd., Ramornie Wharf, Dod Street, Limehouse, E.

SALE OF CONDEMNED ARMY CLOTHING, HOME AND ABROAD (Running Contract)—S. Moses & Sons, Ltd., 65, Mansell Street, E.

WORKS SERVICES—
Erection of Commanding Officers' Quarters, &c., at Curragh Camp—T. O'Mahony, Fermoy.
Erection of Married Soldiers' Quarters at Lichfield—F. H. Smith, 418-420, Moseley Road, Birmingham.
Erection of New Boundary Wall, &c., Royal Dockyard, Woolwich—L. Whitehead & Co., Ltd., Portland Works, Clapham Road, S.W.
Erection of Royal Engineer Stables, at Curragh Camp—McRoberts & Armstrong, Lower Windsor, Belfast.
Extension of Electricity Supply, Aldershot—Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich.
Improvements to Sewage Farm at Curragh Camp—McRoberts & Armstrong, Lower Windsor, Belfast.
Installation of Electric Light, Royal Army Medical College, Millbank—Foote & Milne, Ltd., 66, Victoria Street, S.W.
Repairs and Maintenance of War Department Buildings till 31/3/11 at:—
Leeds—A. Robinson, Waverley Terrace, Great Horton, Bradford.
Newcastle-on-Tyne—Kirk & Brown, Byker Bridge, Newcastle.
Plymouth, East and West Defences—A. Carkeek, Penventon, Redruth.
Pontefract—A. Robinson, Waverley Terrace, Great Horton, Bradford.
Purfleet—W. P. Goose & Sons, 124, Milton Road, Gravesend.
Royal Army Clothing Dept., Pimlico—J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., Grosvenor Wharf, S.W.
Waltham & Enfield, G. Munday & Sons, 9, Botolph Lane, E.C.
Woolwich—W. F. Blay, Ltd., Spital Street, Dartford.

STEELWORK ROOFING, &c., at the Balloon Factory, South Farnborough—Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., 19, Victoria Street, S.W.

WORK AT BALLOON FACTORY, South Farnborough.—G. Kemp & Co., Elms Road, Aldershot.

INDIA OFFICE, STORE DEPARTMENT.

AXLEBOXES—W. Shaw & Co., Middlesbro'.
BACKS, &c.—Bullers, Ltd., 6, Laurence Pountney Hill, E.C.
BELTING—Tuck & Co., 52, Leadenhall Street, E.C.
BOILERS—Beyer, Peacock & Co., Manchester.
BOLTS—Bayliss, Jones & Bayliss, Wolverhampton.
CABLES—Siemens Bros. & Co., Woolwich.
CASES, CHARGER—Cropper & Co., 50, Southwark Bridge Road, S.E.
CANVAS—A. Stockwell & Co., Manchester.
CEMENT—Wouldham Portland Cement Co., Grays.
COACH SCREWS—Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, London Works, near Birmingham.
COMPARATORS—Cambs. Scientific Inst. Co., Cambridge.
CONCRETE MIXERS—Ransome Vermehr Machinery Co., Ipswich.
CRANE—Grafton & Co., Bedford.
CRANES, &c.—Babcock & Wilcox, Renfrew.
CROSSINGS, &c.—Anderston Foundry Co., Port Clarence.
ELECTRIC LIGHT STORES—Siemens Bros. & Co., Woolwich.
ENGINES—
Bow McLachlan & Co., Paisley.
Marshall Sons & Co., Gainsborough.
HOSE—Reddaway & Co., Pendleton.
INJECTORS—Gresham & Craven, Ordsal Lane
INSTRUMENTS—Cooke & Sons, York.
IRON, PIG—Kittel & Co., 5, Fenchurch Street, E.C.
LEAD SHEET—
Walkers, Parker & Co., 63, Belvedere Road, Lambeth, S.E.
T. & W. Farmiloe, Ltd., Limehouse, E.
LOCOMOTIVES—North British Locomotive Co., Glasgow.
MACHINES, MILLING—
Armstrong, Whitworth & Co., Openshaw.
Kendall & Gent, Manchester.
MACHINES, PUNCHING—Craig & Donald, Johnstone, N.B.
MACHINES, SLOTTING—Jas. Spencer & Co., Hollinwood.
PROPELLER BLADES—J. Stone & Co., Deptford.
PULLEYS, &c.—Saxby & Farmer, Chippenham.
PUMPS, &c.—Worthington Pump Co., 153, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.
REFRIGERATING PLANT—Haslam Foundry, &c. Co., Derby.
RETORTS—Pintsch's Patent Lighting Co., Friars House, New Broad Street, E.C.
ROAD ROLLERS—Aveling & Porter, Rochester.
ROPEWAY PLANT—Ropeways, Ltd., Eldon House, South Place, E.C.
SAW, &c.—A. Ransome & Co., Newark-on-Trent.

STEAM HAMMERS—B. & S. Massey, Openshaw.
STEEL SHEETS—Steel Co. of Scotland, Glasgow.
STEEL PLATES—Stewart & Lloyds, Moss End.
STONE BREAKERS—W. H. Baxter, Ltd., Leeds.
SULPHATE OF COPPER—Spencer, Chapman & Messel, Silvertown, E.
WIRE—Whitecross Co., Warrington.

GENERAL POST OFFICE.

APPARATUS TELEGRAPHIC (CREED)—Creed & Co., Croydon.
CABLE, PAPER CORE—
Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., Charlton, Kent.
Western Electric Co., Ltd., North Woolwich, E.
FITTINGS, ELECTRIC LIGHT—General Electric Co., Ltd., 71, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.
POLE DRESSING—
Burt, Boulton & Haywood, Ltd., 64, Cannon Street, E.C.
W. Christie & Co., Ltd., 2, Great Winchester Street, E.C.
STEPS, POLE—D. Willetts, Ltd., Cradley Heath, Staffs.
TELEPHONES—Peel-Conner Telephone Works, Ltd., Salford.
TELEPHONES, HOUSE—Gent & Co., Ltd., Leicester.
WIRE, COPPER, HARD DRAWN—
T. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., Oakamoor, Staffs.
British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescot, Lancs.
Elliott's Metal Co., Ltd., Selly Oak, near Birmingham.
R. Johnson & Nephew, Ltd., Manchester.
Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Hadley, Wellington, Salop.
F. Smith & Co., Ltd., Salford.
J. Wilkes, Sons & Mapplebeck, Ltd., Birmingham.
ENDLESS BAND CONVEYORS INSTALLATION at King Edward Building, General Post Office, London, E.C.—
A. Sauvée & Co., Ltd., Union Works, 60, Park Street, Southwark.
Spencer & Co., Ltd., Melksham, Wilts.
LAY AND JOINT LINES OF CAST IRON PIPES in Camberwell New Road, London, S.E.—Greig & Matthews, 35, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.
CONVEYANCE OF MAILS in Glasgow—J. Henderson, Ltd., Glasgow.

STATIONERY OFFICE.

PARCHMENTS of various descriptions—
H. Band & Co., Plough Yard, Brentford.
J. Band & Sons, Boston Road, Brentford.
G. Gibbs & Son, Mitcham.
A. Stent & Sons, Havant.
PRINTING, BINDING, &c.—
Binding 5,000 "Instructions for Armourers"—Harrison & Sons, St. Martin's Lane, W.C.
Printing, Binding, &c., 4,000 books "S 467"—Garden City Press, Ltd., Letchworth.
Printing, Binding, &c., 2,000 "Index of Claims"; 1,000 "Expenses Register"; 600 Memo. Books; 1,500 "Record of Abnormal Correspondence Forwarded"; 1,000 "Record of Abnormal Correspondence Delivered"; Supplying 3,000 Millboards—Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., Finsbury, E.C.
Printing, &c., the "Police Gazette"—J. J. Keliher & Co., Ltd., 11, Marshalsea Road, S.E.
Printing, &c., the "Post Office Guide"—W. Clowes & Sons, Ltd., Duke Street, Stamford Street, S.E.

PRISON COMMISSION.

STONEWARE CHAMBERS—Doulton & Co., Ltd., Lambeth, London, S.E.

METROPOLITAN POLICE.

ALTERATIONS at Lea Bridge Road Police Station—Messrs. J. Grover & Son, Wilton Works, New North Road, Islington.
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