

THE

# Board of Trade LABOUR GAZETTE.

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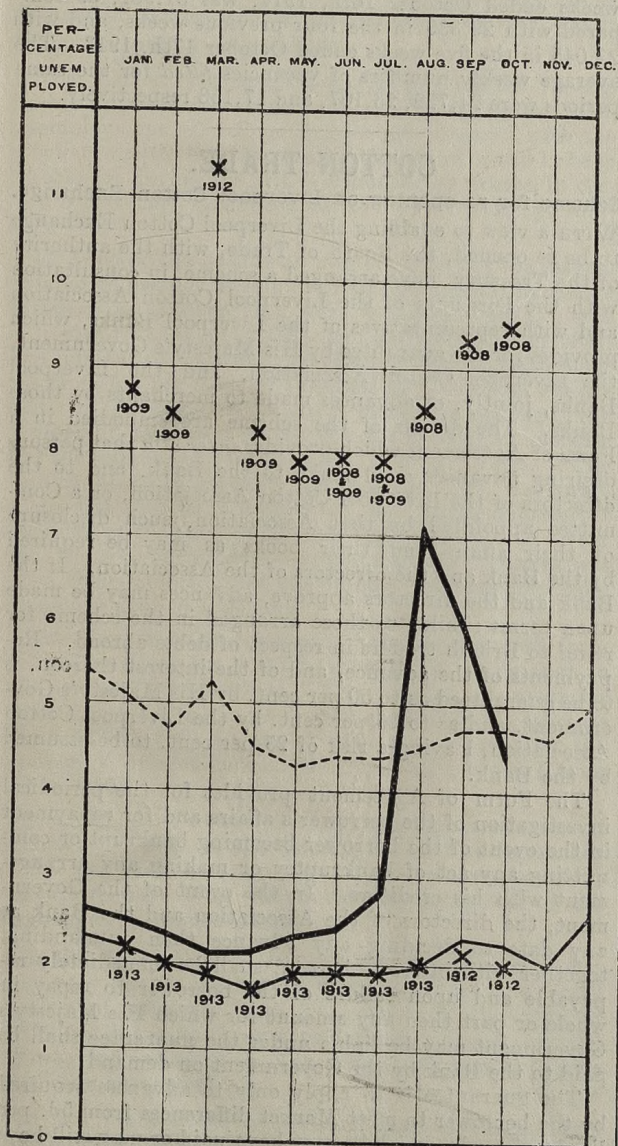
NOVEMBER, 1914.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

## EMPLOYMENT CHART.

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve = 1914. — Thin Curve = 1913.  
- - - - - Dotted Curve = Mean of 1904-1913.  
× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1904-1913.



NOTE.

With the present issue of the BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE a supplement is being circulated containing a Chart comparing the mean of the monthly percentages of unemployed Trade Union members in each of the years 1875-1913 with the percentages for each month of the present year.

## THE LABOUR MARKET IN OCTOBER.

EMPLOYMENT continued to improve in October both as regards the number of workpeople employed and the amount of short time reported. The improvement was largely accounted for by war contracts, and was especially noticeable in the engineering, miscellaneous metal, woollen, worsted, hosiery and dyeing trades. The boot, leather and clothing trades continued to be very active, and employment in shipbuilding yards was good generally. Carpenters and woodworkers were busy in connection with the erection of huts for the new Army. The pig iron, iron and steel, printing, pottery and glass trades also showed an improvement. The cotton trade improved slightly, but a large amount of short time still prevailed. The curtain branch of the lace trade improved, but the other branches continued to be depressed. The silk and carpet trades showed some recovery. Coal mining remained about the same as in September, and there was a seasonal decline in the brickmaking industry.

Compared with a year ago there was a decline except in the trades most affected by war contracts. It should, however, be noted that the boom in employment reached its zenith about the middle of 1913, and that for some time before the outbreak of war several trades had declined considerably from the high level then attained.

### (1) TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED. (Based on 3201 Returns.)

Trade Unions with a net membership of 912,898, excluding those serving with the Navy, Army and Territorial Forces, reported 40,146 (or 4.4 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of October, 1914, compared with 5.9 per cent. at the end of September, 1914, and 2.2 per cent. at the end of October, 1913.

Trade.	Membership at end of Oct., 1914, exclusive of those serving with H.M. Forces.	Unemployed at end of Oct., 1914.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Num-ber.	Per-cent-age.	Month ago.*	Year ago.
Building† ...	79,938	2,425	3.0	- 2.7	- 0.2
Coal Mining ...	141,606	3,585	2.5	+ 0.4	+ 2.2
Iron and Steel ...	33,460	1,050	3.1	+ 0.3	- 1.2
Engineering ...	218,749	7,305	3.3	- 1.7	+ 1.1
Shipbuilding ...	67,664	4,373	6.5	+ 0.5	+ 2.6
Miscellaneous Metal	32,408	724	2.2	- 2.0	+ 0.7
Textiles:—					
Cotton ...	86,316	7,931	9.2	- 5.4	+ 7.4
Woollen & Worsted	8,404	512	6.1	- 0.2	+ 1.2
Other ...	57,186	3,640	6.4	- 2.2	+ 4.9
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper.	62,500	4,170	6.7	- 0.6	+ 3.1
Furnishing and Wood-working.	48,100	2,959	6.2	- 2.8	+ 3.7
Clothing ...	62,798	962	1.5	- 1.2	- 0.5
Leather ...	4,416	127	2.9	- 1.5	- 1.0
Glass ...	869	15	1.7	...	+ 0.9
Pottery ...	6,220	79	1.3	- 0.3	+ 0.8
Tobacco ...	2,264	289	12.8	- 7.8	+ 10.7
<b>Total</b> ...	<b>912,898</b>	<b>40,146</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>- 1.5</b>	<b>+ 2.2</b>

\* The figures for September have been revised.

† The Trade Union Returns relate mainly to carpenters and plumbers.

## (2) UNEMPLOYMENT IN "INSURED TRADES."

Among the 2,388,821 "insured" workpeople the percentage unemployed at the end of October, 1914, was 4.2, compared with 5.4 at the end of September, 1914, and 3.6 at the end of October, 1913.

Trade.	Number Insured.	Unemployed at end of Oct.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage unemployed on a	
		Number	Per-centage	Month ago.	Year ago.
Building and Construction of Works.	985,383	51,897	5.3	- 1.0	+ 0.5
Engineering and Iron-founding.	838,185	27,120	3.2	- 1.7	+ 0.6
Shipbuilding...	276,143	10,692	3.9	- 0.5	+ 0.3
Construction of Vehicles.	212,370	8,139	3.9	- 1.7	+ 1.1
Sawmilling ...	12,294	310	2.5	- 1.1	- 0.1
Other Insured Workpeople.	64,446	1,104	1.7	- 0.8	+ 0.5
All Insured Workpeople	2,388,821	99,312	4.2	- 1.2	+ 0.6

## (3) EMPLOYERS' RETURNS:—MINING AND METAL TRADES. (Based on 843 Returns.)

The following Table summarises the returns from firms employing 815,946 workpeople in October, 1914.

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for Oct., 1914.	October, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
		Days worked per week.	Days.	Days.
Coal Mining ...	649,410	5.03	+ 0.02	- 0.56
Iron " ...	14,370	5.69	- 0.13	- 0.20
Shale " ...	3,517	5.88	- 0.01	- 0.09
Pig Iron ...	24,615	Furnaces in Blast. 270	+ 6	- 31
Tinplate & Steel Sheet	25,500	Mills Working. 425 Shifts Worked (One Week). 535,822	+ 26	- 115
Iron and Steel	98,534		+ 1.6	- 4.5

## (4) EMPLOYERS' RETURNS: TEXTILE AND OTHER TRADES. (Based on 1,892 Returns.)

Returns from firms employing 385,982 workpeople in the week ended 24th October, 1914, showed an increase of 1.2 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed and of 6.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 9.1 per cent. in the number employed and 17.0 per cent. in wages paid.

Trade.	Number Employed.			Wages Paid.		
	Week ended 24th Oct., 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Oct., 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Textiles:—						
Cotton ...	99,435	+ 3.7	- 18.3	77,249	+ 1.7	- 37.1
Woollen	23,696	+ 3.6	- 3.1	24,857	+ 16.1	+ 4.6
Worsted	36,651	+ 2.2	- 2.2	23,274	+ 13.3	- 7.3
Linen ...	43,737	- 0.1	- 4.4	26,287	+ 2.3	- 13.5
Jute ...	11,002	- 1.8	- 2.1	9,013	- 0.2	- 5.0
Hosiery ...	21,517	+ 1.9	+ 0.5	18,410	+ 9.1	+ 3.9
Lace ...	5,623	- 5.0	- 17.8	4,195	- 11.2	- 41.0
Other Textiles... Bleaching, Dyeing, etc.	14,721	- 0.9	- 14.6	10,202	+ 8.6	- 30.2
Total, Textiles...	280,788	+ 1.7	- 10.6	226,703	+ 6.5	- 22.1
Boot and Shoe ...	65,011	+ 0.4	- 2.8	69,411	+ 6.7	+ 3.6
Shirt and Collar ...	4,929	+ 0.3	- 1.4	3,282	+ 7.3	- 4.3
Pottery ...	19,000	+ 1.1	- 8.6	16,057	+ 7.5	- 22.1
Glass ...	6,095	+ 0.3	- 4.3	8,104	+ 2.3	- 1.7
Brick ...	10,159	- 5.3	- 12.0	12,133	- 5.8	- 13.3
Grand Total	385,982	+ 1.2	- 9.1	335,690	+ 6.0	- 17.0

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes in rates of wages taking effect in October affected 67,000

workpeople, and resulted in a net increase of £2,100 per week. The number of workpeople who received increases was 58,000, and included 16,200 coal miners, etc., in Cumberland, Bristol and Somerset, who received a seasonal advance; 6,690 building trade operatives at Birmingham; 11,500 ironstone miners and limestone quarrymen in Cleveland and Durham; 5,850 workpeople in steelworks in West Scotland; and 5,000 workpeople in engineering works in Sheffield and district. The principle decrease affected 6,250 blast furnacemen and iron and steel workers in South Wales and Mon.

**Trade Disputes.**—The number of disputes beginning in October was 27, and the total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress during the month was 20,677, as compared with 13,025 in September, 1914, and 79,859 in October, 1913. The estimated total aggregate duration of all disputes during the month was 192,500 working days, as compared with 229,800 in September, 1914, and 1,007,400 in October, 1913.

**Conciliation and Arbitration.**—Cases dealt with during the month include painters, Chesterfield; carpenters, Ballykinlar Camp, co. Down; shipwrights and joiners, Southampton; packing-case makers, Aberdeen; block-printers, Dartford.

**Labour Exchanges.**—The average weekly number of vacancies notified to all Labour Exchanges for the five weeks ended October 16th, 1914, was 31,981, as compared with 29,339 in the four previous weeks, and with 23,045 in the five weeks ended October 17th, 1913. The average weekly numbers of vacancies filled for the same periods were 24,729, 23,107, and 17,158 respectively.

## COTTON TRADE.

## Scheme for re-opening of Liverpool Cotton Exchange.

WITH a view to enabling the Liverpool Cotton Exchange to be re-opened, the Board of Trade, with the authority of the Treasury, have arranged a scheme, in consultation with the Directors of the Liverpool Cotton Association and with representatives of the Liverpool Banks, which provides for the guarantee by His Majesty's Government, the Liverpool Cotton Association, and the Liverpool Banks, jointly, of advances made to merchants by those Banks. The details of the scheme are embodied in a Form of Agreement which provides *inter alia* that persons desiring advances shall make to the Bank, and to the directors of the Liverpool Cotton Association, or a Committee appointed by that Association, such disclosure of their affairs and their books as may be required by the Bank and the directors of the Association. If the Bank and the directors approve, advances may be made upon terms similar to those arranged in the scheme for relief to British traders in respect of debts abroad. Repayments of the advance, and of the interest thereon, is to be guaranteed as to 50 per cent. by His Majesty's Government, and as to 25 per cent. by the Liverpool Cotton Association, leaving a risk of 25 per cent. to be assumed by the Bank.

The Form of Agreement provides for the periodical investigation of the borrower's affairs and for repayment in the event of the borrower becoming bankrupt or committing any act of bankruptcy or making any arrangement with his creditors. In the event of the Government, the directors of the Association and the Bank at any date so deciding any advance then outstanding, together with interest thereon, shall be immediately repayable and upon failure of the borrower to repay in whole or part then any amount for which His Majesty's Government may be liable under the guarantee shall be paid to the Bank by the Government on demand.

The guarantee is to apply only to advances required by the borrower to meet Market differences from 5d. per lb. downwards, which he may have paid or may still have to pay in respect of Cotton Future Contracts.

All advances under the scheme are to be repaid not later than one year after termination of the war.

As the result of this arrangement the Liverpool Cotton Exchange was re-opened on Monday, November 16th, and it is understood that the New York and New Orleans Exchanges were re-opened simultaneously.

## UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG WOMEN IN OCTOBER, 1914.

THE effect of the war on unemployment among women has certain special features not adequately covered by the returns dealt with in the preceding article on the Labour Market. Consequently the following notes have been prepared, based on all the information available.

During October employment among women, which had been seriously affected at the beginning of the war, showed considerable improvement. Army contracts created a demand for women machinists and others in the men's clothing trades, in the boot and shoe trade, the Army accoutrement and leather trades, tinware trades, etc.

On the other hand, certain occupations have shown themselves especially hard hit, and certain centres of localised trades are still seriously affected. The spending power of the community has been reduced, and the demand for luxuries has especially declined. Dress-makers in the most highly skilled branches have had very little work, and the number of servants has been reduced in some cases. Clerks and typists formerly employed in commercial houses with a continental trade still find it difficult to obtain employment.

The Labour Exchange returns and special reports enable an estimate to be made of the extent to which unemployment existed in October as compared with the previous month, but the greater utilisation of the Labour Exchanges during the last few months by women in certain occupations makes comparison with a year ago difficult.

In London the groups of workers showing the largest number of persons unemployed on the Labour Exchange registers on October 16th were waitresses (457), clerks (1,078), dressmakers (1,198), and daily servants (2,487). The number of waitresses on the registers in September fell from 6.0 per cent. of the total in London to 4.9 per cent. in October. Compared with a month ago, the number of waitresses on the register showed an increase and the number of vacancies fell from 504 to 156. The number of daily servants, charwomen, etc., was practically the same as in September, being approximately 7 per cent. of the total in London. Compared with a year ago, the number of daily servants on the registers was more than doubled, but the number of demands from employers showed a decline.

The number of dressmakers on the registers fell from 2.1 per cent. of the total in London in September to 1.8 per cent. in October. The number of vacancies notified to the Exchanges showed a considerable increase (from 345 to 506) compared with a year ago, but the number of dressmakers on the registers increased from 151 to 1,198.

The number of women clerks on the registers increased from 2.9 per cent. of the total in London in September to 3.0 per cent. in October. This increase, however, appears to have been due to the increasing use of the Exchanges by women clerks.

In the South-Eastern Division the laundry trade has been very much affected in Cambridge by the small number of students now in residence; the number of College helps has been considerably reduced. In the silk-weaving industry in Norwich 200 women and girls have been suspended.

In the South-Western Division generally, very little unemployment caused by the war is reported. In Bristol the sweet factories and the stationery factories have either closed down or have been working short time. In Southampton large numbers of hotel servants, dress-makers, shop assistants and laundry workers are unemployed. At Exeter collar workers have been dismissed, employment at hotels is slack, and dressmakers and milliners are unemployed.

In the West Midlands Division comparatively little unemployment is reported among factory workers, although there appears to be considerable under-employment. Employment is bad in the high-class branches of the jewellery trade in Birmingham. Many trades in Birmingham are, however, exceptionally busy on Army work, and it has been possible for the unemployed in one trade to pass on to another.

In the East Midlands Division employment is reported as generally good, as most of the industries are of a nature to be made busier than usual by the demand created through the war. In Nottingham, Derby and Long Eaton, however, employment in the lace trade, which was bad before the war, is now still worse; a few of the lace workers have been drafted to the hosiery factories.

In the Yorkshire Division, where for the first few weeks after war began practically every industry was disorganised, the receipt of Government contracts caused exceptional activity in the woollen and blanket, tailoring, boot and shirt trades. Workers whose employment was adversely affected during October were worsted spinners for continental trade, principally in the Bradford, Keighley, and Otley districts; burlers, menders and knotters in the woollen and worsted trades and all branches of cotton operatives, except those engaged on heavy cotton sheetings.

In the North-Western Division dressmakers suffered in most of the towns at first, but are now better employed. Many waitresses are either unemployed or are working short time. The depression in the cotton trade has been accentuated by the war, and employment is bad throughout the division.

In the Scottish and Northern Division the fishing industries in Hartlepool, North Shields and Blyth, Berwick and Eyemouth, Aberdeen and the Aberdeenshire and Banffshire coasts, Wick and the West Highlands have been severely affected. As the Scottish fish workers are generally skilled knitters, it has been possible to ease the situation by distributing knitting orders through practically all the affected areas in Scotland. The better-class dressmakers, tailoresses and milliners have been considerably affected in all districts. A passing phase reported in the district was the number of women who came into the labour market at the beginning of the war who were relatives of men who had gone to the front. Their increased spending power through the Army pay conditions has lessened this strain, and retail business has improved. The number of women on the registers of the Labour Exchanges shows some reduction on the large increase at the beginning of the war.

In Ireland, except in the case of seamstresses and clerks in Dublin and certain classes of handkerchief makers in Belfast, any unemployment resulting from the war has been met by short time rather than by dismissal. In Derry the collar trade, and consequently the trade laundries, are very slack.

## RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THE average change in retail food prices during October was an advance of less than 1 per cent.; this advance was mainly due to an increase in the price of eggs, partly attributable to seasonal causes. Milk and butter also showed slight rises in price, as is usual during October. The price of sugar at 31st October averaged about 5 per cent. lower than at the beginning of the month. Margarine fell by about 5 per cent., on the average, and fish and bacon by 3 per cent. Potatoes also were lower in price. Meat, bread, flour, cheese, tea, cocoa and coffee showed little or no change.

Taking all these articles together, and allowing for their comparative importance in working-class household expenditure, the average increase in prices since July amounted to about 13 per cent. in the large towns, and 12 per cent. in the small towns and villages.























- (2) if they have been employed anywhere in an insured trade for a total of thirteen weeks in the two years preceding the commencement of the employment;
(b) otherwise, after the employment has amounted to thirteen weeks in an insured trade.

This decision, together with decision B. 1477 below, supercedes decisions B. 1238 (BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for March, 1913) and B. 1373 (BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for October, 1913).

1481. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in fixing lift enclosures in buildings, including the work of marking out, putting in position, &c. (Application 316.)

1482. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in digging and constructing military entrenchments. (Application 322.)

1483. Workmen described as sheet metal workers, and engaged in the manufacture of—

- (1) Gear cases, petrol tanks, hoods, guards, silencers, rims, wings, sides, panels, bonnets, radiators, for motor cars or motor cycles;
(2) power-driven fans;
(3) sheet metal ranges for ships; ships' funnels; ventilator cowls for ships;
(4) automatic machines; mechanically-actuated petrol air gas apparatus;
(5) power-driven tea mixing, milling and blending machines;
(6) tin rollers for spinning mules; cylinders and copper rollers for drying machines; sliver cans;
(7) submarine or divers' helmets;
(8) any other sheet metal work or stampings for use in the trades of mechanical engineering, shipbuilding, or construction of vehicles, except such articles as are specifically excluded by decision B. 1484 below.

This decision modifies any previous decision with which it may be in conflict.

1485. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in repairing quarry tubs or wagons.

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

1477. Contributions are not payable (except by agreement between the employer and workman) in respect of workmen employed in an insured trade in a district which is rural in its character who usually follow in that district some occupation other than an insured trade, provided that all the following conditions are fulfilled:—

- (a) the workmen are employed so near their homes that they do not require to travel by rail;
(b) the workmen have not been employed in an insured trade for more than thirteen weeks in the two years preceding the commencement of the employment; and
(c) the employment has not amounted to more than thirteen weeks in an insured trade.

This decision, together with decision A. 1478 above, supercedes decisions B. 1238 (BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for March, 1913) and B. 1373 (BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for October, 1913).

1484. Workmen described as sheet metal workers, and engaged in the manufacture of:—

- (1) Despatch and other tin boxes, canisters, kegs, foot-warmers, travelling cases, cases for cues, &c.;
(2) bread, meat, biscuit or cake tins; strainers, bottles, wash-ups, drippers, cooking utensils, kettles, portable gas-heated boilers, milk cans, urns, &c.;
(3) sheet metal goods for ironmongery trade, such as ventilators, fire extinguishers, stoves, dustbins, tallboys, cowls, stove-pipes, baths, oil or water cans, tins for oil, colours, &c.; tennis markers, domestic gas meters, ceiling decoration;
(4) sheet metal accessories for cycles and motor cycles, such as lamps, bells, pumps;
(5) tanks, cisterns, welded kitchen boilers;
(6) sheet metal generators for acetylene or petrol gas;
(7) movable furniture, shelving, lockers, desks, cupboards;
(8) sheet metal cylinders for packing and transit of explosives; chargers for small arms ammunition;
(9) tubes for Axminster carpet weaving;
(10) sheet metal ducts for ventilating, extracting, conveying, exhausting, drying, or similar purposes, including cowls, heads, separators, but not including power-driven fans.

(This decision modifies any previous decision with which it may be in conflict.)

1486. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of spraying machines for limewashing, disinfecting or horticultural purposes (Application 320).

This decision reverses decision A. 1184 (BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for December, 1912).

[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.]

PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT, AND FLOUR.

I.—BREAD.

RETURNS showing the predominant prices of 4 lbs. of bread on November 2nd, 1914, have been received from 120 of the principal Master Bakers' Associations in the United Kingdom, and 30 from other sources.

Table with columns: District, High-est., Low-est., Mean, for three dates: November 2nd, 1914; October 1st, 1914; November 1st, 1913.

The mean of the predominant prices on November 2nd, 1914, showed an increase of 0.4d. per 4 lbs. compared with November 1st, 1913.

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

Table with columns: Place, Predominant Price per 4 lbs. on Nov. 2nd, 1914, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago, Date, Am't per 4 lbs.

\* where two prices are quoted about equal quantities were sold at each price.

Compared with a month ago the predominant price of bread has risen 1/2d. per 4 lbs. at Bristol, Aberdeen and Belfast. At Portsmouth the predominant price on November 2nd was 6 1/2d.; on October 1st, 1914, it was 6d. and 6 1/2d. per 4 lbs.

II.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.

Table with columns: Month, British Wheat (Mean London Gazette Price), Imports (Average Declared Value), Average Monthly Price of Flour (Town Households ex Mill for Cash).

The imports of wheat during September-October, 1914, amounted to 5,004,683 qrs., or 1,075,602 qrs. more than in the corresponding months of 1913. The imports of wheat meal and flour during September-October, 1914, amounted to 1,449,787 cwts. (equivalent to 469,838 qrs. of wheat allowing 28 per cent. for offal), or 991,539 cwts. less than in September-October, 1913.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

[Cases include all attacks 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 October, 1914, was 28, of which 24 were due to lead poisoning, 2 to mercurial poisoning, and 2 to anthrax. Three deaths, 2 due to lead poisoning and 1 to anthrax, were reported. In addition, 19 cases of lead poisoning (3 of which were fatal) were reported among house painters and plumbers.

During the ten months ended October, 1914, the total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported under the Factory and Workshop Act was 444, as compared with 535 during the corresponding period of 1913. The number of deaths in 1914 was 31, as compared with 24 in 1913. In addition, there were 210 cases of lead poisoning (including 32 deaths) among house painters and plumbers in the first ten months of 1914, as compared with 254 cases (including 32 deaths) in the corresponding period of 1913.

Analysis by Industries.

Table with columns: INDUSTRY, CASES (Oct. 1914, Ten Months Ended Oct. 1914, Oct. 1913), DEATHS (Oct. 1914, Ten Months ended Oct. 1914, Oct. 1913). Rows include Lead Poisoning, Other Forms of Poisoning, Anthrax.

Return of Deaths of Seamen.—A Return of Deaths of Seamen reported to the Board of Trade is issued by the Registrar-General of Seamen each month, and copies may be seen at all Free Libraries, Mercantile Marine Offices, and Sailors' Homes throughout the country.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS. REPORTED IN OCTOBER.

(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 October, 1914, was 273, an increase of 63 on a month ago, but a decrease of 433 on a year ago. The high figure for October, 1913, is accounted for by the Senghenydd Colliery disaster. The mean number for October during the five years 1909-13 was 352, the maximum being 706, and the minimum 244.

Fatal accidents in the railway service during October, 1914, numbered 37, a decrease of 2 on a month ago, but an increase of 4 on a year ago. The total number of fatal accidents at mines was 100, an increase of 27 on September, 1914, but a decrease of 462 on October, 1913. There were 10 fatal accidents at quarries in October, 1914, as compared with 6 a month ago, and 9 a year ago. The total number of fatal accidents reported under the Factory and Workshop Act in October, 1914, was 122, an increase of 31 on a month ago, and of 21 on a year ago.

The total number of fatal accidents to seamen reported during October, 1914, was 118, as compared with 82 a month ago, and 109 a year ago.

Table with columns: Trade, Number of Workpeople killed during (Oct., 1914, Sept., 1914, Oct., 1913), Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in October, 1914, on a Month ago, Year ago. Rows include Railway Service, Mines, Quarries, Factories and Workshops, Accidents reported under Factory Act, Seamen.





II.—TRADE TABLES.

A. INSURED TRADES.

Registrations, Vacancies Notified, and Vacancies Filled in the Five Weeks ended October 16th, 1914.

Table with columns for Occupation Groups, Registrations (On Register at Beginning of Period, Registrations during Period, On Register at End of Period), and Vacancies (Notified during Period, Filled during Period) for Adults and Juveniles.

\* 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.

1.—ADULTS.

Registrations, Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the Five Weeks ended October 16th, 1914.

Table with columns for Trades, Registrations (Men, Women, Total), and Vacancies (Men, Women, Total) for Adults.

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

2.—JUVENILES.

Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the Five Weeks ended October 16th, 1914.

Table with columns for Trades, Notified During Period (Boys, Girls, Total), and Filled During Period (Boys, Girls, Total) for Juveniles.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IN OCTOBER, 1914.

Unemployment in Insured Trades.

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

The following Table shows by industries the proportion of unemployment books lodged\* to the total current on each Friday during October, 1914.

Table showing unemployment books lodged by industries and divisions for each Friday in October 1914, with columns for date and percentage.

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 five weeks ended October 30th, 1914, was 124,730, as compared with 133,692 during the four weeks ended September 25th, and with 110,242 during the five weeks ended October 31st, 1913.

The average weekly amount of unemployment benefit paid during the five weeks ended October 30th, 1914, was £14,190, as compared with £19,734 per week in the four preceding weeks, and with £8,478 per week in October, 1913; 63 per cent. of the amount was paid direct, and 37 per cent. through associations.

Table showing Average Weekly No. of Claims Made and Average Weekly Amount of Benefit Paid by Division for October 1914 and 1913.

\* 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.
† Revised figures.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN OCTOBER, 1914.

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

During October 1,627 fresh applications (800 from domestic servants, etc.) for work were registered by eleven Bureaux furnishing returns, and 1,030 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 433 persons, of whom 211 were domestic servants. It may be noted that while the number of applications increased by 492 or 43 per cent. compared with a year ago, the number of situations offered by employers declined by 316 or 23 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Summary by Bureaux and Summary by Occupations table showing applications, situations offered, and workpeople engaged.

DISTRESS COMMITTEES IN OCTOBER, 1914.

THE total number of Distress Committees under the Unemployed Workmen Act, 1905, whose registers were open in October, 1914, was 82, compared with 51 at the end of September, 1914, and 22 at the end of October, 1913.

Of the 82 Committees open at the end of the month, 39 were in London and "Outer London," 34 in the provincial towns of England and Wales, 6 in Scotland, and 3 in Ireland.

The total number of persons who received employment relief during October, 1914, was 6,750, of whom 2,599 were in London and "Outer London," 4,014 in the provincial towns of England and Wales, and 137 in Scotland.

The average earnings for the month amounted to 25s. 0d. per head, and those who were not on piecework received an average of 3s. 3d. per day; the average duration of employment was 7.6 days.

Table showing No. of Applicants given Employment Relief, Aggregate Duration of Employment Relief, and Total Amount of Wages Paid by Districts.

\* Includes 15 men who were engaged on piecework.







Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham. *Thread, Thick, Middle.*—Lyons, I.N., Ltd., St. Mary Axe, E.C. *Wire, Bronze.*—Bolton, T. & Sons, Ltd., Oakamoor. *Wire, Copper.*—London Electric Wire Co. & Smiths., Ltd., Leyton, E. *Wire, Galvanized Iron.*—Rylands Bros., Ltd., Warrington; Smith, F. & Co., Wire Manufacturers, Ltd., Halifax; Whitecross Co., Ltd., Warrington. *Laying Line of Stoneware Ducts, Steel Tubes and Cast-iron Pipes, Birmingham-Sheffield, Section I.*—Thomas Lowe & Sons, Burton-on-Trent. *Laying Line of Stoneware Ducts, Birmingham-Sheffield, Section III.*—Thomas Lowe & Sons, Burton-on-Trent. *Laying Lines of Cast-iron Pipes, Chichester.*—O. C. Summers, 113, York Rd., Camden Rd., N. *Laying Lines of Stoneware Ducts and Cast-iron Pipes:—Eastbourne.*—W. L. Wallis & Co., 14, Seaside Rd., Eastbourne. *London-Sevenoaks, Section III.*—J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., Grosvenor Wharf, Westminster, S.W. *Luton-St. Albans.*—G. Powdrill, 1 and 3, Midland Rd., Luton. *Thornaby-Stockton.*—W. Irwin & Co., Ltd., Burley Rd., Leeds. *Manufacturing, Supplying, Drawing-in and Joining Lead Covered Cables:—Birmingham-Sheffield.*—Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., Victoria Works, Charlton. *Chelmsford-Colchester.*—Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich, S.E. *Edinburgh-Forth Bridge.*—Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich, S.E. *Glasgow-Kilmarnock.*—Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich, S.E. *Liverpool-Ormskirk.*—British Insulated and Helsby Cables, Ltd., Lennox House, Norfolk St., W.C. *London-Sevenoaks.*—W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., Blomfield St., London Wall, E.C. *Luton-St. Albans.*—W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., Blomfield St., London Wall, E.C. *Oldham-Halifax.*—Western Electric Co., Ltd., North Woolwich, E. *Ormskirk-Southport.*—British Insulated and Helsby Cables, Ltd., Lennox House, Norfolk St., W.C. *Supplying and Installing an Electric Lift, Belfast P.O.*—J. M'Lean & Sons, 76, Grosvenor Rd., Belfast. *Telephone Exchange Equipment, Darlaston P.O.*—Western Electric Co., Ltd., North Woolwich, E. *Telephone Exchange Equipment, Merthyr Tydvil.*—Western Electric Co., Ltd., North Woolwich, E. *Telephone Exchange Equipment, Ryde P.O.*—Peel-Conner Telephone Works, Ltd., Adelphi, Salford. *Telephone Exchange Equipment, Extension, Sale.*—Peel-Conner Telephone Works, Ltd., Adelphi, Salford. *Wiring for Electric Light, &c., Birmingham P.O. Factory.*—Grindlay, Ross & Co., Ltd., 47, Waterloo St., Glasgow.

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