

# THE Board of Trade LABOUR GAZETTE.

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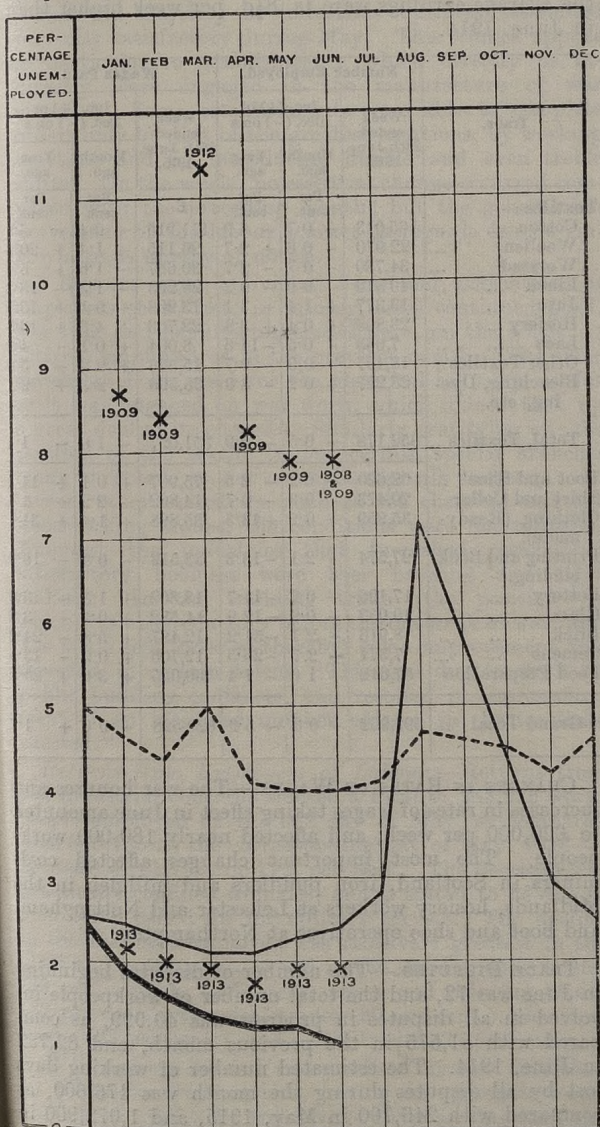
[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

## EMPLOYMENT CHART.

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve = 1915. — Thin Curve = 1914.  
----- Dotted Curve = Mean of 1905-14

x The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1905-14.



### NOTE TO CHART.

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

## THE LABOUR MARKET IN JUNE.

**EMPLOYMENT.**—The increasing number of enlistments and the active demand for labour owing to the requirements of the Allied Forces, have brought about a shortage of labour in many industries, and there is now very little unemployment, except in a few luxury and other trades which have been adversely affected by the war. Transference from one trade to another and the substitution of female for male labour are extending.

The coalmining industry continued to be very active, and the reduced staff of men worked a larger proportion of the possible number of shifts. In iron and lead-mining employment was good. Shale mines were working practically full time; but employment at tin mines was only moderate. At quarries it was fairly good except in Wales, where the lessened demand for slate caused slackness.

Employment in the pig-iron and iron and steel industries continued good, and the high pressure of recent months was maintained in the engineering and shipbuilding trades. There was a further improvement in the tinsplate trade, and the other metal trades were very active, with much overtime on Government orders.

There was some decline in cotton weaving, and the spinning branch was affected by the shortage of male labour. Employment in the woollen and worsted trades was less brisk than in May, owing to the completion of some Government contracts. The hosiery trade was increasingly active, and there was some improvement in the calico-printing, dyeing and finishing trades. The other textile trades showed little change.

There was still great activity on Government contracts in the leather, heavy boot and ready-made tailoring trades. The improvement in the bespoke tailoring trade was not maintained, and there was a decline in the shirt and collar trade. The felt hat trade improved, but the silk branch continued depressed. In the other clothing trades employment was fairly good on the whole, and showed little change.

Owing to heavy enlistments from the building trades, the number unemployed was low, although building operations continued to be restricted. The furnishing trades continued fairly good, and there was some improvement with mill-sawyers. The coachbuilding trades were busy, and overtime on Government work was general.

Employment with letterpress printers remained quiet, except in London, where it improved and was fairly good. Lithographic printers, bookbinders and paper-makers continued to be fairly well employed.

The food-preparation trades continued busy, but the fishing industry was still restricted by the war. In agriculture the shortage of labour so noticeable in recent months was less marked in the northern counties of England and in Scotland.

Dock labourers in London and Liverpool continued very fully employed; at other centres employment was

good except on the East Coast and in Ireland. The shortage of seamen for merchant vessels continued.

Comparisons with a year ago are much affected by the special circumstances arising out of the war. Employment in the iron and steel, engineering, shipbuilding, woollen, jute, hosiery, boot, leather, ready-made tailoring and food-preparation trades was much better than in June, 1914. There was a great depletion of staff in the mining and building industries, owing to enlistments, but those remaining were more fully employed. There was also a reduction in the numbers engaged in the lace, silk, carpet, bleaching, dyeing, finishing, glass, pottery, brick and cement trades; but the average earnings of those still in these trades were higher than a year ago. On the other hand, there was a decline in the cotton weaving and linen trades, and the number of tinplate mills in operation was much less than in June, 1914.

TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.

Trade Unions with a net membership of 921,825 reported 8,945 (or 1.0 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of June, 1915, compared with 1.2 per cent. at the end of May, 1915, and 2.4 per cent. at the end of June, 1914.

Trade.	Membership at end of June, 1915, exclusive of those serving with H.M. Forces.	Unemployed at end of June, 1915.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage unemployed as compared with a	
		Number.	Percentage.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Building*	82,769	2,250	2.7	- 0.5	- 0.2
Coal Mining†	133,557	141	0.1	...	- 0.4
Iron and Steel	34,863	489	1.4	- 0.5	- 4.1
Engineering	239,743	1,384	0.6	...	- 2.4
Shipbuilding	65,961	289	0.4	- 0.1	- 4.0
Miscellaneous Metal	33,141	87	0.3	- 0.1	- 1.2
Textiles:—					
Cotton	82,251	1,354	1.6	- 1.1	- 0.6
Woollen & Worsted	8,619	92	1.1	- 1.7	- 4.0
Other	50,646	339	0.7	- 0.1	- 0.5
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper.	61,137	1,500	2.4	- 1.2	- 0.8
Furnishing	17,432	525	3.0	...	+ 0.3
Woodworking	29,341	242	0.8	...	- 0.8
Clothing	68,804	137	0.2	- 0.1	- 1.5
Leather	4,003	16	0.4	- 0.4	- 4.3
Glass	850	21	2.5	+ 0.2	+ 2.0
Pottery	6,431	10	0.2	+ 0.1	- 0.6
Tobacco	2,272	69	3.0	+ 0.6	- 0.6
Total	921,825	8,945	1.0	- 0.2	- 1.4

UNEMPLOYMENT IN "INSURED TRADES."

The percentage of "insured" workpeople unemployed at the end of June, 1915, was 0.9, the same percentage as at the end of May. The corresponding percentage at the end of June, 1914, was 3.5.

Trade.	Number Insured, exclusive of those serving with H.M. Forces.	Unemployed at end of June, 1915.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage unemployed on a	
		Number	Percentage	Month ago.	Year ago.
Building and Construction of Works.	825,073	11,712	1.4	...	- 2.4
Engineering and Iron-founding.	763,731	3,892	0.5	...	- 2.8
Shipbuilding...	247,745	1,802	0.7	...	- 3.4
Construction of Vehicles	183,033	952	0.5	...	- 2.1
Sawmilling	10,246	94	0.9	- 0.3	- 2.7
Other Insured Work-people.	47,897	155	0.3	- 0.1	- 1.3
All Insured Work-people	2,077,725	18,607	0.9	...	- 2.6

EMPLOYERS' RETURNS: MINING AND METAL TRADES.

The following Table summarises the returns from firms

\* The Trade Union Returns relate mainly to carpenters and plumbers.

† In the mining and textile industries a contraction in the demand for labour is usually met by short time working.

employing 668,619 workpeople in June in the industries mentioned:—

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for June, 1915.	June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
		Days worked per week by Mines.	Days.	Days.
Coal Mining	499,714	5.66	+ 0.03	+ 0.46
Iron	13,696	5.77	- 0.07	+ 0.02
Shale	3,160	5.99	- 0.01	+ 0.02
Pig Iron	24,029	Furnaces in Blast. 271	No.	No.
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	25,650	Mills Working. 475	+ 11	- 102
		Shifts Worked (One Week).	Per cent.	Per cent.
Iron and Steel	102,370	589,630	+ 1.1	+ 8.9

EMPLOYERS' RETURNS: TEXTILE AND OTHER TRADES.

Returns from firms employing 599,962 workpeople in the week ended 26th June, 1915, showed a decrease of 0.3 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, compared with a month ago; while the earnings showed no change. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 5.9 per cent. in the number employed, but the average earnings were 1s. 8½d. per week higher than in June, 1914.

Trade.	Number Employed.		Wages Paid.	
	Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Textiles:—			£	
Cotton	165,013	- 0.7 - 6.9	171,915	- 2.4 - 5.8
Woollen	22,970	- 0.6 + 2.7	26,115	- 1.4 + 20.2
Worsted	34,780	- 0.7 - 2.7	30,667	- 1.6 + 6.1
Linen	40,813	- 0.9 - 9.2	26,293	- 1.3 - 13.2
Jute	13,377	+ 1.4 - 3.1	13,208	+ 0.1 + 15.5
Hosiery	23,808	+ 0.4 + 3.8	22,763	+ 4.6 + 16.8
Lace	7,663	- 0.5 - 14.6	8,004	+ 0.1 - 4.2
Other Textiles...	18,497	- 0.9 - 9.7	15,536	+ 0.2 - 5.0
Bleaching, Dyeing, etc.	25,257	+ 0.2 - 8.9	36,596	+ 2.3 + 2.1
Total, Textiles	352,178	- 0.5 - 5.9	351,097	- 1.0 - 1.1
Boot and Shoe	62,620	- 0.2 - 2.5	75,967	+ 0.1 + 14.1
Shirt and Collar	20,473	- 0.3 - 0.7	14,862	- 2.2 + 4.4
Clothing (Ready-made).	35,959	+ 0.2 + 13.3	35,898	+ 1.4 + 31.4
Printing and Book-binding.	27,574	- 2.1 - 18.8	33,512	- 0.5 - 16.9
Pottery	17,196	+ 0.2 - 11.7	18,362	+ 1.5 - 3.6
Glass	10,033	- 0.9 - 12.9	14,582	+ 0.5 - 3.8
Brick	8,916	- 2.1 - 31.2	12,487	+ 5.8 - 24.2
Cement	7,371	- 2.7 - 26.5	12,706	+ 0.9 - 13.5
Food Preparation	57,642	+ 1.6 - 1.4	60,055	+ 3.6 + 20.0
Grand Total	599,962	- 0.3 - 5.9	629,528	- 0.0 + 1.7

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES.—The war bonuses and increases in rates of wages taking effect in June amounted to £20,000 per week, and affected nearly 180,000 workpeople. The most important changes affected coal-miners in Scotland, iron puddlers and millmen in the Midlands, hosiery workers at Leicester and Nottingham, and boot and shoe operatives at Northampton.

TRADE DISPUTES.—The number of disputes beginning in June was 72, and the total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress was 40,999, as compared with 51,575 in the previous month, and 82,752 in June, 1914. The estimated number of working days lost by all disputes during the month was 176,600, as compared with 246,700 in May, 1915, and 1,072,900 in June, 1914.

CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION.—Cases dealt with during the month include coal miners in Scotland; explosives workers, Ardeer; pottery workers, Swadlin-cote and Woodville; dock workers, &c., Preston; boiler-

makers, Grangemouth; coachmakers, Glasgow and Liverpool; harness stitchers, Walsall; saddlers, Birmingham and Walsall; tinplate workers, Llanelly; tube workers, Landore; cork helmet makers, Atherstone; bleachers, Pollokshaws; carters, Greenock; boot and shoe operatives, Rushden; packing-case and tin box makers, London, S.E.; woollen workers, Dumfries; sheet metal workers, Exeter; quarrymen, Llysfaen district; glaziers, Glasgow; joiners and slaters, Dundee; and railwaymen, North British Railway.

A number of findings were issued during the month by the Government Committee on Production.

LABOUR EXCHANGES.—The average weekly number of vacancies notified to all Labour Exchanges for the four weeks ended 11th June was 35,303, as compared with 36,055 in the previous four weeks and with 25,878 in the four weeks ended 12th June, 1914. The average weekly number of vacancies filled for the same periods were 24,934, 25,016, and 19,086 respectively.

EMPLOYMENT IN GERMANY IN MAY.\*

The following is the general conclusion arrived at by the Department of Labour Statistics in Germany as to the state of employment in that country in May:— "For the majority of industries business continued perfectly satisfactory during May. This remark applies in particular to establishments which directly or indirectly were engaged in the manufacture of war material. Some establishments were able to complete orders only by dint of the greatest exertions, by working overtime and by introducing double and even treble shifts. On the whole, no essential change occurred compared with the preceding month; but the general improvement of the labour market as regards female employment is worthy of notice.

"Reports from individual firms and associations of employers show that, in mining, sales continued good. The iron and engineering trades were, on the whole, as actively employed as in the previous month. The same statement holds good for the electrical industry, so far as it was engaged on war work, which indeed took up a great deal of its energies. Similarly gratifying was the position of the textile trades, certain special branches being excepted, as, for example, the silk industry. In several other industries, such as the chemical and the woodworking trades, the conditions were not uniform. Amongst the industries that furnished returns of satisfactory business were beer brewing and cigar making. In the building trade (the position of which was unsatisfactory before the outbreak of war, and was made still more so thereby) some improvement was reported in certain towns. This was due to work on public building contracts, and resulted in the employment of an increased number of men in the localities affected."

Returns from Employers of Labour.—Returns from 334 industrial concerns showed a total of 283,976 workpeople employed on the last day of May, as compared with 345,735 on the corresponding day of May, 1914—a decrease of 61,759, or 17.9 per cent. The decrease was practically confined to males, and is stated to be due to men being called up for military service. The decline in the numbers employed was relatively greatest in the glass and pottery trades and in the woodworking trades (39 per cent. in each case), paper and printing trades (32 per cent.), chemical trades (30 per cent.), electrical trades (23 per cent.), and metal trades (22 per cent.).

Returns from Trade Unions.—Returns were furnished by thirty-five trade unions, having an aggregate membership of 1,097,279, exclusive of those serving with the military and naval forces. Omitting branches which failed to make returns, the membership covered was 1,033,475, of whom 29,960, or 2.9 per cent., were unemployed at the end of May, this proportion being the same as that returned at the end of April, while the

corresponding proportion for May, 1914, was 2.8 per cent.

Unions.	Membership reported on at end of May, 1915.	Percentage of Membership reported as Unemployed at end of Month.		
		May, 1915.	April, 1915.	May, 1914.
All Unions making Returns	1,033,475	2.9	2.9	2.8
PRINCIPAL UNIONS:—				
Building trade operatives	94,144	2.3	2.8	3.0
Metal workers (Soc. Dem.)	280,981	1.5	1.7	3.3
Engineers and metal workers (Hirsch-Duncker)	12,632	1.3	1.6	2.5
Metal workers (Christian)	20,075	1.2	1.6	1.1
Textile workers (Soc. Dem.)	80,309	5.5	4.8	0.9
Hat makers	8,583	48.3	23.6	27.0
Foot and shoe workers	22,300	3.9	3.5	1.3
Transport workers	98,353	1.3	1.5	2.1
Printers (book and job)	38,680	2.2	2.1	2.7
Lithographers	8,423	6.3	5.6	2.2
Bookbinders	19,785	10.4	10.0	2.9
Saddlers and bag makers	16,486	1.2	...	4.3
Leather worker (Soc. Dem.)	7,241	4.2	5.0	2.2
Wood workers (Soc. Dem.)	60,615	4.8	5.6	3.9
Porcelain workers	8,652	11.8	12.8	1.8
Bakers	12,363	1.9	3.0	6.6
Brewery & corn mill workers	25,908	0.5	0.9	1.7
Tobacco workers	19,105	1.2	0.9	1.6
Factory workers (Soc. Dem.)	103,700	1.1	1.5	1.6
State and municipal workers	28,022	0.2	0.3	0.7

Amongst male members the proportion unemployed at the end of May was 1.7 per cent., as compared with 1.9 per cent. in the previous month and 2.8 per cent. in May, 1914. Among women members the percentage unemployed in May was 10.0 against 9.1 in the previous month, showing a considerable rise as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year, the proportion in May, 1914, being 2.6 per cent.

Returns from Labour Exchanges.—Returns relating to May were furnished by 896 Labour Exchanges and showed the number of applicants for work to every 100 situations registered as vacant to have been as follows:—

	May, 1915.	April, 1915.	May, 1914.
Males	99	100	172
Females	158	165	100

EMPLOYMENT IN DENMARK IN MAY.\*

THE fifth special investigation† into unemployment among Trade Unionists in Denmark was undertaken on the 29th May. Returns relating to 135,500 workpeople were received, showing that 5,400, or 4.0 per cent., were unemployed on the date of the investigation, as compared with 14.8 per cent. on the 20th March, 17.6 per cent. on the 23rd January, 10.0 per cent. on the 24th October, and 11.6 per cent. on the 22nd August.

The following Table summarises the results both of the regular and the special investigations into unemployment among Trade Unionists in Denmark which have been made since the middle of 1914:—

Date.	Proportion of Trade Unionists ascertained to be unemployed.
End of July, 1914	Per Cent. 3.9
22nd August	11.6
End of August	10.5
End of September	10.2
24th October	10.0
End of October	9.9
End of November	11.2
23rd January, 1915	17.6
20th March	14.8
29th May	4.0

It would appear from the results of the present inquiry that, on the whole, employment in May had reached a normal level, as the percentage of unemployed was found to be about the same as in the corresponding month of 1914 and 1913, in which years it was 4.2 and 3.9 respectively.

Hardly one per cent. of the workpeople included in the returns were reported to be working short time.

\* Statistiske Efterretninger (the journal of the Danish Statistical Office), 11th June, 1915.  
† For results of previous investigations see Board of Trade Labour Gazette, February, p. 40.

\* Reichsarbeitsblatt (Journal of the German Department of Labour Statistics), June, 1915.

## RETAIL FOOD PRICES.

UNITED KINGDOM ON 1ST JULY.

RETAIL prices of food were, on the whole, at about the same level at 1st July as a month earlier. The prices of imported meat averaged about 3 per cent. higher, and British meat showed little or no advance. Fish was about 4 per cent. dearer at 1st July than at 1st June, and tea 2 per cent. Eggs showed a seasonal advance amounting to about 6 per cent. in London and 13 per cent. in the provinces. On the other hand, the prices of flour and bread declined, flour by about 6 per cent. and bread by 4 per cent., on the average. The other articles included in the Returns showed no substantial change in price.

As compared with the prices prevailing in July, 1914, sugar showed an advance of about 68 per cent. and fish of about 64 per cent. Flour is about 50 per cent. and bread about 40 per cent. dearer. The prices of British and of imported meat averaged about 40 per cent. and 50 per cent. higher respectively. With the remaining articles the average change varied from an advance of 33 per cent. in the price of cheese to a slight reduction in the price of potatoes.

The following Table shows, for each of the articles included in the Returns, the average percentage changes in prices, as compared with a month ago and a year ago.

Article.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) at 1st July, as compared with	
	1st June, 1915.	July, 1914.
Beef, British—		
Ribs .. .. .	+ 2	+ 37
Thin Flank .. .. .	+ 1	+ 46
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—		
Ribs .. .. .	+ 3	+ 46
Thin Flank .. .. .	+ 3	+ 64
Mutton, British—		
Legs .. .. .	No change	+ 29
Breast .. .. .	No change	+ 42
Mutton, Frozen—		
Legs .. .. .	+ 3	+ 41
Breast .. .. .	+ 3	+ 61
Bacon (streaky) .. .. .	+ 1	+ 18
Fish .. .. .	+ 4	+ 64
Flour (households) .. .. .	- 6	+ 49
Potatoes .. .. .	- 1	+ 2
Bread .. .. .	- 4	+ 41
Tea .. .. .	+ 2	+ 28
Sugar (granulated) .. .. .	+ 1	+ 68
Eggs (fresh) .. .. .	+ 12	+ 24
Milk .. .. .	No change	+ 10
Butter—		
Fresh .. .. .	No change	+ 15
Salt .. .. .	No change	+ 16
Cheese .. .. .	+ 1	+ 33
Margarine .. .. .	- 1	+ 4
ALL ABOVE ARTICLES (WEIGHTED NET PERCENTAGE INCREASE).	No change	+ 32½

The general increase in retail prices of food since the beginning of the war, making an allowance for the relative importance of the several articles in working-class households, is rather greater in large towns than in smaller places, and may be estimated at 35 per cent. for the former and at 30 per cent. for small towns and villages.

## BERLIN IN MAY.

For the month of May the official data published in the *Statistische Korrespondenz* relative to retail prices of food are incomplete in so far as no figures are available as to beef, mutton, veal, pork, and bacon. For the purpose of making the usual monthly calculation of the rise in the general level of food prices in Berlin the wholesale prices of these articles have been used. It is possible that these have risen somewhat more than the retail prices; and, if so, the figures given in the Table below may somewhat overstate the rise in May. It is not believed, however, that this change in the basis of the calculation is sufficient to affect materially the accuracy of the general conclusion.

As compared with the preceding month increases in the prices of food in Berlin in May were recorded for

twelve articles, the rises being most marked in the prices of veal, mutton, pork, beef, bacon and lentils. There were slight falls in the price of potatoes, rye bread, and rye flour.

These changes brought the general level of food prices in Berlin in May to about 65 per cent. above those for July, 1914, and about 69 per cent. above those of May, 1914.

The Table given below shows the percentage changes between May, 1915, and each of the other three periods:—

Article.	Increase (+) or decrease (-) in May, 1915, as compared with		
	April, 1915.*	May, 1914.	July, 1914.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Beef .. .. .	+14.6	+ 37.1	+ 37.1
Mutton .. .. .	+20.3	+ 45.9	+ 49.2
Veal .. .. .	+35.5	+ 41.5	+ 47.1
Pork .. .. .	+19.1	+ 31.5	+ 35.3
Bacon .. .. .	+19.1	+12.1	+12.3
Rye flour .. .. .	- 2.1	+ 56.7	+ 56.7
Wheat flour .. .. .	No change.	+ 35.0	+ 28.6
Rye bread .. .. .	- 6.5	+ 65.4	+ 53.6
Wheat bread (rolls) .. .. .	No change.	+ 44.7	+ 44.7
Potatoes .. .. .	- 6.7	+133.3	+ 75.0
Split peas .. .. .	+ 2.3	+230.0	+ 230.0
Haricot beans .. .. .	+ 7.7	+130.0	+130.0
Lentils .. .. .	+16.1	+200.0	+200.0
Rice .. .. .	+ 5.7	+160.0	+160.0
Sugar .. .. .	+ 5.5	+ 16.0	+ 16.0
Coffee .. .. .	No change.	+ 9.7	+ 9.7
Eggs .. .. .	No change.	+ 71.4	+ 71.4
Milk .. .. .	No change.	+ 18.2	+ 18.2
Butter .. .. .	+ 4.4	+ 34.0	+ 36.5
Lard .. .. .	+ 5.0	+142.3	+142.3
ALL ABOVE ARTICLES (WEIGHTED NET PERCENTAGE INCREASE)	+ 5.6	+ 68.7	+ 65.3

## VIENNA IN MAY.†

PARTICULARS as to retail prices of food in Vienna during the month of April were given in the BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for May (p. 198), comparisons being made with prices of the same articles in the previous month and in April, 1914. From the periodical reports on the situation in Vienna issued by the Mayor it is possible to extract the prices during May and the preceding month, but no data are available for comparison between May, 1915, and May, 1914, and accordingly the prices for the former month are compared with those for April, 1914.

Retail prices of most of the articles included in the figures increased considerably during May. Potatoes and sauerkraut fell in price as compared with April, while rice showed no change. In all other cases there were increases, the least relative change (4.3 per cent.) occurring in the price of butter, and the greatest (26.4 per cent.) in the price of eggs. Beef went up in price by 21.9 per cent. Compared with April, 1914, all prices showed a great advance, with the single exception of sauerkraut, which remained at the same level. Increases of over 100 per cent. occurred in the prices of eggs, bacon, lard, rice, beans, margarine and beef.

The amount of the percentage advance in the prices of each of the articles in May, 1915, as compared with April, 1915, and April, 1914, is shown below:—

Article.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in May, 1915, as compared with	
	April, 1915.	April, 1914.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
Beef .. .. .	+ 21.9	+105.3
Pork .. .. .	+ 8.1	+ 90.5
Bacon .. .. .	+ 5.0	+122.5
Bread .. .. .	+ 7.3	+ 83.3
Potatoes .. .. .	- 14.3	+ 60.0
Sauerkraut .. .. .	- 9.6	No change
Rice .. .. .	No change	+125.0
Beans .. .. .	+ 11.1	+122.2
Eggs .. .. .	+ 26.4	+167.6
Milk .. .. .	+ 6.9	+ 38.5
Butter .. .. .	+ 4.3	+ 50.8
(cooking) .. .. .	+ 5.4	+ 33.3
Margarine .. .. .	+ 12.3	+114.7
Lard .. .. .	+ 7.2	+161.8

\* Comparisons with a year ago are affected by the fact that under certain orders issued by the Federal Council bread and flour are now of an inferior quality.

† *Sächsische Staatszeitung.*

## FARM SERVANTS' WAGES IN SCOTLAND.\*

THE engagements of farm servants in Scotland are usually for longer periods than those recognised in most parts of England, and date from 28th May or 28th November, married servants being more generally engaged for twelve months, and unmarried servants for six months. The latter class of men, where the wages are paid by the half-year (or year), are generally provided with full board and lodging, or are housed in a bothy and given partial board, consisting of allowances of oatmeal, potatoes, milk, &c. Married men are provided with cottages, and in many districts, particularly in the North, potatoes, milk, oatmeal and coal are frequently given in addition. Hiring fairs at which engagements are entered into between masters and men are held in most counties, and although the system of private engagements apart from the fairs has grown considerably of late years, in many districts the fairs are still largely attended by both masters and men.

Compared with a year ago, wages at May, 1915, showed a rise in every county, the most marked increases occurring in some of the Northern and North-Eastern counties (where wages of single men were raised by £6, or even more, for the half-year), and in the Lothians and Berwickshire (where wages rose in some cases by 3s. or 4s. per week). Recruiting for the Army was largely responsible for the rise in wages, reports of a scarcity of labour owing to this cause being very general; in many cases farmers were unable to obtain their full complement of servants, while others were only able to do so by paying skilled men's wages to unskilled men. The higher cost of living was also mentioned as one cause of the rise in wages.

Details of the increases in wages at May, 1915, compared with a year ago, are as follows:—

In the Orkney and Shetland Islands wages rose by £1, £2 or £3 per half-year, in Caithness by £1 or £2 per year, and in Sutherland by £3 to £4 per year. In Ross, Inverness and Nairn the increases amounted to from £4 or £5 to £8, or even £10 per year for married men, and to the same amounts per half-year for single men in Ross and Inverness, single men in Nairn getting advances of from £3 to £6 per half-year. In the North-Eastern counties the increases generally varied from £4 or £5 to £6 or £7 per year for married men, being largest in Kincardine and Forfar, while single men obtained advances of £4 to £6 per half-year. Men changing places in these counties were reported to have obtained rather more than those who remained in their old positions.

Single men's wages in Perthshire rose by sums varying from £3 to £6 per half-year. In Fife engagements are usually made in the autumn, but many servants were given a special war bonus of several pounds by their employers, this also applying to married men in Perth. In the other central counties (and also in Ayr and Bute) wages advanced about 2s. per week in the case of married men and £2 or £3 per half-year in the case of single men.

Exceptionally large increases in wages occurred in the Lothians and Berwickshire, wages in the Lothians being generally 2s., 2s. 6d., and even 3s. per week higher, while in Berwickshire the increases amounted in some cases to as much as 4s. per week.

In Peebles, Selkirk and Roxburgh the wages of married men were raised by about 2s. per week and of single men by from £1 to £2 per half-year. The usual amount of increase in Dumfries and Kirkcudbright varied from £2 to £5 per year for married men and from £1 to £3 per year for single men. In Wigtown married men had their wages raised by 1s. to 2s. per week and single men by about £2 per half-year.

Female servants were, as usual, difficult to procure, and their wages advanced by various small amounts in a number of counties, including Caithness, Sutherland, Elgin, Banff, Haddington, and most of the southern counties.

\* For particulars of advances in wages of agricultural labourers in England and Wales see LABOUR GAZETTE for June, page 200.

## EMPLOYMENT OF SOLDIERS AT HARVEST.

THE Board of Agriculture and Fisheries have been informed by the Army Council that, in view of the possible shortage of agricultural labour for the harvest, furlough will be given, at the discretion of the Military Authorities, to a limited number of soldiers of the Regular and Territorial Forces for work in the harvest as circumstances may permit.

The furlough granted to each soldier will last only for such number of days, not exceeding four weeks, as he is actually required for harvesting.

The employment of soldiers in the harvest will be subject to the following conditions:—

1. That suitable labour cannot be obtained in the locality.
2. That the farmer will undertake to pay each soldier, sent at the farmer's request, to any of the following counties:—
  - (a) Cambridgeshire, Essex, Huntingdonshire, Isle of Ely, Lincolnshire, Norfolk, Rutland, Soke of Peterborough, Suffolk, the East and West Ridings of Yorkshire.
  - (b) For the remaining counties in England and Wales:—
    - 6s. a day of ten hours (exclusive of two hours to be allowed for meals) if the soldier provides his own board and lodging, or 4s. 6d. a day if board and lodging are provided by the farmer, and 6d. an hour for overtime.
    - 5s. a day of ten hours (exclusive of two hours to be allowed for meals) if the soldier provides his own board and lodging, or 3s. 6d. a day if board and lodging are provided by the farmer, and 5d. an hour for overtime.
3. That the farmer will provide conveyance from and to the nearest railway station.

No charge will be made to the farmer for railway travelling expenses.

Every endeavour will be made to ensure that the men released have been accustomed to harvest work, but no guarantee to this effect can be given; and if a farmer wants his son or one of his former labourers, efforts will be made to arrange accordingly.

Applications from farmers who desire to employ soldiers in the harvest must be made as soon as possible to the Board of Trade Labour Exchange, when the application will be transmitted to the Military Authorities. Forms for the purpose are obtainable from the local Labour Exchange, the address of which can be obtained from the nearest post office.

## PRODUCE OF CROPS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IN 1914.

THE second part of the Agricultural Statistics for 1914, containing returns of the yield of the principal crops in the United Kingdom, has just been issued.\* The favourable autumn and winter of 1913-14, and the dry weather of the spring and late summer, are reflected in the yields of the crops; the chief autumn-sown corn crops, which were well established before the dry weather set in, gave over-average yields, while the hay and turnips were under average.

Crops	Total Produce.		Acreage.		Yield per Acre.	
	1914.	Average, 1904-13.	1914.	Average, 1904-13.	1914.	Average, 1904-13.
Wheat .. .. .	Quarters 7,804,041	Quarters 7,034,172	Acres. 1,904,932	Acres. 1,789,275	Bushels. 32.77	Bushels. 31.88
Barley .. .. .	8,065,678	7,965,377	1,871,166	1,876,323	34.48	34.03
Oats .. .. .	20,663,537	21,664,479	3,577,955	4,113,560	42.65	41.94
Beans .. .. .	1,120,078	1,059,285	291,730	283,932	30.72	29.65
Peas .. .. .	374,038	524,530	129,993	157,746	23.02	26.60
Potatoes .. .. .	Tons. 7,475,458	Tons. 6,592,313	1,197,008	1,171,743	6.25	5.63
Turnips & Swedes .. .. .	24,155,755	26,900,525	1,749,918	1,834,786	13.83	14.96
Mangold .. .. .	9,522,921	9,534,087	514,863	511,545	18.50	19.42
Hay:—	Cwts. 4,210,924	Cwts. 4,817,767	2,902,902	2,966,004	29.01	32.49
Clover, Sainfoin, &c.						
Permanent Grass	8,192,555	9,330,370	6,489,885	6,469,158	25.25	28.85

The acreage under wheat was considerably above the average, and there was a considerable increase in the total yield, while the yield per acre was nearly a bushel more than the average of the previous ten years. The acreage under barley showed a slight decline, but there

\* Agricultural Returns, 1914: Vol. XLIX, Pt. II, Cd. 7864. Price 3½d.

was some increase in the yield per acre, and the total production was a little above the average. There was a falling off in the acreage under oats, and, although the average yield was somewhat higher, the total yield was below normal. The acreage under beans showed an increase, and there was also a larger yield per acre; with peas, however, there was a considerable decline.

There was some increase in the acreage under potatoes, and the yield per acre was considerably above the average; with turnips, swedes, and mangold there was a decline in the total production. The hay crop was lighter than usual.

## MUNITIONS WORK BUREAUX.

The enrolment of war munition volunteers under the scheme prepared by the Ministry of Munitions, assisted by a National Advisory Committee acting on behalf of the Trade Unions, began on the evening of June 24th. All skilled workers in the engineering, shipbuilding and allied trades not already engaged on war contracts were asked to register themselves, and for this purpose some 200 bureaux were opened in town halls and municipal buildings throughout the country. An additional 200 were opened at Labour Exchanges. Any man so registered is liable to be transferred to Government work in any part of the country, on the following conditions:—

1. The rate of wages paid will be the rate of the district to which he is transferred unless the rate of the district which he leaves is higher, in which case he will be paid at the higher rate.
2. Certain travelling and subsistence allowances will be paid in reasonable cases.
3. The first period of enrolment to be for six months, but workmen may volunteer for a further period when this has expired.
4. Any workman transferred from employment shall, if suitable, be guaranteed employment during the war for a period not exceeding six months.
5. The workman agrees that any breach of his undertaking shall be dealt with by a Munitions Court, consisting of a chairman appointed by the Minister of Munitions, with assessors equally representing employers and workmen, which may, if it thinks fit, impose a fine not exceeding £3.

The Munitions Work Bureaux at the Municipal Offices closed on July 10th, by which date a total of about 90,000 volunteers had been enrolled. Arrangements have been made with the Board of Trade for the work of enrolling war munitions volunteers to be carried on at the Labour Exchanges.

## THE DANISH LABOUR ARBITRATION COURT.

The latest Reports\* of the Danish Labour Arbitration Court contain particulars of the awards pronounced by that tribunal during the years 1913 and 1914. During the two years in question 48 cases (24 in each year) were referred to the Court for decision, of which 31 were initiated by employers' associations or individual employers and 17 by trade unions. Of these, 8 were settled by the parties at an early stage, 4 were dropped, and 1 was postponed.

The largest number of disputes occurred in the building trades, 22 cases being presented, the transport and woodworking trades coming next with 7 and 5 cases each.

The principal questions involved were as follows:— Strikes and lock-outs, 20 cases; interpretation of agreements or awards, 17 cases; alleged boycotts by workmen, 5; working arrangements, 2; wages, 1; blacklisting, dismissal or victimisation, 1; employment of non-unionists, 1; and non-compliance with award of court, 1 case.

Fines were inflicted in 15 cases, the totals amounting to £248. The total costs imposed in respect of the cases on which awards were given amounted to £250, of which £58 was imposed upon employers, or their associations, alone, £136 upon trade unions alone, and £47 upon both employers and trade unions in equal amounts; while £9 was unequally divided between both parties.

\* Den faste Voldgiftsrets Kendelser, 1913, 1914. Udgivne ved Rættens Fcranstaltning (Copenhagen.).

## RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES.

### I.—CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

#### COAL TRADE, SCOTLAND.

The Board of Conciliation for the Regulation of Wages in the Coal Trade of Scotland having failed to agree regarding an application by the workmen for an advance in wages of 50 per cent. on the 1888 basis (less the 18½ per cent. advance given in respect of circumstances arising out of the war), it was decided to refer the question to Sir George Askwith, K.C.B., K.C., as neutral chairman, with power to determine what advance, if any, should be given.

Sir George issued his award on 2nd July, deciding that the wages of underground workmen should be advanced to the extent of 31¼ per cent. on the 1888 basis, less the advance of 18½ per cent. given in respect of circumstances arising out of the war, the advance to take effect from 29th June in collieries where that day was the beginning of a pay or of the second week of a pay, and from 30th June in other collieries.

#### EXPLOSIVES WORKERS, ARDEER.

Consequent upon the refusal of their demand for the reinstatement of two dismissed fellow clerks, who, it was alleged, had been victimised, the clerks in the employment of Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Ardeer, ceased work on 22nd June, and subsequently all the other employees of the firm stopped work in sympathy. After some negotiations conducted by the Chief Industrial Commissioner it was eventually agreed to resume work on 26th June without the two clerks pending an official inquiry into the matter.

Sheriff-Principal A. O. M. Mackenzie, K.C., who was appointed, held an inquiry at Glasgow, on 30th June, and decided that the two clerks had not been given notice of dismissal owing to their Trade Union activities, but owing to the fact that the company's officials in charge of the departments in which they respectively worked were not satisfied with the manner in which they performed their duties.

#### POTTERY WORKERS, SWADLINCOTE AND WOODVILLE.

About the end of May the sanitary pottery ware workers employed by certain firms at Swadlincote and Woodville struck work in support of their demand for a war bonus of 7½ per cent. Eventually work was resumed, it being mutually agreed to submit the difference for decision to an arbitrator appointed by the Chief Industrial Commissioner.

Mr. Lynden Macassey, K.C., the arbitrator appointed, issued his award on 5th July granting an advance, to be regarded as war wages, of 6½ per cent., the advance to be payable as from the first Monday after the expiration of six weeks from the date of the award.

#### DOCK WORKERS, &c., PRESTON.

In March application was put forward on behalf of the dock workers employed by the Preston Corporation for an advance in wages of 1s. per day, which was subsequently modified to a claim for a war bonus of varying amounts. After some negotiations, on 7th June an offer was made on behalf of the Corporation, shipowners, timber importers, and general traders of the port to the National Union of Dock Labourers of a war bonus of ½d. per hour for day work only, for timber men and other casual labourers, and of 1s., 1s. 6d., and 2s. per week, according to earnings, to permanent men, the latter bonus being also offered to members of the National Sailors and Firemen's Union.

The men rejected this offer, and members of the Dock Labourers' Union ceased work, deal carriers having already stopped on 3rd July. A further modification of their demands was made by the men, and it was ultimately agreed to resume work upon the basis of the employers' offer of the 7th June, the differences being submitted to an arbitrator appointed by the Chief Industrial Commissioner.

Mr. Lynden Macassey, K.C., the arbitrator appointed, issued his award on 5th July, fixing the war bonus at the rates as offered by the employers on 7th June, with some slight alterations.

#### BOILERMAKERS, GRANGEMOUTH.

Late in May boilermakers in the employment of the Greenock and Grangemouth Dockyard Co., Ltd. at Grangemouth, struck work as a protest against the transference of certain apprentices from the Greenock to the Grangemouth yard of the company. After some negotiations it was agreed on 9th June that work should be resumed, on the understanding that matters would be dealt with by an arbiter appointed by the Board of Trade.

Mr. Lynden Macassey, K.C., the arbiter appointed, issued his award on 5th July, deciding that the transfer of apprentices from the Greenock to the Grangemouth yard of the company was wrong, as not being reasonably calculated to expedite the execution of work for the Government in the yard to which the transfer was made.

#### COACHMAKERS, GLASGOW.

In April last the United Kingdom Society of Coachmakers approached the Scottish Vehicle Builders' Association for a war bonus of 1d. per hour for their Glasgow members. After negotiations no settlement was arrived at, but eventually it was agreed to refer the matter for settlement to an arbiter appointed by the Board of Trade. Professor Richard Lodge was accordingly appointed to act in that capacity, and attended at Glasgow on 2nd July.

It appeared that the men's wages were fixed by an agreement, which also provided that these rates should continue up to 31st March, 1915, and thereafter from year to year, and that at least three months' notice of any proposed alteration must be given before the termination of the agreement in any year. No such notice was given at the prescribed time of the application for a war bonus, it being, on the contrary, mutually agreed that the agreement should be continued for another twelve months.

In these circumstances the arbiter decided that he could not grant the war bonus asked for by the operatives.

#### COACHMAKERS, LIVERPOOL.

In February last application was made to the Employers' Federation of Coach and Motor Body Builders by the United Kingdom Society of Coachmakers for a reduction in hours of labour from fifty-three to forty-eight, and an advance in the minimum rate of wages to 42s. per week. Ultimately an agreement was arrived at providing for a bonus of 3s. per week, no alteration being made in the hours of labour.

The members of the Liverpool branch of the Coachmakers' Society refused to concur in this agreement, and put forward demands for a reduction in weekly hours of labour from fifty-three to forty-seven, with a war bonus of 4s. per week. These demands not having been granted, they ceased work on 21st June; but an agreement was arrived at on 23rd June, at a conference under the chairmanship of an officer of the Chief Industrial Commissioner's Department, providing for an immediate resumption of work and reference of the matters in dispute to arbitration.

Mr. Lynden Macassey, K.C., the arbitrator appointed, issued his award on 3rd July, deciding that no reduction in hours shall be made during the war, and granting a war bonus of 3s. per week.

#### HARNESS STITCHERS, WALSALL.

The men in the employment of a Walsall firm of harness makers having refused to accept prices fixed on 27th May by a Joint Price Committee for the leather trade of Birmingham and Walsall for certain new work, alleging that such prices caused a slight reduction in wages, ceased work on 14th June. On 15th June, however, work was resumed pending reference of the dispute to the arbitration of the Chief Industrial Commissioner.

The arbitrator, having heard the parties, issued his award on 17th June, deciding that the prices to be paid should be those fixed by the Joint Price Committee on 27th May.

#### SADDLERS, BIRMINGHAM AND WALSALL DISTRICTS.

Mr. F. A. Greer, K.C., the arbitrator appointed to decide the claim for a war bonus of 50 per cent., subsequently modified to 25 per cent., on saddles required for civil use, which was preferred by the Walsall and District New Brown Saddlers' Trade Protection Society (see LABOUR GAZETTE for June, p. 203), issued his award on 29th June, granting a war bonus of 25 per cent. and fixing certain conditions as to payment.

#### TINPLATE WORKERS, LLANELLY.

The "grey fusers" employed by the Welsh Tinplate and Metal Stamping Company, Ltd., put forward at the end of May a demand that they should be paid day-rate wages at the rate of 9d. per hour instead of piece rates, partly owing to an exceptionally large number of very light articles coming forward at the time, thus reducing the usual rate of earnings. On 14th June they ceased work, but agreed later in the day to return to work pending reference of the dispute to an arbitrator appointed by the Chief Industrial Commissioner.

Mr. Charles Doughty, the arbitrator appointed, issued his award on 5th July, fixing for forty-eight hours' work minimum weekly rates of 26s., 28s., and 30s., according to service, with 6½d., 7d., and 7½d. per hour extra for all time worked beyond forty-eight hours; the rate for beginners to be 24s. per week and 6d. per hour for overtime.

#### TUBE WORKERS, LANDORE.

The workpeople employed by the British Mannesmann Tube Co., Ltd., having been unable to arrive at a settlement of a dispute with the firm as to the rates of wages to be paid on certain classes of work, application was made to the Board of Trade in accordance with their Conciliation Board Agreement for the appointment of an arbitrator to determine the matter.

Mr. Lynden Macassey, K.C., has accordingly been appointed to act in that capacity.

#### CORK HELMET MAKERS, ATHERSTONE.

A dispute having arisen between a firm at Atherstone and their employees as to the rate of wages to be paid for making Admiralty cork sun helmets, it was agreed to refer the matter for settlement to an arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade, and Mr. Alderman T. Smith, J.P., was accordingly appointed.

Mr. Smith issued his award on 7th July, fixing the rate at 10s. per dozen under the present Government contract and 11s. per dozen on any new Government contract, provided it can be proved that the latter price is paid for similar work by other Government contractors.

#### BLEACHERS, POLLOKSHAW.

In March the Amalgamated Society of Dyers, Bleachers, Finishers, and Kindred Trades approached Messrs. Stevenson, McKellar & Co., Ltd., for an advance in wages to their members of 1d. per hour on time work and 15 per cent. on piece work. On this being refused it was suggested by the Trade Union official that an offer of an advance of 2s. per week to males and 1s. per week to females and youths might be accepted. This also was refused by the firm, and the workpeople came out on strike on 4th May.

After some negotiations it was agreed by both parties to refer the dispute to an arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade, and Mr. Lynden Macassey, K.C., was appointed to act as arbitrator.

Mr. Macassey issued his award on 5th July, granting advances, to be regarded as war wages, of 2s. per week to all men of twenty-one years and upwards, and of 1s. per week to other workpeople.

#### CARTERS, GREENOCK.

In February the carters at Greenock obtained an advance of wages of 2s. per week, and on 25th May application was made to the Greenock and District Contractors' Association by the Associated Horsemen's and Motormen's Union for a further advance of 2s. per week, and an increase in the overtime rate from 6d. to 9d. per hour. The employers offered a war bonus of 1s. per week, which was not accepted by the men, and it was mutually agreed to refer the dispute for settlement to an arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade.

Professor Richard Lodge, the arbitrator appointed, issued his award on 5th July granting an advance in wages during the war of 1s. per week conditional upon a full week being worked, and fixing the overtime rate at 8d. per hour.

#### BOOT AND SHOE OPERATIVES, RUSHDEN.

The Board of Arbitration for the Boot and Shoe Trade of Rushden and District were unable to settle a difficulty in reference to the cutting of tongues arising out of the interpretation of the Clicking Statement which was the subject of a recent award of Mr. Alderman T. Smith, J.P.

Application was therefore made to the Board of Trade on 2nd July for the services of Mr. Smith in determining the difficulty, and he has accordingly been appointed as umpire for this purpose.

#### PACKING-CASE MAKERS, LONDON, S.E.

Following upon the dismissal of an operative by the foreman, the packing-case makers employed by a firm at Rotherhithe ceased work, but ultimately resumed on the understanding that their grievances should be submitted to the Board of Trade.

An officer of the Chief Industrial Commissioner's Department accordingly presided at a meeting of the parties on 23rd June, when an agreement was arrived at, the employers undertaking that the foreman should thereafter not dismiss a man without first obtaining the consent of one of the principals of the firm.

#### TIN BOX MAKERS, LONDON, S.E.

The employees of a Deptford firm of tin box makers ceased work on 2nd July, demanding the dismissal of two fellow workers whom they accused of tale-bearing.

At the instance of an officer of the Chief Industrial Commissioner's Department work was resumed pending an inquiry into the matter, which was held on 7th July, when a satisfactory settlement of the difficulty was effected.

#### WOOLLEN WORKERS, DUMFRIES.

The tuners and assistants employed by a firm of woollen manufacturers at Dumfries, having been refused an advance in wages of 3s. per week, went on strike on 1st May, ultimately throwing idle some 250 operatives. The men returned to work on 31st May, the matter in dispute to be the subject of a joint conference under the presidency of a conciliator appointed by the Board of Trade.

Mr. Charles Doughty was accordingly appointed to act in that capacity.

#### SHEET METAL WORKERS, EXETER.

A firm of gas meter makers at Exeter refused to accede to an application by their workmen for an advance in wages of 7½ per cent. on piece rates, and 3s. to day workers, offering 5 per cent. The men, through their Trade Union, thereupon reverted to their original demand of 10 per cent., but signified their willingness to submit to arbitration by the Board of Trade on the point. The firm concurring in the suggested reference to arbitration, Mr. Charles Doughty has been appointed arbitrator.

#### QUARRYMEN, LLYSFAEN DISTRICT.

In February and March application was made by the National Union of Gasworkers and General Labourers for advances in wages to their members employed by three firms of quarry-owners in the Llysfaen District, Colwyn Bay. As no settlement was effected, it was ultimately agreed to refer the matter to an arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade, and Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed to act in that capacity.

Mr. Doughty issued his awards on 1st July fixing increased rates of wages to be paid at each quarry, and determining certain other conditions of employment.

#### GLAZIERS, GLASGOW.

A dispute having arisen between the master and operative glaziers of Glasgow consequent upon the latter's claim for an advance in wages from 9½d. to 10½d. per hour, it was mutually agreed to refer the matter for decision to an arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade. Professor Lodge has accordingly been appointed to act in that capacity.

#### JOINERS, DUNDEE.

The master and operative joiners of Dundee having been unable to agree upon a claim of the latter for an advance in wages from 10d. to 11d. per hour, joint application was made to the Board of Trade for the appointment of an arbiter to decide the claim.

Professor J. M. Irvine, K.C., has accordingly been appointed.

#### SLATERS, DUNDEE.

The master and operative slaters of Dundee having been unable to come to an agreement upon the claim of the latter for an advance in wages from 9½d. to 10½d. per hour, joint application was made to the Board of Trade on 10th June for the appointment of an arbiter to decide the matter.

Professor J. M. Irvine, K.C., the arbiter appointed, issued his award on 30th June, fixing the rate of wages to be paid on and after 1st July at 10d. per hour.

#### RAILWAYMEN, NORTH BRITISH RAILWAY.

At the recent half-yearly meetings of the North British Railway Conciliation Boards Nos. III. and IV. the two sides were unable to agree in the one case upon claim of a foreman carriage cleaner to be paid 26s. instead of 25s. per week, and in the other case of certain goods guards at one station to be paid lodging allowance while taking the place of those at another station. It was thereupon agreed to submit the items in question to the neutral Chairman Sheriff-Principal A. O. M. Mackenzie, K.C., who has been appointed accordingly.

#### II.—COMMITTEE ON PRODUCTION IN ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING ESTABLISHMENTS.

The Committee appointed by His Majesty's Government to inquire into the best steps to be taken to ensure the fullest productive power of employees in engineering and shipbuilding establishments, and whose reference was subsequently extended to deal also with the avoidance of stoppages on work for Government purposes (see *LABOUR GAZETTE* for March, p. 83), have issued the following further decisions on cases referred to them. Where advances have been granted, they are to be regarded as war wages, and recognised as due to and dependent on the existence of the abnormal conditions now prevailing in consequence of the war.

#### IRONFOUNDERS, OLDHAM (ISSUED 10TH JUNE).

The following finding is in respect of a claim for an advance of wages made to the Oldham District Engineering Trades Employers' Association by the Oldham Branches of the Friendly Society of Ironfounders.

These branches applied on 25th February, 1915, for an advance of wages to their members of 6s. per week. The matter formed the subject of negotiations between the parties, but no settlement was arrived at.

The Committee's finding is that the wages of the workpeople concerned should be advanced 3s. per week in the case of time rates, and 7½ per cent. on piece rates, the advance to come into operation as from the beginning of the first full pay after 4th May.

#### BOILERMAKERS AND SHIPWRIGHTS, PLYMOUTH, DARTMOUTH, &C. (ISSUED 10TH JUNE).

The following finding is in respect of an application for an advance in wages made by the Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Ship Builders' Society, and by the Shipconstructors and Shipwrights' Association, to firms at Plymouth, Dartmouth, and elsewhere in the West Country.

The Committee's finding is that the wages of the workpeople concerned should be advanced 3d. per hour where wages are paid by the hour, 3s. per week where wages are paid by the week, and 7½ per cent. on piece rates, the advances to come into operation as from the beginning of the first full pay following the date of this finding.

#### IRONFOUNDERS, BRISTOL CHANNEL (ISSUED 10TH JUNE).

The following finding is in respect of an application made to the Cardiff and District Master Iron Founders' Association by the Friendly Society of Ironfounders, the Iron, Steel, and Metal Dressers' Trade Societies, and the Dock, Wharf, Riverside, and General Workers' Union for an advance of wages similar to that embodied in the Committee's finding of 15th April (Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades—Bristol Channel). The matter formed the subject of negotiations between the parties, but no settlement was arrived at.

The Committee's finding is that the wages of both piece and time workers should be advanced at the rate of 8d. per day in the case of those trades and grades who have not received an advance since 1st December, 1914, the present advance to be applied, as regards time allowed for overtime, &c., in accordance with agreements and the custom of the district.

Where advances have already been given since 1st December, 1914, the additional advance to be in each case such amount as will bring the aggregate advance up to 8d. per day.

The advance is to come into operation as from the beginning of the first full pay after 23rd March.

#### ENGINEERS, &C., BURNLEY DISTRICT (INCLUDING COLNE) (ISSUED 10TH JUNE).

The following finding is in respect of a claim for an advance of wages made to the Burnley and District Engineering Trades Employers' Association by the branches in the Burnley District (including Colne) of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, the Steam Engine Makers, and the Society of Amalgamated Toolmakers, Engineers, and Machinists.

The matter was discussed at local conference on 23rd April, 1915, and at central conference on 14th May. A joint recommendation arising from the latter conference was rejected on being submitted to the vote of the men in the district.

The Committee's finding is that the wages of the men concerned should be advanced 3s. per week on time rates and 7½ per cent.

on piece rates, the advance to come into operation as from the beginning of the first full pay week after 22nd May.

#### ENGINEERS, &C., NOTTINGHAM AND DISTRICT (ISSUED 10TH JUNE).

The following finding is in respect of a claim for an advance of wages made to the Nottingham and District Engineering Employers' Association by the Nottingham Joint Board of the Engineering Allied Trades (Amalgamated Society of Engineers, Steam Engine Makers, Amalgamated Toolmakers, Ironfounders, Patternmakers, Amalgamated Smiths and Strikers, and Gasworkers' Society (Engineers' Section)) and by the Workers' Union.

Application was made by the Joint Board to the Employers' Association on 9th March, 1915, for an advance of wages of 5s. per week on time rates and 15 per cent. on piece rates, and the application was duly considered at a local conference on 24th March, and subsequently at central conference, but no settlement was arrived at. In the case of the Workers' Union an application, dated 26th February, 1915, to the Employers' Association for an advance of wages to their members was considered at a local conference on 3rd June, but no settlement was arrived at.

The Committee's finding is that the wages of the men concerned should be advanced 3s. per week on time rates and 7½ per cent. on piece rates, the advance to come into operation as from the beginning of the first full pay week after 22nd May, 1915.

#### McCORQUODALE & CO., LTD., WOLVERTON (ISSUED 14TH JUNE).

The following finding is in respect of an application for a "War Bonus" made to Messrs. McCorquodale & Co., Ltd., by the female workers employed at their Wolverton Works. A stoppage of work occurred in connection with the matter on 20th May, and again on 1st June; work was resumed on 3rd June, it having been agreed that the question of the war bonus should be decided by the Committee on Production.

The Committee on 8th June heard representatives of the workpeople, and on their behalf representatives of the National Union of Paper Workers and of the Typographical Association. A representative of the Federation of Master Printers was also heard. Messrs. McCorquodale the same day forwarded statements to the Committee, accompanied by the following letter:—

"We send you the enclosed statements and will be bound by the decision of the Committee, but we do not propose otherwise to attend the hearing."

The Committee's finding is that the workpeople concerned should be paid an increase of 7½ per cent. on their weekly earnings (with a minimum increase of 1s. 3d. per week to employees of eighteen years of age and over, and a minimum increase of 9d. per week to employees under eighteen years of age). The first payment in respect of the increase is to be paid for the first full pay week following 3rd June.

#### HARRISON MCGREGOR & COMPANY, LTD., LEIGH (ISSUED 24TH JUNE).

The following finding is in respect of an application for an advance of wages made to Harrison McGregor & Company, Ltd., Leigh, by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, the National Union of Stove, Grate, Fender and General Light Metal Workers, and the National Union of Gasworkers and General Labourers.

The matter formed the subject of negotiation between the parties, but no settlement was arrived at. The Committee's finding is that the conditions now surrounding the business of the firm are not such as to justify the Committee in recommending an advance of wages at the present time.

#### MESSRS. J. P. HALL & SONS, LTD., PETERBOROUGH (ISSUED 24TH JUNE).

The following finding is in respect of an application for an advance of wages made by their employees to Messrs. J. P. Hall & Sons, Ltd., Peterborough. In March, 1915, the firm gave increased rates of wages in a number of cases, and at the same time gave a bonus of 1s. per week, the latter to be dependent upon good time-keeping. The employees made further application for an advance of wages, and it was agreed to refer the matter to the Committee on Production for decision.

The Committee's finding is that the wages paid prior to the alterations made in certain cases in March should be advanced 3s. per week in the case of mechanics and 2s. per week in the case of labourers, the advance to come into force as from the beginning of the first full pay following the date of this decision. This advance is independent of, and is not to interfere with, the bonus of 1s. per week now given by the firm for good time-keeping.

#### ROPEMAKERS, LIVERPOOL (ISSUED 24TH JUNE).

The following finding is in respect of an application for an advance of wages made in March, 1915, by the National Warehouse and General Workers' Union on behalf of their members in the employ of Messrs. Michael Hutchinson & Co., Ltd., Messrs. Garnock, Bibby & Co., Ltd., and Messrs. Jackson, McConnan & Temple, Ltd., of Liverpool.

At the time of the Union's application the question of granting war bonuses to their workpeople had already been under the consideration of the firms, and in March and May advances were granted "to meet the increased cost of living." No settlement was, however, arrived at.

The Committee's finding is as follows:—

(a) The war bonuses or advances in wages to meet the increased cost of living granted by the firms subsequent to 1st March, 1915, shall be merged in the advances granted under the present finding, but this finding shall not affect any scheme of bonuses in operation prior to that date or any

individual advances in wages granted subsequently thereto otherwise than as war bonus.

(b) Subject to the preceding clause the wages of the workpeople concerned shall be advanced 3s. per week in the case of day workmen, 2s. per week in the case of day workwomen, 1s. 6d. per week in the case of juniors, and 12½ per cent. on piece-rates for both common and fine yarn.

(c) This finding shall come into operation as from the beginning of the first full pay following its date.

#### IRONFOUNDERS, LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT (ISSUED 5TH JULY).

The following finding is in respect of an application for an advance of wages made to the Liverpool and District Ironfounders' Association by the Liverpool and Birkenhead branches of the Friendly Society of Ironfounders. On 22nd February, 1915, an agreement was arrived at between representatives of the parties whereby an advance in wages of 3s. per week was granted to ironfounders in the Liverpool and Birkenhead district. On 15th May the men made application for a further advance of 4s. per week for journeymen and of 2s. per week for apprentices. This further application was declined by the employers' association.

The Committee's finding is that an addition to the advance agreed upon between the parties in February should not now be granted.

This finding is not to affect the advances already given on repair work.

#### IRON, STEEL, AND METAL DRESSERS, LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT (ISSUED 5TH JULY).

The following finding is in respect of an application for an advance of wages made to the Liverpool and District Ironfounders' Association by the Liverpool Branch of the Iron, Steel, and Metal Dressers' Trade Society. On 22nd February, 1915, an agreement was arrived at between representatives of the parties whereby advances in wages of 2s. 6d. per week for iron dressing and 3s. 6d. per week for dressing brass, steel, and all other metals other than iron were granted.

The men's society on 21st April, 1915, made application for a further advance of 15 per cent. on the existing rates in conformity with an application which was being made at the same time to other employers in the district through the Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades' Federation. This further application was declined by the Liverpool and District Ironfounders' Association.

The Committee's finding is that an addition to the advances agreed upon between the parties in February should not now be granted.

This finding is not to affect the advances already given on repair work.

#### ENGINEERS, LIVERPOOL (ISSUED 5TH JULY).

The following finding is in respect of an application for an advance of wages made by the local branches of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers and Allied Trades to the Liverpool Engineering Employers' Association.

In January, 1915, an agreement was arrived at between the parties providing for an advance in wages of 3s. per week from 6th March, 1915, and to expire on 15th January, 1918. On 13th May the Amalgamated Society of Engineers made application for a further advance of 4s. per week.

The matter was discussed at local conferences of the parties on 26th May and at central conference on 11th June, but no settlement was arrived at.

The Committee's finding is that:—

(a) In addition to the advance of 3s. per week already agreed to as above mentioned the wages of the men concerned should be advanced 1s. per week (with an equivalent advance on piece rates) as from the beginning of the first full pay following 15th June, 1915.

(b) This finding is not to affect the advances already given on repair work.

#### ENGINEERS (LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT IRONFOUNDERS' ASSOCIATION) (ISSUED 5TH JULY).

The following finding is in respect of an application for an advance of wages made by the local branches of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers and Allied Trades to the Liverpool and District Ironfounders' Association.

In January, 1915, an advance of wages of 3s. per week to engineers and allied trades was given by the employers' association. On 13th May the Amalgamated Society of Engineers made application for a further advance of 4s. per week, but no settlement of the matter could be arrived at.

The Committee's finding is that:—

(a) In addition to the advance of 3s. per week already agreed to as above mentioned the wages of the men concerned should be advanced 1s. per week (with an equivalent advance on piece-rates) as from the beginning of the first full pay following 15th June, 1915.

(b) This finding is not to affect the advance already given on repair work.

#### ENGINEERS, BIRKENHEAD (ISSUED 5TH JULY).

The following finding is in respect of an application for an advance of wages made by the local branches of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers and Allied Trades to the Birkenhead and District Engineering Employers' Association.

In January, 1915, an agreement was arrived at between the parties providing for an advance in wages of 3s. per week, dating from 14th January, 1915, and to continue in operation for three years.

On 13th May the Amalgamated Society of Engineers made application for a further advance of 4s. per week. The matter

was discussed at local conferences of the parties on 26th May and at central conference on 11th June, but no settlement was arrived at.

The Committee's finding is that:—

(a) In addition to the advance of 3s. per week already agreed to as above mentioned the wages of the men concerned should be advanced 1s. per week (with an equivalent advance on piece-rates) as from the beginning of the first full pay following 15th June, 1915.

(b) This finding is not to affect the advances already given on repair work.

### EMPLOYMENT IN THE BRITISH DOMINIONS OVERSEA.

[Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 34, Broadway, Westminster, London, S.W., from the latest official and other reports, newspapers, &c.—Free quarterly circulars on Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, and Handbooks (with maps) at 1d. each, may be obtained from the Office post free; and all enquiries about emigration addressed to the Office will be answered.]

WARNING.—Owing to the war (1) labour conditions overseas are uncertain, and openings for emigrants are greatly restricted; and (2) steamers are liable to delay and risk.

#### CANADA.

According to the Dominion *Labour Gazette* there were in May large numbers of unskilled workmen still out of employment, particularly in the West. Skilled trades outside the building trades were fairly well employed. Most machinists were actively engaged in making munitions for war, and many of those out of employment were seeking similar work in Great Britain. There was some demand for experienced farm labourers, but for no others. Lumbering was active; fishing was fairly active; coal mining was dull in the West, but fairly active in Nova Scotia; metal mining showed improvement; railway construction was principally confined to maintenance work. The supply of female servants is for the time sufficient. No one except farmers with capital is recommended to go to Canada this year.

#### AUSTRALIA.

Labour conditions are unsettled owing to the war, and there is no present demand for more labour, except for female servants. Unskilled labourers in New South Wales find it very difficult to get employment. Large numbers are thrown out of employment by the diminution in shipping at Sydney; and a great many coal miners are idle at the Newcastle collieries. Assisted emigration to South Australia and Western Australia has been stopped; but the other States still grant reduced passages to emigrants. But in order to avoid interference with recruiting for the war, assisted passages to New South Wales, Victoria or Queensland are not available, except under special circumstances, for men of military age. The demand for experienced female servants continues, and specially cheap passages are offered to widows and young women who will take up domestic service.

According to a cablegram just received from Sydney, "In New South Wales the country districts are improving, and the outlook generally is hopeful; in Victoria the building trades still show signs of revival, the engineering trade remains busy, agricultural prospects remain good, and unemployment is reduced generally."

#### NEW ZEALAND.

During the war reduced-rate passages are granted to married farmers and farm hands and *bonâ fide* female domestic servants, and also to single farmers and farm hands who are not eligible for military service. The building trades have been busy at Wellington and at some smaller places, as Gisborne, New Plymouth, Palmerston North and Westport; the engineering trades have been busy at Wellington, Dunedin and Nelson; and the leather and clothing trades at Wellington, Christchurch, Westport and New Plymouth; but the supply of men is sufficient. Mining has been busy near Auckland and Greymouth. There is a demand for female servants.

#### UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

Owing to the war the labour market in South Africa is disorganised, and no one should go there now.

## COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

LABOUR STATISTICS: FOURTH QUARTER OF 1914.\*

*Employment.*—The percentage of persons unemployed in the Commonwealth owing to lack of work, according to returns received from Trade Unions, rose from 9·6† in the third quarter of 1914 to 10·1 in the quarter under review. The percentage in the fourth quarter of 1913 was 3·9.

During October, November, and December, 1914, the total number of applications for employment by workpeople in the six State Free Employment Bureaux was 19,919, while 8,638 applications for workpeople were made by employers, and 7,270 situations were filled.

*Industrial Disputes.*—The total number of labour disputes which began in the Commonwealth during the last quarter of 1914 was 78, as compared with 63 in the preceding quarter, and 60 in the third quarter of 1913. In the new disputes 14,773 workpeople were either directly or indirectly involved, the corresponding total for the preceding quarter being 10,630, and, for the fourth quarter of 1913, 8,546. The number of working days lost through new disputes amounted to 48,558, as compared with 38,661 and 58,505 respectively. The number of days lost by disputes which commenced prior to the beginning of the quarter and continued into the quarter under review was 152,012, giving a total of 200,570 working days lost in the quarter owing to strikes and lock-outs.

*Changes in Rates of Wages.*—During the fourth quarter of 1914 particulars were collected concerning 84 changes in rates of wages, 38 of which occurred in New South Wales. The total number of workpeople affected was 15,065, and the aggregate increase amounted to £3,711, or an average of 4s. 11d. per head per week. The largest number of persons affected in any single industry was in the building trades, in which 4,520 persons obtained increases aggregating £1,406 per week. Other trades largely affected were the food, drink, &c., group, land transport other than rail and tram services, and the "clothing, hats, boots, &c." trades.

*Variations in Prices and Cost of Living.*—The cost of living (retail prices and house-rent) index number for thirty of the more important towns in the Commonwealth showed a slight decrease in the fourth quarter of 1914 as compared with the index number for the preceding quarter. Assuming the cost of living for the whole of the year 1912 to be represented by 100, the corresponding figure for the fourth quarter of 1914 was 103·1, as compared with 104·0 for the third quarter and with 99·2 for the fourth quarter of 1913. Thus there was a decrease of 0·9 per cent. as compared with the preceding quarter, but an increase of 3·9 per cent. as compared with the corresponding quarter of 1913. The index numbers show that the cost of living was greater than a year ago in all the States of the Commonwealth; compared with the previous quarter it was less in all States except Queensland and Tasmania. Taking the six capital towns only, the amount necessary, on the average, to purchase what would have cost £1 in the year 1911 was £1 2s. 10d. during the quarter under review, £1 3s. in the previous quarter, and £1 1s. 11d. in the fourth quarter of 1913.

*Immigration.*—During the quarter 3,915 assisted immigrants (including 1,741 dependants) arrived in the Commonwealth. The greatest numbers were reported by Victoria and New South Wales. As regards occupations, 995 males, out of a total of 1,982, were classified as following agricultural, pastoral, rural, &c., industries, while 610 females out of 1,933 were attached to the domestic, hotel, &c., group.

\* Labour Bulletin, No. 8, the quarterly journal of the Bureau of Census and Statistics of the Commonwealth of Australia.

† These percentages are based, not on the numbers unemployed on a given day, but on the numbers unemployed "for any three or more days during a specified week." For this reason, apart from the fact that accurate and complete records of unemployment are difficult to obtain in Australia owing to few of the unions paying unemployed benefit, the figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentages for the United Kingdom on pages 235-236.

## LABOUR IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.\*

HOLLAND.†

*Employment in May.*—Returns relating to unemployment in May were received by the Dutch Government Statistical Office from trade unions and municipal unemployment funds with a total membership of 95,558. The percentage of members out of work during the month was 15·5, as compared with 17·6 in the previous month and 5·9 in May, 1914. The percentages of unemployed are obtained by taking for each of the four (or five) weeks in the month under consideration the number of persons unemployed on one or more days of the week. The proportion of the average of these four (or five) numbers to the total membership of the funds during the same month gives the percentage.

Group of Trades.	Number of Members entitled to Benefit in May, 1915.	Percentage unemployed.			Average Days Lost per Week per Member Unemployed.		
		May, 1915.	April, 1915.	May, 1914.	May, 1915.	April, 1915.	May, 1914.
All Unions paying Unemployed Benefit and all Municipal Unemployment Funds which made Returns	95,558	15·5	17·6	5·9	4·9	4·9	5·9
Do. do., excluding Diamond Workers ..	85,385	8·5	10·2	1·1	3·9	4·0	—
Working in Diamonds and other Precious Stones	10,173	70·2	74·7	34·5	5·9	5·9	6·0
Printing and Lithography, &c.	11,065	13·8	16·5	0·8	2·8	2·7	5·8
Building Trades (Including Roadmaking)	16,765	12·1	16·2	2·3	5·3	5·3	5·0
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	12,114	9·7	11·0	0·8	3·2	3·4	5·5
Textile .. .. .	6,024	12·8	10·3	0·1	2·2	2·3	5·1
Food, Drink, and Tobacco	15,711	2·3	3·0	1·2	3·5	3·2	5·5
Woodworking, &c. ..	2,841	7·9	11·3	—	5·1	5·0	—
Leather, Oilcloth, &c. ..	1,997	1·6	3·3	0·2	3·8	3·3	6·0

The comparison between May, 1915, and the previous month yields slightly different results when based upon data furnished by trade unions only (irrespective of whether they pay unemployed benefit or not), and when further limited to returns received from unions making returns for both months. On this basis the percentage of unemployed is found to be 13·9 in May, as compared with 15·9 in April. Among the members of these unions the average number of working days lost owing to unemployment was, in May 11·4 per cent., and in April 13·0 per cent. of the number of days that might have been worked in the respective months.

## SWEDEN.

*Employment, January-March, 1915.*—The issue of *Sociala Meddelanden* (the journal of the Swedish Department for Social Affairs) for May contains particulars as to unemployment among members of Trade Unions at the beginning of January, February, and March respectively. The data relating to the principal Unions making returns are summarised in the following table:—

Unions.	Membership reporting at Mar. 1st, 1915.	Percentage Unemployed on 1st of Month.		
		Jan., 1915.	Feb., 1915.	Mar., 1915.
All Unions making Returns .. .. .	57,476	15·0	14·8	12·0
<b>PRINCIPAL UNIONS:—</b>				
Stoneworkers .. .. .	3,153	39·8	24·6	21·5
Bricklayers and masons .. .. .	1,447	51·4	61·0	58·1
Painters .. .. .	1,538	21·1	37·9	37·9
Blastfurnacemen, &c. .. .. .	3,114	3·6	1·3	0·9
Foundrymen .. .. .	1,955	3·6	8·2	1·7
Tinplate workers, &c. .. .. .	1,363	17·7	22·3	21·7
Engineering operatives .. .. .	18,621	5·4	4·8	4·3
Boot, shoe and leather workers .. .. .	1,889	0·3	12·2	2·3
Brewery workers .. .. .	1,144	2·0	0·8	3·0
Tobacco workers .. .. .	1,680	42·4	39·8	31·0
Sawmill workers .. .. .	3,411	17·1	14·1	7·0
Woodworkers .. .. .	4,422	19·8	24·2	24·2
General labourers and factory operatives (trades not distinguished)	5,859	31·8	26·1	21·8

\* For employment in Germany and Denmark see p. 237.

† Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek (Journal of the Central Statistical Bureau of Holland), 30th June, 1915.

## REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM DURING JUNE.

## COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT continued very good during June and showed little change on the whole as compared with May. It was better than a year ago as regards the number of days worked by the collieries, showing an average improvement of nearly half a day per week, or 8·8 per cent. The number of men employed was greatly reduced owing to enlistments, and this, of course, reduced the output; on the other hand, the proportion of men who worked the full number of shifts was greater than a year ago.

Returns received for each of the three periods relating to the same 1,037 pits show that the average number of days\* worked per week was 5·66, as compared with 5·63 in the previous month, and 5·20 a year ago.

The number of workpeople employed in June (499,714) showed a decrease of 5,237 (or 1 per cent.) on May, and of 103,786 (or 17·2 per cent.) on a year ago.

Of the 499,714 workpeople employed in June 417,981 (or 83·6 per cent.) were at pits working 11 or more days during the fortnight to which the returns relate; while a further 57,923 (or 11·6 per cent.) worked 10 days but less than 11.

The highest averages were in North Wales, Cumberland, South Wales and Monmouthshire, and Gloucester and Somerset (all over 5·90 days); and the lowest were in Ireland (5·11 days) and in West Scotland (5·22 days).

Districts.	No. of Work-people employed in June, 1915, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in June, 1915, on a	
		26th June, 1915.	22nd May, 1915.	27th June, 1914.	Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>						
Northumberland .. .. .	37,774	5·23	5·24	5·04	- 0·01	+ 0·10
Durham .. .. .	92,616	5·51	5·56	5·23	- 0·05	+ 0·28
Cumberland .. .. .	3,665	5·95	5·96	5·57	- 0·01	+ 0·38
South Yorkshire .. .. .	55,331	5·76	5·82	5·44	+ 0·06	+ 0·32
West Yorkshire .. .. .	23,125	5·64	5·55	4·96	+ 0·09	+ 0·68
Lancashire and Cheshire .. .. .	46,976	5·76	5·67	4·91	+ 0·19	+ 0·85
Derbyshire .. .. .	27,740	5·74	5·71	4·66	+ 0·03	+ 1·08
Nottingham and Leicester .. .. .	34,012	5·47	5·41	4·64	+ 0·06	+ 0·83
Staffordshire .. .. .	25,582	5·81	5·62	4·92	+ 0·19	+ 0·89
Warwick, Worcester, and Salop .. .. .	8,121	5·80	5·60	4·83	+ 0·20	+ 0·97
Gloucester and Somerset .. .. .	6,223	5·92	5·98	4·81	- 0·06	+ 1·11
North Wales .. .. .	9,257	5·98	5·99	4·76	- 0·01	+ 1·22
South Wales and Mon. .. .. .	90,370	5·93	5·94	5·81	- 0·01	+ 0·12
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES</b> .. .. .	<b>460,792</b>	<b>5·68</b>	<b>5·66</b>	<b>5·20</b>	<b>+ 0·02</b>	<b>+ 0·48</b>
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
West Scotland .. .. .	18,846	5·22	5·13	5·11	+ 0·09	+ 0·11
The Lothians .. .. .	2,153	5·35	5·40	5·15	- 0·05	+ 0·20
Fife .. .. .	17,364	5·46	5·50	5·35	- 0·04	+ 0·11
<b>SCOTLAND</b> .. .. .	<b>38,363</b>	<b>5·34</b>	<b>5·31</b>	<b>5·23</b>	<b>+ 0·03</b>	<b>+ 0·11</b>
<b>IRELAND</b> .. .. .	<b>559</b>	<b>5·11</b>	<b>4·66</b>	<b>5·03</b>	<b>+ 0·45</b>	<b>+ 0·06</b>
<b>UNITED KINGDOM</b> .. .. .	<b>499,714</b>	<b>5·66</b>	<b>5·63</b>	<b>5·20</b>	<b>+ 0·03</b>	<b>+ 0·46</b>

Employment was good in Northumberland and Durham: it showed little change from a month ago and was slightly better than a year ago. In Cumberland, in Yorkshire, and in Lancashire and Cheshire it was very good, and much better than a year ago; in Lancashire it was also better than in May; in the Leeds district full time was worked at most pits owing to the demand for manufacturing fuel. In Derbyshire employment was very good and showed an improvement of more than one day a week as compared with a year ago. In Nottingham and Leicester it was good, and much better than a year ago. In Staffordshire and in Warwick, Worcester and Salop it was good, and better than in May: it showed a great improvement on a year ago. There was a general shortage of labour. In Gloucester and Somerset and in North Wales employment was very

\* The figures in this article and the following only show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal, iron ore or shale was got and drawn from the mines or open works included in the returns received. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons employed worked the whole number of days.

good, and showed an improvement of more than one day a week on a year ago. In South Wales it continued very good. A shortage of men was reported in both North and South Wales. In West Scotland employment was slightly better than in the previous month or in June of last year. In the Lothians employment was good, though collieries were occasionally idle owing to difficulties in obtaining export licences for coal. In Fife-shire employment was very brisk; some time was lost on account of holidays in West Fife.

Compared with a month ago employment showed a great improvement at pits producing anthracite: at other pits there was little change. Compared with a year ago there was a general improvement at all pits.

Description of Coal.	No. of Work-people employed in June, 1915, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Pits in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in June, 1915, on a	
		26th June, 1915.	22nd May, 1915.	27th June, 1914.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Anthracite .. .. .	5,302	5·82	5·40	5·44	+ 0·42	+ 0·38
Coking .. .. .	26,558	5·77	5·75	5·40	+ 0·02	+ 0·37
Gas .. .. .	32,516	5·40	5·47	5·19	- 0·07	+ 0·21
House .. .. .	59,165	5·57	5·51	4·68	+ 0·06	+ 0·89
Steam .. .. .	191,722	5·67	5·70	5·42	- 0·03	+ 0·25
Mixed .. .. .	184,451	5·69	5·62	5·11	+ 0·07	+ 0·58
<b>ALL DESCRIPTIONS</b> .. .. .	<b>499,714</b>	<b>5·66</b>	<b>5·63</b>	<b>5·20</b>	<b>+ 0·03</b>	<b>+ 0·46</b>

The exports of coal, coke and manufactured fuel in June amounted to 3,725,423 tons, or 242,234 tons less than in May, and 2,273,994 tons less than in June, 1914.

## IRON, SHALE AND OTHER MINING, AND QUARRYING.

EMPLOYMENT was good in iron mines and in shale mines practically full time was worked. In tin mines it was only moderate; in lead mines it was good.

Employment in and about quarries on the whole continued fairly good, but at the North Wales slate quarries it was slack.

## MINING.

*Iron.*—Returns received for each of the three periods named in the Table below, relating to the same mines and open works in each case, show that the number of workpeople employed in June, 1915 (13,696), was less by 122 (0·9 per cent.) than the number employed in the previous month, and by 2,252 (14·1 per cent.) than the number employed in June, 1914. This serious reduction in the number employed since a year ago should be borne in mind in connection with the following Table, which gives the number of days that the works were in operation:—

Districts.	Work-people employed in June, 1915.	Average Number of Days worked per week by Mines and Open Works* in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in June, 1915, on a	
		26th June, 1915.	22nd May, 1915.	27th June, 1914.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Cleveland .. .. .	6,251	5·64	5·77	5·82	- 0·13	- 0·18
Cumberland and Lancashire .. .. .	4,553	5·86	5·95	5·79	- 0·09	+ 0·07
Scotland .. .. .	677	5·57	5·62	5·25	- 0·05	+ 0·32
Other Districts .. .. .	2,215	5·98	5·90	5·60	+ 0·08	+ 0·38
<b>ALL DISTRICTS</b> .. .. .	<b>13,696</b>	<b>5·77</b>	<b>5·84</b>	<b>5·75</b>	<b>- 0·07</b>	<b>+ 0·02</b>

The weekly average number of days\* worked by the mines and open works included in the returns was 5·77, compared with 5·84 a month ago, and 5·75 a year ago. Employment showed a decline on a month ago and a year ago in Cleveland, and a decline on May in Cumberland and Lancashire.

\* See footnote to previous column.

**Shale.**—According to the returns received there were 3,160 workpeople employed in the fortnight ended 26th June at shale mines, which were working 5.99 days\* per week, as compared with 3,208 workpeople in May, working 6.00 days, and 3,632 workpeople working 5.97 days a year ago.

**Tin.**—Employment in the mines in Cornwall was fairly good in the Camborne district and fair in the St. Ives district; in the St. Just district it was moderate, while it was bad in the Liskeard and Calstock districts. At tin streaming works employment was fair.

**Lead.**—Employment was reported as very good in North Wales, as good at Darley Dale (Matlock), and as fair in Weardale.

#### QUARRYING.

**Slate.**—Short time continued to be worked at most of the quarries in North Wales, though a slight improvement was reported in the Festiniog district.

**Granite.**—Employment continued good in Leicestershire. It was fairly good in Cornwall, and fair and rather better than a month ago at Aberdeen.

**Limestone.**—Employment was moderate and worse than a month ago in Weardale, short time being general. It was generally fair in the Buxton district and moderate in the Plymouth district.

**Other Stone.**—Frestone quarrymen in the Gateshead district were fairly well employed, but some short time was worked. Whinstone quarrymen in Upper Weardale continued well employed. Employment continued good in the Cleve Hill road-material quarries, and in chert quarries at Bakewell. It was bad, and worse than a month ago, in grindstone and building stone quarries in the Rowsley district, and in sandstone quarries in Forfarshire.

**Settmaking, etc.**—Employment with settmakers was generally fairly good in Scotland and in North Wales. It continued good in Leicestershire and the Cleve Hill district. With monumental masons at Aberdeen it was fair.

**China Clay.**—Employment was bad in the St. Austell district, where some short time was worked. In the Shaugh and Lee Moor district employment continued fair.

#### PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

THERE was again a general scarcity of labour, and employment continued good on the whole. Supplies of iron ore, coal, smelting materials, etc., however, were reported as short in many cases, and even where there was no shortage, prices were very high. Transport difficulties also were reported by certain firms.

Returns received show that 271 furnaces were in blast at the end of June, 1915, the same number as at the end of May, and 6 more than at the end of June, 1914. Three furnaces were relit during the month (in Monmouth), three were blown out (2 in Cleveland and 1 in Derby). The returns are summarised in the following Table:—

District.	Number of Furnaces included in the Returns in Blast at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in June, 1915, on a	
	June, 1915.	May, 1915.	June, 1914.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES:					
Cleveland .. ..	68	70	71	- 2	+ 3
Cumberland & Lancs. S. and S.W. Yorks. Derby & Nottingham	27	27	26	..	+ 1
Leicester, Lincoln and Northampton	11	11	10	..	+ 1
Staffs & Worcester	32	33	35	- 1	- 3
S. Wales & Monmouth	28	28	27	..	+ 1
Other districts ..	33	33	28	..	+ 5
	9	6	6	+ 3	+ 3
	4	4	5	..	- 1
ENGLAND & WALES—	212	212	208	..	+ 4
SCOTLAND .. ..	59	59	57	..	+ 2
TOTAL .. ..	271	271	265	..	+ 6

The imports of iron ore in June amounted to 640,648 tons, an increase of nearly 100,000 tons as compared with May and of 96,000 tons compared with June last year. The exports of pig iron fell from 88,569 tons a year ago to 39,127 tons in June, 1915.

\* See footnote on p. 245.

#### TINPLATE, AND STEEL AND GALVANISED SHEET TRADE.

THE following Table shows the number of tinplate and steel sheet mills in operation at the end of June, 1915, and the increase or decrease on a month ago and a year ago. The works to which these figures relate are principally in South Wales and Monmouthshire, and employ about 25,650 workpeople.

Works.	Number of Works open.			Number of Mills in operation.		
	At end of June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		At end of June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Tinplate .. ..	74	+ 1	- 2	396	+ 9	- 59
Steel Sheet ..	12	..	- 3	79	+ 2	- 43
TOTAL .. ..	86	+ 1	- 5	475	+ 11	- 102

#### TINPLATE.

Employment showed a slight improvement on the previous month, but was adversely affected by the embargo placed on the shipments of plates to Norway during the course of the month. The prices of coal, tinplate bars and other raw materials continued to show an upward tendency. The number of mills working at the end of June was 396, compared with 387 at the end of May and 455 a year ago.

Some plants have been working irregularly in consequence of the withdrawal of a number of the younger millmen for munitions work, men accustomed to work before heated furnaces being required.

The exports of tinplates showed a slight recovery as compared with May, and amounted to 93 per cent. of the exports in June, 1914. The exports to Norway, France, Portugal and the Argentine greatly increased, but most other countries showed a decline, particularly Australia and Roumania.

#### Exports of Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets, and of Black Plates.

The following Table shows the exports of tinned plates and sheets to the various countries, and of black plates:

To	June, 1915.	May, 1915.	June, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in June, 1915, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets.					
To United States ..	34	59	184	- 25	- 150
British East Indies ..	5,201	5,466	5,332	- 265	- 131
Germany .. ..	4,533	5,318	2,420	+ 785	+ 2,420
France .. ..	2,878	2,638	2,516	+ 240	+ 362
Netherlands .. ..	365	36	749	+ 329	- 384
Russia .. ..	5,393	1,208	2,267	+ 4,185	+ 3,126
Norway .. ..	..	..	727	..	727
Belgium .. ..	1,858	1,004	1,066	+ 854	+ 772
Portugal .. ..	2,057	3,473	2,890	- 1,416	- 833
Italy .. ..	129	205	3,736	- 76	- 3,607
Roumania .. ..	1,657	2,151	2,772	- 614	- 1,235
China and Japan ..	618	2,527	2,517	- 1,909	- 1,699
Australia .. ..	297	321	375	- 24	- 78
Canada .. ..	1,635	551	530	+ 1,074	+ 1,105
Argentine Republic ..	7,451	8,760	6,236	- 1,309	+ 1,215
Other Countries ..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTAL .. ..	33,986	33,727	36,565	+ 259	- 2,579
Black Plates.					
TOTAL .. ..	3,478	4,191	6,060	- 713	- 2,582

#### STEEL AND GALVANISED SHEETS.

In this section of the trade there was some improvement. The mills are largely engaged in working large size black plates, and, as a result of the scarcity of spelter, a method of painting the sheets at the works has been adopted, at a great reduction of cost to the consumer as compared with the cost of having them painted separately by hand afterwards. The number of sheet mills in operation at the end of June was 79, compared with 77 in May and 122 a year ago.

The imports of zinc, crude, were 5,533 tons, nearly a thousand tons more than in May, but only 61 per cent. of the imports in June last year.

The exports of galvanised sheets were 25,091 tons, little more than half the exports in June last year, and showed a decline of 20 per cent. as compared with May. The decline was specially heavy in the exports to India and to Australia, the two principal markets.

#### IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works continued good, and showed a slight improvement as compared with the previous month. There was a great improvement compared with last year, especially at foundries. Shortage and high prices of fuel and raw materials, difficulties of transport, and scarcity of labour were again reported general.

DEPARTMENTS.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.			Aggregate number of shifts worked.		
	Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Week ending 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ..	9,890	- 0.5	+ 4.6	58,123	- 2.2	+ 6.1
Crucible Furnaces .. ..	515	+ 3.8	- 5.2	2,939	+ 4.9	+ 6.5
Bessemer Converters .. ..	1,435	- 1.1	- 20.0	7,433	- 1.1	- 16.0
Puddling Forges .. ..	7,245	+ 0.6	- 7.0	37,017	+ 1.0	+ 4.1
Rolling Mills .. ..	30,229	- 0.2	- 6.1	161,948	+ 0.6	- 1.4
Forging and Pressing .. ..	5,104	+ 0.6	+ 1.8	28,809	+ 0.3	+ 5.3
Founding .. ..	15,647	+ 4.5	+ 29.9	102,237	+ 4.8	+ 46.2
Other Departments .. ..	13,471	- 0.3	+ 3.3	78,582	+ 0.2	+ 4.0
Mechanics, Labourers .. ..	18,834	+ 0.8	+ 5.9	112,542	+ 1.6	+ 9.9
TOTAL .. ..	102,370	+ 0.7	+ 2.7	589,660	+ 1.1	+ 8.9
DISTRICTS.						
Northumberland & Durham ..	11,923	+ 2.5	+ 8.2	68,037	+ 4.3	+ 11.2
Cleveland .. ..	8,926	+ 1.7	+ 0.8	52,510	+ 2.1	+ 7.8
Sheffield and Rotherham ..	25,205	+ 1.4	+ 18.0	156,433	+ 1.7	+ 31.3
Leeds, Bradford, &c. ..	4,070	- 2.4	- 17.0	22,565	- 0.9	- 12.6
Cumberland, Lancashire, and Cheshire .. ..	8,400	- 1.6	- 16.4	44,362	- 0.8	- 18.9
Staffordshire .. ..	9,222	+ 0.1	- 0.6	50,758	+ 0.4	- 2.0
Other Midland Counties .. ..	5,090	+ 1.4	- 1.0	28,527	+ 1.9	+ 7.2
Wales and Monmouth .. ..	10,464	+ 0.7	- 10.3	56,901	- 0.9	- 10.3
TOTAL, England & Wales ..	83,300	+ 0.8	+ 1.2	480,093	+ 1.3	+ 6.9
Scotland .. ..	19,070	+ 0.4	+ 10.0	109,537	+ 0.5	+ 18.8
TOTAL .. ..	102,370	+ 0.7	+ 2.7	589,630	+ 1.1	+ 8.9

Compared with a month ago, employment showed an improvement in Northumberland and Durham and in the Cleveland district; in the other districts it showed little change. As regards departments, the improvement was most noticeable at crucible furnaces and at foundries, while there was a slight decline at open hearth melting furnaces and Bessemer converters. The number of workpeople employed increased by 751 (or 0.7 per cent.).

Employment at Consett was slack, and showed a decline as compared with a month ago, and with forge and hammermen on the Wear it was only fair; with these exceptions it continued good in the Tyne and Wear districts, with some overtime being worked, but at angle mills time was lost owing to scarcity of labour. In the Tees and Hartlepool district employment showed little change from a month ago. At Leeds it continued good. At Sheffield, Rotherham, and Stocksbridge full time was worked, with overtime in billet mills and in armament works. At Scunthorpe, in the Birmingham district and at mills and forges in Staffordshire employment was good. In Shropshire and in North and South Wales it was very good. In Scotland, employment continued good, with overtime being worked in some departments.

Compared with a year ago, employment showed a great improvement in the Sheffield and Rotherham district, in Scotland, and in Northumberland and Durham; there was also a considerable improvement in Cleveland and in the "other Midland counties" district. In every district, except Cumberland and Lancashire, an increased number of shifts per man employed were again worked, and in the Sheffield and Rotherham district the average was 6½ shifts. In Cumberland and Lancashire employment showed a decline. All the departments, except Bessemer converters and rolling mills,

participated in the improvement, which was greatest at foundries, where 30 per cent. more workpeople were employed, and the aggregate number of shifts worked was 46 per cent. higher. The total number of workpeople employed increased by 2,708 (or 2.7 per cent.).

The imports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof (excluding pig iron) in June amounted to 111,408 tons, an increase of about 10,000 tons on May, but only two-thirds of the imports in June, 1914. Imports of sheet bars and tinplate bars, blooms and billets from Germany and Belgium had ceased, but in the case of blooms and billets this was more than counter-balanced by the great rise in imports from the United States. The exports (British and Irish), excluding pig iron, tin plates, and galvanised sheets, amounted to 170,668 tons, as compared with 185,144 tons a year ago. Most kinds of exports declined; but there was a great increase in those of heavy plates and of steel bars, angles, sections, &c., to France, and an all-round improvement in exports to Japan.

#### ENGINEERING TRADES.

THESE trades continued to work at high pressure during June, with night shifts, Sunday work, and much overtime.

Trade Unions with 239,743 members (mostly in skilled occupations) reported 0.6 per cent. unemployed at the end of June, compared with 0.6 per cent. at the end of May, and 3.0 per cent. at the end of June, 1914.

The number of workpeople (skilled and unskilled) in these trades who were insured against unemployment under the National Insurance Act was 763,731, of whom 0.5 per cent. were unemployed at the end of June, 1915, the same percentage as at the end of May. The corresponding percentage at the end of June, 1914, was 3.3. Particulars for the several insurance districts are given in the following Table:—

Division.	Number Insured.	Percentage of Unemployment Books lodged at			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in June, 1915, on a	
		25th June, 1915.	28th May, 1915.	26th June, 1914.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		London .. ..	72,646	1.0	0.9	5.0
North-Western .. ..	76,723	0.3	0.3	2.4	..	- 2.1
Yorkshire .. ..	147,325	0.6	0.7	3.7	- 0.1	- 3.1
East Midlands .. ..	96,978	0.4	0.4	2.8	..	- 2.4
West Midlands .. ..	54,402	0.3	0.4	2.4	- 0.1	- 2.1
Eastern and S.E. Counties ..	82,350	0.4	0.4	3.5	..	- 3.1
South-Western .. ..	47,465	0.3	0.3	2.9	..	- 2.6
Wales .. ..	33,930	0.4	0.5	3.1	- 0.1	- 2.7
Scotland .. ..	16,674	0.3	0.4	2.9	- 0.1	- 2.5
Ireland .. ..	115,251	0.3	0.3	2.8	..	- 2.5
	19,977	2.9	2.5	4.9	+ 0.4	- 2.0
UNITED KINGDOM .. ..	763,731	0.5	0.5	3.3	..	- 2.8

The only important exception to the general state of good employment was the textile machinery branch, in some departments of which short time continued to a considerable extent, especially at Oldham, Rochdale, Leeds, and Nottingham. In many centres employment with ironmoulders, and to some extent also with pattern-makers, was somewhat less busy than with other classes; and some short time was reported by ironmoulders at Belfast, Blackburn, Lincoln, Oldham and Wallsend. In the Glasgow and West of Scotland district ironmoulders are now permitted to work in conjunction with brassmoulders, for whom there is a great demand.

The imports of machinery in June were valued at £923,670, as compared with £801,889 in May and £689,059 in June, 1914. The increase on a year ago was due chiefly to enormously increased imports of road locomotives and of machine tools.

The exports fell from £3,098,382 a year ago to £1,856,202, chiefly owing to decreased exports of agricultural machinery and of boilers. Textile machinery, though still showing a decline of 40 per cent. as compared with last year, showed a great improvement as compared with previous months; the exports to India, the largest single market, were only 17 per cent. short of those in June last year.





DEPARTMENTS.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
Wool Sorting .. ..	525	+ 1.0	- 4.9	633	+ 3.3	+ 11.2
Spinning .. ..	5,217	- 1.6	+ 14.9	6,211	- 0.8	+ 43.6
Weaving .. ..	9,354	- 0.5	+ 2.0	9,602	- 3.4	+ 15.9
Other Departments ..	6,132	- 0.3	- 3.1	7,717	+ 0.4	+ 13.9
Not specified .. ..	1,742	- 0.2	- 1.8	1,952	- 1.2	+ 9.5
<b>TOTAL .. ..</b>	<b>22,970</b>	<b>- 0.6</b>	<b>+ 2.7</b>	<b>26,115</b>	<b>- 1.4</b>	<b>+ 20.2</b>
<b>DISTRICTS.</b>						
Huddersfield District ..	3,682	- 1.2	+ 10.8	4,557	- 5.0	+ 24.8
Leeds District .. ..	2,675	- 0.6	+ 2.4	3,102	- 3.1	+ 26.0
Dewsbury & Batley District	2,650	+ 0.2	+ 9.4	3,151	+ 1.3	+ 26.6
Other Parts of West Riding	2,765	- 3.2	+ 7.2	3,322	- 1.2	+ 22.7
<b>TOTAL, WEST RIDING ..</b>	<b>11,762</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>+ 7.6</b>	<b>14,132</b>	<b>- 2.3</b>	<b>+ 25.4</b>
Scotland .. ..	5,226	- 0.6	- 13.4	5,711	- 3.3	- 3.6
Other Districts .. ..	5,982	+ 0.5	+ 10.7	6,272	+ 2.9	+ 38.3
<b>TOTAL .. ..</b>	<b>22,970</b>	<b>- 0.6</b>	<b>+ 2.7</b>	<b>26,115</b>	<b>- 1.4</b>	<b>+ 20.2</b>

## WORSTED TRADE.

Employment continued good, but was not quite so brisk as a month ago owing to the completion of Government contracts in some districts; it was better than a year ago.

A shortage of labour was reported by firms employing 38 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns. Both men and women were in demand.

Returns from firms employing 34,780 workpeople in the week ended 26th June showed a decrease of 0.7 per cent. in the number employed, and of 1.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 2.7 per cent. in the number employed, but an increase of 6.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. About 7 per cent. of the operatives were reported to be working overtime during the month, as compared with 10 per cent. in May.

DEPARTMENTS.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
Wool Sorting & Combing ..	4,280	+ 0.4	- 2.0	5,155	- 2.2	+ 6.7
Spinning .. ..	17,630	- 1.1	- 2.5	11,928	- 2.0	+ 6.6
Weaving .. ..	7,714	- 0.4	0.9	7,932	0.6	+ 6.2
Other Departments .. ..	3,283	- 1.1	- 8.2	3,932	- 0.6	+ 2.0
Not specified .. ..	1,873	+ 1.0	- 3.1	1,720	- 3.4	+ 9.9
<b>TOTAL .. ..</b>	<b>34,780</b>	<b>- 0.7</b>	<b>- 2.7</b>	<b>30,667</b>	<b>- 1.6</b>	<b>+ 6.1</b>
<b>DISTRICTS.</b>						
Bradford District .. ..	18,404	- 1.1	- 2.5	16,184	- 2.6	+ 3.9
Keighley District .. ..	5,931	- 0.1	- 0.8	5,196	- 2.6	+ 8.4
Halifax District .. ..	2,585	+ 0.7	+ 0.4	2,080	- 0.4	+ 14.5
Huddersfield District ..	3,628	- 0.1	- 3.7	3,711	- 0.2	+ 7.4
Other Parts of West Riding	2,187	+ 1.4	- 4.3	1,837	+ 3.2	+ 12.2
<b>TOTAL, WEST RIDING ..</b>	<b>32,735</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>- 2.2</b>	<b>28,988</b>	<b>- 1.8</b>	<b>+ 6.3</b>
Other Districts .. ..	2,045	- 3.1	- 10.0	1,679	+ 2.2	+ 1.4
<b>TOTAL .. ..</b>	<b>34,780</b>	<b>- 0.7</b>	<b>- 2.7</b>	<b>30,667</b>	<b>- 1.6</b>	<b>+ 6.1</b>

In the Bradford and Keighley districts there was a slight decline compared with a month ago, but the operatives were still busy, especially in the spinning section in the Bradford district. In the Halifax and Huddersfield districts there was little change compared with a month ago, but employment was much better than a year ago.

## PRICES OF WOOL AT BRADFORD.

The average price of Lincoln hogs at Bradford during June was 4d. per lb. higher than in May, and 4½d. higher than in January. For 40's crossbred tops the average was 1d. higher than in May, and 6½d. (or over 30 per cent.) higher than in January. In the case of 60's super Botany tops the increase was even more marked, the price for June being nearly 16 per cent. higher than that for May, and over 50 per cent. higher than the January average.

The following Table gives particulars as to the average prices and the course of prices for May and June, 1915, and for June, 1914. The June, 1915, figures are the highest ever recorded by the Department.

\* The comparison of wages with a year ago is affected by the war bonuses granted in April, 1915.

AVERAGE PRICES:	June, 1915.		May, 1915.		June, 1914.	
	Pence per lb.	Per cent.	Pence per lb.	Per cent.	Pence per lb.	Per cent.
Lincoln Hogs .. ..	18½	18	18	12½	12½	12½
40's Crossbred tops ..	26½	25½	25, 25½	16½	16	16
60's Super Botany tops ..	40½	35	37, 44	31½	31½	31½

COURSE OF PRICES:	June, 1915.		May, 1915.		June, 1914.	
	Pence per lb.	Per cent.	Pence per lb.	Per cent.	Pence per lb.	Per cent.
Lincoln Hogs .. ..	18, 18½	18	12½, 12½	12½	12½	12½
40's Crossbred tops ..	25½, 27	25, 25½	16½, 16	16	16	16
60's Super Botany tops ..	37, 44	33, 37	31½	31½	31½	31½

## IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The imports of wool in June amounted to 74½ million lb., showing a decline of about 30 million lb. on May. They were, however, 50 per cent. greater than the imports in June, 1914. Re-exports fell from 32 million lb. a year ago to nearly 14½ million lb., and the exports of British and Irish wool fell by 1,400,000 lb. Thus the total stock of wool available for consumption exceeded that of June, 1914, by about 43,700,000 lb. The total excess during the six completed months of this year has been nearly 350 million lb. The imports of woollen and worsted yarns fell from nearly 2½ million lb. in June, 1914, to about 77,000 lb.

The exports (British and Irish) of tops and of woollen and worsted yarns fell from over 9 million lb. to slightly under 3 million lb., owing chiefly to the cessation of exports to Germany and Belgium. Exports of woollen tissues amounted to slightly over 8 million yards, as compared with nearly 10 million yards in June, 1914. The decline was due chiefly to a great falling off in exports to China, Japan and Canada, though this was partly neutralised by an enormously greater exportation to France. The decline in quantity chiefly affected broad heavy all-wool materials, broad heavy mixtures showing little decline in quantity and a great increase in value, while other classes showed comparatively little change. Exports of worsted tissues declined from over 7 million yards a year ago to slightly over 5 million yards, the major part of the decline being due to diminished export to the United States and to China and Japan. France and Canada, however, took largely increased quantities; and there were smaller increases to most of the other European countries.

## LINEN TRADE.

There was a slight decline in this trade in June, and employment was considerably worse than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 40,813 workpeople in the week ended 26th June, 1915, showed a decrease of 0.9 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and of 1.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decline of 4½d. per head in the average weekly earnings of those employed.

DEPARTMENTS.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Preparing .. ..	5,497	- 0.4	- 9.5	3,277	- 1.0	- 10.7
Spinning .. ..	10,358	- 0.8	- 5.0	5,356	- 1.2	- 10.6
Weaving .. ..	12,977	- 1.3	- 12.3	8,523	- 2.8	- 19.8
Other .. ..	6,637	- 0.4	- 6.5	5,894	- 0.3	- 1.6
Not specified .. ..	5,334	- 0.9	- 12.0	3,153	+ 0.9	- 19.9
<b>TOTAL .. ..</b>	<b>40,813</b>	<b>- 0.9</b>	<b>- 9.2</b>	<b>26,293</b>	<b>- 1.3</b>	<b>- 13.2</b>
<b>DISTRICTS.</b>						
Belfast .. ..	17,224	- 0.7	- 8.5	10,510	- 1.8	- 16.5
Other places in Ireland ..	12,107	- 0.4	- 9.3	6,901	-	- 13.9
<b>TOTAL, IRELAND ..</b>	<b>29,331</b>	<b>- 0.6</b>	<b>- 8.9</b>	<b>17,411</b>	<b>- 1.1</b>	<b>- 15.5</b>
Fifehire .. ..	5,445	- 1.1	- 8.8	4,100	- 2.8	- 16.2
Other places in Scotland ..	5,398	- 1.4	- 8.4	4,334	+ 0.4	+ 3.7
<b>TOTAL, SCOTLAND ..</b>	<b>10,843</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>- 8.6</b>	<b>8,434</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>- 7.0</b>
<b>England .. ..</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>- 7.8</b>	<b>- 30.5</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>- 8.2</b>	<b>- 27.3</b>
<b>UNITED KINGDOM</b>	<b>40,813</b>	<b>- 0.9</b>	<b>- 9.2</b>	<b>26,293</b>	<b>- 1.3</b>	<b>- 13.2</b>

At Belfast employment generally declined. It was moderate with flax roughers and spinners, and slack with dressers and power loom tenters. In other parts of Ireland it showed little change in June compared with a month ago, but was worse than a year ago.

At Dunfermline employment continued fairly good, but short time was worked. At Brechin it continued good.

The imports of flax and tow were over two and a-half times as great as they were in May, and over half as great again as in June, 1914; nearly the whole amount came from Russia. The imports of linen yarn fell from over 2 million lb. in June last year to about 178,000 lb., which, however, was four times the quantity imported in May.

The exports of linen yarn fell from 1,425,000 lb. to 577,000 lb., owing to the cessation of export to Germany and Belgium. The exports of linen piece goods were 11,326,000 yards, a decline on last year of 24 per cent.

## JUTE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued good during June, with overtime on Government orders.

Returns from firms employing 13,377 workpeople in the week ended 26th June, 1915, showed an increase of 1.4 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and of 0.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with May. Compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 3.1 per cent. in the number employed, and an increase of 15.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. This increase is partly due to a general increase in rates of wages and to a war bonus, which have been granted since June, 1914.

DEPARTMENTS.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Preparing .. ..	3,022	+ 3.2	- 3.8	2,837	+ 2.7	+ 16.6
Spinning .. ..	3,653	+ 1.3	- 3.5	3,234	+ 1.0	+ 17.3
Weaving .. ..	4,785	- 0.1	- 3.6	4,787	- 0.6	+ 16.2
Other .. ..	1,931	+ 3.0	- 0.1	2,350	- 2.5	+ 10.5
<b>TOTAL .. ..</b>	<b>13,377</b>	<b>+ 1.4</b>	<b>- 3.1</b>	<b>13,208</b>	<b>+ 0.1</b>	<b>+ 15.6</b>

In the Dundee district, in which are employed over 90 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns, employment continued very good, and there was a scarcity of labour, especially of men and boys. At Arbroath and Kirkealdy the operatives continued very busy; at Forfar employment was fairly good.

The imports of jute amounted to 37,532 tons, over 15,000 tons more than in May, and five and a third times the quantity imported in June, 1914. The imports of jute manufactures also showed an enormous increase, and were valued at £537,263, as compared with £209,423 a month ago, and £132,863 in June, 1914. There was a recovery in the exports of jute yarn, which rose from 2,154,000 lbs. in May to 3,744,000 lbs. in June, a figure only slightly less than that for June, 1914. The exports of jute piece goods were 13,718,000 yards, showing an increase of more than 50 per cent. as compared with May and of 14 per cent. as compared with June last year.

## LACE TRADE.

This trade maintained the improvement reported in May. Compared with a year ago there was a great decline in the number of workpeople employed, but the average earnings of those employed were 10d. per week higher than in June, 1914.

Returns from firms employing 7,663 workpeople in the week ended 26th June, 1915, showed a decrease of 0.5 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and practically no change in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 14.6 per cent. in the number employed, and of 4.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

BRANCHES.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Levers .. ..	1,680	- 0.2	- 20.7	1,921	- 3.9	- 3.9
Curtain .. ..	2,379	- 1.4	- 15.5	2,710	- 0.6	- 4.4
Plain Net .. ..	2,787	+ 0.3	- 15.3	2,680	+ 4.2	- 8.6
Others .. ..	817	- 1.4	+ 9.1	693	- 1.4	+ 17.3
<b>TOTAL .. ..</b>	<b>7,663</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>- 14.6</b>	<b>8,004</b>	<b>+ 0.1</b>	<b>- 4.2</b>
<b>DISTRICTS.</b>						
Nottingham City .. ..	2,525	- 0.2	- 6.5	2,426	- 0.5	+ 4.7
Long Eaton and other out-lying districts	958	-	- 22.7	1,291	- 1.5	+ 0.7
Other English Districts ..	2,446	+ 0.1	- 18.7	2,397	+ 1.9	- 10.2
Scotland .. ..	1,734	- 2.1	- 14.3	1,850	- 0.4	- 9.5
<b>TOTAL .. ..</b>	<b>7,663</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>- 14.6</b>	<b>8,004</b>	<b>+ 0.1</b>	<b>- 4.2</b>

At Nottingham employment in the levers branch continued bad, with much short time; it was fair in the curtain branch, and good in the plain net branch. On the whole employment showed little change compared with either a month ago or a year ago. At Long Eaton employment continued bad and was worse than a month ago. In other parts of England there was a slight improvement. In Scotland employment continued fairly good, and some overtime was reported.

The imports of cotton lace were valued at £103,985, over 91 per cent. of the figure for June, 1914. The exports were valued at £240,599, as compared with £204,490 in May, and £287,198 in June, 1914.

## HOSIERY TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued brisk, and was better than a month ago and a year ago. Firms employing about 20 per cent. of the operatives covered by the returns reported a scarcity of workpeople of both sexes.

Returns from firms employing 23,808 workpeople in the week ended 26th June showed an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed and of 4.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 3.8 per cent. in the number employed and of 16.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. The increase in earnings was to some extent due to the payment of war bonuses.

District.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Leicester .. ..	12,671	+ 0.3	+ 3.7	12,823	+ 5.8	+ 17.3
Leicester Country District ..	2,404	+ 1.2	+ 0.3	2,150	+ 4.3	+ 9.2
Notts and Derbyshire .. ..	5,147	- 1.3	+ 0.3	4,476	+ 3.8	+ 16.4
Scotland .. ..	2,761	+ 1.3	+ 9.8	2,679	+ 0.2	+ 19.5
Other Districts .. ..	825	+ 8.0	+ 21.5	635	+ 8.0	+ 25.0
<b>TOTAL, UNITED KINGDOM</b>	<b>23,808</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>+ 3.8</b>	<b>22,763</b>	<b>+ 4.6</b>	<b>+ 16.8</b>

Employment continued very good at Leicester, and overtime was worked by about 19 per cent. of the operatives. A considerable shortage of women and girl workers was reported, and there was also a scarcity of male labour in some departments; firms employing 24 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns in this district complained of a shortage of labour. At Hinckley and Loughborough also the supply of labour was not equal to the demand.

In the Nottingham district and in Derbyshire employment with power-frame workers was good, and better than a year ago. About 25 per cent. of the operatives in the Nottingham district were on overtime to the extent of 8 hours per week, and there was very little short time.

Employment with hand-frame workers in the country districts of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, who are mainly fine hosiery workers, was still very slack, and not so good as a year ago; a large number of the operatives were only working half time.

In Scotland employment continued good, and was much better than a year ago; about 40 per cent. of the operatives were on overtime during the month.

## SILK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the silk trade continued fairly good during June. There was a decline in the number employed compared with a year ago, but the average earnings were about 10d. per week higher than in June, 1914.

Returns from firms employing 11,440 workpeople in the week ended 26th June, 1915, showed a decrease of 0.6 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and an increase of 1.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decline of 7.8 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

BRANCHES.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Throwing .. .. .	1,310	- 0.2	- 13.2	653	- 3.8	- 7.0
Spinning .. .. .	2,371	- 2.1	- 19.5	2,048	- 1.4	- 15.3
Weaving .. .. .	5,216	+ 0.4	- 1.0	3,989	+ 1.4	+ 2.3
Other .. .. .	1,524	+ 0.5	- 6.2	1,457	+ 4.6	- 0.8
Not specified .. .. .	959	- 0.1	- 3.6	850	+ 1.5	+ 9.6
<b>TOTAL .. .. .</b>	<b>11,440</b>	<b>- 0.6</b>	<b>- 7.8</b>	<b>8,937</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>	<b>- 2.9</b>
<b>DISTRICTS.</b>						
Lancashire and W. Riding of Yorkshire .. .. .	3,003	- 0.2	- 12.1	2,673	+ 1.6	- 9.1
Macclesfield, Congleton and District .. .. .	2,420	+ 0.5	- 4.0	2,054	+ 6.3	+ 0.9
Eastern Counties .. .. .	3,003	- 2.1	- 5.6	2,129	- 2.7	+ 0.7
Other Districts, including Scotland .. .. .	3,014	- 0.2	- 8.4	2,081	+ 0.0	- 1.5
<b>TOTAL .. .. .</b>	<b>11,440</b>	<b>- 0.6</b>	<b>- 7.8</b>	<b>8,937</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>	<b>- 2.9</b>

At Macclesfield employment continued slack with makers-up and hand-loom weavers in factories; in other branches it was good and better than a year ago. At Leek employment continued good generally, and was better than in June, 1914. At Congleton it was fairly good. Very little short time was reported at any of these places. In the West Riding the operatives continued to be fairly well employed. In the Eastern Counties employment was reported as good at Halstead, fair at Norwich and Great Yarmouth, moderate at Sudbury, and slack at Braintree. At Coventry employment with makers of artificial silk and with ribbon workers was fairly good.

The imports of raw silk were more than double those of a year ago; but silk knubs and waste, thrown silk and spun silk yarn showed a decline. The imports of silk manufactures were valued at £1,289,939, practically the same as in May, 1915, and in June, 1914.

The exports of silk and manufactures thereof were valued at £149,508, as compared with £103,777 in May and with £165,230 in June last year.

## CARPET TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the carpet trade showed little change as compared with May; compared with a year ago there was a considerable decline in the numbers employed, but the average earnings of those employed were 11d. per week higher.

Returns from firms employing 7,057 workpeople in the week ended 26th June, 1915, showed a decrease of 1.5 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and of 1.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decline of 12.5 per cent. in the number employed, and of 7.8 per cent. in the wages paid.

In the Kidderminster district employment was reported as fair, but short time was still being worked by most of the firms in the district. It was better than a month ago, but not so good as a year ago. Some of the operatives were still engaged on blanket contracts. In the West Riding of Yorkshire employment in the regular carpet trade was dull, but some of the machinery was still being used on Army work. In Scotland employment continued good.

## BLEACHING, PRINTING, DYEING AND FINISHING.

THERE was a further slight improvement in these trades during June. The numbers employed showed a decline in every district compared with a year ago, mainly owing to enlistments, but the average weekly wages, taking the country as a whole, increased by over 3s. per head. The increase includes a war bonus paid since April by a large number of firms.

Firms employing 20 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns reported a shortage of male labour. In a few cases women have been substituted, but about 30 firms, employing 11 per cent. of the workpeople reported on stated that such substitution was impossible owing to the nature of the work.

Returns from firms employing 25,257 workpeople in the week ended 26th June showed an increase of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 8.9 per cent. in the number employed, but an increase of 2.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

TRADES.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Bleaching .. .. .	2,842	- 0.6	- 11.7	3,290	+ 0.2	- 2.2
Printing .. .. .	787	+ 3.6	- 17.3	1,067	+ 1.3	- 10.3
Dyeing .. .. .	12,661	+ 0.3	- 8.4	20,658	+ 2.3	+ 2.3
Trimming, Finishing and other Departments .. .. .	7,915	+ 0.2	- 8.3	9,965	+ 3.1	+ 2.7
Not specified .. .. .	1,072	+ 0.1	- 5.9	1,626	+ 2.8	+ 16.5
<b>TOTAL .. .. .</b>	<b>25,257</b>	<b>+ 0.2</b>	<b>- 8.9</b>	<b>36,596</b>	<b>+ 2.3</b>	<b>+ 2.1</b>
<b>DISTRICTS:</b>						
Yorkshire .. .. .	12,062	+ 0.1	- 7.3	20,125	+ 1.8	+ 4.4
Lancashire .. .. .	7,646	+ 0.9	- 11.6	10,006	+ 1.5	- 3.1
Scotland .. .. .	2,646	- 0.2	- 6.4	2,736	- 2.0	+ 3.5
Ireland .. .. .	609	- 1.5	- 17.7	480	+ 1.7	- 18.6
Other Districts .. .. .	2,294	- 0.1	- 8.4	3,239	+ 13.0	+ 8.6
<b>TOTAL .. .. .</b>	<b>25,257</b>	<b>+ 0.2</b>	<b>- 8.9</b>	<b>36,596</b>	<b>+ 2.3</b>	<b>+ 2.1</b>

*Bleaching.*—Employment with cotton bleachers continued fair, and was better than a year ago. At Basford overtime was worked in the hosiery section, and there was an improvement in the lace section. In the Dundee district bleachfield workers were fairly well employed.

*Printing.*—The machine calico printers in England reported employment as moderate, but irregular; about 70 per cent. of the operatives were working not more than 46 hours per week. Calico printers' engravers reported employment as quiet. In Scotland it continued bad with machine printers, but was fair with engravers and block printers.

*Dyeing.*—Employment with woollen and worsted dyers in Yorkshire continued good, and was better than a year ago. With cotton dyers there was a further improvement since May, but a falling-off as compared with a year ago. At Macclesfield and Leek employment with silk dyers was good, and better than in June, 1914; at Congleton it was fair. With hosiery dyers at Nottingham and Basford employment was good, and the majority of the firms were working overtime.

*Trimming, Finishing etc.*—At Leicester and Hinckley employment with hosiery trimmers, etc., continued fairly good, and was better than a year ago. At Loughborough employment was good on army and navy work but only moderate in the cotton goods department. At Basford overtime was general. Calender workers at Dundee were well employed, and overtime was also worked at this centre.

## HAT TRADE.

DURING June employment in the silk hat trade in London and in the provincial centres was quiet, and worse than a year ago; short time was general.

In the felt hat trade employment showed an improvement in all the principal centres. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of June was 1.3, compared with 2.8 a month ago and 3.0 a year ago.

At Denton employment was quiet, but showed an improvement towards the end of the month; about 55 per cent. of the operatives averaged 10 to 12 hours per week short time. At Stockport employment was reported as fair; about 20 per cent. of the workers were on short time as compared with about 50 per cent. in May. In Warwickshire employment was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago, but output was affected by a scarcity of labour of all ages and of both sexes.

## BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued very good, and the shortage of male labour became more pronounced in consequence of further enlistments. All available labour was employed, and at a large number of works overtime was in operation. In some departments, hitherto worked exclusively by men, female labour has now been introduced. On account of the shortage of workers and the pressure of work for the British and Allied Forces in connection with the war, many private orders had to be refused.

Returns from firms employing 62,620 workpeople in the week ended 26th June showed a decrease of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed, but an increase of 0.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 2.5 per cent. in the number employed, but an increase of 14.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. The increase is due partly to overtime and partly to the war bonuses now being paid.

District.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.</b>						
London .. .. .	2,107	+ 0.1	- 6.4	2,895	+ 4.5	+ 7.6
Leicester .. .. .	11,777	- 1.0	- 1.1	15,777	- 1.2	+ 18.8
Leicester Country District .. .. .	3,179	- 1.5	- 6.5	3,900	+ 3.1	+ 13.0
Northampton .. .. .	9,181	+ 1.5	- 2.5	11,503	+ 3.3	+ 14.3
Northampton Country District .. .. .	9,272	- 0.7	- 3.3	11,008	- 4.2	+ 15.6
Kettering .. .. .	4,478	+ 0.1	+ 2.7	5,716	+ 0.6	+ 24.2
Stafford & District .. .. .	2,728	+ 0.5	- 6.9	3,325	+ 3.1	+ 5.7
Norwich & District .. .. .	4,113	- 1.7	- 12.2	4,269	- 3.6	- 2.1
Bristol & District .. .. .	1,611	- 0.9	+ 7.3	1,765	- 1.8	+ 22.7
Kingswood .. .. .	2,032	- 0.6	+ 7.7	2,361	- 1.5	+ 24.9
Leeds & District .. .. .	2,452	0.0	+ 4.7	2,842	- 2.2	+ 19.6
Manchester & District .. .. .	3,255	+ 2.0	+ 5.0	3,618	+ 2.8	+ 9.4
Birmingham & District .. .. .	937	- 1.1	- 6.4	1,004	+ 8.0	+ 16.9
Other parts of England and Wales .. .. .	2,009	0.0	- 1.8	1,898	+ 2.9	+ 12.9
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES .. .. .</b>	<b>59,136</b>	<b>- 0.2</b>	<b>- 2.1</b>	<b>71,881</b>	<b>+ 0.0</b>	<b>+ 14.7</b>
SCOTLAND .. .. .	3,156	- 1.3	- 8.0	3,813	+ 1.7	+ 4.8
IRELAND .. .. .	328	+ 3.8	- 8.9	273	+ 11.9	+ 0.7
<b>UNITED KINGDOM .. .. .</b>	<b>62,620</b>	<b>- 0.2</b>	<b>- 2.5</b>	<b>75,967</b>	<b>+ 0.1</b>	<b>+ 14.1</b>

The imports of boots and shoes in June amounted to 20,183 dozen pairs, a decline of nearly 15,000 dozen pairs as compared with June, 1914.

The exports were 97,234 dozen pairs, as compared with 123,642 dozen pairs a year ago. There was a falling off in exports to most countries, but a great increase in those to the Netherlands and to South Africa.

## LEATHER TRADES.

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

Trade Unions with a membership of 4,003 reported 0.4 per cent. unemployed at the end of June, compared with 0.8 per cent. a month ago and 4.7 per cent. a year ago.

*Skinner, Tanners, Curriers, Leather Dressers &c.*—Employment with tanners and curriers continued very good, a considerable amount of overtime being worked on Government orders. With skinner employment remained fairly good, while a shortage of labour was reported by finishers of light leather.

*Saddle and Harness Makers.*—Employment continued very good, with overtime on Government work; with

brown saddlers at Walsall, however, short time was reported.

*Miscellaneous Trades.*—Workpeople ordinarily employed in the making of purses, hand bags, portmantaux, &c., were fully employed at most centres on Government work.

The imports of raw hides in June amounted to 205,094 cwts., an increase of 64,000 cwts. over May and of nearly 78,000 cwts. over June, 1914. The imports of leather showed a slight reduction as compared with June last year (105,911 cwts. against 107,507 cwts.). Leather manufactures imported were valued at £127,550, as against £177,816 in June, 1914.

The exports of leather amounted to 14,131 cwts., 10,000 cwts. less than in June last year; and the exports of leather manufactures (other than boots and shoes) were valued at £190,437, an increase of £27,000 over June, 1914, owing to greatly increased exports of saddlery and harness.

## TAILORING TRADE.

## BESPOKE.

London.—Employment during June was slack in the civilian trade, but good in the military section. On the whole, it was below the level of a year ago.

Returns from firms paying £11,032 to their workpeople (indoor and outdoor workers) during the four weeks ended 26th June showed a decrease of 3.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 7.0 per cent. compared with a year ago.

*Other Centres.*—At Manchester and Liverpool employment was reported as good. At Glasgow and Belfast it was fair, but a seasonal decline was recorded at the former place.

## READY-MADE AND WHOLESALE BESPOKE.

In all the principal centres there was again great activity in the factories, and employment was very much above the level of a year ago, especially in London, Manchester and Glasgow.

Returns from firms employing 35,959 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended 26th June showed an increase of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed, and of 1.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 13.3 per cent. in the number employed, and of 31.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. About 34 per cent. of the operatives were reported to be working more than the normal hours during June.

District.	Indoor Workpeople.					
	Number.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Leeds .. .. .</b>	<b>10,173</b>	<b>- 2.5</b>	<b>+ 1.9</b>	<b>£ 9,408</b>	<b>- 3.1</b>	<b>+ 12.2</b>
<b>Manchester .. .. .</b>	<b>3,506</b>	<b>+ 1.0</b>	<b>+ 35.6</b>	<b>3,750</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>+ 51.9</b>
<b>Other places in Yorkshire, Lancs. &amp; Cheshire .. .. .</b>	<b>4,726</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>	<b>+ 5.4</b>	<b>4,210</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>+ 17.4</b>
<b>Bristol .. .. .</b>	<b>2,074</b>	<b>- 0.9</b>	<b>- 5.5</b>	<b>1,703</b>	<b>+ 2.1</b>	<b>+ 5.8</b>
<b>North and West Midland Counties (excluding Bristol) .. .. .</b>	<b>4,078</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>+ 13.8</b>	<b>3,422</b>	<b>+ 1.1</b>	<b>+ 33.0</b>
<b>South Midland &amp; Eastern Counties .. .. .</b>	<b>4,007</b>	<b>+ 0.1</b>	<b>+ 10.6</b>	<b>3,638</b>	<b>+ 2.3</b>	<b>+ 25.5</b>
<b>London .. .. .</b>	<b>3,672</b>	<b>+ 8.0</b>	<b>+ 77.4</b>	<b>4,612</b>	<b>+ 15.0</b>	<b>+ 135.9</b>
<b>Glasgow .. .. .</b>	<b>1,490</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>+ 40.8</b>	<b>1,688</b>	<b>+ 8.2</b>	<b>+ 56.9</b>
<b>Rest of United Kingdom .. .. .</b>	<b>2,233</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>	<b>+ 3.4</b>	<b>3,467</b>	<b>- 0.7</b>	<b>+ 25.2</b>
<b>TOTAL, UNITED KINGDOM .. .. .</b>	<b>35,959</b>	<b>+ 0.2</b>	<b>+ 13.3</b>	<b>35,898</b>	<b>+ 1.4</b>	<b>+ 31.4</b>

The total amount of wages paid to outworkers by the above firms showed a decrease of about 18 per cent. compared with May, but an increase of about 56 per cent. as compared with June, 1914.

At Leeds there was a further relaxation of pressure, but employment was good, and better than a

year ago; about 29 per cent. of the operatives were on overtime during the month as compared with 36 per cent. in May. At Manchester employment was still much above the level of a year ago. Employment was said to be fair at Wigan and Huddersfield, and good at Liverpool, Hebden Bridge, Bristol, Stroud, Walsall, Tamworth, Norwich, Colchester and Plymouth.

Increased activity prevailed in London; compared with a year ago the numbers employed by the firms making returns has increased by 77 per cent., while the total earnings showed an increase of 136 per cent.

In Glasgow there was an improvement compared with a month ago; in this district there was an increase of 41 per cent. in the number employed, and of 57 per cent. in the amount of wages as compared with June, 1914.

### SHIRT AND COLLAR TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT showed a slight decline in June as compared with a month ago; it was better on the whole than a year ago.

The supply of labour was not quite equal to the demand, especially in the London area.

Returns from firms employing 20,473 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended 26th June showed a decrease of 0.3 per cent. in the number employed and of 2.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 0.7 per cent. in the number employed, but an increase of 4.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

District	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
London .. .. .	5,032	- 0.5	- 5.0	4,286	+ 0.2	- 2.8
Manchester .. .. .	3,352	+ 9.5	+ 13.9	2,728	- 9.8	+ 26.5
Rest of Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire. S.W. Counties .. .. .	1,487	- 2.4	+ 3.6	926	- 12.2	+ 8.8
Rest of England and Wales .. .. .	2,800	- 0.8	- 6.0	1,806	- 2.0	- 3.6
Glasgow .. .. .	1,536	+ 0.3	+ 6.5	1,083	4.0	+ 9.9
Londonderry .. .. .	2,007	+ 2.2	+ 0.1	1,421	+ 6.8	+ 8.8
Belfast .. .. .	2,072	+ 2.1	- 5.8	1,193	+ 6.5	+ 2.4
Rest of Ireland .. .. .	1,280	+ 0.2	- 6.9	928	- 1.3	- 5.9
TOTAL, UNITED KINGDOM	20,473	- 0.3	- 0.7	14,862	- 2.2	+ 4.4

In London employment continued moderate, except with operatives employed on Army shirts, who were well employed; the average weekly earnings were slightly higher than a year ago. Firms employing about 14 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the Returns in this district reported a shortage of workers.

In Manchester there was a decline as compared with a month ago, but employment was fairly good and much better than in June, 1914.

In the South-Western Counties employment continued fair on the whole, but some short time was reported; in the collar and cuff factories at Bideford, Barnstaple and Exeter the operatives were fairly well employed.

In Glasgow employment was fair, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

In Londonderry there was some slackness in the collar branch, but employment was good on Army work, and on the whole better than in May. In Belfast employment was fair on the whole, but bad in the collar department.

### OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

#### DRESSMAKING AND MILLINERY.

RETURNS from retail firms in London, chiefly in the West End, employing 2,272 dressmakers in the week ended 26th June, showed an increase of 0.6 per cent. in the number employed, compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 13.6 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was moderate.

With court and private dressmakers returns from firms employing 934 workpeople in the week ended 26th June showed a decrease of 7.2 per cent. in the number em-

ployed, compared with a month ago, and of 24.9 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was only moderate.

With milliners in the West End employment was moderate, and below the level of a year ago.

#### MANTLE, COSTUME, BLOUSE, &c., TRADES.

In the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, underclothing and millinery trades firms in London employing 5,191 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended 26th June showed a decrease of 2.5 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, but an increase of 3.8 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was fairly good, and there was some scarcity of labour, mainly in the blouse branch.

At Manchester firms employing 5,475 workpeople in the week ended 26th June in the costume, blouse, mantle, etc., trades showed a decrease of 1.5 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 6.4 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment on the whole was good, and about 15 per cent. of the workpeople were on overtime during the month. Several firms reported a shortage of women workers.

At Glasgow employment in the mantle, costume and underclothing trades was good. Returns from firms employing 1,856 workpeople in the week ended 26th June showed a decrease of 1.4 per cent. in the number employed, compared with a month ago, and of 3.0 per cent. compared with June, 1914. About 27 per cent. of the operatives worked overtime during the month, and a shortage of labour was reported by firms employing about 23 per cent. of the workers covered by the returns.

#### CORSET TRADE.

Employment continued good, and the supply of labour was not quite equal to the demand. Returns from corset manufacturers, mainly in England, employing 5,986 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended 26th June showed an increase of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed compared with May, and a decrease of 3.0 per cent. compared with a year ago.

### PRINTING, BOOKBINDING AND PAPER TRADES.

#### PRINTING TRADES.

WITH letterpress printers in London employment was fairly good, and better than a month ago, many compositors working overtime. A shortage of labour, especially of boys, was frequently reported. In other centres employment was still quiet, short time being still in operation to some extent in most places.

With lithographic printers employment continued fairly good; some shortage of labour was reported.

Returns from Trade Unions with a membership of 51,261 show that the percentage unemployed at the end of the month was 2.7 compared with 4.0 a month ago and 3.2 a year ago.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of June, 1915.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		June, 1915.	May, 1915.	June, 1914.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		London .. .. .	23,445	2.1	3.7	3.0
Northern Counties and Yorkshire .. .. .	5,220	3.6	5.0	3.6	- 1.4	+ 0.0
Lancs and Cheshire .. .. .	6,703	3.6	4.8	4.0	- 1.2	- 0.4
East Midland and Eastern Counties .. .. .	2,574	1.5	2.7	2.7	- 1.2	- 1.2
West Midlands .. .. .	2,539	3.5	3.6	3.9	- 0.1	- 0.4
S. & S.-W. Counties and Wales .. .. .	3,726	2.2	2.6	2.4	- 0.4	- 0.2
Scotland .. .. .	4,759	1.9	2.5	2.6	- 0.6	- 0.7
Ireland .. .. .	2,285	7.6	9.4	4.4	- 1.8	+ 3.2
UNITED KINGDOM .. .. .	51,261	2.7	4.0	3.2	- 1.3	- 0.5

According to returns from firms employing 17,979 workpeople in the week ended 26th June, the number of persons employed showed a decrease of 2.2 per cent. on a month ago, while the amount of wages paid

decreased by 1.1 per cent. Compared with a year ago there were decreases of 19.2 per cent. and 17.0 per cent. respectively.

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 26th June.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th June.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
London .. .. .	5,557	- 0.6	- 17.2	3,704	- 1.5	- 16.8
Northern Counties and Yorkshire .. .. .	1,714	- 2.7	- 17.8	2,081	- 8.0	- 16.6
Lancashire and Cheshire .. .. .	2,959	- 2.4	- 15.1	4,692	- 0.5	- 13.6
Midland and Eastern Counties .. .. .	2,862	- 3.7	- 24.0	3,601	- 1.2	- 20.5
Scotland .. .. .	2,891	- 3.4	- 22.9	3,425	+ 3.0	- 21.0
Other Districts .. .. .	1,814	- 2.1	- 18.4	2,280	- 0.2	- 12.1
UNITED KINGDOM .. .. .	17,797	- 2.2	- 19.2	24,783	- 1.1	- 17.0

#### BOOKBINDING TRADES.

Employment was fairly good on the whole, and better than a month ago and a year ago, partly owing to enlistments. In London short time was worked by many letterpress binders, but stationery binders were busy.

Returns from firms employing 9,777 workpeople in the week ended 26th June show a decrease in the number employed of 1.8 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 1.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Compared with a year ago there were decreases of 18.1 per cent. and 16.6 per cent. respectively:—

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 26th June.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th June.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
London .. .. .	3,062	2.4	- 20.2	3,262	+ 1.5	- 16.4
Northern Counties and Yorkshire .. .. .	799	+ 0.8	- 24.4	641	- 8.9	- 18.1
Lancashire and Cheshire .. .. .	1,517	- 3.8	- 15.4	1,388	+ 2.9	- 8.6
Midland and Eastern Counties .. .. .	1,341	- 1.6	- 24.8	1,041	+ 1.6	- 23.2
Scotland .. .. .	2,089	- 4.2	- 21.2	1,644	+ 4.6	- 21.4
Other Districts .. .. .	969	+ 0.2	- 5.3	753	+ 1.3	- 7.5
UNITED KINGDOM .. .. .	9,777	- 1.8	- 18.1	8,729	+ 1.4	- 16.6

Trade Unions with a membership of 5,754 had 1.6 per cent. unemployed at the end of June, 1915, as compared with 2.2 per cent. a month ago and 3.7 per cent. a year ago:—

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of June, 1915.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		June, 1915.	May, 1915.	June, 1914.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		London .. .. .	2,954	1.6	2.7	4.4
Other Districts .. .. .	2,800	1.7	1.7	2.9	+ 0.0	- 1.2
UNITED KINGDOM .. .. .	5,754	1.6	2.2	3.7	- 0.6	- 2.1

#### PAPER TRADES.

Employment continued fairly good, a scarcity of labour being again reported in a few cases, though, on the other hand, some short time was worked at several mills in Scotland. There was on the whole a slight improvement compared with the previous month.

Returns from firms employing 14,646 workpeople in the last week of June showed a decrease of 0.3 per cent. in the total number of workpeople employed compared with a month ago and of 7.5 per cent. compared with a year ago:—

Districts.	Workpeople paid Wages in last week of June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.
		London .. .. .	3,423
Northern Counties .. .. .	1,334	+ 0.6	- 4.4
Midlands, Wales, and Ireland .. .. .	5,868	- 0.2	- 5.5
Southern Counties .. .. .	3,589	- 0.3	- 12.5
Scotland .. .. .	1,314	- 0.2	- 7.2
TOTAL MACHINE-MADE PAPER, &c. .. .. .	13,914	- 0.2	- 7.2
Hand-made Paper .. .. .	732	- 1.2	- 13.3
TOTAL .. .. .	14,646	- 0.3	- 7.5

Trade Unions in the machine-made paper trade with 3,684 members had 0.4 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of both June and May, 1915; at the end of June, 1914, the percentage was 0.9. In the hand-made paper trade Trade Unions with 438 members had 2.1 per cent. unemployed at the end of June, 1915, compared with 2.9 per cent. in May and 10.8 per cent. a year ago.

The value of paper-making materials imported in June was £621,996 as compared with £381,122 in May and £530,435 in June, 1914; as compared with last year there was an increase in chemical wood pulp, but a decrease in mechanical pulp; other materials showed little change. The imports of paper amounted to 982,362 cwts., nearly 100,000 cwts. more than in May and only 20,000 cwts. less than in June, 1914.

The exports of paper amounted to 232,891 cwts., as compared with 207,540 cwts. in May and with 281,472 cwts. in June, 1914.

### WOODWORKING AND FURNISHING TRADES.

#### MILL SAWING AND MACHINING.

EMPLOYMENT was good in general, and showed a slight improvement both on a month ago and on a year ago. The percentage unemployed at the end of June among workpeople engaged in mill sawing, and insured against unemployment under Part II. of the National Insurance Act, was 0.9, as compared with 1.2 at the end of May and 3.6 a year ago. Trade Unions with an aggregate membership of 7,806, excluding those serving with the colours, reported 1.6 per cent. of their members unemployed both in May and June, as compared with 1.9 per cent. a year ago.

Employment was again very good, with overtime, at Newcastle, and overtime was also reported at Dundee and at Partick. It was fair in the Tees and Hartlepool district, in the Potteries and at Edinburgh and Leith, and slack at Belfast and in the Norwich and Bedford districts.

The imports of hewn and sawn timber amounted to 613,664 loads, as compared with 521,987 loads in May, and 1,056,758 in June, 1914. Compared with May there was a decline in pit-props, but a seasonal increase in sawn and split wood, especially from Sweden. The decline as compared with June last year was due chiefly to a very great reduction in imports from Russia.

#### FURNISHING.

There was little change in the state of employment in the furnishing trades as compared with either the previous month or June, 1914. Trade Unions with a total membership of 17,432, excluding members serving with the colours, reported 3.0 per cent. of their members unemployed both at the end of June and at the end of May, as compared with 2.7 per cent. a year ago.

Employment was fairly good with cabinet makers and upholsterers at most centres. It was very good, with overtime, in the cabinet making trade at Nottingham and at Birmingham, especially on Government work. It continued good at Dundee, with overtime on Government work. In the Sheffield district employment declined, and was slack, with short time at certain places. Short time was reported with cabinet makers at Edinburgh, and overtime with upholsterers at Plymouth.

The imports of furniture woods were 24,220 tons, an increase of over 50 per cent. on the figure for May, but over 23 per cent. less than in June last year. The exports of furniture and cabinet ware were valued at £39,887 as compared with £76,367 a year ago.

#### COACH BUILDING.

Employment was good on the whole, with overtime in many districts, largely on Government work. Trade Unions with 12,274 members, exclusive of those serving with the colours, reported 0.8 per cent. unemployed at the end of both May and June, as compared with 1.3 per cent. a year ago.

## COOPERS.

Coopers were well employed on the whole, the condition of employment being about the same as a month ago, and better than a year ago. Trade Unions with 4,039 members, excluding those serving with the colours, reported 0.1 per cent. of these members unemployed at the end of both May and June, as compared with 1.7 per cent. a year ago. Overtime was reported from Edinburgh and Liverpool. At Birmingham, however, employment was slack on dry work.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**Brushmaking.**—Employment continued good with brushmakers and was better than a year ago. Overtime on Government orders was reported at some centres. Trade Unions with 1,387 members, excluding those serving with the colours, reported 0.6 per cent. unemployed at the end of June, as compared with 0.1 per cent. at the end of May, and 1.9 per cent. a year ago.

**Other Trades.**—Employment continued good with wheelwrights and smiths, and was better than a year ago. It was good with packing-case makers, and was better than both a month ago and a year ago, and a considerable amount of overtime was reported. It was very good at Manchester, where there was a shortage of labour; but some short time was again reported from Bradford. Basket makers were well employed, and overtime was reported in the London and Oldham districts.

## BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS.

ORDINARY building work remained quiet in June, though painters were still busy, as is usual at this time of the year.

The percentage unemployed continued low, however, in all building occupations (varying from 0.7 for navvies to 2.6 for plasterers), many men being engaged on Government building work, many having enlisted, and many having joined other trades.

The following Table shows the percentage unemployed among 825,073 workpeople insured against unemployment under Part II. of the National Insurance Act, in each of the principal occupations, at the end of June, 1915:—

Occupations.	Number Insured at end of June, 1915.	Percentage Unemployed at end of June.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
Carpenters .. .. .	128,834	2.2	- 0.2	- 0.4
Bricklayers .. .. .	68,230	2.0	+ 0.1	- 1.2
Masons .. .. .	40,497	2.3	- 0.5	- 0.9
Plasterers .. .. .	20,640	2.6	- 0.3	- 4.9
Painters .. .. .	128,703	0.9	+ 0.3	- 2.6
Plumbers .. .. .	35,748	1.4	- 0.3	- 2.2
Other skilled occupations .. .. .	36,712	1.4	- 0.3	- 3.2
Navvies .. .. .	106,229	0.7	- 0.1	- 2.5
Labourers .. .. .	269,480	1.2	+ 0.1	- 3.7
<b>ALL OCCUPATIONS</b> .. .. .	<b>825,073*</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>- 2.4</b>

The next Table shows in detail the percentage unemployed in the above occupations in each geographical division. In all occupations taken together there were decreases in the percentage unemployed as compared with May in all districts except in the Eastern and South-Eastern counties, in the South-Western counties, and in London, where there were slight increases. In the case of masons there were decreases in every district; in that of painters and plasterers there were small increases in most districts; and in that of labourers there was practically no change in any district. Compared with a year ago the percentage unemployed showed a decrease in each occupation in every district except as regards bricklayers, masons, and carpenters; in these occupations there was an increase (generally slight) in some districts. The improvement compared with a year ago was much more marked in London than anywhere else. This district and Ireland had the highest actual percentages unemployed for all occupations taken together, viz.: 2.6 and 6.2 respectively, while no other district had a higher percentage than 1.3.

\* At the end of June, 1914, the number was 947,685.

Districts.	Number Insured.	Per cent. Un-emp. p'y'd.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Number Insured.	Per cent. Un-emp. p'y'd.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Mnth ago.	Year ago.	Mnth ago.	Year ago.		Mnth ago.	Year ago.		
<b>Carpenters.</b>										
London .. .. .	21,636	3.8	- 0.4	- 3.0		11,025	3.8	+ 0.9	- 6.0	
Northern Counties	6,075	1.2	- 0.1	+ 0.3		3,503	1.5	- 0.1	+ 1.0	
North Western ..	14,390	2.0	- 0.2	- 0.1		7,971	1.6	- 0.6	+ 0.4	
Yorkshire .. .. .	10,157	1.2	- 0.6	- 0.2		5,561	0.8	- 0.1	- 0.5	
East Midlands ..	6,758	1.1	- 0.5	- 0.5		5,330	1.4	- 0.4	+ 0.2	
West Midlands ..	8,149	0.5	- 0.1	- 1.6		7,265	0.5	..	- 1.0	
Eastern & S.E. Count.	21,554	1.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.2		15,496	2.3	+ 0.2	..	
South Western ..	14,444	1.4	+ 0.4	- 1.1		6,068	1.9	+ 0.2	- 0.9	
Wales .. .. .	6,780	0.9	- 0.2	- 0.2		2,197	0.8	- 0.2	- 0.1	
Scotland .. .. .	12,316	0.8	..	+ 0.2		1,980	0.9	+ 0.4	- 0.2	
Ireland .. .. .	6,577	11.4	- 1.3	+ 6.8		1,829	5.7	- 0.4	+ 0.9	

Districts.	Number Insured.	Per cent. Un-emp. p'y'd.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Number Insured.	Per cent. Un-emp. p'y'd.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Mnth ago.	Year ago.	Mnth ago.	Year ago.		Mnth ago.	Year ago.		
<b>Masons.</b>										
London .. .. .	2,368	5.9	- 0.1	- 11.4		4,466	3.1	- 0.7	- 14.1	
Northern Counties	2,336	0.9	- 0.8	+ 0.1		887	1.4	+ 0.2	- 1.5	
North Western ..	3,573	2.7	- 1.2	+ 1.0		2,248	2.3	- 1.6	- 3.3	
Yorkshire .. .. .	4,607	1.4	- 0.2	- 0.9		1,476	1.4	+ 0.6	- 1.6	
East Midlands ..	1,129	2.2	- 0.4	- 0.4		547	1.8	- 1.5	- 1.0	
West Midlands ..	923	1.6	- 0.5	- 1.0		980	1.8	+ 0.1	- 3.1	
Eastern & S.E. Count.	1,414	2.5	- 0.7	- 5.4		2,161	2.5	+ 0.4	- 2.2	
South Western ..	7,783	2.2	- 0.1	- 1.7		2,032	3.1	- 0.8	- 1.2	
Wales .. .. .	7,665	1.4	- 0.4	+ 0.4		1,914	1.8	+ 0.1	- 0.2	
Scotland .. .. .	7,665	1.4	- 0.4	+ 0.4		2,360	1.4	+ 0.3	- 1.7	
Ireland .. .. .	2,611	6.5	- 2.6	- 1.1		1,569	6.4	- 1.4	- 1.1	

Districts.	Number Insured.	Per cent. Un-emp. p'y'd.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Number Insured.	Per cent. Un-emp. p'y'd.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Mnth ago.	Year ago.	Mnth ago.	Year ago.		Mnth ago.	Year ago.		
<b>Painters.</b>										
London .. .. .	35,989	2.0	+ 0.9	- 5.2		6,635	2.7	- 0.6	- 2.0	
Northern Counties	3,822	0.1	- 0.1	- 0.5		1,790	0.3	- 0.5	- 1.5	
North Western ..	14,105	0.2	..	- 0.9		5,002	2.0	- 0.8	- 3.0	
Yorkshire .. .. .	8,248	0.5	+ 0.3	- 0.5		3,072	1.1	- 0.4	- 2.3	
East Midlands ..	4,998	0.6	+ 0.4	- 1.5		1,479	1.1	- 0.4	- 2.3	
West Midlands ..	5,640	0.2	..	- 1.3		2,116	0.6	..	- 3.0	
Eastern & S.E. Count.	22,107	0.7	+ 0.3	- 1.6		4,143	1.1	+ 0.4	- 1.1	
South Western ..	12,617	0.6	+ 0.3	- 2.3		3,223	0.8	+ 0.2	- 2.3	
Wales .. .. .	4,093	0.2	- 0.1	- 0.5		866	0.3	- 1.4	- 2.1	
Scotland .. .. .	9,539	0.3	+ 0.2	- 0.5		6,041	0.2	..	- 1.8	
Ireland .. .. .	4,645	1.9	- 1.1	- 1.8		1,376	5.4	- 2.2	- 2.2	

Districts.	Number Insured.	Per cent. Un-emp. p'y'd.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Number Insured.	Per cent. Un-emp. p'y'd.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Mnth ago.	Year ago.	Mnth ago.	Year ago.		Mnth ago.	Year ago.		
<b>Other Skilled Workers.</b>										
London .. .. .	8,419	2.9	- 0.3	- 5.4		9,430	2.0	+ 0.6	- 4.0	
Northern Counties	2,508	0.5	..	- 1.5		7,378	0.2	- 0.1	- 1.3	
North Western ..	4,612	1.4	- 0.5	- 2.9		19,834	0.4	- 0.2	- 1.1	
Yorkshire .. .. .	2,496	1.0	- 0.8	- 2.6		11,626	0.4	..	- 2.1	
East Midlands ..	7,712	0.9	+ 0.1	- 1.5		6,998	0.6	+ 0.1	- 2.5	
West Midlands ..	2,141	0.4	- 0.5	- 4.2		6,343	0.3	- 0.2	- 3.6	
Eastern & S.E. Count.	2,869	0.6	- 0.1	- 2.9		11,753	0.8	..	- 3.0	
South Western ..	2,326	1.0	- 0.1	- 3.4		7,679	1.2	+ 0.1	- 8.1	
Wales .. .. .	1,473	0.7	- 0.3	- 1.2		11,405	0.3	..	- 0.9	
Scotland .. .. .	6,855	0.2	- 0.1	- 1.6		12,077	0.3	- 0.1	- 1.0	
Ireland .. .. .	1,301	5.8	- 0.1	- 4.6		2,708	4.4	- 2.5	- 5.2	

Districts.	Number Insured.	Per cent. Un-emp. p'y'd.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Number Insured.	Per cent. Un-emp. p'y'd.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Mnth ago.	Year ago.	Mnth ago.	Year ago.		Mnth ago.	Year ago.		
<b>Labourers.</b>										
London .. .. .	54,337	2.0	+ 0.4	- 7.2		154,305	2.6	+ 0.4	- 5.8	
Northern Counties	12,006	0.3	- 0.1	- 1.6		40,308	0.6	- 0.1	- 0.8	
North Western ..	37,654	0.6	..	- 1.9		109,389	1.0	- 0.2	- 1.2	
Yorkshire .. .. .	20,057	0.7	..	- 2.5		67,300	0.8	- 0.1	- 1.5	
East Midlands ..	11,552	0.6	..	- 2.7		39,501	0.9	- 0.1	- 1.6	
West Midlands ..	17,560	0.4	+ 0.1	- 2.9		54,017	0.5	..	- 2.3	
Eastern & S.E. Count.	38,822	0.8	..	- 2.9		120,324	1.1	+ 0.2	- 2.9	
South Western ..	24,157	1.1	..	- 4.3		80,329	1.3	+ 0.2	- 1.7	
Wales .. .. .	14,404	0.8	..	- 1.9		49,220	0.7	- 0.1	- 0.8	
Scotland .. .. .	16,150	0.3	..	- 1.9		74,983	0.5	- 0.1	- 0.9	
Ireland .. .. .	12,781	5.6	- 0.6	- 4.1		35,397	6.2	- 1.2	- 0.8	

## GLASS TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good on the whole.

Returns from firms employing 10,033 workpeople in the week ended 26th June showed a decrease of 0.9 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed compared with a month ago, but an increase of 0.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Compared with a year ago there were decreases of 12.9 per cent. and 3.8 per cent. respectively. The comparison so far as wages is concerned is affected to some extent by the payment of a war bonus by a few firms.

Districts.	Number Insured.	Per cent. Un-emp. p'y'd.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Number Insured.	Per cent. Un-emp. p'y'd.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Mnth ago.	Year ago.	Mnth ago.	Year ago.		Mnth ago.	Year ago.		
<b>BRANCHES.</b>										
Glass Bottle .. .. .	7,085	- 0.5	- 12.8			10,885	+ 0.5	- 3.2		
Flint Glass Ware (not bottles)	2,372	- 2.6	- 13.5			3,008	- 0.4	- 5.3		
Other Branches .. .. .	596	+ 1.2	- 10.6			709	+ 3.2	- 6.8		
<b>TOTAL</b> .. .. .	<b>10,033</b>	<b>- 0.9</b>	<b>- 12.9</b>			<b>14,582</b>	<b>+ 0.5</b>	<b>- 3.8</b>		

## CEMENT TRADE.

Overtime was general in the cement trade, and there was a great shortage of labour.

Returns from firms employing 7,371 workpeople in the week ended 26th June showed a decrease of 2.7 per cent. in the number employed but an increase of 0.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with June, 1914, there was a decrease of 26.5 per cent. in the number employed, but the average earnings were 5s. 2d. per week higher than in June, 1914.

The exports of cement in June amounted to 45,136 tons, practically the same amount as a year ago. Much larger exports to the Argentine and to Australia compensated for reduced exports to the Netherlands and to the British East Indies.

## POTTERY TRADES.

THERE was little change on the previous month in the earthenware section of the pottery trades, but in the other branches employment continued to improve. Compared with a year ago, the number employed was considerably less, but the average earnings increased, partly owing to the payment of war bonuses.

The shortage of male labour continued, causing in some centres a restriction in the number of hours worked; slackness in the trade was responsible for short time at other places, and altogether about 18 per cent. of the workpeople reported on were working short time. Employment was adversely affected by slackness in the export trade, and by a reduced demand from the building trade.

Returns from firms employing 17,196 workpeople in the week ended 26th June showed an increase of 0.2 per cent. in the numbers employed and of 1.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 11.7 per cent. in the numbers employed, and of 3.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Districts.	Workpeople.		Earnings.			
	Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
BRANCHES.	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.		
					Per cent.	
China Manufacture ..	3,127	+ 2.9	- 4.9	4,167	+ 7.1	+ 5.6
Earthenware Manufacture	10,362	- 0.5	- 10.4	10,676	- 0.7	- 1.6
Other Branches (including unspecified)	3,707	- 0.3	- 19.8	3,519	+ 1.9	- 17.2
<b>TOTAL</b> .. .. .	<b>17,196</b>	<b>+ 0.2</b>	<b>- 11.7</b>	<b>18,362</b>	<b>+ 1.5</b>	<b>- 3.6</b>

The imports of china, earthenware and pottery amounted to only 8,604 cwt., as compared with 73,379 cwt. a year ago. The exports amounted to 222,099 cwt., as compared with 297,549 cwt. in June, 1914. The decline in exports was greatest in sanitary ware (63 per cent. less than in June last year).

## FOOD PREPARATION TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades showed a further slight improvement, and was very good. There was a general shortage of male labour, and in some quarters a demand for women and girls also. Overtime was largely worked. Returns from firms employing 57,642 workpeople in the week ended 26th June showed an increase of 1.6 per cent. in the number employed and of 3.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with May. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 1.4 per cent. in the numbers employed, but an increase of 20.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Districts.	Workpeople.		Earnings.			
	Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
DISTRICTS.	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.		
					Per cent.	
North of England .. ..	1,037	- 6.0	- 21.7	1,411	- 4.1	- 9.8
Yorkshire .. .. .	4,864	+ 1.2	- 8.7	7,334	+ 2.4	+ 0.9
Lancashire .. .. .	1,054	- 3.5	- 15.4	1,428	- 0.9	- 1.2
Worcestershire and Warwickshire	864	- 0.7	- 15.5	1,169	- 1.1	- 12.2
Scotland .. .. .	1,173	- 0.7	- 24.5	1,731	- 0.3	

Trade.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Sugar Refining, &c.	5,269	- 3.2	+ 4.1	8,360	+ 0.0	+ 19.3
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery	31,006	- 0.1	- 4.2	30,931	+ 1.8	+ 20.0
Biscuits, Cakes, &c.	9,048	+ 4.1	- 4.6	9,146	+ 6.2	+ 18.3
Jam, Marmalade, &c.	6,019	+ 16.0	- 7.1	5,104	+ 17.3	+ 4.3
Bacon and Preserved Meats	4,824	+ 0.2	+ 41.8	5,037	+ 5.4	+ 52.4
Pickles, Sauces, &c.	1,476	- 3.2	- 10.1	1,477	- 0.3	+ 11.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>57,642</b>	<b>+ 1.6</b>	<b>- 1.4</b>	<b>60,055</b>	<b>+ 3.6</b>	<b>+ 20.0</b>

*Sugar Refining &c.*—Employment continued to be very good in this industry, with much overtime. A great scarcity of labour was reported by most firms.

*Cocoa, Chocolate, and Sugar Confectionery.*—In the cocoa and chocolate branches employment continued good, and overtime was reported by a good many firms. There was a general scarcity of male labour, and some demand for more women and girls. In the sugar confectionery branch employment was described as good, or fairly good, in most cases. Overtime was reported by a number of firms, and competent labour, both male and female, was said to be hard to get.

*Biscuits, Cakes &c.*—Employment was good, and better than in May; with firms employed on Government contracts it was very good. Overtime was general, and almost every firm referred to the shortage of labour.

*Jams, Marmalade &c.*—Employment was generally good, especially on Army contracts, and better than in May; though one or two firms were still slack owing to the lateness of the fruit season and owing to difficulties in getting fruit from abroad. A scarcity of male labour was reported by a majority of firms, and in one district there was a great demand for girls.

*Bacon and Preserved Meats.*—Employment was good on the whole, especially with the many firms executing Government orders. It was better in the meat preserving branch than in bacon curing, which was decidedly slack in some districts. A good deal of overtime was worked, especially in the first three weeks of the month, and a shortage of male labour was reported by many firms.

*Pickles, Sauces &c.*—Employment was good on the whole, though manufacturers were hampered in some cases by the difficulty of obtaining bottles, and the export trade showed a great decline as compared with last year. There were some complaints of a shortage of efficient labour, both male and female; but overtime was not general.

### FISHING INDUSTRY.

THE fishing industry continued to be seriously affected by the war, and the quantity of fish (excluding shell fish) landed was under one-quarter of that landed in June, 1914.

*East Coast.*—With fishermen employment continued good at Hull and Grimsby. At Hull it was also good with fish dock labourers, but it was bad with fish curers at both places, and with fish dock labourers at Grimsby. At Yarmouth the only fishing in progress was a little from in-shore boats. At Lowestoft it was reported as fair with fishermen, moderate with fish dock labourers, and bad with curers. Employment continued dull with fishermen at Harwich and Southwold.

*South Coast.*—The fishing industry was reported as good in the Plymouth and South-Western district generally, the mackerel drift fishing season being better than for three or four years. Packers and curers were said to be fairly busy in general.

*West Coast.*—The quantity of fish landed at Fleetwood in June, 1915, was considerably less than a third of that landed in June, 1914, whilst at Milford the catches were less than half those of a year ago.

*Scotland.*—With fishermen employment was fair at Aberdeen and Peterhead, and moderate at Fraserburgh and Macduff. With fish dock labourers and curers it was moderate at Aberdeen, but bad at the other three places. At Dundee, Arbroath, and Montrose fishermen were fairly well employed.

*Ireland.*—The decline in the fishing industry on the Irish coasts compared with a year ago was much less marked than in England and Scotland, and on the South and West Coasts there was an actual increase in the quantity of fish landed.

### FISH LANDED IN JUNE.

The quantity of fish (other than shell fish) landed in June, 1915, showed a decrease of 2,356,505 cwts. (or 77.6 per cent.) on June, 1914. Owing to high prices, however, the decline in the value of this quantity was only £520,781 (or 39.0 per cent.).

	Quantity.		Value.	
	June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on June, 1914.	June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on June, 1914.
<b>FISH (OTHER THAN SHELL):</b>				
England and Wales..	420,053	- 632,134	590,242	- 96,955
Scotland .. ..	208,303	- 1,719,015	189,885	- 434,417
Ireland .. ..	51,323	- 5,356	34,446	+ 10,581
<b>TOTAL</b> .. ..	<b>679,684</b>	<b>- 2,356,505</b>	<b>814,573</b>	<b>- 520,781</b>
<b>Shell Fish</b> .. ..	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>32,678</b>	<b>- 3,058</b>
<b>TOTAL VALUE</b> .. ..	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>847,251</b>	<b>- 523,839</b>

### DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

Dock labourers continued very fully employed in London and at Liverpool. Elsewhere, with the exception of certain ports on the east and north-east coasts and in Ireland, employment was good on the whole, and showed little change on the previous month.

#### LONDON AND TILBURY.

*London.*—Employment showed a slight decline on the previous month, but was still good and much better than a year ago. There was still some congestion at the docks and wharves.

The average numbers of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves in the four weeks ended 26th June was 18,919, a decrease of 3.2 per cent. on the previous month, and an increase of 34.5 per cent. on June, 1914.

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	In Docks			At Wharves making Returns.	Total in Docks and at Principal Wharves.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners &c.	Total.		
Week ended June 5th	7,325	4,086	11,411	7,950	19,361
" " " 12th	7,088	4,167	11,255	7,906	19,141
" " " 19th	7,074	3,648	10,722	7,823	18,545
" " " 26th	7,442	3,174	10,616	8,015	18,631
Average for 4 weeks ended 26th June, 1915	7,227	3,769	10,996	7,923	18,919
Average for May, 1915	7,736	4,042	11,778	7,766	19,544
" " June, 1914	4,881	2,560	7,441	6,883	14,064

The numbers employed at the docks and principal wharves on each day\* in June, 1915, were as follows:—

Day of Month.	Number Employed.	Day of Month.	Number Employed.	Day of Month.	Number Employed.
1	19,573	11	19,069	22	18,955
2	18,657	12	18,461	23	18,878
3	19,220	14	18,147	24	18,735
4	19,547	15	18,691	25	19,257
5	19,170	16	18,726	26	18,269
6	19,190	17	18,317	28	19,056
7	19,206	18	19,009	29	19,521
8	19,761	19	18,380	30	19,207
9	19,158	21	17,692		

The maximum daily number during the month was 19,761, an increase of 4,538 on the maximum for June, 1914. The minimum number (17,692) showed an increase of 4,430 over the minimum for June, 1914.

*Tilbury.*—The mean daily number employed at the docks during June was 2,021, compared with 2,294 a month ago, and 1,497 a year ago.

#### OTHER ENGLISH AND WELSH PORTS.

*East Coast.*—On the Tyne employment with dock and riverside labourers was slack, and rather worse than a month ago. It was very good, however, with tug-boat men on the Tyne. It was still moderate with trimmers and teamers both on the Tyne and on the Wear and at

\* Sundays and Holidays omitted.

Blyth. Employment was good at Hartlepool and very good at Middlesbrough, showing an improvement at both ports on the previous month. It was moderate with dock labourers at Hull, and continued good at Grimsby; but was bad and worse than a month ago with coal porters at both ports. There was again a tendency towards improvement with dock labourers at Goole, but employment continued slack generally. It was still bad at Yarmouth, Lowestoft and Lynn, and dull, but improving, at Harwich, and at Ipswich a shortage of labour due to enlistments was reported.

*South and West Coasts.*—Employment continued fair at Plymouth and good at Hayle, Falmouth and Dartmouth. There was a slight decline at Bristol, but employment was still good on the whole; it continued fair at Gloucester. At the South Wales ports coal trimmers and dry dock workers continued very fully employed, and with general cargo workers employment was fair. Dock labourers were again well employed at Liverpool, where the congestion of traffic had decreased.

#### SCOTTISH AND IRISH PORTS.

Employment improved at Glasgow and was good also at the Ayrshire ports. It was good and better than a month ago at Dundee and Aberdeen. Employment was only moderate with dock labourers at Belfast; it improved and was fair at Cork, and continued slack at Waterford and fair at Limerick.

### AGRICULTURE.\*

THE shortage of farm labour was rather less noticeable in many districts, particularly in the Northern counties of England, and in Scotland. This was largely due to the dry weather, which minimised the amount of hoeing to be done. Hay crops, moreover, were lighter than usual, and farmers were able to make full use of machinery in harvesting them. The situation as regards extra labourers was relieved to an appreciable extent in many North of England and Scottish districts by the arrival of Irish labourers. In a few districts mention was made of help being given by soldiers as well as by women and boys.

#### ENGLAND AND WALES.

Men for permanent situations were still rather scarce in Northumberland and Durham, but there was a fairly good supply of Irish labour for hoeing and other work. Some districts in Cumberland and Westmorland reported a deficiency of labour. The supply was very short in the East Riding of Yorkshire, particularly as regards horsemen; in the other two Ridings the deficiency was less marked, the dry weather having considerably reduced the demand for labour. A deficient supply was reported in the eastern and North Lonsdale divisions of Lancashire; but elsewhere in this county and in Cheshire there was little scarcity of labour.

A deficiency of labour was reported in most districts in the north Midland counties. In Lincolnshire, however, except in the Kesteven and north-eastern divisions, there was generally but little deficiency. Milkers were especially scarce in south Leicestershire. In east Nottinghamshire women and boys were employed on extra work to some extent. Women and boys were also mentioned as being employed on farm work in Gloucestershire, where the supply of labour was generally not far short of requirements, except in the north-west. Fruit-pickers were very short of the demand in Worcestershire; there was also a deficiency of labour in Herefordshire and parts of Warwickshire.

Extra labourers were very scarce in Middlesex, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire. In Oxfordshire labour was scarce in the north, but nearly, if not quite, sufficient elsewhere. Extra labour was difficult to get in Northamptonshire. In Cambridgeshire, while there was an insufficient supply of this class of labour in the south, there was said to be a large number of fruit-pickers available in the north. There was, on the whole, little deficiency of labour in Norfolk and Suffolk, except in north-west Norfolk, where extra

men were very scarce, and in south-central Suffolk. In Essex the supply of labour was below requirements.

Most districts in the South-Eastern counties reported an insufficient supply of labour, particularly as regards extra labour. In some cases the services of soldiers were utilised. Farm labour was also very scarce in Wiltshire and parts of Somerset. In Dorset little marked deficiency occurred. In Devonshire and Cornwall the shortage applied more particularly to extra labour.

A deficient supply of labour, particularly of extra labour, was reported in North Wales generally. The supply was also below requirements in Montgomeryshire and central Cardiganshire. There was a general deficiency of labour in South Wales and Monmouthshire.

#### SCOTLAND.

A scarcity of labour was reported from most districts in the north-eastern counties, but in south-west Forfar the supply was described as sufficient. There was still a general scarcity of labour in Perthshire, and arrangements were made in this county for children to help at fruit-picking. In south-west Fife there was a deficiency of extra labour. In north-east Fife, and also generally in the Lothians and Berwickshire, the situation as regards labour was considerably relieved by the arrival of Irish labourers, who were said to be more numerous than usual. In other central and southern districts reports of a scarcity of labour were principally confined to the counties of Dumarton, Stirling, Renfrew and Lanark; in the last-named county, however, Irish and boy labour helped farmers to an appreciable extent. There was a plentiful supply of labour in the Shetland Islands; but in the Orkneys, Caithness and Ross the supply was insufficient.

### SEAMEN.

RETURNS received from certain selected ports show that during June, 1915, 37,051 seamen\* were shipped on foreign-going vessels, an increase of 3,625 on the previous month.

A shortage of men for ordinary mercantile ships was reported at certain of the London docks, Liverpool, Grimsby, Hull, Sunderland, Newcastle, and the Bristol Channel ports (except Swansea) and Southampton.

Compared with June, 1914, there was a net decrease of 12,273, or 24.9 per cent. Every port, except Hull, Bristol, Newport and Cardiff, showed a decline in the number of men engaged, the most marked falling off being at Liverpool and Southampton. At Cardiff, however, there was a considerable increase.

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen (excluding Lascars) shipped in					
	June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Six months ended June,		
		Month ago.	Year ago.	1914.	1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1915.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES:</b>						
<i>East Coast—</i>						
Tyne Ports .. ..	1,771	+ 293	- 598	15,863	10,194	- 5,669
Sunderland .. ..	198	- 55	- 164	2,639	1,733	- 906
Middlesbrough ..	270	+ 103	- 96	1,677	1,194	- 483
Hull .. ..	1,431	+ 305	+ 185	7,750	7,492	- 258
Grimsby .. ..	27	- 17	- 48	255	340	+ 85
<i>Bristol Channel—</i>						
Bristol .. ..	1,442	+ 266	+ 339	7,186	6,905	- 281
Newport, Mon. ..	908	+ 157	+ 131	5,322	6,229	+ 907
Cardiff .. ..	5,356	+ 1,055	+ 2,000	24,423	23,334	+ 3,911
Swansea .. ..	264	- 73	- 155	2,354	2,117	- 237
<i>Other Ports—</i>						
Liverpool .. ..	11,889	- 459	- 6,910	93,193	77,378	- 21,820
London .. ..	8,313	+ 1,705	- 817	50,729	47,431	- 3,298
Southampton ..	1,633	+ 780	- 4,112	28,810	7,943	- 20,867
<b>SCOTLAND:</b>						
Leth .. ..	166	- 272	- 53	2,098	1,911	- 187
Burntisland, Methil, and Grangemouth ..	6	- 34	- 249	1,385	426	- 959
Glasgow .. ..	2,773	- 173	- 1,655	22,584	17,638	- 4,946
<b>IRELAND:</b>						
Dublin .. ..	74	- 25	- 40	391	424	+ 33
Belfast .. ..	232	+ 59	- 31	1,120	2,838	+ 1,718
<b>TOTAL</b> .. ..	<b>37,051</b>	<b>+ 3,625</b>	<b>- 12,273</b>	<b>273,784</b>	<b>220,527</b>	<b>- 53,257</b>

\* Based on information supplied by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Board of Agriculture for Scotland.

† Including Avonmouth and Portishead. ‡ Including Barry and Penarth.

## STATISTICAL TABLES.

## PRICES OF WHEAT, FLOUR, AND BREAD.

## I.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.

*Imports.*—The quantity of wheat (including the grain equivalent of flour\*) imported into the United Kingdom during June, 1915, was 2,226,553 quarters, compared with 2,384,899 quarters in June, 1914, and 2,897,977 quarters in June, 1913. During the ten completed months of the current cereal year (September, 1914-June, 1915) the quantity was 21,431,602 quarters, as compared with 21,447,389 quarters in the corresponding period of 1913-14, and with 24,597,911 quarters in the corresponding period of 1912-13. The total quantity imported this season has thus been very little less than the quantity imported last season; but the imports from the several countries show a very great variation, increased receipts from the United States, Argentina and the British East Indies having more than compensated for greatly reduced receipts from Australia and for the almost total cessation of imports from Russia.

The average declared value of imported wheat during June, 1915, was 59s. 8d. per quarter, a decline of about 6 per cent. compared with May. The average declared values of imported wheat meal and flour\* showed but little change. Compared with a year ago there was an increase, in both cases, of about 70 per cent. The spot price at Liverpool of "No. 2 Hard Winter" wheat (a standard grade of United States wheat, which is dealt in all the year round) on 12th May was 66s. 6d. per quarter of 480 lb., a price which had been reached, but not exceeded, on six dates since the 26th April. There was a rapid fall at the beginning of June, and a price of 52s. 5d. per quarter was reached on June 16th; the price then rose slightly, but relapsed to 52s. 1d. on 22nd and 23rd June. Since this date there has been some recovery, without any very marked variations. The price on 14th July was 55s. 2d. to 55s. 5d. per quarter. There has thus been a net fall of about 11s. 3d. since 12th May.

"*Gazette*" *Prices of British Wheat.*—In the period September, 1914-June, 1915, the deliveries of wheat by farmers at the various markets of England and Wales from which returns are received by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries exceeded those in the corresponding period of the previous cereal year by over 21 per cent.

The mean "*Gazette*" price of British wheat in those markets of England and Wales from which returns are received reached its maximum, 62s. 0d., in the return for the week ended 22nd May. There was a sharp fall in June, the price dropping by 4s. in each of two successive weeks. The mean monthly price for June, 57s. 6d., shows a decline of 6.5 per cent. on the corresponding price for May. The mean price quoted in the return received in the week ended 3rd July was 49s. 5d., showing a total fall of 12s. 7d. from the maximum quoted six weeks earlier. The return for the week ended 10th July showed a slight rise on the previous week, the price being 50s. 1d. The mean price for June, 1914, was 34s. 1d.

*Price of Flour.*—The net cash price of "town households" flour in London reached its maximum on 10th May, when it was 53s. 0d. per sack of 280 lb. The price then began to drop, and by the end of the month stood at 51s. 6d. Throughout June the decline continued, and on the 28th the price was 6s. less than on 31st May. The mean price during June (47s. 5d.) is about 9 per cent. lower than the mean price for May. Since the end of June there have been further reductions, and on 12th July the quotation was 41s. 6d. The price in June, 1915, was about 72 per cent. higher than in June, 1914.

\* The particulars given as regards wheat meal and flour include in all cases the estimated weight of offal, etc.

## II.—BREAD.

There has been a general decline in the price of bread since the middle of May in nearly all districts, to an average of about 8d. per 4 lbs. on 1st July.

Returns received from 120 of the principal Master Bakers' Associations, and 30 returns received from other sources, are summarised below. In these Tables the predominant prices—i.e., the prices at which the bulk of the bread was sold, are utilised, but it will be understood that bread was also sold at both lower and higher prices.

The first of these Tables shows the mean predominant price in different parts of the country at 1st July as compared with a month earlier and a year earlier:—

District.	Mean Predominant Price per 4 lb. on		
	1st July, 1915.	1st June, 1915.	1st July, 1914.
	d.	d.	d.
London:—	8	8½	8½
N. & N.W.	8	8½	8½
E. & N.E.	8	8½	8½
S.E.	8	8½	8½
S.W.	8	8½	8½
W. & W.C.	8	8½	8½
Northern Counties & Yorkshire	8	8½	8½
Lancashire & Cheshire	8	8½	8½
Midlands	7¾	8¼	8¼
Eastern Counties	7¾	8¼	8¼
Southern Counties	8	8½	8½
South Western Counties & Wales	8	8½	8½
Scotland	8½	8½	8½
GREAT BRITAIN	8	8½	8½

There is seen to be an average decrease of ½d. per 4 lbs. as compared with a month ago, and an increase of 2½d. per 4 lbs. as compared with a year ago.

Of the prices at which bread was sold in each of the following towns, the predominant price was as under:—

Place	Predominant Price per 4 lb. on 1st July, 1915.	Inc. (+) or dec. (-) as compared with a		Last Change.	
		Month ago.	Year ago.	Date.	Amount per 4 lb.
		d.	d.	d.	d.
London	8	- 1	+2½	June, '15	- 1
Birmingham	7½ & 8	- 1	+2	June, '15	- 1
Bristol	7½ & 8	- ½	+2	June, '15	- ½
Cardiff	8	- ½	+2	June, '15	- ½
Derby	8	- ½	+2½	June, '15	- ½
Hull	8	- ½	+2½	June, '15	- ½
Ipwich	8	- ½	+2	June, '15	- ½
Leeds	7 & 8	- 1	+2	June, '15	- 1
Leicester	7	- 1	+2	June, '15	- 1
Liverpool	8	- ½	+3	June, '15	- ½
Manchester	7½ to 8	- 1	+2½	June, '15	- 1
Middlesbrough	8 & 8½	- ¾	+2½	June, '15	- ¾
Norwich	7½	- ½	+2½	June, '15	- ½
Nottingham	7 to 8	- ½	+2	June, '15	- ½
Plymouth	8 to 8½	- ¾	+2½	June, '15	- ¾
Stoke-on-Trent	8	- ¾	+3	June, '15	- ¾
Southampton	8	- 1	+2½	June, '15	- 1
Wolverhampton	7½	- ½	+2½	June, '15	- ½
Aberdeen	9	—	+3½	May, '15	+ 1
Dundee	8	—	+2½	Apr., '15	+ ½
Edinburgh	8 & 8½	- ¾	+1½	June, '15	- ¾
Glasgow	8	—	+2	May, '15	+ ½
Belfast	8	—	+2	May, '15	+ ½
Dublin	8	—	+2	May, '15	+ ½

A decrease since a month ago is recorded for all of the above towns in England and Wales. In five of the six towns in Scotland and Ireland, where the price was below the average in England and Wales a month ago, there was no reduction. In London 8d. was the general price, whereas at the beginning of June 9d. was predominant and 8½d. was also frequent. As compared with a year ago the amount of the advance in price in the large towns is usually 2d. or 2½d. per 4 lbs., or rather less than for the country as a whole. Since 1st July the price of bread in many parts of London has receded from 8d. to 7½d., and a reduction of ½d. has occurred in several towns in the South of England in which the price was 8½d.

## TRADE DISPUTES.\*

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

## (a) DISPUTES IN JUNE.

*Number and Magnitude.*—The number of new disputes in June was 72, as compared with 63 in the previous month and 118 in June, 1914. In these new disputes 17,904 workpeople were directly, and 4,426 indirectly, involved; and these figures when added to the number of workpeople involved in disputes which began before June, and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 40,999 workpeople involved in trade disputes in June, 1915, as compared with 51,575 in the previous month and 82,752 in June, 1914.

*New Disputes in June, 1915.*—In the following Table the new disputes for June are summarised by trades affected:—

Groups of Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Building	5	176	—	176
Coal Mining	9	9,146	288	9,432
Engineering	11	1,580	700	2,280
Shipbuilding	2	250	—	250
Other Metal	5	190	51	241
Textile	4	352	738	1,090
Clothing	7	894	17	1,011
Transport	5	1,425	1,200	2,625
Other Trades	19	3,222	1,434	4,656
Employees of Local Authorities	5	589	—	589
TOTAL, JUNE, 1915	72	17,904	4,426	22,330
TOTAL, MAY, 1915	63	39,913	8,327	48,240
TOTAL, JUNE, 1914	118	38,606	7,511	46,117

*Causes.*—Of the 72 new disputes 41, directly involving 5,496 workpeople, arose on demands for advances in wages; 3, directly involving 303 workpeople, on other wages questions; 10, directly involving 9,927 workpeople, on questions of Trade Union principle; 10, directly involving 622 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 3, directly involving 279 workpeople, on details of working arrangements; and 5 on other questions.

## (c) PRINCIPAL DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN OR ENDED IN JUNE.

Occupations and Locality. §	Number of Workpeople Involved		Date when Dispute began.	Duration in Working Days.	Cause or Object. §	Result §
	Directly.	Indirectly. §				
COAL MINING:—			1915			
Miners.—Pontypridd (near)	1,084	—	21st June	3	Refusal to work with non-unionists.	Non-unionists joined the Trade Union.
Miners.—Rhondda Valley	1,538	—	28th June	2	Refusal to work with non-unionists.	Non-unionists joined the Trade Union.
ENGINEERING:—						
Platers' helpers, general labourers, &c., and other workpeople—Darlington	300	700	28th June	3	For advance in war bonus, granted in March, from 2s. to 4s. per week, with back pay.	Advance granted; question of back pay to be referred to arbitration.
COTTON SPINNING:—						
Card and ring room workers, spinners, winders, beamers, &c.—Oldham, Rochdale, Bury, and Haslingden	944	1,283	26th May	22	For a war bonus of 10 per cent. on 36's counts and below.	Work resumed pending reference of matter in dispute to Committee on Production.
DOCK AND WATERSIDE LABOUR:—						
Hatchwaymen, dock labourers, &c.—Swansea	45	1,200	21st June	1	For advance in wages of ¼d. per hour, payment for broken time, and other concessions.	Advance granted, and payment to be made for broken time in certain cases.
Dock workers—Preston	330	—	3rd June	7	For a war bonus	(See p. 240.)
OTHER TRADES:—						
Pottery workers—Stoke-on-Trent, Swadlowclote, and Woodville	306	—	31st May	21	For a war bonus of 7½ per cent.	Bonus of 7½ per cent. granted in the case of the Stoke-on-Trent firm; in other cases Arbitrator awarded bonus of 6½ per cent (See p. 240.)
Sawyers, borers, roughers, and bobbin workers—Liverpool (near)	74	778	1st June	—	Refusal to work with a non-unionist.	No settlement reported.
Woodyard workers—Bo'ness	449	—	15th June	3	Refusal to work with non-unionists.	Non-unionists joined the Trade Union.
Explosives workers—Ardeer	2,000	—	22nd June	4	Alleged victimisation of two clerks.	(See p. 240.)

DISPUTES STILL IN PROGRESS.—In addition to the dispute in the South Wales coal mining industry, 19 disputes, involving about 2,300 workpeople, were in progress at the time of going to press.

\* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration (i.e., number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded 100 days.

† In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures have been amended in accordance with the most recent information.

‡ The aggregate duration in 1914 of the general dispute at Dublin (200,000 working days), is included in the total but not in the separate groups of trades.

§ The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly involved" (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes.) The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons. || Estimated number.

## CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES.\*

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

*Changes in June.*—The war bonuses and increases in rates of wages reported to the Department as taking effect in June affected 179,876 workpeople, and amounted to £20,003 per week. In May, when over three-quarters of a million coal miners received a bonus, the total number of workpeople affected was 969,680, and the total amount of the increase was £188,485 per week. Of the total amount of the changes in June, coal mining accounted for £15,300, iron and steel manufacture for £729, the textile trades for £1,896, and the clothing trades for £1,355.

*Changes in January-June.*—The number of workpeople whose rates of wages are reported to have been increased and the total amount of increase per week, during the first six months of 1915, were by far the largest recorded in any year. The increases, which in the majority of cases took the form of war bonuses, affected first certain trades which are mainly concerned with the manufacture of munitions (e.g., the engineering and shipbuilding trades) and the transport trades (railway service, dock labour, carting, etc.); but at a later date they extended to other trades, including coal mining, some of the textile industries, the boot and shoe trades, and the service of public authorities. In a few trades, such as building, printing, and furnishing, there has been comparatively little change. During the six months, 2,080,000 workpeople are reported to have had their wages increased by £369,630 per week, or an average of about 3s. 6d. per head. In the corresponding period of 1914, 559,000 workpeople sustained a net decrease of £14,630 per week.

All the amounts stated are exclusive of increased

earnings due to overtime, and also of changes affecting agricultural labourers, seamen, railway servants, police and Government employees. It is known, however, that considerable bodies of workpeople in each of these occupations have received increases or war bonuses since the beginning of 1915, and an arbitrator's award has recently been issued granting to postal servants a bonus of 2s. or 3s. per week, according to wages, in the case of males, and half these amounts in the case of females, to take effect from March last. The extent to which each of the other groups of trades contributed to the total is shown in the following Table:—

Group of Trades.	Number of Workpeople affected.	Amount of Increase per week.
Building .. .. .	43,513	4,500
Coal Mining .. .. .	848,684	186,506
Iron, &c., Mining .. .. .	19,566	3,722
Quarrying .. .. .	8,600	917
Pig Iron Manufacture .. .. .	22,347	2,948
Iron and Steel Manufacture .. .. .	68,532	10,174
Engineering and Shipbuilding .. .. .	459,112	83,125
Other Metal .. .. .	30,259	3,280
Textile .. .. .	135,195	18,223
Clothing .. .. .	63,264	6,262
Transport .. .. .	128,728	26,574
Printing, &c. .. .. .	10,754	907
Glass, &c. .. .. .	25,904	2,696
Other .. .. .	93,821	12,970
Local Authority Service .. .. .	61,827	6,821
<b>TOTAL .. .. .</b>	<b>2,080,096</b>	<b>369,635</b>

Coal mining accounted for about half the total amount of the increase, and the engineering and shipbuilding trades for nearly half of the remainder; the other trades most affected were the textile and transport groups.

## PRINCIPAL WAR BONUSES AND INCREASES IN RATES OF WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN JUNE, 1915.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected.	Particulars of Change.
Building, etc.	Blackburn ..	1 June	Labourers and hod-carriers ..	430	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: bricklayers, masons' and general builders' labourers, 6½d.; slaters' labourers, 7d.; hod carriers and plasterers' labourers, 7½d.
	Norwich ..	1 June	Painters .. .. .	140	Increase of ½d. per hour (7d. to 7½d.).
	Edinburgh ..	6 June	Labourers .. .. .	370	Increase of ½d. per hour (5½d. to 6d.).
Coal Mining ..	Scotland ..	1 June	Masons .. .. .	750	Increase of ½d. per hour (9½d. to 10d.).
		15 June	Carpenters and joiners .. .. .	1,400	Increase of ½d. per hour (1d. to 10½d.).
Pig Iron and Iron and Steel Manufacture	Midlands (including parts of S. Yorks and S. Lancs.)	7 June	Electrical wiremen .. .. .	350	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: wiremen 9½d.; charge hands, 10d.
		7 June	Hewers and other underground workers.	93,000	Increase of 12½ per cent., making wages 106½ per cent. above the standard of 1888.
			Surface men, mechanics, and boiler firemen.	18,000	Increase of 2d. per shift.
Textile ..	Leicester ..	4 June	Enginemen .. .. .	3,000	Increase of 6d. per shift to winding enginemen and of varying amounts to others.
			Iron puddlers .. .. .	20,000	Increase, under sliding scale, of 3d. per ton.
Boot and Shoe ..	Northampton ..	7 June	Iron millmen .. .. .	2,000	Increase, under sliding scale, of 2½ per cent.
			Blastfurnacemen .. .. .	1,000	Increase, under sliding scale, of 2½ per cent.
Local Authority Service	Leicester ..	7, 9 & 10 June	Iron puddlers, iron and steel millmen, enginemen, &c.	2,000	Increase, under sliding scale, of 2½ per cent. or 3d. per ton.
			Trimming weavers .. .. .	240	War bonus of 7½ per cent.
Textile ..	Leicester ..	4 June	Silk workers (female) .. .. .	1,200	Increase of 1s. per week to females of 18 and over; of 6d. to those under 18; and, of 3d. to h. l. f. timers.
			Hosiery workers .. .. .	20,000	War bonus of 1d. on each 1s. earned up to 40s. for males and up to 20s. for females (including male and female helpers).
Boot and Shoe ..	Nottingham and District	12 June	Hosiery workers .. .. .	3,300	War bonus of 8½ per cent. on wages up to 40s. for men and up to 20s. for females (including male and female helpers).
			Boot and shoe operatives .. .. .	10,000	War bonus of 1s. per week to males of 18 to 21; of 1s. 6d. to males over 21; and of 1s. to females over 18; and increase of 2s. per week to males over 21 earning up to 35s.; and of 1s. to those at 35s. and over.
Local Authority Service	Leicester ..	7, 9 & 10 June	Corporation employees .. .. .	1,978	War bonus of 2s. per week to those receiving under 30s. and of 1s. to those receiving 30s. and under 35s.

*Changes in July.*—Full particulars will appear in the August Gazette of the following important changes arranged to take effect in July:—

*Shale Mining.*—Increase of 12½ per cent. to shale miners and of 2½d. per shift to oil workers in Scotland.

*Pig Iron Manufacture.*—Increase of 7½ per cent. to blastfurnacemen in Cleveland; of 15½ per cent. in Cumberland; and of 7½ per cent. in South Wales and Monmouthshire.

*Iron and Steel Manufacture.*—Increase of 7½ per cent. in the wages of iron and steel workers in South Wales and Monmouthshire.

\* Exclusive of agricultural labourers, seamen, railway servants, police and Government employees.

## BUILDING PLANS.

RETURNS received by the Department from 82 of the principal urban districts in the United Kingdom (exclusive of the County of London) giving the estimated cost of the buildings for which plans were passed during the second quarter of 1915, show that there was a decrease of £2,289,119 (or 51.0 per cent.) compared with the corresponding period of 1914. The population of the districts included in the Returns is about 12 millions.

District and Population at Census of 1911.	Dwelling Houses.	Factories and Workshops.	Shops and other Business Premises.	Churches, Schools, and Public Buildings.	Other Buildings, Additions and Alterations.	Total.
Outer London (1,700,000)	464,135	59,450	28,760	131,025	63,747	747,117
Northern Counties (725,000)	74,704	18,830	20,105	26,440	32,063	172,162
Yorkshire (1,925,000)	255,855	153,753	125,975	101,383	85,023	721,989
Lancashire & Cheshire (2,375,000)	374,641	149,340	325,353	81,839	126,736	1,057,909
Midlands (1,200,000)	219,175	63,775	46,702	70,028	73,437	473,117
Other Districts in England (1,065,000)	170,220	17,150	20,690	20,000	70,455	298,515
Wales & Mon. (430,000)	73,752	820	3,930	—	12,002	90,504
Scotland (1,832,000)	104,551	236,313	164,595	58,401	172,472	736,332
Ireland (825,000)	37,900	11,070	3,470	119,615	21,786	193,841
<b>TOTAL .. .. .</b>	<b>1,774,933</b>	<b>710,501</b>	<b>739,580</b>	<b>608,731</b>	<b>687,741</b>	<b>4,491,486</b>
Second Quarter of 1915.						
Outer London (1,700,000)	108,128	71,541	23,210	69,550	45,890	318,319
Northern Counties (725,000)	128,432	35,890	16,460	21,000	9,717	210,499
Yorkshire (1,925,000)	115,925	234,292	27,570	20,440	45,212	443,439
Lancashire & Cheshire (2,375,000)	121,808	115,941	120,782	19,090	116,626	494,247
Midlands (1,200,000)	89,013	61,597	31,436	13,400	45,150	240,596
Other Districts in England (1,065,000)	57,850	3,600	9,800	17,000	33,120	118,370
Wales & Mon. (430,000)	28,650	—	400	—	8,493	37,543
Scotland (1,832,000)	29,420	133,931	7,200	28,190	56,143	254,884
Ireland (825,000)	47,225	200	3,400	13,700	19,945	84,470
<b>TOTAL .. .. .</b>	<b>726,451</b>	<b>656,992</b>	<b>239,258</b>	<b>107,370</b>	<b>377,298</b>	<b>2,202,367</b>

All descriptions of buildings showed a decrease, which was most marked in the case of shops and other business premises (67.6 per cent.), churches, schools and public buildings (66.8 per cent.), and dwelling-houses (59.1 per cent.). The reduction in the case of factories and workshops was insignificant.

The only district showing an increase during the quarter was the Northern Counties, where it amounted to 22.3 per cent. Of the decreases, the most noticeable were: Scotland (65.4 per cent.), "Other Districts in England" (60.3), Wales and Monmouthshire (58.5), Outer London (57.4 per cent.), and Ireland (56.4 per cent.).

The following Table shows, for each class of building and for each district, the increase or decrease in the quarter ended 30th June, 1915, compared with the corresponding quarter of 1914:—

CLASS OF BUILDING:	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	
	Amount.	Per cent.
Dwelling Houses .. .. .	-1,048,482	-59.1
Factories and Workshops .. .. .	-63,509	-7.5
Shops and other Business Premises .. .. .	-500,322	-67.6
Churches, Schools and Public Buildings .. .. .	-406,361	-66.8
Other Buildings, Additions and Alterations .. .. .	-280,445	-42.6
<b>TOTAL .. .. .</b>	<b>-2,289,119</b>	<b>-51.0</b>
DISTRICTS:		
Outer London .. .. .	-428,798	-57.4
Northern Counties .. .. .	+33,337	+22.3
Yorkshire .. .. .	-278,560	-38.6
Lancashire and Cheshire .. .. .	-663,662	-53.3
Midlands .. .. .	-232,521	-49.1
Other Districts in England .. .. .	-180,145	-60.3
Wales and Monmouthshire .. .. .	-52,961	-58.5
Scotland .. .. .	-481,448	-65.4
Ireland .. .. .	-109,371	-56.4
<b>TOTAL .. .. .</b>	<b>-2,289,119</b>	<b>-51.0</b>

## DISTRESS COMMITTEES.

THE total number of Distress Committees under the Unemployed Workmen Act, 1905, whose registers were open at the end of June, 1915, was 52, as compared with 53 at the end of May. During the month the register of the Committee at Bournemouth was closed.

The total number of persons who received employment relief during June, 1915, was 224, as compared with 1,021 a year ago, a decrease of 797 persons. Employment was also provided for 93 persons by arrangement with employers and local authorities.

The aggregate duration of employment relief decreased from 14,578 days in June, 1914, to 4,177 in June, 1915, and the average duration of employment was 18.6 days, as compared with 15.3 a year ago.

The total amount of wages paid during June, 1915, was £514, compared with £2,154 a year ago; the average earnings were 45s. 11d., compared with 42s. 2d. in June, 1914; those not on piecework received an average of 2s. 6d. a day, compared with 2s. 11d. a year ago.

Districts.	No. of Applicants given Employment Relief.		Aggregate Duration of Employment Relief.		Total Amount of Wages Paid.	
	June, 1915.	June, 1914.	June, 1915.	June, 1914.	June, 1915.	June, 1914.
London:			Days.	Days.	£	£
County .. .. .	..	334	..	5,843	..	1,173
Outer .. .. .	22	140	384	1,919	50	251
<b>TOTAL, LONDON .. .. .</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>7,762</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>1,424</b>
Northern Counties .. .. .	133	..	2,299	..	323	..
Lancs. and Cheshire .. .. .	12	56	39	129	8	26
Yorkshire .. .. .	..	12	..	..	..	13
Midlands .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Eastern Counties .. .. .	7	11	161	89	28	18
Southern Counties .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wales and Monmouth .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES .. .. .</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>2,883</b>	<b>7,980</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>1,481</b>
Scotland .. .. .	50	139	1,294	3,358	106	242
Ireland .. .. .	..	329*	..	3,240	..	431
<b>UNITED KINGDOM .. .. .</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>1,021</b>	<b>4,177</b>	<b>14,578</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>2,154</b>

\* Includes 59 women on piecework.

## WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX.

[NOTE.—These are not connected with the Board of Trade Labour Exchanges.]

THE number of applications by workpeople in June, 1915, showed an increase of 22 per cent. compared with June, 1914, and the number of situations offered increased by 8 per cent.

The demand for cooks, parlourmaids and housemaids still greatly exceeded the supply, 374 situations being offered during June, while the number available to fill these vacancies amounted to 165. In the case of secretaries, clerks and typists the supply is now only slightly in excess of the demand, whereas a year ago the number of applications was more than double the number of vacancies.

Applications by Workpeople during	Situations offered by Employers during		Number of Workpeople engaged by Employers.			
	June, 1915.	June, 1914.	June, 1915.	June, 1914.	Permanently.	Temporarily.
SUMMARY BY BUREAUX.						
Central Bureau:— 5, Princes Street, Cavendish Square, W. ..	137	115	165	102	45	22
Y.W.C.A.:— 25, George Street, (1) .. Hanover Sq., W. 1 (2) ..	145	91	95	59	30	19
Girls' Friendly Society, 39, Victoria Street, S.W. ..	267	254	380	396	47	41
Other Bureaux (Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Dublin and Glasgow) .. .. .	180	149	288	272	49	44
<b>TOTAL of 10 Bureaux ..</b>	<b>1,013</b>	<b>830</b>	<b>1,094</b>	<b>1,009</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>173</b>
SUMMARY BY OCCUPATIONS.						
Superintendents, Forewomen, &c. ..	88	72	46	49	12	6
Shop Assistants .. .. .	28	16	9	3	4	2
Dressmakers, Milliners, &c. ..	52	28	37	44	12	10
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists ..	170	131	161	54	61	17
Apprentices and Learners ..	10	14	17	19	6	17
Domestic Servants .. .. .	464	367	727	742	131	102
Miscellaneous .. .. .	201	202	97	98	15	19
<b>TOTAL of 10 Bureaux ..</b>	<b>1,013</b>	<b>830</b>	<b>1,094</b>	<b>1,009</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>173</b>

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS

IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

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

THE total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act during June, 1915, was 45, of which 38 were due to lead poisoning, 1 to mercurial poisoning, 1 to phosphorus poisoning, and 5 to anthrax. Three deaths, 1 due to lead poisoning, 1 to phosphorus poisoning and 1 to anthrax, were also reported. In addition, 8 cases of lead poisoning (3 of which were fatal) among house painters and plumbers were reported.

During the six months ended June, 1915, the total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported under the Factory and Workshop Act was 223, compared with 298 during the corresponding period of 1914. The number of deaths in 1915 was 18, compared with 20 in 1914. In addition, there were 58 cases of lead poisoning (including 21 deaths) among house painters and plumbers during the first six months of 1915, compared with 110 cases (including 18 deaths) during the corresponding period of 1914.

ANALYSIS BY INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Cases.			Deaths.		
	Month of June, 1915.	Six Months ended June, 1915.	June, 1914.	Month of June, 1915.	Six Months ended June, 1915.	June, 1914.
Lead Poisoning.						
AMONG OPERATIVES ENGAGED IN—						
Smelting of Metals .. .. .	9	24	18	—	1	2
Brass Works .. .. .	—	1	4	—	—	—
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping ..	—	12	16	—	—	—
Plumbing and Soldering .. ..	1	16	13	—	3	1
Printing .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—
File Cutting and Hardening ..	—	1	8	—	—	—
Tinning of Metals .. .. .	—	1	8	—	—	—
White Lead Works .. .. .	4	19	12	—	—	1
Red and Yellow Lead Works ..	1	6	1	—	—	—
China, Earthenware, and Litho-Transfer Works .. .. .	3	10	22	—	1	3
Glass Cutting and Polishing ..	—	—	1	—	—	1
Vitreous Enamelling .. .. .	3	5	7	—	1	—
Electrical Accumulator Works ..	3	36	19	—	—	—
Paint and Colour Works .. ..	1	5	11	—	—	—
Coach and Car Painting .. ..	3	20	42	—	4	3
Shipbuilding .. .. .	4	7	14	1	1	3
Paint used in other Industries ..	1	6	24	—	2	—
Other Industries .. .. .	5	21	32	—	—	1
TOTAL IN FACTORIES & WORKSHOPS	38	190	257	1	13	15
HOUSE PAINTING AND PLUMBING	8	58	110	3	21	18
Other Forms of Poisoning.						
MERCURIAL POISONING—						
Barometer and Thermometer Making .. .. .	1	2	3	—	—	—
Furriers' Processes .. .. .	—	—	1	—	—	—
Other Industries .. .. .	—	1	—	—	—	—
TOTAL .. .. .	1	3	4	—	—	—
PHOSPHORUS POISONING .. .. .	1	1	—	1	1	—
ARSENIC POISONING—						
Paints, Colours, and Extraction of Arsenic .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Industries .. .. .	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTAL .. .. .	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTAL "OTHER FORMS OF POISONING"	2	4	5	1	1	—
Anthrax.						
Wool .. .. .	—	12	18	—	—	5
Handling of Horsehair .. .. .	1	1	3	—	—	—
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers &c.) ..	2	14	10	—	3	—
Other Industries .. .. .	2	2	5	1	1	—
TOTAL ANTHRAX .. .. .	5	29	36	1	4	5
TOTAL REPORTED UNDER FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT	45	223	298	3	18	20
GRAND TOTAL .. .. .	53	281	408	6	39	38

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

CASES REPORTED IN JUNE.

[Based on Home Office and Board of Trade Returns.]

EXCLUSIVE of seamen, the number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during June, 1915, was 246, an increase of 17 on a month ago and of 1 on a year ago. The mean number for June during the five years 1910-1914 was 233, the maximum being 245 and the minimum 213.

Fatal accidents in the railway service during June, 1915, numbered 28, a decrease of 8 on a month ago, and of 17 on a year ago. The total number of fatal accidents at mines was 108, an increase of 23 on May, 1915, and of 10 on June, 1914. There were 9 fatal accidents at quarries, compared with 2 a month ago and 7 a year ago. The total number of fatal accidents reported under the Factory and Workshop Act in June, 1915, was 101, a decrease of 4 on a month ago, but an increase of 8 on a year ago.

The total number of fatal accidents to seamen reported during June, 1915, was 134, a decrease of 403 on May, 1915, and of 79 on June, 1914.

Trade.	Number of Workpeople killed during			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in June, 1915, on a	
	June, 1915.	May, 1915.	June, 1914.	Month ago.	Year ago.
RAILWAY SERVICE—					
Brakemen & Goods Guards .. ..	3	1	3	+ 2	—
Engine Drivers .. .. .	1	1	4	— 1	- 4
Firemen .. .. .	1	5	5	— 4	- 4
Guards (Passenger) .. .. .	1	1	1	— 1	— 1
Permanent Way Men (not including labourers) .. .. .	8	5	6	+ 3	+ 2
Porters .. .. .	2	9	3	- 7	- 1
Shunters .. .. .	3	2	3	+ 1	- 1
Mechanics .. .. .	1	2	2	+ 1	- 1
Labourers .. .. .	2	2	7	—	- 5
Miscellaneous .. .. .	8	10	9	- 2	- 1
Contractors' Servants .. .. .	—	—	2	—	- 2
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE	28	36	45	- 8	- 17
MINES—					
Underground .. .. .	100	73	85	+ 27	+ 15
Surface .. .. .	8	12	13	- 4	- 5
TOTAL, MINES	108	85	98	+ 23	+ 10
Quarries over 20 feet deep ..	9	2	7	+ 7	+ 2
FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS—					
Textile—					
Cotton .. .. .	3	5	1	- 2	+ 2
Wool and Worsted .. .. .	1	2	2	- 1	- 1
Other Textiles .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Textile—					
Extraction of Metals .. .. .	2	2	4	—	- 2
Founding and Conversion of Metals .. .. .	14	16	8	- 2	+ 6
Marine and Locomotive Engineering .. .. .	2	—	3	+ 2	- 1
Ship and Boat Building .. ..	11	9	14	+ 2	- 3
Gas .. .. .	2	1	2	+ 1	- 1
Wood .. .. .	2	3	5	- 1	- 5
Clay, Stone, &c. .. .. .	4	2	7	+ 2	- 3
Chemicals .. .. .	5	10	2	- 5	+ 3
Laundries .. .. .	—	—	1	—	- 1
Food .. .. .	5	2	3	+ 3	+ 2
Drink .. .. .	1	1	2	—	- 1
Paper, Printing, &c. .. .. .	2	2	2	—	- 2
Other Non-Textile Industries .. .. .	27	24	16	+ 3	+ 11
TOTAL, FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS	77	81	72	- 4	+ 5
ACCIDENTS REPORTED UNDER FACTORY ACT, SS. 104-5.					
Docks, Wharves, and Quays .. ..	9	14	4	- 5	+ 5
Warehouses .. .. .	8	2	—	+ 6	+ 8
Buildings to which Act applies ..	7	8	17	- 1	- 10
TOTAL UNDER FACTORY ACT, SS. 104-5.	24	24	21	—	+ 3
Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894 ..	—	1	2	- 1	- 2
TOTAL, EXCLUDING SEAMEN.	246	229	245	+ 17	+ 1
SEAMEN—					
On Trading Vessels—					
Sailing .. .. .	8	7	12	+ 1	- 4
Steam .. .. .	82	483*	195	- 401	- 113
On Fishing Vessels—					
Sailing .. .. .	—	4	—	- 4	—
Steam .. .. .	44	43	6	+ 1	+ 38
TOTAL, SEAMEN .. .. .	134	537*	213	- 403	- 79
TOTAL, INCLUDING SEAMEN.	380	766*	458	- 386	- 78

\* Including 402 seamen lost in the s.s. "Lusitania."

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IN JUNE.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED TRADES.

RETURNS received from the Department of Labour Exchanges and Unemployment Insurance show a continued improvement in the state of employment in the insured trades during June.

The following Table shows by industries the proportion of unemployment books lodged\* to the total current on each Friday during June, 1915. The figures are based on the net number of workpeople after deducting those who have enlisted:—

INDUSTRIES.	4th June.	11th June.	18th June.	25th June.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Building and Construction of Works .. .. .	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
Engineering and Ironfoundry .. .. .	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7
Construction of Vehicles .. .. .	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Sawmilling .. .. .	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Other Insured Workpeople .. .. .	1.2	1.3	1.1	0.9
ALL INSURED WORKPEOPLE	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3
DISTRICTS.				
London .. .. .	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.9
South Eastern .. .. .	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8
South Western .. .. .	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9
West Midlands .. .. .	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5
East Midlands .. .. .	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5
Yorkshire .. .. .	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6
North Western .. .. .	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7
Northern .. .. .	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3
Scotland .. .. .	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Wales .. .. .	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6
Ireland .. .. .	4.9	4.6	4.6	4.5
UNITED KINGDOM .. .. .	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
A Month ago .. .. .	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9
A Year ago .. .. .	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.5

INSURANCE CLAIMS AND PAYMENTS.

The total number of claims to unemployment benefit made at Labour Exchanges and other local offices of the Unemployment Fund during the four weeks ended 25th June, 1915, was 22,867, as compared with 23,434 during the four weeks ended 28th May, 1915, and with 73,743 during the four weeks ended 26th June, 1914. Of the total of 22,867 claims, 13,658 (or 60 per cent.) were claims for the direct payment of benefit, and 9,209 (or 40 per cent.) were claims for payment of benefit through associations of workpeople in the insured trades having arrangements with the Board of Trade under Section 105 of the National Insurance Act. The number of claims made during each of the four weeks was 6,002, 5,340, 5,760, and 5,765, the average being 5,717, as compared with 5,859 in the four preceding weeks and with 18,436 in June, 1914.

The average weekly amount of unemployment benefit paid during the four weeks ended 25th June, 1915, was £1,378, as compared with £1,574 per week in the four preceding weeks, and with £8,034 per week in June, 1914; 53 per cent. of the amount was paid direct and 47 per cent. through Associations:—

Districts.	Average Weekly No. of Claims Made.			Average Weekly Amount of Benefit Paid.		
	June, 1915.	May, 1915.	June, 1914.	June, 1915.	May, 1915.	June, 1914.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
London .. .. .	1,706	1,454	4,978	232	225	2,471
South Eastern .. .. .	484	483	1,153	108	128	387
South Western .. .. .	401	431	1,353	80	101	465
West Midlands .. .. .	154	199	1,239	28	54	656
East Midlands .. .. .	284	261	582	53	66	254
Yorkshire .. .. .	400	441	1,276	34	103	675
North Western .. .. .	809	927	3,266	199	270	1,549
Northern .. .. .	256	239	1,095	57	61	410
Scotland .. .. .	438	411	1,731	80	91	609
Wales .. .. .	164	312	996	36	66	228
Ireland .. .. .	642	681	768	421	409	332
UNITED KINGDOM .. .. .	5,717	5,859	18,436	1,378	1,574	8,034

\* In accordance with the Regulations, every holder of an unemployment book has, when unemployed, to lodge it at a Labour Exchange or other local office of the Unemployment Fund.

BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR EXCHANGES.

FOUR WEEKS ENDED 11TH JUNE, 1915.

THE total number of workpeople remaining on the Registers\* of the Board of Trade Labour Exchanges (402 in number) on 11th June was 92,025, as compared with 84,774 on 14th May, 1915, and 110,853 on 12th June, 1914.

The number of registrations of workpeople during the four weeks ended 11th June was 225,749, a daily average of 9,815, as compared with a daily average of 9,646 in the previous four weeks, and of 8,711 in the four weeks ended 12th June, 1914.

Excluding cases in which persons were re-registered on again becoming unemployed, there were on the Register at some time or other during the period 297,935 workpeople (men 138,779, women 118,501, boys 15,926, and girls 24,729), as compared with 312,466 in the four weeks ended 14th May, 1915, and 285,756 in the four weeks ended 12th June, 1914.

The number of vacancies notified to the Exchanges during the period was 135,327, a daily average of 5,884, as compared with 6,009 in the four weeks ended 14th May, 1915, and with 4,313 in the four weeks ended 12th June, 1914. The number of vacancies filled was 95,580, a daily average of 4,156, as compared with 4,169 in the previous four weeks, and with 3,181 in the four weeks ended 12th June, 1914.

The following Table summarises the work of the Exchanges during the period:—

Trades.	Men.		Women.		Boys.	Girls.	Total.
	On Register at beginning of period	Registrations during period	On Register at beginning of period	Registrations during period			
On Register at beginning of period ..	34,487	112,077	38,989	83,642	3,425	7,873	84,774
Registrations during period .. ..	225,749	104,292	118,501	79,512	15,926	16,856	213,161
Re-registrations .. .. .	7,755	4,130	296	877	—	—	18,588
On Register at end of period .. .. .	37,039	37,039	43,171	43,171	3,729	8,066	92,025
Vacancies notified during period ..	76,769	54,201	37,006	27,030	12,284	10,268	135,327
Vacancies filled during period .. ..	41,151	41,151	20,590	20,590	6,141	6,190	95,580
Applicants placed in other districts .. .. .	12,868	12,868	4,100	4,100	1,896	1,067	19,481

Of the 19,421 cases in which persons were placed in Exchange districts other than those in which they were registered, 3,863 represent transferences from one division to another. Of the total vacancies filled, 16,733, or 17.5 per cent., were filled by applicants residing more than five miles from the place in which the work was to be performed.

In the following Table are shown, for men and women, the proportions of vacancies filled to vacancies notified during the period, and of vacancies filled to registrations (including those on the Registers at the beginning of the period) in the principal groups of trades:—

Trades.	Proportion of Vacancies filled to Vacancies notified.		Proportion of Vacancies filled to Registrations.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.
Insured Trades—				
Building, Construction of Works and Sawmilling .. .. .	77.3	—	36.4	—
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Construction of Vehicles .. .. .	75.1	102.2	46.1	49.6
Uninsured Trades—				
Textiles .. .. .	46.9	76.0	34.6	27.6
Dress .. .. .	37.0	78.3	18.1	24.5



District or Department.	Insured Trades.			Uninsured Trades.		
	4 weeks ended 11 June, 1915.	4 weeks ended 14 May, 1915.	4 weeks ended 12 June, 1914.	4 weeks ended 11 June, 1915.	4 weeks ended 14 May, 1915.	4 weeks ended 12 June, 1914.
<b>REGISTRATIONS.†</b>						
London.. .. .	659	588	888	1,892	1,888	1,155
South-Eastern .. .. .	205	206	277	539	518	318
South-Western .. .. .	247	227	329	357	369	282
West Midlands .. .. .	198	197	256	509	570	397
East Midlands .. .. .	147	137	174	294	294	221
Yorkshire .. .. .	252	254	344	542	506	392
North-Western .. .. .	384	414	696	1,082	1,037	742
Northern .. .. .	215	225	303	354	402	233
Scotland .. .. .	255	264	332	771	666	403
Wales .. .. .	248	242	377	211	210	171
Ireland .. .. .	158	148	149	296	284	220
<b>Men</b> .. .. .	<b>2,883</b>	<b>2,802</b>	<b>4,124</b>	<b>2,010</b>	<b>2,017</b>	<b>1,614</b>
<b>Women</b> .. .. .	<b>78</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3,559</b>	<b>3,335</b>	<b>1,970</b>
<b>Boys</b> .. .. .	<b>63</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>511</b>	<b>376</b>
<b>Girls</b> .. .. .	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>744</b>	<b>751</b>	<b>484</b>
<b>TOTAL</b> .. .. .	<b>2,968</b>	<b>2,902</b>	<b>4,177</b>	<b>6,847</b>	<b>6,744</b>	<b>4,534</b>
<b>VACANCIES FILLED.</b>						
London.. .. .	271	272	104	778	829	484
South-Eastern .. .. .	113	101	99	182	184	135
South-Western .. .. .	191	177	95	174	186	154
West Midlands .. .. .	124	123	62	176	181	134
East Midlands .. .. .	72	73	89	115	112	101
Yorkshire .. .. .	155	179	126	193	211	173
North-Western .. .. .	127	128	118	370	368	303
Northern .. .. .	160	161	111	114	113	109
Scotland .. .. .	162	170	141	344	290	203
Wales .. .. .	163	142	243	74	72	96
Ireland .. .. .	21	23	27	77	74	74
<b>Men</b> .. .. .	<b>1,459</b>	<b>1,459</b>	<b>1,173</b>	<b>838</b>	<b>961</b>	<b>669</b>
<b>Women</b> .. .. .	<b>53</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1,122</b>	<b>1,017</b>	<b>798</b>
<b>Boys</b> .. .. .	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>283</b>
<b>Girls</b> .. .. .	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>225</b>
<b>TOTAL</b> .. .. .	<b>1,559</b>	<b>1,549</b>	<b>1,213</b>	<b>2,597</b>	<b>2,620</b>	<b>1,968</b>

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

The average daily number of vacancies notified in the insured trades during the four weeks ended 11th June was 2,026, as compared with 2,011 in the previous four weeks, and with 1,524 in the four weeks ended 12th June, 1914. The corresponding daily averages in the uninsured trades were 3,858, 3,998, and 2,789 respectively.

**INSURED TRADES.†**

**Registrations.**—The number of registrations effected during the period was 62,928 (men 59,859, women 1,780, boys 1,202, and girls 87). The total number of workpeople on the Register was 81,463 (men 77,451, women 2,443, boys 1,441, and girls 128). These figures exclude 5,330 cases in which persons were re-registered on again becoming unemployed during the period, and represent separate individuals.

The number of workpeople remaining on the Register on 11th June was 20,229, as compared with 18,535 on 14th May, and 59,758 on 12th June, 1914.

**Vacancies Notified and Filled.**—The number of vacancies notified to the Exchanges during the period was 46,603, a daily average of 2,026, as compared with 2,011 in the previous four weeks, and 1,524 in the four weeks ended 12th June, 1914. The number of vacancies filled was 35,855, a daily average of 1,559, as compared with 1,549 in the previous four weeks, and 1,213 in the four weeks ended 12th June, 1914.

The following Table shows, for men, the proportion of registrations, vacancies notified and vacancies filled, respectively, in each group of occupations to the total for the insured trades:—

Groups of Occupations.	Registrations.	Vacancies Notified.	Vacancies Filled.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Building and Construction of Works	53.9	49.4	60.4
Sawmilling .. .. .	1.0	0.6	0.4
Shipbuilding .. .. .	12.0	12.9	14.0
Mechanical Engineering .. .. .	30.9	35.5	24.1
Construction of Vehicles .. .. .	1.4	1.2	0.9
Cabinet Making, &c. .. .. .	0.8	0.4	0.2
<b>TOTAL</b> .. .. .	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

† The figures for these trades relate to workpeople who are insured against unemployment under the provisions of Part II. of the National Insurance Act.

**UNINSURED TRADES.**

**Registrations.**—The number of registrations effected during the period was 150,233 (men 44,433, women 77,732, boys 11,299, and girls 16,769). The total number of workpeople on the Register at some time or other during the period was 216,472 (men 61,328, women 116,058, boys 14,485, and girls 24,601). These figures exclude 7,258 cases in which persons already placed in vacancies during the period were re-registered on again becoming unemployed, and represent separate individuals.

The number of workpeople remaining on the Register at 11th June was 71,796 (men 18,595, women 41,749, boys 3,441, and girls 8,011), as compared with 66,239 on 14th May, and 51,095 on 12th June, 1914.

**Vacancies Notified and Filled.**—The number of vacancies notified during the period was 88,724, a daily average of 3,858, as compared with 3,998 in the preceding four weeks, and 2,789 in the four weeks ended 12th June, 1914. The number of vacancies filled was 59,725, a daily average of 2,597, as compared with 2,620 in the preceding four weeks, and 1,968 in the four weeks ended 12th June, 1914.

Of the vacancies filled during the period, 6,825 (men 2,214, women 4,321, boys 154, and girls 136) were known to be for less than a week's employment. Of these 731 were for men in conveyance of men, goods and messages, 564 were for general labourers, and 3,537 were for women in domestic offices or services.

Of the 13,259 vacancies filled by boys and girls, 3,364 (boys 1,497 and girls 1,867), or 25.4 per cent., were filled by applicants who obtained their first situations since leaving school.

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

Trade Groups.	Registrations.	Vacancies Notified.	Vacancies Filled.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
<b>MEN:—</b>			
Conveyance of Men, Goods, &c. ..	21.7	24.6	26.9
General Labourers .. .. .	32.6	23.3	28.9
Commercial Occupations .. .. .	8.9	4.6	5.4
Textiles .. .. .	3.9	5.5	3.9
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging ..	2.3	3.5	2.9
Agriculture .. .. .	3.3	6.7	2.5
All others .. .. .	27.3	31.8	29.5
	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>WOMEN:—</b>			
Domestic Offices or Services .. .. .	44.9	47.2	46.9
Textiles .. .. .	6.4	7.9	8.2
Food, Tobacco, Drink, &c. .. .. .	5.9	9.7	9.3
Dress .. .. .	6.6	7.1	7.7
Commercial Occupations .. .. .	6.0	4.7	4.6
Paper, Prints .. .. .	1.6	1.7	1.9
All others .. .. .	28.6	21.7	21.5
	100.0	100.0	100.0

**CASUAL EMPLOYMENT.**

The number of men given casual employment through the Exchanges was 1,004, and the number of casual jobs given was 4,596, a daily average of 200, compared with 158 in the preceding four weeks, and 637 in the four weeks ended 12th June, 1914. Of the jobs given during the period, 2,931 were for dock labourers, 1,618 for cloth porters at Manchester, and 47 for cotton porters at Liverpool. During the period there were also 3,334 cases in which men were given employment through the Clearing House system for Dock Labourers at Liverpool.

**UNSATISFIED DEMAND FOR LABOUR.**

During the period covered by the returns there was a considerable shortage of agricultural labour, especially in the South of England. The demand for colliery workers, for navvies, and for workers in the engineering and shipbuilding trades still continued.

Women were largely required for agricultural work, and also for the clothing trade in London.

**BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR EXCHANGES—FOUR WEEKS ENDED 11th JUNE, 1915.**

**A.—INSURED TRADES.**

**Registrations and Vacancies Filled in the Four Weeks ended 11th June, 1915.**

OCCUPATION GROUPS.†	ADULTS.				JUVENILES.			
	REGISTRATIONS.			VACANCIES.	REGISTRATIONS.			VACANCIES.
	On Register at Beginning of Period.	Registrations during Period.*	On Register at End of Period.		On Register at Beginning of Period.	Registrations during Period.	On Register at End of Period.	
<b>Building:—</b>								
Carpenters, Joiners &c. .. .. .	2,988	8,964	3,557	3,367	15	20	9	28
Bricklayers .. .. .	1,408	3,070	1,352	914	—	2	—	2
Masons .. .. .	944	1,349	791	218	1	1	—	1
Painters, Decorators &c. .. .. .	598	3,879	781	2,037	2	6	1	11
Plumbers and Glaziers .. .. .	576	1,524	639	354	3	16	1	17
Other skilled occupations .. .. .	693	1,610	689	664	—	4	—	4
Labourers .. .. .	2,023	9,170	1,919	4,619	5	14	3	29
<b>Construction of Works</b> .. .. .	<b>983</b>	<b>5,531</b>	<b>954</b>	<b>4,741</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Sawmilling</b> .. .. .	<b>244</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Shipbuilding:—</b>								
Platers and Riveters .. .. .	487	2,612	425	1,648	6	49	16	27
Shipwrights .. .. .	90	1,252	96	854	—	5	2	—
Labourers .. .. .	709	3,970	687	2,188	19	111	19	113
<b>Mechanical Engineering:—</b>								
Moulders (Iron and Steel) .. .. .	720	1,775	835	603	11	40	5	32
Smiths .. .. .	282	729	289	270	4	10	4	11
Erectors, Fitters and Turners .. .. .	1,373	5,989	1,607	3,791	116	545	136	392
Metal Machinists .. .. .	398	1,948	500	1,175	9	132	20	112
Wiremen .. .. .	269	912	359	400	13	45	21	36
Other skilled occupations .. .. .	811	2,782	904	1,164	9	40	10	69
Labourers .. .. .	1,359	6,064	1,380	4,042	21	121	25	86
<b>Making of Vehicles</b> .. .. .	<b>339</b>	<b>959</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Cabinet Making &amp;c.</b> .. .. .	<b>298</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>TOTAL MALES</b> .. .. .	<b>17,592</b>	<b>65,164</b>	<b>18,444</b>	<b>33,548</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>1,216</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>1,036</b>
<b>TOTAL FEMALES</b> .. .. .	<b>663</b>	<b>1,791</b>	<b>1,422</b>	<b>1,217</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b> .. .. .	<b>18,255</b>	<b>66,955</b>	<b>19,866</b>	<b>34,765</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>1,303</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>1,090</b>

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

† Occupations are grouped according to the industry with which they are mainly connected.

**B.—UNINSURED TRADES.**

**Registrations and Vacancies Filled in the Four Weeks ended 11th June, 1915.**

TRADES.	ADULTS.									JUVENILES.					
	On Register at Beginning of Period.			Registrations during Period.*			On Register at End of Period.			Vacancies Filled during Period.					
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.			
Mining and Quarrying .. .. .	143	5	148	570	9	579	153	4	157	394	3	397	22	—	22
Miscellaneous Metal Trades .. .. .	316	469	785	876	862	1,738	348	455	803	492	525	1,017	206	198	404
<b>Textiles:—</b>															
Cotton .. .. .	258	1,348	1,606	1,044	3,034	4,078	324	1,394	1,718	438	947	1,385	92	145	237
Wool and Worsted .. .. .	107	203	310	431	604	1,035	165	216	371	210	207	417	42	56	98
Other Textiles .. .. .	152	902	1,054	375	1,605	1,980	163	826	989	172	970	1,142	85	255	340
<b>Dress:—</b>															
Foot and Shoe Workers .. .. .	166	98	264	420	185	605	163	88	251	133	91	224	35	29	64
Others .. .. .	216	2,559	2,775	435	5,216	5,651	221	2,557	2,778	90	1,887	1,977	42	663	705
<b>Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages:—</b>															
On Railways .. .. .	186	—	186	660	—	660	156	—	156	4,441	749	5,190	69	—	69
On Roads, Seas, Rivers, &c. .. .. .	3,308	—	3,308	1,459	—	1,459	3,437	—	3,437	639	—	639	1,493	—	1,493
Agriculture .. .. .	417	—	417	1,564	—	1,564	606	—	606	1,858	514	2,372	93	—	93
Paper, Prints, Books and Stationery .. .. .	294	580	874	562	1,297	1,859	261	576	837	153	503	656	92	439	531
Wood, Furniture, Fittings and Decorations .. .. .	280	111	391	685	280	965	331	106	437	212					

PAUPERISM.

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

THE number of paupers relieved on one day in June, 1915, in the 35 urban districts named below was less than the corresponding number a month ago, and showed a considerable decrease on a year ago.

Compared with a month ago the number of paupers relieved decreased by 7,948 (or 2.5 per cent), and the rate per 10,000 by 4. The number of indoor paupers relieved showed a decrease of 5,413 (or 3.6 per cent.); and the number of outdoor paupers relieved a decrease of 2,535 (or 1.5 per cent.). The rate per 10,000 decreased in every district but one. The most marked decreases were 13 per 10,000 in the Central London district, and 10 per 10,000 at Aberdeen.

Compared with June, 1914, there was a decrease of 23,446 (or 6.9 per cent.) in the total number of paupers relieved. The number of indoor paupers relieved showed a decrease of 18,061 (or 11.1 per cent.); and the number of outdoor paupers a decrease of 5,385 (or 3.1 per cent.). There was a decrease in every district except one. The decreases were most marked in the London districts, where they ranged from 18 to 36 per 10,000; in the Hull and Leicester districts (24); in the Manchester district (21); in the Newcastle and Galway districts (17); and in the Nottingham district (16). Nine other districts showed reductions of from 12 to 15 per 10,000.

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of June, 1915.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.		Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.*</b>						
<i>Metropolis.</i>						
West District .. ..	10,592	1,909	12,501	154	- 7	- 13
North District .. ..	13,441	6,591	20,032	198	- 7	- 18
Central District .. ..	4,062	1,366	5,428	372	- 13	- 36
East District .. ..	12,522	4,826	17,348	260	- 6	- 27
South District .. ..	21,348	13,564	34,912	186	- 0	- 20
<b>TOTAL, Metropolis .. ..</b>	<b>61,965</b>	<b>28,246</b>	<b>90,211</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>- 6</b>	<b>- 21</b>
<i>West Ham .. ..</i>	4,662	10,494	15,156	202	- 2	- 14
<i>Other Districts.</i>						
Newcastle District ..	2,149	4,452	6,601	137	- 4	- 17
Stockton & Tees District	1,149	3,597	4,746	191	- 5	- 6
Bolton, Oldham, &c. ..	4,000	4,039	8,039	99	- 1	- 5
Wigan District .. ..	2,056	4,367	6,322	159	- 2	- 12
Manchester District ..	9,196	6,432	15,627	183	- 6	- 21
Liverpool District .. ..	10,415	11,417	21,832	193	- 4	- 11
Bradford District .. ..	2,051	1,681	3,732	100	- 3	- 2
Hull District .. ..	1,177	2,613	3,790	99	- 1	- 10
Leeds District .. ..	2,519	3,186	5,705	119	- 3	- 9
Barnsley District .. ..	856	2,941	3,797	124	+ 2	+ 1
Sheffield District .. ..	2,858	3,628	6,586	134	- 5	- 4
Hull District .. ..	1,791	5,275	7,066	226	- 4	- 24
North Staffordshire ..	2,082	6,011	7,993	176	- 6	- 13
Nottingham District ..	1,806	4,212	6,117	133	- 6	- 16
Leicester District .. ..	1,311	2,859	4,170	179	- 2	- 24
Wolverhampton District	3,506	7,184	10,690	155	- 2	- 9
Birmingham District ..	6,247	5,735	11,982	141	- 4	- 13
Bristol District .. ..	2,790	3,804	6,594	169	- 4	- 8
Cardiff & Swansea .. ..	2,239	5,840	8,079	183	- 7	- 11
<b>TOTAL, "Other Districts" ..</b>	<b>60,396</b>	<b>88,743</b>	<b>149,138</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>- 4</b>	<b>- 11</b>
<b>SCOTLAND.*</b>						
Glasgow District .. ..	3,530	18,036	21,566	227	- 4	- 13
Paisley & Greenock District	709	2,620	3,329	175	- 1	- 6
Edinburgh & Leith District	1,334	4,963	6,297	156	- 5	- 8
Dundee and Dunfermline ..	619	2,129	2,748	137	- 4	- 14
Aberdeen .. ..	390	2,793	3,183	191	- 10	- 7
Coatbridge & Airdrie .. ..	274	1,607	1,881	183	- 6	- 15
<b>TOTAL for the above } Scottish Districts .. ..</b>	<b>6,856</b>	<b>32,148</b>	<b>39,004</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>- 5</b>	<b>- 12</b>
<b>IRELAND.†</b>						
Dublin District .. ..	5,453	5,220	10,673	260	- 6	- 12
Belfast District .. ..	2,566	879	3,445	82	- 1	- 12
Cork, Waterford and Limerick District .. ..	3,170	4,275	7,445	800	- 4	- 5
Galway District .. ..	261	184	445	129	- 7	- 17
<b>TOTAL for the above } Irish Districts .. ..</b>	<b>11,440</b>	<b>10,558</b>	<b>21,998</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>- 4</b>	<b>- 11</b>
<b>TOTAL for above 35 Dis- } tricts in June, 1915 }</b>	<b>145,318</b>	<b>170,189</b>	<b>315,507</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>- 4</b>	<b>- 14</b>

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

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

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

IMPORTS IN JUNE.

[Note.—Certain goods which, at the time of importation, were the property of H.M. Government or the Governments of the Allies, are not included in the imports.]

THE total value of the imports in June, 1915, was £76,118,000, compared with £71,645,000 in May, 1915, and with £58,282,000 in June, 1914. The increase compared with a year ago was largely due to higher prices, though there were great increases in the quantity of certain articles, especially meat, all the principal dutiable articles of food (except sugar and wine), and tobacco; also in wool, hides, and many articles in the oil and seed group. Imports of almost all kinds of iron and steel and manufactures thereof decreased in quantity.

FOOD, DRINK, AND TOBACCO.

*Grain and Flour.*—As compared with June, 1914, wheat and flour, barley, and maize showed reductions in quantity, though the total value of wheat and flour imported increased. Oats, offals, and rice showed increases in both quantity and value. Cereals as a whole showed a reduction of 1½ million cwts. (8.8 per cent.) in quantity, but an increase of 3½ million pounds (53.2 per cent.) in value.

During the ten completed months of the cereal year the imports of wheat and flour (in grain equivalent) have been 21,432,000 quarters, only 16,000 quarters less than in the corresponding period of 1913-14, in spite of the almost total absence of supplies from Russia and Australia. The deficiency has been made up chiefly from the United States, the Argentine, and India.

*Meat.*—Beef showed a small reduction in quantity, but an increase of over 50 per cent. in total value, as compared with June last year. Pork showed a reduction in both quantity and value; but mutton, bacon, hams, and preserved meat an increase in both respects. The total net increase in value under the head of meat, as compared with June of last year, was £3,676,000, or 74 per cent.

*Other Food &c.*—Eggs and potatoes showed reductions in both quantity and value; cheese, condensed milk, lard, onions, bananas, oranges, and tomatoes all showed increases in both quantity and value; butter showed a reduction in quantity, but an increase in total value. Tobacco, and all the principal dutiable articles of food, except sugar and wine, showed increases in both quantity and value. Sugar again showed a great reduction, as in March, April, and May; the total importation during the half-year just closed was over 5 million cwts., or upwards of 26 per cent., less than in the first half-year of 1913 or 1914.

The increase in the total value of food, drink, and tobacco imported, as compared with June of last year, was £10,379,000, or 45 per cent.

RAW MATERIALS.

*Textile Materials.*—The quantity of cotton imported showed a great increase, as in the four previous months; the total importation during the half-year has been 13,814,000 centals, or 56 per cent. ahead of the importation in the first half of 1914, and 83 per cent. ahead of that in the first half of 1913. The other textile materials, except mohair and a few minor articles, also showed increases. The imports of silk more than doubled in quantity, and those of jute were five and a third times as great as in June, 1914.

*Other Raw Materials.*—Particulars are given below:—

Article.	Quantity imported in June, 1915.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with June, 1914.
Iron ore .. ..	640,648 tons	+ 95,905
Tin ore .. ..	4,221 "	+ 2,076
Pit props or pit wood .. ..	180,466 loads	+ 148,662
Other wood and timber, hewn .. ..	28,723 "	+ 49,745
Furniture woods .. ..	24,220 "	+ 5,659
Other wood and timber .. ..	420,430 loads	+ 284,015
Cotton seed .. ..	33,345 tons	+ 18,378
Linseed .. ..	268,702 qrs.	+ 118,086
Soya beans .. ..	5,540 tons	+ 3,083
Nuts and kernels for expressing oil .. ..	45,708 tons	+ 38,368
Petroleum .. ..	48,546,657 gallons	+ 4,998,016
Fish oils .. ..	15,713 tons	+ 11,766
Palm and palm kernel oil, unrefined cwts.	210,041 "	+ 55,858
Tallow and stearine .. ..	251,828 "	+ 79,857
Rosin .. ..	237,606 "	+ 134,190
Hides, raw .. ..	205,094 "	+ 77,622
Sheepskins, woolled .. ..	6,708,432 lb.	+ 574,406
.. .. pickled .. ..	1,494,818 "	+ 33,250
Goatskins, undressed .. ..	1,022,525 "	+ 2,726
Wood pulp .. ..	90,685 tons	+ 38,705
Rubber .. ..	138,198 centals	+ 32,942
Ornamental feathers .. ..	137,960 lb.	+ 25,114
Nitrate of soda .. ..	28,298 "	+ 25,114

The only important declines were in wood and timber and in cotton seed and petroleum; the total imports of petroleum during the first half-year, however, showed an increase of nearly 8 per cent. over the imports in the first half of 1914.

MANUFACTURED ARTICLES.

Imports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof showed a general decline, though there was again a largely increased importation of steel billets from the United States. The total importation of iron and steel during the first six months of 1915 showed a reduction of nearly 660,000 tons, or 57 per cent., as compared with the first half of 1914. Copper and lead showed an increase, and tin a decrease, in quantity; zinc a reduction in quantity, but an

increase in value. Machinery again showed an increase owing to an enormously greater quantity of machine tools imported. Jute manufactures showed an increase of over 300 per cent.; but most other textile manufactures, especially those of cotton and wool, a great decline. Earthenware and glass, dyestuffs, hardware, and scientific instruments, fancy goods, skins and furs (dressed), musical instruments, and toys and games showed great reductions.

EXPORTS (BRITISH AND IRISH) IN JUNE.

[N.B.—Goods bought in the United Kingdom by, or on behalf of, the Governments of the Allies are included in the exports, but not goods taken from British Government Stores and Depots, or goods bought by H.M. Government and shipped on Government vessels.]

The total value of the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures in June, 1915, was £33,234,000, compared with £33,619,000 in May, 1915, and with £39,873,000 in June, 1914. Thus the falling-off as compared with June last year was only 16½ per cent., as against 20 per cent. in May, and 45 per cent. in November last, the month of greatest decline.

FOOD, DRINK, AND TOBACCO.

The amount of malt exported showed a great increase, while offals, fish, and spirits showed a large decline. There was also some decline in beer, and in confectionery and biscuits.

RAW MATERIALS.

There was again a great reduction in the exports of coal and of wool as compared with June, 1914. Palm oil (unrefined) showed an increase from 379 cwts. to 17,894 cwts.; and linseed oil also showed a large increase.

MANUFACTURED ARTICLES.

*Textiles.*—Cotton yarns showed an increase in quantity, but a decrease in value. Woollen tissues showed a reduction in quantity but an increase in value. Most other items in the textile group showed a decline in both quantity and value, cotton piece goods alone falling by 74½ million yards, or 14.9 per cent.

*Other Articles.*—The quantity of machinery, and of railway carriages, trucks, &c., exported again showed heavy falls. The chemical group was exceptional in showing considerably increased amounts exported under almost every head. The following Table shows the increase or decrease in other important groups of articles:—

Article.	Exports in June, 1915.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on June, 1914.
Pig iron .. ..	39,127 tons	- 49,442
Steel bars, angles, sections, &c. .. ..	42,977 "	+ 28,281
Rails .. ..	23,943 "	- 16,401
Galvanised iron and steel sheets .. ..	25,091 "	- 22,769
Thin plates .. ..	33,886 "	- 2,579
Other plates and sheets .. ..	24,313 "	+ 6,499
Tubes and pipes and fittings, wrought or cast .. ..	20,568 "	- 1,876
Wire and manufactures thereof .. ..	5,645 "	- 3,989
Other manufactures of iron and steel .. ..	53,232 "	- 24,980
<b>TOTAL iron and steel and manufactures thereof .. ..</b>	<b>268,872</b>	<b>- 89,266</b>
Copper, brass, and manufactures thereof .. ..	2,873 "	- 1,851
Tin, unwrought .. ..	1,418 "	+ 281
Boots and shoes .. ..	97,234 doz. pairs	- 26,408
Hats and bonnets .. ..	72,657 doz.	- 30,680
Leather .. ..	14,131 cwts.	- 10,282
Paper .. ..	233,891 "	- 47,581
Oilcloth .. ..	2,299,300 sq. yards	- 1,932,100
Earthenware and china .. ..	222,099 cwts.	- 75,450
Soap .. ..	184,038 "	- 14,888
Machinery .. ..	32,693 (value) £	- 29,685
Painters' colours and materials .. ..	1,856,202 cwts.	- 1,242,180
Soda compounds .. ..	144,460 tons	- 70,186
Sulphate of copper .. ..	745,564 "	+ 198,190
Sulphate of ammonia .. ..	5,520 "	+ 252
Other chemicals, drugs, dyes, &c. (value) £	25,338 "	+ 2,975
Cutlery, hardware, implements and tools, scientific instruments and apparatus except electrical .. ..	915,752 "	+ 179,710
Electrical goods and apparatus .. ..	431,599 "	- 209,902
Other metals and manufactures thereof .. ..	293,806 "	+ 22,526
Leather manufactures (except boots and shoes) .. ..	407,178 "	+ 11,949
Apparel, waterproofed and not waterproofed .. ..	190,437 "	+ 26,940
Railway carriages, trucks, &c. .. ..	518,631 "	- 95,989
Motor cars, cycles, motor cycles and parts thereof .. ..	46,823 "	- 285,009
Books, printed .. ..	431,103 "	- 165,024
Books, unprinted .. ..	177,646 "	- 39,408
Stationery, other than paper .. ..	132,517 "	- 25,460

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS (BRITISH AND IRISH) IN JANUARY-JUNE, 1915.

The imports in the six months ended June, 1915, were valued at £429,104,000, as compared with £375,903,000 in the first half of 1914. Articles of food and drink and tobacco showed an increase of £47,727,000 (or 35 per cent.), raw materials an increase of £19,000,000 (or 13½ per cent.), manufactured articles a decline of £15,375,000 (or 13½ per cent.). The exports (British and Irish) during the half-year were valued at £183,623,000 in 1915, as against £255,458,000 in 1914. Cotton manufactures accounted for 30 per cent. of the entire reduction; and machinery, iron and steel and manufactures thereof, and coal, collectively, for about 32½ per cent.

There were reductions under all the principal headings, except under grain and flour, meat, and oilseeds, oils, &c.

For details, see notes on imports and exports appended to the articles on the state of employment in the several trades.

PASSENGER MOVEMENT TO AND FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM IN MAY.

IN May, 1915, the total number of passengers who landed in the United Kingdom from other countries was 43,442, and the number who embarked for other countries was 39,136; these numbers compare with 151,087 and 143,971 respectively in May, 1914. In the five months ending May the passengers inward numbered 254,745, and the passengers outward 238,984, the inward being 286,445, and the outward 316,784 less than in the corresponding period of 1914.

The number of outward passengers to non-European countries in May was 10,901 in 1915, and 49,630 in 1914, these numbers including 9,057 and 33,171 British subjects respectively; the inward passengers from non-European countries in May numbered 15,056 in 1915, and 48,828 in 1914, of whom 13,513 and 30,269 respectively were British subjects. The numbers in the five months ending May were 54,361 outward, including 44,191 British, and 61,638 inward, including 51,641 British; the number of British subjects being less by 88,492 and 35,424 respectively than in the first five months of 1914.

The total of passengers of British nationality in May includes 7,070 passengers outward who were recorded as leaving permanent residence in the United Kingdom, and intending to reside permanently in non-European countries; while 9,712 of the inward passengers were recorded as having been resident in such countries, and intending to reside within the United Kingdom. The British passengers who were so recorded as changing their country of permanent residence during the five months ending May numbered 31,999 outward and 34,983 inward, showing a decrease of 72,759 and 1,993 respectively on the corresponding figures for 1914. The distribution of the migratory movement of British subjects is shown below, so far as the principal countries are concerned.

Migrants of British Nationality.*	May,		Five months ending May,	
	1914.	1915.	1914.	1915.
<b>EMIGRANTS TO—</b>				
British North America .. ..	13,836	2,375	45,429	8,056
Australia .. ..	2,954	117	15,971	4,433
New Zealand .. ..	664	380	3,031	1,161
British South Africa .. ..	794	406	3,552	2,053
India (including Ceylon) .. ..	266	230	1,966	1,897
Other British Colonies and Possessions .. ..	443	306	2,287	1,749
<b>TOTAL, BRITISH EMPIRE .. ..</b>	<b>18,953</b>	<b>3,814</b>	<b>72,236</b>	<b>19,349</b>
United States .. ..	8,119	3,027	29,604	11,164
Other Foreign Countries .. ..	469	229	2,918	1,486
<b>TOTAL EMIGRANTS .. ..</b>	<b>27,541</b>	<b>7,070</b>	<b>104,758</b>	<b>31,999</b>
<b>IMMIGRANTS FROM—</b>				
British North America .. ..	2,364	3,517	7,675	11,647
Australia .. ..	2,761	970	6,942	4,082
New Zealand .. ..	564	146	1,35	

## LEGAL CASES, OFFICIAL NOTICES, &amp;c.

## LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

## (1) WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT.

## QUESTION AS TO LIABILITY: ADMISSION OF LIABILITY DURING TOTAL INCAPACITY: JURISDICTION TO ARBITRATE.

It is provided by the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, that if any question arises as to the liability to pay compensation under the Act, or as to the amount or duration of compensation, such question, if not settled by agreement, must be settled by arbitration. In the absence of agreement as to an arbitrator, the county court judge of the district is in most cases the arbitrator. Where the amount of compensation, or any other matter arising under the Act, is determined by agreement a memorandum of such agreement may be recorded in the county court, and then such agreement is enforceable as a judgment.

A workman employed in working a circular saw was injured by accident in October, 1914, in circumstances entitling him to compensation. Shortly after the accident his solicitors wrote to his employers asking whether they admitted their liability to pay compensation. The employers referred the matter to their insurance company, who replied to the effect that they had authorised the employers to pay compensation during the workman's total incapacity resulting from the accident, in accordance with the terms of the Act, and that in view of this fact there was nothing further to be done at present. The solicitors replied that the workman was not prepared to accept an admission limited to total incapacity, and that therefore they were instructed to apply to the county court for an award. To this the company answered that they were quite ready to provide for the man's present condition, which was admitted to be one of total incapacity, but that future developments must be dealt with as they arose, and that they would consent to have a memorandum recorded of agreement to pay compensation during total incapacity, but would agree to nothing further.

Proceedings in the county court were then commenced, and at the hearing the employers contended that no question had arisen entitling the workman to take proceedings, and that therefore the judge had no jurisdiction to make an award. The judge, however, held that a question for arbitration had arisen under the Act, and he made an award in favour of the workman. The employers appealed.

The Court of Appeal held that the difference which had arisen between the parties was important, and no mere matter of form, as it affected the onus of proof when total incapacity ceased and a state of partial incapacity came into being; that the employers had never admitted, and even refused to admit, liability to pay compensation except during total incapacity; that the workman was entitled either to have an admission of liability to the full extent of his statutory rights, or else to obtain an award; and that therefore the judge had jurisdiction to arbitrate, and to make an award giving the workman all that the Act gave him. The appeal was therefore dismissed.—*Cooper v. Wales, Ltd.—Court of Appeal.—18th June, 1915.*

## TIME FOR TAKING PROCEEDINGS: FAILURE TO MAKE CLAIM WITHIN PRESCRIBED PERIOD: "MISTAKE OR OTHER REASONABLE CAUSE."

Proceedings under the Act for the recovery of compensation are not maintainable unless notice of the accident has been given as soon as practicable after the happening thereof and before the injured workman has voluntarily left his employment, and unless the claim for compensation has been made within six months from the occurrence of the accident. But the want of, or any defect in, such notice is not a bar to the maintenance of proceedings if the judge or arbitrator decides that the employer is not prejudiced in his defence by the want or defect, or that the want or defect was occasioned by mistake, absence from the United Kingdom, or other reasonable cause. Further, the failure to make a claim within the six months is not a bar to the proceedings if it is decided that such failure was occasioned by mistake, absence from the United Kingdom, or other reasonable cause.

A man employed as a horsekeeper met with an accident in the course of his employment in October, 1913, the fingers of one of his hands being badly crushed. He at once went to his employer, who told him he might "potter about the factory until he was better." He had been in the employment for seventeen years, and he continued to be paid his full wages. After a time he was doing a great part of his usual work. In June, 1914, however, he was dismissed for misconduct in no way connected with the accident. He then claimed compensation; but the county court judge refused to make an award in his favour on the ground that he had not made his claim within six months of the accident, and that the fact that he was paid his wages up to the time of dismissal was not a reasonable cause for not making a claim in time. The workman appealed.

The Court of Appeal held that as the workman was an old servant who remained in his employment for more than six months after the accident, receiving his full wages and doing the same kind of work as before, there was "reasonable cause" within the meaning of the Act for not having made a claim within the six months. It must not, however, be assumed

that in all cases payment of wages is to be regarded as reasonable cause for failure to make a claim within the prescribed time. The appeal was therefore allowed.—*Luckie v. Merry.—Court of Appeal.—2nd and 3rd June, 1915.*

## NOTICE OF ACCIDENT: OMISSION TO GIVE, "AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE": ABSENCE OF "MISTAKE OR OTHER REASONABLE CAUSE."

A miner was injured on 20th August, 1914, by a piece of dirt accidentally hitting him in the eye. The accident happened within half an hour of the end of the workman's shift. He was so severely hurt that he had to stop work, and while still in the pit he bathed the eye and showed his injury to another man. He left the pit without giving any notice of the accident, although a notice was posted up requiring all accidents to be reported before leaving the pit. Next day his eye was worse, and he did not go to work, but began treating himself. On the fourth day, as the eye continued to get worse, he went to a doctor, who changed the treatment, and gave him reason to hope the eye would be saved. The next day the workman went to see the deputy with the object of giving notice, but the deputy was away. Consequently, it was 27th August before any effective notice was given to the employers that there had been an accident. A few days later the eye became still worse, and the workman went to a hospital, eventually losing the use of the eye.

A claim for compensation was then made, but was resisted by the employers on the ground of want of notice of the accident. The county court judge decided that the injury was not a trivial one; and that as the claimant made up his mind that he could not return to work on 21st August, but gave no notice till 27th August, he had not given notice "as soon as practicable after the happening" of the accident; also that no "reasonable cause" had been shewn for not giving notice; and that therefore the claimant was deprived of his right to claim compensation. The workman appealed. The Court of Appeal, however, dismissed the appeal, holding that there was evidence to justify the judge's decision, and that therefore they could not interfere.—*Fox v. Barrow Hematite Steel Co., Ltd.—Court of Appeal.—2nd June, 1915.*

In another case, while a carter was unloading a cartload of stones on 26th June, 1914, a piece of stone flew into his eye, causing pain and bleeding. The workman thereupon tied his horse to the tail of another cart, and rode back in that other cart. He went home, and then consulted a doctor. The next day he went back to his work, but did not report the accident. The following week was a holiday. The workman knew from the beginning that the injury was serious, and that he ought to give notice of the accident, but he did nothing until the 6th July, when he sent his wife to tell his employer what had happened. He had been seeing the doctor every day. While his wife was away the employer called at the workman's house, and he then told him of the accident. On 5th August the doctor gave him a certificate (which was sent to the employer) that he was suffering from an injury to the eye which occurred on 26th June, and that he was incapable of doing his work. On 5th September an officer of a trade union sent, on behalf of the workman, to the employer a notice in writing of the accident and injury.

Subsequently a claim was heard for compensation, but the county court judge refused to make an award in favour of the claimant on the grounds that he had not given notice of the accident "as soon as practicable after the happening thereof"; that there was no "mistake or other reasonable cause" for failure to give such notice; and that there was no evidence to shew that the employer was not "prejudiced in his defence" by the want of notice. The workman appealed.

The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal, holding that there was evidence upon which the judge could have properly decided as he had done, and that his decision was right.—*Miller v. Richardson.—Court of Appeal.—2nd June, 1915.*

## REVIEW OF WEEKLY PAYMENT: ENLISTMENT OF INJURED WORKMAN: REGIMENT ORDERED ABROAD: MEDICAL EXAMINATION: OBSTRUCTION: CEASING TO RESIDE IN UNITED KINGDOM.

Any weekly payment under the Act may be reviewed at the request of the employer or of the workman, and on such review may be ended, diminished or increased. A workman receiving weekly payments must, if so required by his employer, from time to time submit himself for medical examination; and refusal to so submit himself, or obstructing such examination, suspends his right to any weekly payment until such examination has taken place. If a workman receiving weekly payments ceases to reside in the United Kingdom, he thereupon ceases to be entitled to receive any weekly payment, unless a medical referee certifies that his incapacity resulting from the accident is likely to be permanent. By the rules made under the Act such question can be referred to the medical referee only where the registrar of the county court is satisfied that the workman has a bona-fide intention of ceasing to reside in the United Kingdom.

An engineer employed on board a steamship met with an accident in 1912, which entitled him to compensation. He received £1 a week till February, 1913, when on review the payments were reduced to 15s. a week. Soon after war broke

out the workman enlisted in a Territorial regiment, and the employers, as soon as they were aware of this, stopped the payments. The workman then applied to the county court for the issue of execution to enforce payment, whereupon the employers applied for a review. Before the day fixed for the hearing the employers asked for a medical examination of the workman, and they then discovered that the regiment which he had joined had been sent to India, where the man then was. When the matter came before the court the employers abandoned their application for a review, but made an application that compensation should be suspended on two grounds—first, that the workman had obstructed the holding of a medical examination; and, secondly, that he had ceased to reside in the United Kingdom, and therefore was not entitled to receive compensation unless a medical referee certified that the incapacity resulting from the injury was likely to be permanent. The judge dismissed their application, and the employers appealed.

The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal. They held that there was no evidence whatever that the workman had in any way obstructed a medical examination by living abroad under military control; and that presumably the employers could have obtained a medical examination in India if they had taken the proper steps. Also, they held that the Act does not prescribe that the mere fact that a workman is out of the United Kingdom deprives him of a right to compensation, but contemplates the case of a workman who leaves the United Kingdom intending to reside permanently abroad, and has no kind of application to the case of a soldier who is temporarily abroad because he is acting in obedience to military orders.—*J. & C. Harrison, Ltd. v. Dowling.—Court of Appeal.—10th June, 1915.*

## (2) MERCHANT SHIPPING ACTS.

## DETENTION OF SHIP IN ENEMY PORT: INTERNMENT OF CREW: HAGUE CONVENTION, 1907: TERMINATION OF SERVICE: RIGHT TO WAGES.

By the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, it is provided that where the service of a seaman terminates before the date contemplated in the agreement, by reason of the wreck or loss of the ship, or of his being left on shore at a place abroad under a certificate that he is unfit or unable to proceed on the voyage, he shall be entitled to wages up to the time of such termination, but not for any longer period. A seaman, on making an agreement for service, may stipulate for the allotment of part of his wages to another person. The person in whose favour an allotment note is made may, unless the seaman is shown to have forfeited or ceased to be entitled to wages, recover the sums allotted from the owner of the ship with respect to which the contract of service was made. By the Hague Convention, 1907, it was provided that where a merchant ship belonging to a belligerent Power is in an enemy port when hostilities commence, the ship should be allowed to depart freely, either immediately, or after a reasonable number of days of grace; and that if such a ship is unable to leave within the time contemplated, or is not allowed to leave, she may not be confiscated, but must merely be detained and restored after the war.

In May, 1914, a seaman signed articles as second mate on board a steamship, for a voyage not exceeding two years' duration, to commence at Hull, to extend to any ports within the limits of 75° N. and 60° S., and to end at any port in the United Kingdom or in Europe within home trade limits. A stipulation was inserted in the articles for the payment of £4 15s. a month to the wife of the seaman. The ship in due course sailed from Hull, and arrived at Hamburg on 2nd August, 1914. On 4th August war was declared between the United Kingdom and Germany. The ship was detained in Hamburg by the German authorities, and the crew were interned. The owner of the ship paid the allotted sum to the wife of the seaman in June and July, and paid her a less sum in August, but refused to make her any further payments.

The wife of the seaman then brought an action to recover the sums allotted to her. It was contended on behalf of the owner that the events which had happened had terminated the service, and that therefore there was no further liability to pay wages under the agreement. The judge, however, decided that the contract for the services of the plaintiff's husband had not been terminated, and that she was entitled to recover the sums she claimed. Judgment was accordingly given for the plaintiff.—*Beal v. Horlock.—King's Bench Division.—4th June, 1915.*

## NATIONAL INSURANCE ACTS, 1911 to 1915.

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

## APPLICATIONS TO THE UMPIRE.

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

345. Workmen engaged mainly in setting or adjusting machines for:—

- wrapping tinfoil round chocolate;
- nailing together wooden boxes;
- making or covering cardboard boxes.

## DECISIONS BY THE UMPIRE.

Pursuant to paragraph (5) of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations, the Board of Trade hereby give notice of

the following decisions by the Umpire on questions whether contributions are payable:—

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

1514. Workmen employed at collieries or quarries and engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture of iron or wooden trams, tubs, hutches or corves. (Application 306.)

1515. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the construction of tar boilers or asphalt cauldrons. (Application 331.)

1516. Workmen employed by a gun manufacturer party in shooting guns and rifles for the purpose of testing, and partly in adjusting sights, &c. (Application 343.)

B. The Umpire has decided that contributions are NOT payable in respect of:—

1513. Workmen employed in connection with exhibitions and engaged wholly or mainly in putting together ready-made parts or exhibition stands such as are not made for one special occasion; laying linoleum, putting on bunting, &c.

This decision modifies decision A 1351 (BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for August, 1913).

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

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

## TRADE BOARDS ACT, 1909.

## TAILORING TRADE.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

## MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES.\*

The Tailoring Trade Board (Great Britain) have resolved to increase the minimum rate of wages for female workers, other than learners, in the readymade and wholesale bespoke tailoring trade from 3d. to 3½d. an hour.

The Trade Board have also resolved to fix minimum rates of wages for both male and female workers in certain branches of the retail bespoke tailoring trade. These minimum rates will be the same as those in the ready-made and wholesale bespoke sections; that is to say, 6d. an hour for male workers and 3½d. an hour for female workers, with lower rates for learners. They will come into force on 19th July, 1915, on which date the above-mentioned variation will also take effect.

Further particulars in regard to the above minimum rates of wages may be obtained from the Secretary of the Tailoring Trade Board (Great Britain), Old Serjeants' Inn Chambers, 5, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

## TIN BOX AND CANISTER TRADE.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

## PROPOSED MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES FOR MALE WORKERS.†

The Tin Box Trade Board (Great Britain) gave notice on 21st June, 1915, that they proposed to fix a minimum rate of wages of 26s. per week of 52 hours for male workers of 21 years of age and upwards, and also minimum rates of wages for male learners ranging from 6s. to 22s. 6d. per week.

The Trade Board will consider any objections to the above-mentioned proposals which may be lodged with them within three months from 24th June, 1915. Objections should be in writing, and should be addressed to the Secretary of the Tin Box Trade Board (Great Britain), Old Serjeants' Inn Chambers, 5, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

\* See LABOUR GAZETTE for February, 1915, p. 47.

† For the minimum rates proposed for female workers, see the LABOUR GAZETTE for April, 1915, p. 163.

## APPOINTMENT OF CERTIFYING SURGEONS.

JUNE, 1915.

District.	Certifying Surgeon.	Place and time for examination.*
Aberavon (Glamorgan)	W. W. Hellyer, Bedford House, Penhyla, Aberavon.	Surgery, 3, Clarence Street, Aberavon, weekdays, 10-11.30 a.m.
Birtley (co. Durham)	J. Johnson, Brookside House, Birtley.	Weekdays, 9-10 a.m.
Corris (Merioneth)	E. C. B. Ibotson, Bronygraig, Corris.	Wednesdays, 9-10 a.m.
Dripsey (co. Cork)	W. Riordan, Coachford, co. Cork	Tullig Dispensary, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 10 a.m.—12 noon.
Earls Barton (Northampton)	W. J. Baird, West Street, Earls Barton.	Weekdays, 9-10 a.m.
Harris (Inverness)	V. A. Ross, Tarbert, Harris, via Portree.	Weekdays, 9-10 a.m.
Houghton-le-Spring (co. Durham)	W. Barkes, Holly House, Houghton-le-Spring.	Wednesdays, 9-10 a.m.
Milngavie (Dumbarton)	D. C. Laird, Overton, Milngavie	Surgery, Station Road, Milngavie, Wednesdays, 9-10 a.m.
Swords (co. Dublin)	R. J. May, Glen View, Swords..	Wednesdays, 9-10 a.m.

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

\* Of young persons and children from factories and workshops in which less than five are employed.

## PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING JUNE.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

[All the United Kingdom Official Publications, including Consular Reports, may be purchased either directly or through any bookseller from Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, London, E.C., and 54, St. Mary Street, Cardiff; H.M. Stationery Office (Scottish Branch), 23, Forth Street, Edinburgh; or E. Ponsoby, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street, Dublin; or from the Colonial and Foreign Agencies of T. Fisher Unwin, London, W.C.]

### UNITED KINGDOM.

*Railway Accidents. Returns of Accidents and Casualties as reported to the Board of Trade by the several Railway Companies of the United Kingdom during 1914.* [Cd. 7937: price 4½d.]

*Departmental Committee (Board of Trade) on the Causes of the Present Rise in the Retail Price of Coal sold for Domestic Use. Minutes of Evidence with Appendix.* [Cd. 7923: price 2s. 3d.]

*Report of the Departmental Committee (Home Office) appointed to inquire into the Conditions prevailing in the Coal-Mining Industry due to the War. Part I. Report.* [Cd. 7939: price 5½d.]

*Agricultural Statistics, 1914. Part I. Acreage and Live Stock Returns of England and Wales.* [Cd. 7926: price 6d.] *Part II. Returns of Produce of Crops in England and Wales. With Summaries for the United Kingdom Board of Agriculture and Fisheries.* [Cd. 7954: price 3½d.]

*Annual Report of the Commercial Control Branch, Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. 1914. Proceedings under the Sale of Food and Drugs, Fertilisers and other Acts.* [Cd. 7935: price 3d.]

*School Attendance and Employment in Agriculture. Summary of Returns supplied by County Local Education Authorities for the period 1st September, 1914-30th April, 1915. Board of Education.* [Cd. 7932: price 1d.]

*Fifty-ninth Annual Report of the Registrar-General for Scotland, 1913. Births, Deaths and Marriages.* [Cd. 7893: price 2s. 4d.]

### BRITISH INDIA AND BRITISH COLONIES.

INDIA.—*Agricultural Statistics of India, 1912-13. Vol. I. Area under Crops, Live Stock, &c.* Department of Statistics. [Calcutta: Superintendent Government Printing.]

—*Monthly Statistics of Cotton Spinning and Weaving in Indian Mills, March, 1915.* [Calcutta: Superintendent Government Printing.]

CANADA.—*The Labour Gazette, May, 1915.* Proceedings under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act (1907) during April and for eight years period, Dominion legislation affecting labour, changes in wages and hours during first quarter of 1915, wholesale and retail prices, trade disputes and industrial accidents during April. [Ottawa: J. de L. Taché, King's Printer.]

—*Census and Statistics Monthly, May, 1915.* Field crops, meat inspection, and per capita consumption of meat, prices of agricultural produce, &c. [Ottawa: J. de L. Taché, King's Printer.]

—*Saskatchewan. Fourth Annual Report of the Bureau of Labour, 1914.* Industries, wages of farm labourers and female labour, accidents, factory inspection, &c. [Regina: J. W. Reid, Government Printer.]

—*Saskatchewan. The Public Service Monthly, June, 1915.* [Regina: J. W. Reid, Government Printer.]

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.—*Labour Bulletin, October-December, 1914.* Wages, disputes, prices, rents, cost of living, employment, &c. [Melbourne: McCarron, Bird & Co.]

—*Monthly Summary of Australian Statistics, February and March, 1915.* Wages, disputes, Trade Unions, unemployment, &c. [Melbourne: McCarron, Bird & Co.]

NEW SOUTH WALES.—*The Industrial Gazette, March, 1915.* Dislocations in industries, labour exchanges, industrial awards and agreements, &c. [Sydney: W. A. Gullick, Government Printer: price 1s.]

VICTORIA.—*Wages Board Determinations. Photographers' Board, dated 25th March, 1915.*

QUEENSLAND.—*Industrial Peace Act Awards. Shore Engine Drivers' and Boiler Attendants' Board for the South-Eastern Division, dated 26th March, 1915, cancelling that of 18th September, 1913. Mechanical Engineers' Board for the Northern Division, dated 8th April, 1915. Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Works Labourers' Board, dated 15th April, 1915. Shipwrights' Trade Board for the South-East Coast, Appeal.*

NEW ZEALAND.—*Journal of the Department of Labour, April, 1915.* Condition of trade and employment as at 31st March, persons assisted to employment, co-operative works, accidents, current retail prices, &c. [Wellington: John Mackay, Government Printer.]

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

INTERNATIONAL.—*Bulletin of Agricultural and Commercial Statistics, June, 1915. Monthly Bulletin of Economic and Social Intelligence, May, 1915.* International Institute of Agriculture. [Rome.]

—*Bulletin des Internationalen Arbeitsamtes, Nr. 3-4, 1915.* International Labour Office. [Jena: Gustav Fischer.]

UNITED STATES.—*Bulletin of the Bureau of Labour Statistics. No. 159, April, 1915. Short-unit Courses for Wage Earners and a Factory School Experiment. No. 166, 15th December, 1914.*

Labour Legislation of 1914. No. 157, March, 1915. Industrial Accident Statistics. [Washington: Government Printing Office.]

—*Massachusetts. Labour Bulletin, No. 106, April, 1915.* Directory of Labour Organisations in Massachusetts, 1915. [Boston: Wright and Potter Printing Co., State Printers.]

—*Twenty-ninth Quarterly Report on Unemployment in Massachusetts. Quarter ending 31st March, 1915.* Bureau of Statistics.

FRANCE.—*Bulletin du Ministère du Travail et de la Prévoyance Sociale, January-April, 1915.* Inquiry into activity of industrial and commercial establishments, August, 1914, to January, 1915; unemployment, January-July, 1914; labour exchanges in 1914; "economic indices" for third quarter of 1914; Trade Unions on 1st January, 1914; prices. Ministry of Labour. [Paris: Berger-Levrault: price 2d.]

—*Annuaire Statistique de la France, 1913.* Production, prices, wages, Trade Unions, labour exchanges, labour disputes, co-operative societies, old-age pensions, &c. General Statistical Department. [Paris: Imprimerie Nationale.]

—*Statistique Annuelle des Institutions d'Assistance, 1912.* Institutions for Poor Relief, Report for 1912. General Statistical Department. [Paris: Imprimerie Nationale.]

GERMANY.—*Reichs-Arbeitsblatt, May, 1915.* Employment in April, miners' wages in 1914, labour disputes in 1914. Department of Labour Statistics of the Imperial Statistical Office. [Berlin: Carl Heymann: price 1d.]

ITALY.—*Bollettino dell'Ufficio del Lavoro (Fortnightly series), 1st June, 1915.* Labour disputes in April, retail food prices in April. *Ditto 16th June, 1915.* Labour disputes in second half of May. Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce. [Rome: Fratelli Treves: price 3d. each part.]

—*Bollettino dell'Ufficio del Lavoro, February-March, 1915.* Labour disputes in fourth quarter of 1914, retail prices at co-operative stores in January and February. Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce. [Rome: Fratelli Treves: price 3d.]

—*Bollettino dell'Ispettorato dell'Industria e del Lavoro, January-February, 1915.* Department of Labour. [Rome: Fratelli Treves: price 3d.]

—*Bollettino dell'Emigrazione, 15th May, 1915.* Department of Emigration. [Rome: Fratelli Bocca: price 3d.]

HOLLAND.—*Maandcijfers en Andere Periodieke Opgaven, 1914.* Wholesale prices in 1914. Central Bureau of Statistics. [The Hague: Gebroeders Belinfante: price 6d.]

NORWAY.—*Sociale Meddelelser, No. 2-3, 1915.* Employment and retail prices in first quarter of 1915. Department of Social Affairs, Commerce, Industry and Fisheries. [Christiania: H. Aschehoug: price 7d.]

—*Arbeidsledighet og Arbeidsledighetsforsikring.* Unemployment and Unemployment Insurance. Supplement to "Sociale Meddelelser." Department of Social Affairs, Commerce, Industry and Fisheries. 1915. [Christiania: H. Aschehoug: price 7d.]

—*Arbeidernes Faglige Landsorganisation. Beretning for aaret 1914.* Federation of Norwegian Trade Unions. Report for 1914. [Christiania.]

SWEDEN.—*Sociale Meddelanden, No. 5, 1915.* State and communal War measures (continued); employment in January, February and March; retail food prices in April. Department for Social Affairs. [Stockholm: P. A. Norstedt & Söner.]

—*Folkmängden inom administrativa Omraden den 31 December, 1914.* Population Statistics, 31st December, 1914. Central Statistical Bureau. [Stockholm: P. A. Norstedt & Söner.]

—*Kommunernas Fattigvård och Finanser.* Relief from Communal Public Funds. Report for 1913. Central Statistical Bureau, 1915. [Stockholm: P. A. Norstedt & Söner.]

DENMARK.—*Social Forsorg, June, 1915.* Unemployment in 1914 and on 24th May, 1915. Danish Workmen's Insurance and the Unemployment Inspector's Department. [Hellerup: V. L. Fåber.]

—*Statistiske Meddelelser, IV. Series, 45th Vol.* Wages of commercial employees. Statistical Department, 1915. [Copenhagen: Gyldendalske Boghandel-Nordisk Forlag.]

—*Statistiske Efterretninger, No. 10, 25th May, 1915. Do., No. 11, 1st June, 1915.* Retail prices in May, 1915. *Do., No. 12, 11th June, 1915.* Unemployment on 29th May, retail prices in April, 1915. *Do., No. 13, 14th June, 1915.* [Copenhagen: Gyldendalske Boghandel-Nordisk Forlag.]

SPAIN.—*Boletín del Instituto de Reformas Sociales, May, 1915.* Industrial accidents in 1913; prices of necessaries in certain provinces, April-September, 1914. [Madrid: D. V. Suárez: price 2½d.]

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—*Anuario Estadístico del Trabajo. Año 1913.* Argentine Department of Labour. Statistical Report for 1913. [Buenos Aires, 1915: A. Espinasse e Hijo.]

—*Boletín del Departamento Nacional del Trabajo, April 30th, 1915.* Statistical Report for 1913. [Buenos Aires: A. Espinasse e Hijo: price 1s. 7½d.]

JAPAN.—*Résumé Statistique de l'Empire du Japon.* Statistics of wages 1898-1912, prices 1899-1912, co-operative societies 1900-1912. General Statistical Bureau. [Tokio.]

### CONSULAR REPORTS.

*Consular Reports. Annual Series. No. 5440, Spain, 1913.* Agriculture, mining and metallurgical industries, emigration, &c. [Cd. 7620-50: price 3d.]

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