

INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN OCTOBER.

I.—Under Factory and Workshop Acts.*†

Table with 5 columns: Nature of Offence, Cases taken, Convictions, Amount of Penalties, Amount of Costs. Rows include By Owners, Managers, &c.:- Neglecting to Linewash, Neglecting to Fence Machinery, etc.

II.—Under Mines and Quarries Acts.*†

Table with 5 columns: Nature of Offence, Prosecutions, Convictions, Cases with-drawn, Cases dis-mitted, Amount of Fines and Costs. Rows include By Owners, Managers, &c.:- Ventilation, Miscellaneous, etc.

III.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts.

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

Table with 5 columns: Nature of Offence, Prosecutions, Convictions, Total Penalties, Total Costs. Rows include By Owners or Masters of Ships:- Infraction of the Collision Regulations, etc.

IV.—Under the Friendly Societies and Industrial and Provident Societies Acts.

(Supplied by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.)

Table with 5 columns: Nature of Offence, Prosecutions, Withdrawn on compliance with Act, Convictions, Fines and Costs. Rows include Failure to send Annual Returns, etc.

* Supplied by the Home Office. † The figures relating to Prosecutions under the Mines and Quarries Acts for October, 1898, include prosecutions by H.M. Inspectors of Mines under the Factory and Workshop Acts in factories and workshops connected with Metalliferous Mines and Quarries.

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN OCTOBER.

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

FROM the following summary of the changes in the Register of Industrial Organisations in October it will be seen that 3 Trade Unions, 3 Co-operative Associations for Distribution, 4 Co-operative Associations for Production, 3 Miscellaneous Industrial and Provident Societies, 26 new Friendly Societies, and 29 branches of existing Friendly Societies have been added to the Register for the United Kingdom during October.

ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—Combined Smiths of Great Britain and Ireland, 21, Eastern-road, Plaistow, E.; Keighley and District Builders' Labourers' Protective, Accident, and Burial Soc., Ship Inn, High-street, Keighley; Loughborough and District Builders' Labourers' Protective, Accident, and Burial Soc., Golden Fleece Inn, Cattle Market, Loughborough.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—(A) Associations for Distribution.—England and Wales.—South Hetton Amicable Ind. Soc., Ltd., South Hetton, Scotland.—None. Ireland.—Pullathomas Co-op. Home Industries Soc., Ltd., Pullathomas co., Mayo; Irish Needlework Depot, Ltd., 33, Dawson-street, Dublin.

(B) Associations for Production.—England and Wales.—None. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—Geesala Co-op. Agricultural and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Geesala, co. Mayo; Kilsnanan Co-op. Agricultural and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Kilsnanan, co. Galway; the Mullet Co-op. Agricultural and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Kilmore, Erris, co. Mayo; Kells Co-op. Agricultural and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Kells, co. Kilkenny.

(C) Miscellaneous.—England and Wales.—Licensed Trade Supply Soc., Ltd., 53, Vine-street, Coventry; Ponder's End Progressive Club and Institute Soc., Ltd., Alma-road, Ponder's End; New Brancpeth Club, Ltd., Club House, New Brancpeth Colliery, Durham. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Friendly Societies.—(A) New Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—Ordinary Friendly, 12; Dividing, 6; Juvenile, 1; Specially authorised, 2; Working Men's Clubs, 3. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—Specially authorised, 2. (B) New Branches of Existing Societies.—England and Wales.—18. Scotland.—10. Ireland.—1.

Building Societies.—None.

ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—Nuneaton Builders' Labourers' Protective, Accident, and Burial Soc., Half Moon Inn, Abbey-street, Nuneaton; Amalgamated Protection Union of Mechanics and General Labourers, Railway Hotel, North Woolwich-road, E. Scotland.—Edinburgh District Tramway Carmen amalgamated with the Amalgamated Association of Tramway and Hackney Carriage Employees and Horsemen in General. Ireland.—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—England and Wales.—Dissolved by instrument: Westley Waterless Industrial and Provident Soc., Ltd., Westley Waterless, Cambridge; Hipperholme Coal Club, Ltd., Towngate, 3, Denholme Gate Road, Hipperholme, Halifax. Liquidators' final return received: Battersea Total Abstinence Builders' Soc., Ltd., 1, Birley Street, Shaftesbury Park, Battersea, S.W.; Lancashire and Yorkshire Co-op. Productive Soc., Ltd., 1, Balloon Street, Manchester. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

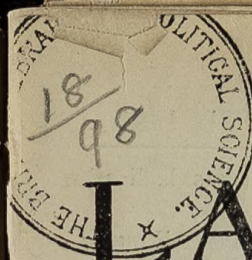
Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—By instrument of Dissolution: Ordinary Friendly, 6; Female, 4; Juvenile, 1; Branches, 1. Registration cancelled: miscellaneous, 3. Otherwise dissolved: Juvenile, 5; Branches, 5. Scotland.—By instrument of dissolution:—Ordinary Friendly, 1. Dissolved otherwise:—Ordinary Friendly, 1; Branches, 6. Ireland.—By instrument of dissolution:—One branch.

Building Societies.—England and Wales.—Instrument of dissolution, 6; notice of commencement of dissolution, 3; notice of termination of dissolution, 9. Scotland.—Notice of termination of dissolution, 1; notice of commencement of winding-up, 1.

EXAMINATION FOR MINING MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.

Newcastle District.—An examination for Certificates of Competency as Manager or Under-Manager of a Mine will be held shortly. Intending candidates should at once communicate with the Secretary to the Examination Board, Mr. M. Walton Brown, Neville Hall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Printed by VEALE, CHIPFERIEL & Co., LTD., 31 to 37 Cursitor Street, London, E.C. and Published for Her Majesty's Stationery Office by HORACE MARSHALL & SON, Temple House, Temple Avenue, London, E.C. Sole Advertising Agents: RAYNE RATCLIFFE DUNBAR & Co., 3 George Yard, Lombard Street, E.C.—November 1898.



LABOUR GAZETTE

THE JOURNAL OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

PUBLISHED ON THE 15th OF EACH MONTH.

VOL. VI.—No. 12.

DECEMBER, 1898.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

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STATE OF EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER.

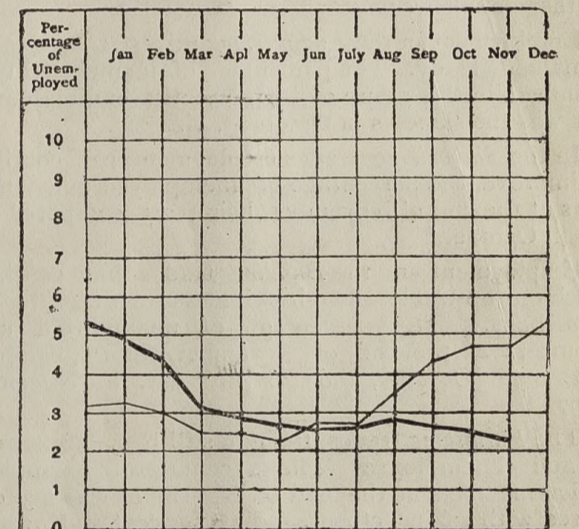
[Based on 2,320 returns, viz.: 1,649 from Employers, 535 from Trade Unions, and 136 from other sources.]

The general state of employment has been good during November. During the month there has been some improvement, especially in the shipbuilding and tinplate trades.

In the 118 trade unions making returns, with an aggregate membership of 469,844, 10,864 (or 2.3 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of November, compared with 2.5 per cent. in October, and with 4.8 per cent. in the 113 unions, with a membership of 464,382, from which returns were received for November, 1897 (during the engineering dispute).

The following chart enables a comparison to be made with last year:—

Chart showing the percentage of unemployed members of the trade unions making returns at the close of each completed month of 1897 and 1898. [The thick line applies to 1898, the thin line to 1897.]



The table below classifies the membership of the 118 unions making returns according to the percentage proportion of their members that each union had unemployed at the end of the under-mentioned periods:—

Table with 5 columns: Percentage of members unemployed, Number of Unions making Returns, Total Membership of such Unions, A Month ago, A Year ago. Rows include Under 1 per cent., 1 and under 2 per cent., etc.

Employment in various Industries.—Coal Mining.

—Employment in November continued generally better than a year ago. Returns relating to pits employing 445,058 workpeople show that these pits worked on an average 5.46 days per week in the four weeks ended November 26th, as compared with an average of 5.44

Employment in Certain Industries and Districts—

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days in October, and 5.32 days in November, 1897. (For further details, see page 362.)

Iron Mining.—Employment in this industry was on the whole slightly better in November than in October, though not quite so good as in November, 1897. At 132 mines and open works at which 17,145 persons were employed, an average of 5.80 days per week was worked during the four weeks ended November 26th, as compared with 5.73 days in October and 5.84 days in November, 1897. (For further details, see page 363.)

Pig Iron Industry.—Returns relating to the works of 109 iron masters show a further improvement in employment during November. At the end of the month they had 359 furnaces in blast, estimated to be employing 23,494 persons, or 3 more furnaces and 141 more persons employed than at the end of October, and 10 more furnaces and 1,084 more persons employed than at the end of November, 1897. (For further details see page 363.)

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment continues better than a year ago. As compared with October the returns show little change. The 203 employers making returns employed 80,815 workpeople in the last week of November as compared with 80,992 in the last week of October, and 79,344 a year ago. The average number of shifts worked in the last week of the month was 5.60 in November, 5.57 in October, and 5.56 in November, 1897. (For further details see page 364.)

Tinplate Trade.—Employment improved considerably during November. At the end of the month 314 mills were at work, giving employment to 16,091 workpeople, as compared with 296 mills, employing 14,945 workpeople, at the end of October, and 319 mills, employing 16,313 workpeople, at the end of November, 1897. (For further details see page 364.)

Employment in the **Engineering and Metal** trades has remained steady. The percentage of unemployed union members in this group of trades at the end of November was the same as in October*, viz., 2.7.

In the **Shipbuilding** trades employment has continued to improve, the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of November being 2.5, compared with 3.7 in October.*

Employment in the **Building** trades has continued brisk on the whole, though painters and decorators are less busy. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of November was 1.1, compared with 0.9 in October, and 1.6 per cent. in November, 1897.

The **Furnishing** trades, though still busy, are scarcely so actively employed. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of November was 2.3, compared with 1.6 in October, and 2.4 per cent. in November of last year.

Employment in the **Printing and Bookbinding** trades has continued to improve. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of November was 2.4, compared with 3.3 in October, and 2.5 per cent. in November, 1897.

In the **Paper** trade employment has slightly improved, the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of November being 3.8, compared with 4.1 in October.

In the **Glass** trades the percentage of unemployed was 13.0, compared with 10.5 per cent. in November, 1897.

Employment in the **Leather** trades has remained steady, the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of November being 4.9, as in October, compared with 4.7 per cent. in November, 1897.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the **Boot and Shoe** trade is quiet; in the ready-made branch it has improved slightly, but is still slack in most centres.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the **Tailoring** trade is dull; in the ready-made branch it has declined, and is slack in most centres.

* In this table, owing to the dispute which existed in the engineering trade no comparison is however made with November, 1897. Three 6.

Employment in both the **Spinning and Weaving** branches of the **Cotton** trade continues good generally.

Employment in the **Worsted** trade is a little worse at Bradford, but continues good at Huddersfield. In the **Woolen** trade it has fallen off, and although still fair in some districts is only moderate generally. In the **Hosiery** trade employment is fair and shows improvement.

As regards the employment of women in the **Textile** trades, information respecting 557 mills, employing 90,600 women and girls, shows that 83 per cent. were in mills giving full employment during the month, compared with the same percentage in October, and 61 per cent. in November, 1897. (For further details, see page 366.)

Agricultural Labour.—Agricultural labourers were generally well employed during the month of November. In a few districts casual hands lost a little time owing to wet weather. (For further details, see page 364.)

Dock and Riverside Labour in London.—In the five weeks ended November 26th an average number of 15,731 labourers were employed daily at all the docks and the principal wharves, as compared with 15,826 in the preceding four weeks and 15,976 in the corresponding period of 1897. (For further details, see page 365.)

Trade Disputes.—Forty-four fresh disputes occurred in November, 1898, involving 8,457 workpeople. The corresponding number of disputes for October was 54, involving 12,577 workpeople, and for November, 1897, 33 disputes, involving 6,594 workpeople. Eight disputes took place in the building trades, 11 in mining and quarrying, 6 in the metal, engineering and shipbuilding trades, 11 in textile trades, 2 in clothing trades and 6 in other industries. Of the 46 new and old disputes, involving 7,429 workpeople, of which the settlement is reported, 10, involving 1,375 persons, were settled wholly in favour of the workpeople; 21, involving 2,943 persons, wholly in favour of the employers; and 15, involving 3,111 persons, resulted in a compromise. (For further details, see page 380.)

Changes in Rates of Wages.—Changes in the rates of wages of about 121,100 workpeople were reported during November, of which number 120,600 received advances averaging 8½d. per head, and 500 sustained decreases averaging 3s. 4¼d. per head. The net result was an increase estimated at about 8½d. per head in the weekly wages of those affected. The increases were principally in the mining industry (100,354), iron and steel manufacture (6,226), and the engineering and shipbuilding trades (4,952). Changes affecting about 1,700 workpeople were preceded by disputes, causing stoppage of work. Changes affecting about 104,000 workpeople were arranged under sliding scales and by conciliation boards. Changes affecting about 15,400 workpeople were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople. (For further details see page 376.)

Pauperism.—In the 35 selected urban districts of the United Kingdom, 329,382 persons were relieved on one day in the second week of November. This number corresponds to a rate of 208 per 10,000 of the estimated population of those districts, or 3 per 10,000 less than a year ago. (For further details see page 379.)

Emigration.—The number of British and Irish passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during November was 9,749, as compared with 8,674 in November, 1897. (For further details see page 383.)

YEAR-BOOK OF LABOUR LEGISLATION.* THE first volume of a Year-book of labour legislation has been issued by the Belgian Labour Department.

It contains the text (in French) of the laws concerning labour, which have been enacted during 1897 in Belgium, Germany, Austria, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, Norway, Holland, Roumania, Switzerland and the United States. It also contains the text of decrees and orders issued in pursuance of those laws.

* Annuaire de la Législation du Travail, 1^{re} Année, 1897. Published by the Belgian Labour Department, Société Belge de Librairie, Rue Treurenberg, 1 Brussels, 1898.

CO-OPERATIVE PRODUCTION IN 1897.

RETURNS relating to co-operative production during 1897 by workmen's Co-operative Societies in the United Kingdom have been made to the Department by 805 societies.

Co-operative Production classified by Industries.

The 805 societies employed 29,668 persons in production at the end of 1897, and paid in productive wages during the year £1,476,685. Of the 29,668 persons employed, 20,716, or 69.8 per cent., were employed in England and Wales; 8,550, or 28.8 per cent. in Scotland; and 402, or 1.4 per cent. in Ireland.

The following table shows the industries carried on, and the number and percentage of men, women and young persons respectively engaged in them.

Table with 5 columns: Industries carried on by Co-operative Societies, No. of Societies, No. of Persons (Men, Women, Young persons, Total).

Co-operative Production by various classes of Societies.

The total value of goods sold, or transferred to distributive departments of societies, was £9,451,572. Of this amount 65.6 per cent. was sold or transferred by the wholesale and retail distributive societies. Of the total production £6,334,047, (or 67.0 per cent.) was by societies in England and Wales; £2,755,195, (or 29.2 per cent.) in Scotland; and £362,330, (or 3.8 per cent.) in Ireland.

In the following table, the persons employed and the value of productions sold or transferred, are grouped according to the classes of societies engaged in production.

Table with 4 columns: Classes of Societies, No. of Societies, No. of Persons, Value of Goods sold by Societies or transferred to Distributive Departments.

Profit Allotted to Employees.

Of the 805 societies, 96 (including the Scottish Wholesale Society) reported that they had assigned to their employees a total of £21,521 out of the profits of the year, including £928 allotted to provident funds for their benefit. This amounts to about £2 9s. per head of the 8,701 persons employed in production by these societies at the end of the year, and 5.3 per cent. upon the wages paid to them.

* Some societies carry on two or more industries and are entered under several heads, consequently this column does not add up to the total given. † In the case of the wholesale and retail distributive societies, the goods are not usually sold by the productive departments, but are transferred to the distributive departments.

Of the total amount, £14,078 was allotted by 35 Productive Societies, £6,031 by the Scottish Wholesale Society, and £1,412 by 60 retail distributive societies. About 61½ per cent. of the total amount was allotted by 15 societies in Scotland (including the Wholesale Society).

Production by Retail Distributive Societies.

Returns have been received from 580 retail distributive societies which had produced in their own productive departments goods to the value of £3,297,816. Of these, 441, with productions to the value of £2,278,771, were in England and Wales, and 139, with productions amounting to £1,019,045, in Scotland.

In the table below these returns are classified by industries. In a certain number of cases it has been necessary to estimate the value of productions.

Table with 4 columns: Trades, No. of Societies making Returns, No. of persons employed in production at end of year, Total estimated value of own productions sold or transferred to distributive departments during the year.*

THE WORKING OF THE ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE LAWS IN AUSTRIA IN 1896.

1.—ACCIDENT INSURANCE.†

EXCLUDING the mining and allied trades (which come under the Mining Code, and in which the old provident funds known as *Brudervorden* have been retained), there were, in Austria, at the end of 1896, 224,307 establishments, with 1,974,644 workpeople (mean number), subject to the Accident Insurance Laws, compared with 215,773 establishments and 1,877,194 workpeople on the corresponding date in 1895.

Out of a total of 64,655 accidents notified in 1896, 18,544 were of a nature entailing compensation. In the following table these accidents are classified according to the gravity of their results, the corresponding figures for the years 1891-5 being given for comparison:—

Table with multiple columns: Result of accidents reported (1891-1896), I.—NUMBER, II.—PROPORTION PER 10,000 INSURED.

* In the case of the wholesale and retail distributive societies, the goods are not usually sold by the productive departments, but are transferred to the distributive departments. † Die Gebahrung und die Ergebnisse der Unfallstatistik der im Grunde des Gesetzes vom 28. December, 1887, betreffend die Unfallversicherung der Arbeiter errichteten Arbeiter-Unfall-Versicherungsanstalten im Jahre 1896. Vienna, Government Printing Office, 1898.

‡ In reality, per 3,000,000 days worked, so that the figure 10,000 is fictitious, and represents such a number of workpeople (employed for a greater or lesser number of days during the year), as is equivalent to 10,000 workpeople employed for 300 days (*Vollarbeiter*). In this way it is reckoned that the mean number of workpeople subject to insurance during 1896 (viz., 1,974,644), is equivalent to 1,283,433 *Vollarbeiter*.

INQUIRY AS TO AGENCIES FOR PROCURING EMPLOYMENT IN AUSTRIA.*

REPORT issued by the Statistical Department of the Austro-Hungarian Ministry of Commerce, contains the results of an inquiry relating to agencies for procuring employment in Austria.

The subject-matter is divided into 14 chapters. The first three chapters deal with private employment registries; the next two, with the employment bureaux maintained by the Compulsory Trade Guilds; the next four chapters treat of various other kinds of associations (trade unions, workmen's clubs, employers' associations, charitable societies, &c.) as agencies for procuring work. The institutions known as Workmen's Relief Stations (*Verpflegungsstationen*), maintained by public authorities for the relief of able-bodied persons wandering in search of work, form the subject of the 10th chapter. The next chapter deals with other institutions, whether self-supporting or maintained by public authorities, or by endowments or subscriptions (*e.g.*, orphanages, schools, penitentiaries, &c.) Newspaper advertising is treated of in the 13th chapter, while the 14th chapter reviews the results of the whole inquiry.

The total number of employment registries in Austria at the beginning of 1896 is given as 2,858, and the number of registries, whose operations in 1895 were ascertained, as 2,385 (including 12 societies by whom no situations were procured).

The following statement shows the number of registries of each kind existing at the beginning of 1896, and the number of situations found in 1895 by the registries, from which information on this subject was obtained:—

Classes of Employment Registries.	No. of Registries at beginning of 1896.	Registries whose operations in 1895 were ascertained.	
		No. of Registries	Situations found in 1895.
Public registries—			
Workmen's relief stations	814	814	43,125
Other public registries	133	95	1,419
Registries maintained by trade guilds	405	212	44,201
" " employers' assoc.	17	15	3,099
" " workmen's "	362	271	18,228
" " joint "	33	32	11,347
" " philanthropic socs. institutions, &c.	178	132	17,002
" " private persons (as a business)	916	814	180,692
Total	2,858	2,385	319,113

The appendix to the Report contains a collection of enactments and rules regulating employment registries in Austria, Hungary, Denmark, Germany, France, Italy, Norway, Russia, Roumania, Switzerland, Luxemburg, the United States and New Zealand.

LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.†

Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 31 Broadway, Westminster, S.W., from official and other reports, newspapers, &c., mostly dated October and November last. †

Canada.—It is too late in the year for the ordinary emigrant to go to Canada.

New South Wales.—The condition of the colony in all matters relating to trade, labour and industry, is improving, and land settlement is increasing. The dairying industry is largely on the increase, and many new factories are being erected. The number of unemployed throughout the colony has become much less; scrub cutting at the West Bogan is almost the only Government work now being carried on for the benefit of those out of work, the average wages there being 5s. 6d. a day. But the effects of the long drought, and of serious disputes between capital and labour, have made employment in many cases precarious. The building trade remains depressed, and there is a large number of empty houses in Sydney and the suburbs. At the large Broken Hill silver mines there are sufficient miners, and mechanics can always be obtained from Adelaide when required. At the Cobar copper mines there has been plenty of work for miners. In many parts the saw-mills have been very busy. The weighing question at the coal mines is still unsettled,

* Die Arbeitsvermittlung in Oesterreich. Verfasst und herausgegeben vom Statistischen Departement im K.K. Handelsministerium. Vienna, 1898. Alfred Holder, K. und K. Hof- und Universitäts-buchhändler. I. Rothenturm-strasse, 15.
† And the South African Republic (Transvaal) and Beira.

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

and the whole of the coal mining industry is consequently in a very disturbed condition.

Victoria.—There is an opening for mechanics and others with a little money, but not for the ordinary emigrant. There has been a very general fall of rain, and harvest prospects have improved.

South Australia.—There is practically no demand for labour in any trade; the Government workshops are on three-quarters time, and no public works of any magnitude are as yet in hand. A correspondent does not advise anyone to go to the Colony unless he has friends there, or a capital of £200 to £300 to start some new industry. In country districts there is a good opening for those able to take up land for fruit growing, and lately there has been a good demand for married couples without children, accustomed to station, farm, and domestic service. The new Government Labour Bureau is being made use of to a considerable extent.

Queensland.—There has been a demand at Brisbane for a few journeymen tailors; men can earn from 60s. to 70s. a week, and women from 20s. to 40s. There is a fair demand for farm hands.

Western Australia.—There is a good demand for ploughmen and farm hands, but the demand for mechanics and other labourers has fallen off considerably. The free passages, which have been hitherto given to domestic servants going to the Colony, have ceased for the present. A Government Labour Registry Office has been opened at Perth, where a list is kept of those desiring employment.

Tasmania.—Skilled mechanics would be able to get employment at the smelting works on the West Coast; and men able to take up and work a few acres of land would get good prices for vegetables at the mining townships.

New Zealand.—The building trades have been busy in almost every place in the Colony. Wellington has been the only important exception. Men in the engineering trades have also been fully employed, except at Auckland and Oamaru. In the boot and clothing trades a fair business has been done, and a general improvement has been taking place. Ordinary labourers have, as a rule, found little difficulty in getting work at bushfelling, shearing, etc., this being the busy season of the year.

Cape Colony.—Owing to the completion of some Government works a considerable number of men employed at the Salt River Railway works have been discharged. A correspondent states that there has been a fair demand at Cape Town for men in the building trades.

Transvaal.—Work in the building trades both in Johannesburg and Pretoria is very slack, and there is no opening for men in these trades.

Beira (Portuguese East Africa).—The Beira Benevolent Society warns persons against going there, as there is no work to be found for those that have already come, and a great amount of distress prevails.

LABOUR ABROAD.

FRANCE.

*Employment in November.**—The mining and metal (smelting and manufacture) trades continued well employed in November. In the food preparation, book-binding, printing, and skin and leather-dressing trades the improvement reported last month was maintained. There was also a tendency towards better employment in the woollen trade, and in the garment-making, hat-making, furniture, and the clock, watch, and jewellery industries. On the other hand, the seasonal slackness in the building trades and their dependent industries became more pronounced. Employment has also become less plentiful in the boot and shoe trade, in

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the French Labour Department.

hosiery (chiefly woollen hosiery) industry, in the fur trade (for furriers and fur skin dressers), and in the coachbuilding and coopering trades. Speaking generally employment was considered as having remained, on the whole, more scarce than at the same time last year.

The proportion of members of trade unions reported unemployed on November 15th was a little over 13 per cent.; the unions reporting numbered 460, with a membership of 90,000. Ten per cent. of the number, containing 6 per cent. of the membership, of the reporting unions, regarded employment as having been more plentiful this November than last; 37 per cent. of the unions, containing 47 per cent. of the membership, regarded it as having been less plentiful; while 53 per cent. of the unions, containing 47 per cent. of the membership, considered it the same this November as last.

The reduction in working hours, referred to last month, has extended. From 9 to 10 per day are the hours most generally being worked.

*Coal Mining in October.**—The average number of days per week on which coal was hewn and wound in October was 5.97 compared with 5.92 in the previous month, and 5.97 in October, 1897. In October full time (6 days and over) was worked by 94 per cent., and from 5 to 6 days by 6 per cent. of the miners, the percentages in the previous month being 80 and 20 respectively. The pits making these returns employ over 100,000 workpeople, or three-fourths of the coal miners of France.

Strike of Laceworkers at Calais.—With reference to the above-mentioned dispute (noticed in the GAZETTE for September, p. 265), Mr. Charles A. Payton, H.M. Consul at Calais, reporting to the Foreign Office under date of December 5th, states that the dispute has ended in favour of the employers. The earlier piece-wage list has been maintained; work is proceeding in all the factories as usual, and about half of the strikers are still out of work, their places having been filled.

The strike of laceworkers at Caudry (Nord Department) referred to in the October GAZETTE, p. 296, is still in progress. The Consul states that 76 out of 78 employers have recently decided to withdraw concessions previously offered.

GERMANY.

Proposed Exclusion of Foreign-speaking Miners from Rhenish-Westphalia.—In a despatch to the Foreign Office from Sir F. C. Lascelles, H.M. Ambassador at Berlin, dated December 3rd, it is stated that a mining order is now being drawn up by the Mining Authorities of Rhenish-Westphalia, under which foreign-speaking workmen can only be employed in the mines and their dependencies when they understand sufficient German to comprehend the orders of the overseers and the messages given by their fellow workmen. Only such foreign-speaking workmen as understand German well, and can read and write it easily, will be employed as overseers, brakesmen, for driving machinery, etc. The order will not have retrospective action.

Labour Disputes in November.—The most noteworthy of the disputes reported in the *Reichs-Anzeiger* as having begun in November occurred in Remscheid and Crefeld. In the former case, the differences arose out of the proposal of 26 factory owners, whose workpeople have hitherto been insured against sickness in the local sick fund, to establish separate factory sick funds for this purpose. All the operatives concerned are stated to have given formal notice to leave in the event of the employers persisting in their proposal. At the end of November, however, the notices had been withdrawn at all except one of the factories. The number reported by the *Reichs-Anzeiger* to have actually struck is 270. According to the principal German trade union organs the number involved in the dispute was 3,000.

At Crefeld considerable agitation is reported to have prevailed amongst operatives in silk weaving factories with reference to wages. A meeting of owners of such factories was in consequence held at the Crefeld Chamber of Commerce, on November 28th, and it was resolved to appoint a committee to prepare the draft of a wages list. It was also agreed that no employer should engage an operative

* Bulletin de l'Office du Travail, November, 1898.

belonging to a factory in which a dispute was in progress. In two strikes (involving 245 workpeople) the weavers are stated to have successfully opposed a reduction of wages.

Old-Age and Invalidity Pensions on October 1st, 1898.—According to official statistics published in the *Reichs-Anzeiger*, the total number of invalidity pensions granted from the date of the coming into operation of the Old-Age and Invalidity Insurance Law (January 1st, 1891) up to September 30th, 1898, was 360,253. Of these 107,598 had lapsed, so that on October 1st, 1898, 252,655 such pensions were in course of being paid, *i.e.*, 13,987 more than on July 1st of the same year. The number of old-age pensions granted from January 1st, 1891, to September 30th, 1898, was 333,064 of which 130,980 had lapsed, leaving 202,084 pensions running on October 1st, 1898, *i.e.*, 546 less than on the previous 1st July.

The Berlin Central Association for Registering Labour.—*Soziale Praxis* reports that the rules of this Association have been amended, and that 4 employers and 4 workpeople selected by the committee of the Industrial Court are now admitted to the governing body of the registry.—(See GAZETTE, July, 1897, p. 222).

SWITZERLAND.

Federal Law concerning the manufacture and sale of matches.—The following are the main provisions of a new Federal law concerning the manufacture and sale of matches in Switzerland, the text of which was published in the Swiss official gazette of November 16th,* but which will not come into operation before the expiration of three months from that date (during which period it may be vetoed by Referendum.†)

The manufacture of matches may be carried on only in places specially set apart for that purpose, all of which shall be subject to the Factory Act, irrespective of their size or of the number of persons employed therein. The manufacture of matches shall in no case be carried on without an authorisation obtained from the Cantonal Government, but this authorisation cannot be granted without the assent of the Federal Council, by which the conditions to be observed in the interests both of the workpeople and the public are to be fixed. The manufacture, importation, exportation and sale of matches containing yellow phosphorus is forbidden. Yellow phosphorus may neither be imported nor used except for scientific and medicinal purposes, or for such other purposes, involving no danger to health, as the Federal Council may specially sanction. No matches may be sold, except in boxes or packets bearing the firm name or the registered trade mark of the manufacturer. This provision is equally applicable to matches imported or exported. The officers entrusted with the supervision of factories are to have free access at all times to all places where it may be suspected that the manufacture of matches is being carried on.

Power is given to the Federal Council to acquire the rights in, and to communicate to manufacturers any new manufacturing processes, which it may consider worthy of special attention in relation to the health and safety of the workpeople and of the public.

BELGIUM.

Creation of a Department of Technical Education.—A Royal Decree of October 3rd, 1898, provides for the creation of a Special Department of Technical Education at the Ministry of Industry and Labour.

Additions to List of Trades classed as Dangerous.—The following additions are made by Royal Decree of October 3rd to the list of trades classed as dangerous, unhealthy, or unpleasant, and accordingly subject to inspection:—(1) The manufacture of aluminate of soda by the calcination of sulphate of soda with clayey substances; (2) The manufacture of alumina and carbonate of soda by the action of carbonic acid on aluminate of soda; (3) The manufacture of oxalate of potash and oxalic acid by the action of caustic potash on saw-dust; (4) The manufacture of perchloride of iron; and (5) the manufacture of ferric sulphate by means of ferrous sulphate and nitric acid.

Employment of Boys in Enamel-ware Factories.—By Royal Decree, dated November 29th, boys of 14 to 16 years of age may be employed in connection with enamel stoves each alternate week after 9 p.m. and before 5 a.m.; but the total number of hours of work performed by such persons must not exceed 11 in 24, and must be broken by intervals for meals, etc., amounting to not less than 1½ hours in the aggregate.

* A correction of the text, as published on this date, was contained in the Official Gazette of November 30th.

† By the exercise of the right of Referendum a fixed number of electors can insist on the measure being referred for the veto or sanction of the whole electoral body.

AUSTRIA.

Labour disputes in November.—No serious disputes were reported* as having begun in Austria in November. Serious differences, however, existed between the workpeople (numbering some 900) and their employers in the fez cap industry of Strakonitz (Bohemia). These originated on November 12th, in the dismissal of certain workpeople at one of the factories, for agitating against the proposal that each operative should work four instead of three machines, and that piece-wages should be reduced. Understanding that a similar course was about to be adopted at all the other fez cap works, the whole of the operatives in these establishments submitted a list of demands, and notified their intention to give a week's notice from November 26th, in case the demands were not granted by that date. These demands included a 20 per cent. increase of wages, the re-instatement of the dismissed workpeople, a 10-hours day, and an undertaking that no further reductions in wages should take place. On December 2nd it was reported that the 900 operatives had given notice. On December 5th a conference took place in the presence of the district magistrate, and a settlement is reported to have been arrived at.

Agitation Against Working Two Looms in Reichenberg Cloth-weaving Industry.—On November 14th a meeting of cloth-weavers was held in Reichenberg (Bohemia) to protest against the proposed introduction of the two-loom system in the woollen-cloth factories.

Employment in Government Tobacco Factories, &c.*—The total number of workpeople employed in establishments connected with the Government tobacco monopoly in Austria on December 31st, 1896, was 38,011, the mean number employed in 1896 being 34,825. Of the last-named number, 32,189 (3,433 males and 28,756 females) were fully qualified workpeople, 2,636 (101 males and 2,535 females) only partially qualified, being chiefly girls between the ages of 14 and 16. Of the 32,189 fully qualified workpeople, 27,312 (1,108 males and 26,204 females) were paid piece-wages, the remaining 4,877 (2,325 males and 2,552 females) being paid by the day or week. Cigar-making gives employment to the largest number of workpeople, viz., 21,655, including 18,257 fully qualified women piece-workers, whose average weekly earnings are given as 6s. 0½d. The piece-wage earnings of a fully qualified woman cigarette-maker were 7s. 8d. per week, the mean number of piece-workers of this class, in 1896, being 5,808. The number of days worked in the year by cigar and cigarette factories was 296·5, and the average number of hours worked per week, 56·8.

ITALY.

Employment of Children in Industry.—A report† relative to the observance of the law (of February 11th, 1886) concerning child labour, recently presented to the Italian Chamber of Deputies, and covering the period from January 1st, 1893, to June 30th, 1896, shows that out of a total of 50,200 workpeople employed in 494 of the 762 industrial establishments (exclusive of mines and quarries) inspected during the first 6 months of 1896, 7,800 (or 15·5 per cent.) were children of 9 to 15 years of age, the great bulk of these children, viz., 6,594, being from 12 to 15 years of age. As regards mines, the most recent figures are those for 1895, and they apply to the chief mining districts only. Out of a total of 39,174 workpeople employed in 1895 in 510 mines in which child labour existed, 7,149 (or 18·25 per cent.) were children of 9 to 15 years of age. Amongst these were 4,386 children of 10 to 15 years old employed underground in the sulphur mines in Sicily.

DENMARK.

Bakers' Dispute in Copenhagen: Decision of Arbitration Committee.—In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated November 18th, Mr. Edmund Fane, H.M. Minister at Copenhagen, reports the decision of the Arbitration Committee in the matter of the disputes in the baking trade in Copenhagen (referred to in last month's GAZETTE, p. 330). In substance the decision was as follows:—

(1) As regards ryebread bakers. Wages in bakeries and manufactories are fixed at 28s. 10d., 32s. 2d., and 35s. 6d. a week. Working time in bakeries, 11 hours, with 1½ hours for meals; in manufactories (where machinery is used), 9½ hours, with 1½ hours for meals. Where the work continues for 24 hours, the journeymen are divided into three shifts, each working 8 hours; they are allowed no time for meals, and once a week must work 9 hours without any extra pay. Extra pay for working overtime is 10d. per hour. Anyone receiving higher wages than the above before the dispute keeps them.

(2) As regards whitebread and cake bakers. The wages are fixed at 25s. 6d., 27s. 8d., 31s., 32s. 2d.,

* In employers' and workmen's papers, including Die Industrie (the organ of the Federation of Austrian Manufacturers' Associations), Das Handels-Museum, Die Gewerkschaft, Die Arbeiter-Zeitung, and others.

† Relazione sull' applicazione della Legge, 11, Febbraio, 1896, sul Lavoro dei Fanciulli dal 1º gennaio 1893 al 30 giugno 1896. Atti parlamentari, Legislatura xx. —Prima Sessione, 1898. Rome. Printers to the Chamber of Deputies, 1898.

and 34s. 4d. per week. In bakeries where there is only one journeyman, and where the master does not work, he is entitled to at least 31s. per week. For working on free nights, journeymen receive 4s. 8d., 5s. 3d., and 5s. 9d.; for overtime, 9d. per hour extra; the working time is to be 11 hours, with 1½ hours for meals.

The agreement can be terminated on October 1st, of any year but not before October 1st, 1900, and three months' notice must be given.

By this arrangement the wages of ryebread bakers have been increased by 2s. 2d., and those of the whitebread bakers by 1s. 1d. per week. Working overtime was formerly paid 6½d. extra per hour; now it is paid 9d. or 10d. extra. The working time has been reduced by half an hour per day.

REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

(a) COAL MINING IN NOVEMBER.

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

EMPLOYMENT in this industry still continues better than a year ago. As compared with October, employment in November shows little change.

In all districts the 1,305 pits to which the returns relate, and at which 445,058 workpeople were employed, worked on an average 5·46 days per week in the four weeks ended November 26th, as compared with 5·44 days per week in October, and 5·32 days in November, 1897.

The following table shows the average number of days worked in these periods in each division of the United Kingdom:—

Table showing average number of days worked per week by pits in four weeks ended, for England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland, and United Kingdom, comparing Nov. 1898, Nov. 1897, and Oct. 1898.

The next table, in which the pits are divided according to the class of coal principally produced, shows that employment continued better than a year ago, in all classes.

Table showing number of days worked per week, by description of coal, for November 1898, November 1897, and October 1898.

In the table below workpeople are grouped according to the number of days worked at pits at which they were employed. It will be seen that 85·8 per cent. were employed at pits working 5 or more days per week in November last, as compared with 85·2 per cent. in October, and 78·9 per cent. in November, 1897.

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

Table showing classification of workpeople by number of days worked in four weeks, including percentage proportions and corresponding percentages from previous periods.

EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER—COAL AND IRON MINING; PIG IRON.

Comparison by Districts.—In the three Scottish districts and in the Salop, Worcester, and Warwick district employment was not quite so good as in the corresponding period of last year. In all the remaining districts it was better, the average being higher by half a day per week in Nottingham and Leicester and by amounts varying from a fifth to a quarter of a day in six other districts. As compared with October the most noteworthy changes were the falling off by a quarter of a day per week in Fife, and the improvement by nearly a third of a day in Staffordshire.

The highest averages during the month were worked in Gloucester and Somerset (5·79 days per week), and the Lothians (5·71 days). Averages amounting to over 5½ days per week were also worked in the following 6 districts:—North Wales, Cumberland, Yorkshire, Staffordshire, Salop, Worcester and Warwick, and Durham. In all other districts except Nottingham and Leicester (4·89 days) over 5 days per week were worked.

COMPARISON OF THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED BY COLLIERIES IN NOVEMBER, 1898 AND 1897, AND IN OCTOBER, 1898.

Large table comparing average number of days worked per week by collieries in four weeks ended, for various districts in England & Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, comparing Nov. 1898, Nov. 1897, and Oct. 1898.

Percentage of Unemployed.—The miners in trade unions in Northumberland and Durham had 0·4 per cent. of their membership in receipt of unemployed benefit at the end of November, as compared with 0·3 per cent. in October, and 0·9 per cent. in November, 1897.

Exports of Coal.—The exports of coal, coke, cinders and patent fuel, during November, amounted to 3,453,216 tons, as against 3,299,177 tons in October, and 3,192,581 tons in November, 1897.

(b) IRON MINING INDUSTRY IN NOVEMBER.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry during November, was on the whole slightly better than during the preceding month though not quite so good as in the corresponding period of 1897. The most noticeable change is the improvement in the Scottish district, where the average time worked was greater by nearly one day per week in November than in October, and was only slightly inferior to the high average of a year ago. The total number employed is rather less than in November, 1897.

Returns received relating to 132 iron mines and open works show that 17,145 workpeople were employed at these mines, or 136 less than a year ago. The average number of days worked per week during the four weeks ended November 26th, was 5·80, as compared with 5·73 days per week in October, and 5·84 days in November, 1897. Of the 17,145 persons employed, 90·1 per cent. were at mines working 22 or more days in the four

weeks, as compared with 86·3 per cent. in October, and 91·3 per cent. a year ago.

The following table summarises the returns received:—

(I.) Average number of days worked per week by the mines:—

Table showing average number of days worked per week by mines in four weeks ended, for various districts in England, Scotland, and Ireland, comparing Nov. 1898, Nov. 1897, and Oct. 1898.

(II.) Classification of workpeople according to days worked by the mines:—

Table showing classification of workpeople by number of days worked in four weeks, including percentage proportions and corresponding percentages from previous periods.

(c) PIG-IRON INDUSTRY IN NOVEMBER.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry continued to improve in November, the number of furnaces in blast and the number of persons employed being greater at the end of the month than at the end of October or a year ago.

The number of furnaces in blast at the end of November at the works of 109 ironmasters, to which the returns relate, was 359, or 10 more than a year ago and 3 more than at the end of October. The increase during November was the balance of 6 furnaces relit and 3 blown out. The estimated number of persons employed at the end of the month was 23,494, or 141 more than at the end of October and 1,084 more than a year ago.

The following table gives particulars of the number of furnaces in blast in the different districts of the United Kingdom at each of the three periods:—

Table showing number of furnaces in blast in different districts, comparing present time with a year ago and with a month ago.

The shipments of pig-iron to foreign countries and British possessions from all ports of the United Kingdom during November amounted to 88,717 tons, as compared with 92,190 tons in October, and 100,854 tons in November, 1897.

EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—SCOTLAND; IRELAND.

Textile Trades.—In Glasgow silk weavers are dull, other weavers well employed; rope spinners, calendermen and beamers are fairly well employed; warpers and dyers are rather quiet. Employment is good in Darvel, New Milns, Galston and Kilmarnock in the lace and muslin, blanket and carpet trades. In Kilbirnie employment in the thread works continues good; net and rope works are running full time. In Paisley employment in carpet and thread works is fair.

Shipping, Dock and Transport Labour.—Dock labourers in Glasgow and Greenock are fully employed, night work being common; carters, tramway men and railway men are well employed.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Letterpress printers and bookbinders report employment as rather better; lithographic printers, electrotypers, and stereotypers as still fair.

Glass Trades.—Flint-glass cutters and flint-glass makers report employment as good; decorative glass workers and bottle makers as satisfactory.

Miscellaneous.—Labourers, gilders, cork cutters, basket makers, scale beam makers, tobacco spinners, and tobacco finishers, sett makers, potters, spindle and flyer makers, and stoneware throwers, report employment as good; saddlers as dull; calico engravers as unsteady; paviors as not much improved.—A. J. Hunter.

Dundee and District.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the jute industry continues good on the whole. In the linen trade it is still quiet generally, though in some districts machinery is in full operation.

Coal Mining.—Employment in Fifeshire is less brisk. Reports from pits employing 10,574 workpeople show an average of 5.2 days per week worked during the four weeks ending November 26th, as against 5.5 days per week in October.

Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades.—In the engineering trade employment continues on the whole good. Work at the shipbuilding yards is also satisfactory. Returns from branches of societies with 2,390 members show 55 (or 2.3 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 45 (or 1.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

Building and Woodworking Trades.—Employment in the building trade remains good generally, except where it is affected by the weather. Societies with 1,404 members return 25 (or 1.8 per cent.) as idle, as compared with 23 (or 1.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October. In the furnishing trade the dispute remains unsettled.

Fishing Industry.—At the beginning of the month the white fishing was prosecuted daily and with fairly good success, but towards the end of the month, on account of the stormy weather, the haddock fishing was almost a complete blank.

Dock Labour.—The arrival of cargoes of the new jute has brought briskness to the docks and jetties, and shore labour is again well employed.

Miscellaneous.—Employment in the printing and allied trades remains fairly good; in the tailoring trade it is still dull, though improving; in the boot and shoe trade it is moderate; in the floorcloth and linoleum industry busy.—P. Reid.

Aberdeen and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 6,921 members have 74 (or 1.1 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 56 (or 0.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

Quarrying.—Employment continues good.

Building Trades.—Carpenters and joiners, slaters and plasterers report employment as good; masons and painters as fair; plumbers as moderate.

Transport Trades.—Railway workers, carters, and general labourers report employment as good; dock labourers as moderate.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Branches of societies with 1,515 members have 41 (or 2.7 per cent.) idle, as against 22 (or 1.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October. The boiler-makers and iron and steel shipbuilders, shipwrights, blacksmiths, ironmoulders, engineers, brass-finishers, pattern-makers, horseshoers report employment as good; the tinsmith workers as fair. The ironmoulders are beginning to be affected by the dispute with the ironworkers' labourers.

Clothing and Textile Trades.—Boot and shoemakers and mill and factory workers report employment as good; tailors and carpet weavers as fair.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress and lithographic printers, bookbinders and machine-rulers report employment as good.

Fishing.—At the Port of Aberdeen trawl and line boats landed 63,835 cwts. of white fish with a value of £40,282, a decrease in quantity, but an increase in value as compared with the previous month.

Miscellaneous.—Saddlers, sawmillers, upholsterers, and comb-makers report employment as good; bakers as fair.—W. Johnson.

IRELAND.

Dublin and District.

Building Trades.—Except with painters, employment continues fairly good.

Metal Trades.—The ironfounders, boiler-makers and silver-plate workers return employment as good; smiths and plumbers as fair; the engineers as moderate; the whitesmiths as dull. Branches with 822 members return 20 (or 2.4 per cent.) as idle, compared with 56 (or 7.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

Furnishing and Wood Working Trades.—Employment with the coachmakers and cart and wagon builders is returned as fair; with the upholsterers as dull.

Clothing Trades.—The tailors and bootmakers return employment as dull.

Printing and allied Trades.—The letterpress printers report employment as good; the binders as dull; the stereotypers, machine minders and newspaper packers as fair.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is returned as good with general labourers; fair with the paviors, rope makers, cork cutters, brush makers, hairdressers and stationary engine drivers.—J. P. Nannetti.

Belfast and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Societies with 8,244 members have 208 (or 2.5 per cent.) out of employment, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of October. With most of the trades making up this group employment continues generally good.

Linen Trades.—Branches of societies with 4,005 members have 129 (or 3.2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 98 (or 2.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October. The flax roughers and women-workers report employment as dull; the power loom tenters as bad; the spindle and flyer-makers as moderate; the beetling enginemen, flax dressers, yarn dressers, yarn bundlers and yarn beamers as fair; the linen-lappers and hackle and gill makers as good.

Building Trades.—Societies with 2,831 members have 145 (or 5.1 per cent.) unemployed, as against 137 (or 4.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October. All branches continue quiet.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Branches with 825 members have 46 (or 5.6 per cent.) unemployed, as against 39 (or 4.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October. Employment generally is dull.

Printing and allied Trades.—Branches of societies with 925 members have 10 (or 1.1 per cent.) unemployed, as against 57 (or 6.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October. The bookbinders and machine rulers report employment as bad; the letterpress and lithographic printers, and lithographic artists and designers as good.

Clothing Trades.—Employment continues quiet with the tailors and the boot and shoe makers.

Miscellaneous.—Branches with 1,925 members have 50 (or 2.6 per cent.) unemployed, as against 55 (or 3.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October. The bakers, butchers, and railway workers report employment as fair; the carters, locomotive engine-drivers, sheet metal workers, and municipal employees as good.—R. Sheldon.

Cork and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders again report employment as good, particularly in Passage West and Haulbowline; engineers report an improvement throughout the district.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is reported as steady in Cork, quiet in Limerick and Waterford.

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoe operatives and tailors report employment as dull.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Mill-sawyers and wood-cutting machinists report employment as steady; coachmakers as good; coopers, cabinet-makers, and corkcutters as dull.

Miscellaneous.—Letterpress printers report employment as good; it is also good with enginemen and firemen, railway workers, and gas workers; fair with tramway employes, coal porters, quay labourers and corporation labourers.—P. O'Shea.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN NOVEMBER.

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

THE total number of workpeople reported as killed by accidents during November was 349, or 23 more than in October, and 101 more than in November, 1897.

In the first group of industries shown in the following summary table, including railways, mines, quarries, shipping, and factories, and employing 5,294,393 persons (according to the latest available figures), 320 persons were killed, and 7,346 reported injured by accidents in November, as compared with 233 killed and 4,934 reported injured in November, 1897. These figures give one death in November, 1898, for every 16,545 persons employed in those industries. During the eleven completed months of 1898, 3,228 persons were reported killed, and 63,565 injured, as against 3,483 reported killed and 52,955 injured in the corresponding period of 1897.

In the remaining occupations included in the tables 29 persons were reported killed, and 1,009 injured, in November, as compared with 15 reported killed and 605 injured in November of last year.

SUMMARY TABLE.

Table with 5 columns: Category, Killed (Nov. 1898, Nov. 1897), Injured (Nov. 1898, Nov. 1897), and Number Employed according to latest Returns. Rows include Railway Service, Mines, Quarries, Shipping, Factories, Workshops, and Under Factory Act, 1895, Ss. 22, 23.

DETAILED TABLE.

Table with 5 columns: Category, Killed, Injured, Total. Rows include Railway Service, Mines, and Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894.

Table with 3 columns: Category, Underground, Surface, Total. Rows include Mines and Quarries over 20 feet deep.

Table with 3 columns: Category, Inside, Outside, Total. Rows include Quarries over 20 feet deep.

Table with 6 columns: Category, Killed, Injured, Total. Rows include Shipping* and Factories—.

Table with 4 columns: Category, Males, Females, Total. Rows include Factories—, Factories & Workshops (classified by trades), and Under Factory Act, 1895, Ss. 22, 23.

Table with 4 columns: Category, Males, Females, Total. Rows include Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894.

Table with 4 columns: Category, Construction or repair, Use or Working, Total. Rows include Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894.

Table with 4 columns: Category, Construction or repair, Use or Working, Total. Rows include Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894.

* The figures relate to seamen who have been reported during the month to have been killed or injured by accidents at sea, or in rivers and harbours, whilst they were members of the crews of sea-going vessels (except yachts) registered in the British Islands under Part I. of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894 (this includes all trading vessels and about a half, say 3,000, of the fishing vessels, of 15 tons and upwards). Injuries to members of the crews of fishing vessels employed in and out of Scottish ports and of vessels trading exclusively between Scottish ports, or to Asiatics serving under Asiatic articles of agreement, are not included. With these exceptions injuries, however trivial, are included. The number of persons stated to be employed is the sum of the number of persons engaged for the first crew of each vessel employed during 1896, and remaining on the Register at the end of that year.

† Accidents during the working of railways being reportable under other Acts are not notified under the Act of 1894. ‡ Authorised by any local or personal Act of Parliament. § Or other steam engine or machine in the open air.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN NOVEMBER, 1898.

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

Summary.—The changes in wages reported during November affected about 121,100 workpeople, and the net effect of all the changes on the weekly wages of those workpeople was an increase of about 8½d. per head. About 120,600 received advances averaging 8½d. per head, and 500 sustained decreases averaging 3s. 4½d. per head.

Increases.—The principal increase was the advance of 2½ per cent. to 100,000 coal miners in South Wales and Monmouthshire.

Methods of Arrangement.—Changes affecting about 1,700 workpeople were preceded by disputes, causing stoppage of work. Changes affecting 104,000 workpeople were arranged by conciliation boards or under sliding scales. Changes affecting about 15,400 workpeople, were settled by negotiation between the employers and representatives of the workpeople.

Totals for First Eleven Months of 1898.—For the eleven months, January to November, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) reported as having received advances or sustained decreases is about 930,000, compared with 576,000 for the corresponding period of 1897. The net effect of all the changes on the weekly wages of these workpeople is estimated at an increase of about 1s. 6½d. per head, as compared with 1s. in the first eleven months of 1897.

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

Main table for page 376 showing changes in wages for various trades like Building Trades, Coal and Shale Mining, Iron and Steel Manufacture, Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades, etc.

* Exclusive of overtime. † Where the winter and summer hours are known to differ in any trade, the weekly rate given in the table is the result of averaging the wages for five summer weeks and two winter weeks. ‡ See also under Changes in Hours of Labour.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN NOVEMBER—(continued).

Main table for page 377 showing changes in wages for various trades like Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades, Other Metal Trades, Employees of Public Authorities, Bakers and Confectioners, Miscellaneous Trades, etc.

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

ADVANCES IN RATES OF WAGES OF SEAMEN IN NOVEMBER.

During the past month advances in the rates of wages of sailors, firemen and trimmers have been obtained at Newcastle-on-Tyne, North Shields, South Shields, Sunderland, Newport, Cardiff and Glasgow. Altogether 1,338 men are reported as having signed on during the month at these ports at increased rates, viz., 657 A.B.'s and 681 firemen and trimmers. Of these, 25 were at Glasgow, 615 at the Tyne ports, 104 at Sunderland, 414 at Cardiff and 180 at Newport. Three hundred and twenty-six A.B.'s, 304 firemen, and 5 trimmers have obtained an advance of 5s. per month; 7 A.B.'s and 22 firemen an advance of 10s. per month; 257 A.B.'s and 284 firemen an advance of 15s. per month. On weekly rates an advance of 1s. 6d. has been obtained by 9 A.B.'s and 11 firemen; of 2s. by 2 A.B.'s; and of 2s. 8d. by 56 A.B.'s and 55 firemen.

Table with columns for Port, A.B.'s, Firemen and Trimmers, and Rates of Wages (Monthly and Weekly). Includes sub-sections for Monthly Rates (Advance of 5s, 10s, 15s per month) and Weekly Rates (Advance of 1s. 6d., 2s. 0d., 2s. 8d. per week).

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN NOVEMBER, 1898.

The changes reported in November affected 215 persons, whose recognised working time was reduced, on the average, 1.16 hours per week. The decreases were, as regards 175 of the workpeople, brought about without cessation of work.

Table with columns for Locality, Occupation, Date from which change takes effect in 1898, Approximate number of work-people directly affected, Hours of labour in a full week (Before change, After change), and Extent of decrease per week.

* Trimmers. † Where the winter and summer hours are known to differ in any trade the weekly hours given in the table are the result of averaging the hours for five summer weeks and two winter weeks. ‡ See also under Changes in Rates of Wages.

RECENT PROGRESS IN CO-OPERATION.

RETURNS received from 990 co-operative retail distributive societies in the United Kingdom, with a total membership of 1,354,787, show total sales for the third quarter of 1898 amounting to £9,306,618 as compared with £8,745,853 in the corresponding period of 1897. Of these societies 767 show an increase and 220 a decrease, the net increase being £560,765, or 6.4 per cent.

Returns from three of the four wholesale federations for the same period show total sales in their distributive departments amounting to £4,180,870, as compared with £4,157,101 in the third quarter of 1897, an increase of £23,769.

The sales and transfers from the manufacturing to the distributive departments of the English and Scottish wholesale societies amounted to £706,214, as compared with £578,549 in the corresponding period of 1897, an increase of 22.1 per cent.

Fifty-two societies in England and Wales reported the opening of 62 new branches and departments, and 17 societies in Scotland 24 new branches and departments during the quarter.

The following table based upon reports and balance sheets supplied direct to the Department, shows the progress in trade of the wholesale and retail distributive societies. In all districts except Wales and Monmouth the retail societies show an increase in the amount of the sales, the decrease in Wales being attributed to the recent dispute in the coal trade. A decrease is also shown in the distributive sales of the Scottish Wholesale Society.

Table with columns for Description of Societies and Districts, Societies making Returns (No., Member-ship), and Sales of Societies making Returns (In 3rd quarter of 1898, 1897, Amount, Increase in 1898 compared with 1897, Per cent. on Sales).

Retail Distributive Societies.

Large table showing sales data for Retail Distributive Societies in England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland. Columns include No., Member-ship, and Sales figures for 1898 and 1897, along with percentages.

Wholesale Societies.

Table showing sales data for Wholesale Societies in England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland. Columns include No., Member-ship, and Sales figures for 1898 and 1897, along with percentages.

* Decrease. † Number and Membership of federated societies. ‡ Transfers in productive to distributive departments.

LABOUR BUREAUX IN NOVEMBER.

THE 13 bureaux furnishing returns, registered 2,432 fresh applications for work during November, as compared with 2,568 in November, 1897, a decrease of 136. Work was found by these bureaux for 1,323 persons during the month, as against 1,052 in November, 1897. The number remaining on the registers of the 13 bureaux at the end of November, 1898, was 2,600 (including 1,293 men, lads and boys, and 1,307 women and girls) as compared with 2,994 (including 1,648 men, lads and boys, and 1,346 women and girls) a year ago.

(I) WORK DONE IN NOVEMBER.

Table with columns for Name and Address of Labour Bureau, No. of Fresh Applications by Workpeople during Nov. 1898, 1897, No. of Situations offered by Employers during Nov. 1898, 1897, No. of Workpeople found Work by Bureaux, and Engaged by Private Employers and Engaged by Local Authorities. Includes London and Provincial bureaux.

(II) OCCUPATIONS OF WORKPEOPLE ON REGISTERS AT END OF NOVEMBER.

Table with columns for Name of Labour Bureau, Men (Build-ing, Engi-neering and Metal Trades, Car-men, Horse-men, &c., Clerks and Ware-house-men, Porters and Mes-sen-gers, General Labour-ers, Other Occu-pations), and Total Men. Includes London and Provincial bureaux.

Table with columns for Name of Labour Bureau, Women and Girls (Lads and Boys, Char-women, Daily Work, &c., Ser-vants, Dress-makers and Semp-stresses, Others), Total Women and Girls, and Grand Total. Includes London and Provincial bureaux.

* Permanent employment. † Temporary employment. ‡ These were engaged by Salvation Army authorities. § Of the 79 workpeople found work, 25 were temporarily engaged. || Women and Girls are not registered.

PAUPERISM IN NOVEMBER.

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

THE number of persons relieved in the 35 selected urban districts of the United Kingdom on one day in the second week of November was 329,382. This number corresponds to a rate of 208 per 10,000 of the estimated population of these districts in 1898.

Compared with October, 1898, an increase is shown of 5,823 in the number relieved, and of 4 in the rate per 10,000 of population. In 26 districts increases are shown, the largest increases being in the Galway district (22 per 10,000), Central London (12), and West Ham and Dublin districts (11 each). In 5 districts small decreases are shown, while in the remaining 4 districts the rate remains the same.

Compared with November, 1897, there is a decrease of 717 in the number relieved, and of 3 in the rate per 10,000. There are decreases in 22 districts, the most marked decreases being in the Bristol district (27 per 10,000), Coatbridge and Airdrie (18), Bolton, Oldham, &c., district (16), and Leeds district (11). Of the 13 increases, as compared with a year ago, the largest are in West Ham (20), Leicester (16), Dublin (15), Galway district (14), and Cardiff and Swansea district (12).

Table with columns for Selected Urban Districts, Paupers on one day in second week of November, 1898 (In-door, Out-door, TOTAL), Rate per 10,000 of estimated Population, Increase (+) or decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of population as compared with (Month ago, A year ago). Includes ENGLAND & WALES, Metropolls, Other Districts, SCOTLAND, and IRELAND.

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

TRADE DISPUTES.

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

Trade Disputes.—Forty-four fresh disputes were reported as beginning in November, 1898, compared with 54 in October, and 33 in November, 1897. In these 44 disputes, 6,031 workpeople were directly, and 2,428 indirectly affected, a total of 8,457, which compares with 12,577 in October, and 6,594 in November, 1897. Trades Affected.—In the building trades 8 disputes took place, involving 206 workpeople; mining and quarrying, 11 disputes, involving 4,524 workpeople; metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades, 6 disputes, involving 1,770 workpeople; textile trades, 11 disputes, involving 1,606 workpeople; clothing trades, 2 disputes, involving 55 workpeople; and in other industries, 6 disputes, involving 296 workpeople.

Causes.—Of the 44 new disputes, 25 were chiefly on wages questions, 8 on matters connected with working arrangements, 4 on questions of trade unionism, 4 with regard to the employment of particular persons, and 3 on questions of hours of labour.

Results.—Thirty-two new disputes, involving 5,877 workpeople, and 14 old disputes, involving 1,552 workpeople, were reported as settled. In the 46 new and old disputes terminated, 10, involving 1,375 persons, were settled wholly in favour of the workpeople; 21, involving 2,943 persons, wholly in favour of the employers; and 15, involving 3,111 persons, resulted in a compromise. At the end of November 22 old disputes were known to be still unsettled, involving altogether about 3,500 workpeople.

Duration of Disputes in Working Days.—No dispute of any great magnitude was in progress in November, and the total duration of all the disputes of the month, new and old, was only about 176,000 working days, compared with 202,500 in the preceding month of October, and 1,535,000 in November, 1897.

Total Disputes for First Eleven Months of 1898.—For the eleven completed months of 1898 the aggregate number of workpeople involved in the 615 disputes which commenced in those months was 246,985, as compared with 209,303, in the 903 disputes reported in the corresponding period of 1897. The total aggregate duration in working days was about 15,039,000, as compared with about 8,973,000 for the same period of 1897. The coal mining dispute in South Wales largely accounts for the greater duration of disputes in the first eleven months of 1898 as compared with 1897.

Table with 6 columns: Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected (Directly, Indirectly), Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN NOVEMBER, 1898.

Table for Building Trades (206 Workpeople affected) with 6 columns: Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

Table for Mining and Quarrying (4,524 Workpeople affected) with 6 columns: Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

Table for Metal Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades (1,770 Workpeople affected) with 6 columns: Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

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

TRADE DISPUTES—(continued.)

Table with 6 columns: Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected (Directly, Indirectly), Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN NOVEMBER, 1898—continued.

Table for Textile Trades (1,606 Workpeople affected) with 6 columns: Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

Table for Clothing Trades (55 Workpeople affected) with 6 columns: Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

Table for Miscellaneous Trades (296 Workpeople affected) with 6 columns: Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE NOVEMBER, 1898, AND WERE SETTLED IN THAT MONTH.

Table for Building Trades with 6 columns: Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

Table for Quarrying with 6 columns: Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

Table for Textile Trades with 6 columns: Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

Table for Clothing Trades with 6 columns: Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

Table for Miscellaneous Trades with 6 columns: Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

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

III.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE NOVEMBER, 1898, AND WERE STILL UNSETTLED AT THE END OF THAT MONTH.

The following 22 disputes which have been previously reported, were still unsettled at the end of November. The number of workpeople then involved was about 3,500. The month in which each dispute commenced is stated in brackets.

Building Trades.—Bricklayers, Chelmsford (May); plumbers, Warrington (June); joiners, Bishop Auckland (June); plasterers, Stroud (Oct.); stonemasons, Clevedon (Oct.); plumbers, Whitehaven (Oct.).

Mining.—Coal miners, Castleford (July, 1897); Normanton (Sep., 1897); coal miners, Pontefract (April, 1898); coal miners, Sherburn (July); coal miners, Burnley (Sep.)—2 disputes; coal miners, Loughor (Sep.); lead miners and smelters, Leadhills (Aug.).

Other Trades.—Cabinet-makers, Glasgow, Beith, Dundee, and Dalry (March, 1898); boot and shoe makers, Newcastle (June); twisters and drawers, Cloughfold (July) (since settled—Dec.); dyers, Honley (Sept.); fancy leather workers, Manchester (July); tube workers, Aston (Oct.); steel tyre makers, Glasgow (Oct.); ironfounders, Barnsley (Oct.).

AGRICULTURAL HIRINGS IN NOVEMBER.

At the November half-yearly hirings in the counties of Cumberland, Westmorland and Lancashire for men boarded and lodged in the farmhouses, the rates of wages obtained are said to have been frequently higher than those at the corresponding period in 1897. It is stated that there was generally a conspicuous scarcity of labour, and that this was due to the demand for men in mines and public works which are being carried out in the district, and also to the fact that farmers were rather behindhand with their work owing to wet weather. Reports state that very few of the best first-class men or women were in any of the markets, and that they were either re-engaged by their former employers, or hired by other farmers without going to the markets, frequently at the summer rates of wages obtained for the last half year.

The rates of wages generally agreed upon for the half-year, exclusive of board and lodging, were for best men from £12 to £16. At Kendal and Ulverston the rates were from £13 to £16, and at Carlisle £12 to £14. Second-class men and youths got from £10 to £12 and boys, £4 10s. to £9.

Reports state that women were most difficult to engage, particularly those required to milk. The rates paid to best women were generally £11 to £12, to second-class women £9 to £10 10s., and to girls £5 10s. to £8.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION SCHEMES.

The following table gives details of the Workmen's Compensation schemes approved by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies during the period November 12th to December 12th. This brings the number of such schemes now approved to 55.

Table with 4 columns: Title of Scheme, Nature of Employment, Situation of Works, No. of Workpeople affected. Includes Warren Vale Colliery Mutual Accident Society and Monmouthshire and South Wales Miners' Permanent Provident Society.

Of the 55 schemes now approved, 39 relate to the coal mining industry. In the case of 42 schemes, for which the numbers of workpeople affected are given, the total number of workpeople is 69,108. These figures are grouped by trades in the following table:—

Table with 4 columns: Trades, Total number passed up to Dec. 12th, Total for which the number of workpeople is returned, Number of workpeople affected. Includes Railway Service, Coal Mining, Gas Manufacture, Metal Trades, and Miscellaneous Trades.

H.M. Inspectors of Factories.—New Appointment.—Mr. Thomas Taylor, of Ashfield, Dunblane, has been appointed an Inspector of Factories and Workshops.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Cotton Statistics.—The imports of raw cotton during November show an increase as compared with both November, 1897 and 1896, and the imports for the eleven months ended November 30th are also greater than for the corresponding periods of both 1897 and 1896.

The following are the figures for the different periods:—

Table with 5 columns: Period, Imports Bales, Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns Bales, Exports Bales. Rows for November 1898, 1897, 1896, and Eleven Months ended.

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 21 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended December 4th amounted to £6,190,721, an increase of £275,572 (or 4.7 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1897. The receipts from passenger traffic were £2,349,347, an increase of £103,195, and those from goods and mineral traffic £3,841,374, an increase of £172,377.

Fishery Statistics.—The total value of the fish (including shell fish) landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom during November amounted to £707,244, an increase of £28,288 as compared with November, 1897. In England and Wales there was an increase of £8,564, in Scotland of £2,471, and in Ireland of £17,253.

Bankruptcies.—The bankruptcies gazetted during November numbered 389, being 4 more than in November, 1897, 75 more than in November, 1896, and 4 less than in November, 1895.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

The following table shows the number of cases of Lead poisoning and Anthrax reported as having occurred in factories and workshops during November, classified by industries. It will be seen that of the 146 cases of lead poisoning reported, 56 were in the china and earthenware industry, 36 out of these 56 cases being amongst female operatives. At lead works, 37 cases were reported.

Table with 6 columns: Disease and Industry, Adults (M, F), Young Persons (M, F), Children (M, F), Total, Grand Total. Includes Lead Poisoning and Anthrax.

EXAMINATION FOR MINING MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.

Newcastle District.—An examination for Certificates of Competency as Manager or Under-Manager of a Mine will be held on January 5th and 6th, 1899. Intending candidates should communicate, on or before December 31st, with the Secretary to the Examination Board, Mr. M. Walton Brown, Neville Hall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

South Staffordshire District.—An examination for Certificates of Competency as Manager or Under-Manager of a Mine will be held shortly. Intending candidates should at once communicate with the Secretary to the Examination Board, Mr. R. S. Williamson, Cannock Wood House, Hednesford, Staffs.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The following statement has been communicated to the Labour Gazette by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade:—

The trade returns for the month of November, 1898, show an increase, as compared with the corresponding month of 1897, in the value of the imports from foreign countries and British Possessions, and in the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures, and of foreign and colonial merchandise.

The imports for November, 1898, were valued at £42,069,569, showing an increase of £903,423 as compared with November, 1897, or 2.1 per cent. The exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures amounted in value to £19,820,207, an increase of £46,613, or .23 per cent., and the exports of foreign and colonial merchandise were valued at £4,530,834, showing an increase of £302,008, or 7.1 per cent., as compared with November, 1897.

Imports.—The following table shows the value of the imports for November, 1898, as compared with November, 1897, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

Table with 5 columns: Category, 1897, 1898, Increase, Decrease. Includes Food, Drink and Tobacco, Metals, Chemicals, Dyestuffs, and Tanning Substances, Oils, Raw Materials for Manufactures, Manufactured and Miscellaneous Articles.

With regard to the imports of articles of food, &c., wheat shows a decrease in quantity in November, 1898, as compared with November, 1897, of 2,115,050 cwts., and in value of £1,214,552; and wheat meal and flour and Indian corn meal have also decreased. On the other hand barley has increased in quantity by 1,499,400 cwts., and in value by £432,941; and Indian corn or maize by 1,834,640 cwts. and £418,184. Peas have decreased in quantity, but increased in value; and increases both in quantity and value are noticeable in oats, beans and oatmeal. Amongst other articles of food and drink the imports of bacon, hams, meat preserved (otherwise than by salting), pork, butter, eggs, fruit and rice have all increased; while the most notable decreases are found in the case of fresh beef and potatoes, the imports of which were valued, respectively, at £222,241 and £121,705 less than in November, 1897. Tea, cocoa (other than prepared) and wine have all increased in quantity and value, in the case of the latter to the extent of £121,504. Coffee has decreased. In the imports of metals, copper, unwrought and partly wrought, shows an increase of £105,222.

In the class of raw materials, cotton, raw, has increased £276,213, flax £29,999, hemp £115,926, silk £23,334, and caoutchouc £302,350; but sheep or lambs' wool has decreased in quantity by over 11 million pounds, and in value by £327,599. Wood has fallen off to the extent of £400,967, and jute, and goats' wool have also decreased in quantities and value. Amongst manufactured articles, iron and steel, leather, and silk, and woollen manufactures have all increased in quantity and value. Machinery has increased in November, 1898, as compared with November, 1897, by £174,877.

Exports.—As regards the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures for the month, the following table shows the values for November, 1897, and November, 1898, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

Table with 5 columns: Category, 1897, 1898, Increase, Decrease. Includes Animals living, Articles of Food and Drink, Raw Materials, Articles Manufactured and Partly Manufactured, Yarns and Textile Fabrics, Metals, and Articles Manufactured therefrom (except Machinery), Machinery and Millwork, Miscellaneous.

Amongst articles of food, there is an increase of £25,543 in fish, £8,377 in hops, £14,913 in pickles, preserved fruits and confectionery, and £13,748 in spirits; but beer and ale, butter, provisions, salt and sugar all show diminished values. In the class of raw materials, coal, coke and fuel show an increase in quantity

of 260,635 tons and in value of £294,214; but sheep and lambs' wool has fallen off in quantity to the extent of 1,518,200 pounds and in value £43,819. Machinery has increased by £487,636, due principally to the large shipments of textile machinery. On the other hand, iron, unwrought and wrought, has decreased by £324,576. Amongst yarns and textile fabrics, cotton, jute, linen, woollen, worsted and alpaca yarns all show decreases, while in the case of piece goods, cottons show a falling off in quantity of 4 1/4 million yards and in value of £103,980. Jute, linen and worsted tissues have all increased.

Taking the eleven completed months of the year, the total value of the imports from foreign countries and British possessions amounted to £425,346,792, as compared with £409,832,201 in the first eleven months of 1897, an increase of £15,514,591; and the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures amounted to £212,412,384, as against £215,047,822 in the corresponding period of 1897. The shipments of woollen and worsted tissues to the United States which were referred to in the review of the trade of the United Kingdom for October, amounted in value for the eleven months ended November last, to only £959,847, as compared with £3,223,104 during the corresponding period of 1897. The exports of foreign and colonial merchandise during the eleven months amounted to £55,084,817 in 1898, and £54,844,499 in 1897.

Tonnage of vessels entered and cleared.—The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions during November, 1898, amounted to 2,648,424 tons and the tonnage cleared to 3,410,114 tons, as compared with 2,881,706 tons entered and 3,203,720 tons cleared in November, 1897. As regards the Coasting trade, the tonnage entered during November last was 2,605,489 tons and the tonnage cleared 2,594,034 tons as against 2,707,740 tons and 2,628,971 tons respectively in November, 1897.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The number of passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during November was 14,789, as compared with 13,318 in November, 1897.

British and Irish.—Of the 14,789 passengers, 9,749 were of British or Irish origin, an increase of 1,075 as compared with a year ago, chiefly due to an increase of 1,107 in the number bound for the United States. During the eleven months ended November 30th, however, the number of passengers proceeding to the United States shows a decrease of 4,783, while an increase of 2,002 is shown in the numbers booked to British North America. Taking all the countries of destination, there is a decrease of 5,871 as compared with the corresponding eleven months of 1897.

The figures are detailed in the following table:—

Table with 5 columns: Destination, November 1898, November 1897, Total for eleven months ending November 1898, Total for eleven months ending November 1897. Includes United States, British North America, Australasia, South Africa, Other places, Total.

Foreign.—The remainder of the 14,789 passengers, viz., 5,040, were foreigners, or persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being 396 more than in November, 1897.

Alien Immigration.—The number of aliens that arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent during November was 6,312. Of these, 1,988 were stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, compared with 1,796 so stated in November, 1897. Those not stated to be on their way to America or other places out of the United Kingdom numbered 4,324 (including 1,019 sailors), the corresponding figure for November, 1897, being 4,015 (including 842 sailors). The figures for November, 1898 and 1897, and also for the eleven months ended November 30th in each year, are as follows:—

Table with 5 columns: Category, November 1898, November 1897, Total for 11 months ending November 1898, Total for 11 months ending November 1897. Includes Aliens not stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, Aliens en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, Total.

* These figures are inclusive of sailors, to the number of 1,019 in November, 1898; 842 in November, 1897; and 11,362 and 9,949 respectively in the eleven months ended November 30th in each year.

INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN NOVEMBER.

I.—Under Factory and Workshop Acts.*†

Nature of Offence.	Cases taken.	Con- victions	Amount of Penalties.	Amount of Costs.
By Owners, Managers, &c.:			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Neglecting to Limeswash ...	4	4	7 11 6	1 15 6
Neglecting to Fence Machinery ...	17	16	20 18 0	6 17 10
Employing Young Persons without necessary Certificates ...	34	32	27 12 6	15 14 10
Illegal Hours or Times of Employment—				
Before or after the legal hour ...	93	89	43 11 0	33 6 10
During meal times, or without proper intervals for meals ...	14	14	19 2 6	6 9 0
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day substituted ...	13	11	2 6 6	3 8 6
On Sundays or holidays, or children on successive Saturdays ...	7	7	0 10 0	2 9 6
At night ...	30	30	16 14 0	9 12 6
Employing children full time, otherwise than in morning and afternoon sets, &c. ...	1	1	0 2 6	0 10 6
In factory or workshop, and in shop beyond total legal period ...	3	3	6 5 0	1 2 10
Neglecting Rules as to Registers, Abstracts, Notices, &c.—				
Not keeping Registers ...	12	12	9 9 6	4 12 0
Not affixing or properly filling up Notices and Abstracts ...	10	10	6 16 0	3 15 6
Not sending Notices required by Act ...	10	9	7 12 6	6 2 4
Prosecutions for Breach of (or not affixing) Special Rules ...				
Special Rules ...	1	1	0 10 0	0 7 0
Prosecutions under Truck Acts ...	7	1	1 0 0	0 16 6
Other Offences ...	3	1	1 1 1	1 7 0
By Workmen:				
Prosecutions for Breach of Special Rules ...	3	3	0 12 0	0 4 6
Total for November, 1898 ...	262	244	171 14 7	98 12 8
Total for November, 1897 ...	212	202	194 6 0	97 13 6

II.—Under Mines and Quarries Acts.*†

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Con- victions.	Cases with- drawn.	Cases dis- missed.	Amount Fines and Costs.
UNDER THE MINES ACTS.					
By Owners, Managers, &c.:					£ s. d.
Employment of Women, Young Persons, and Children ...	1	1	—	—	1 0 0
Shafts and Man-holes ...	2	1	—	—	5 16 0
Miscellaneous ...	6	2	3	1	1 0 0
By Workmen:					
Safety Lamps ...	5	4	—	1	3 19 6
Shot-firing and Explosives ...	7	7	—	—	7 7 6
Timbering ...	9	9	—	—	10 14 6
Lucifer Matches, Smoking, &c. ...	17	16	—	1	15 4 0
Riding on Trams ...	9	9	—	—	8 0 0
Miscellaneous ...	35	33	—	2	33 19 6
Total for November, 1898 ...	91	82	4	5	87 1 9
Total for November, 1897 ...	49	48	—	1	53 17 6
UNDER THE QUARRIES ACT.					
By Owners, Managers, &c.:					£ s. d.
Employment of Women, Young Persons, and Children ...	3	3	—	—	1 17 6
Registers, Notices, Returns, &c. ...	6	6	—	—	8 7 10
Fencing ...	2	2	—	—	3 0 0
Other Special Rules ...	18	13	—	5	21 4 8
Total for November, 1898 ...	29	24	—	5	34 10 0
Total for November, 1897 ...	2	2	—	—	0 18 0

III.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts.

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

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Convic- tions.	Total Penalties.	Total Costs.
By Owners or Masters of Ships:			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Carrying excessive Deck Cargoes ...	2	2	90 0 0	2 11 6
Not providing Life-saving Appliances ...	2	2	1 1 0	...
Total for November, 1898 ...	4	4	91 1 0	2 11 6
Total for November, 1897 ...	16	16	56 0 0	18 6 10

Y.—Under the Building Societies, &c., Acts.

(Supplied by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.)

Nature of Offence.	Prose- cutions.	Withdrawn on compliance with Act.	Convic- tions.	Fines and Costs.
Under the Building Societies Acts ...	3	2	1	£ s. d. 9 8 0
Under the Friendly Societies Act ...	7	4	3	12 12 0
Under the Trade Union Act ...	3	1	2	4 11 0
Total for November, 1898 ...	13	7	6	26 11 0
Total for November, 1897 ...	14	2	12	23 3 0

* Supplied by the Home Office.
† The figures relating to Prosecutions under the Mines and Quarries Acts for November, 1898, include prosecutions by H.M. Inspectors of Mines under the Factory and Workshop Acts in factories and workshops connected with Metalliferous Mines and Quarries. In the figures for November, 1897, given in the above tables, such prosecutions are included in the Table of Prosecutions under the Factory and Workshop Acts. The difference owing to the change tabulation is not, however, very material.

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN NOVEMBER.

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

FROM the following summary of the changes in the Register of Industrial Organisations in November, it will be seen that 2 Trade Unions, 2 Co-operative Societies for Distribution, 8 Co-operative Associations for Production, 4 Miscellaneous Industrial and Provident Societies, 3 Building Societies, 29 new Friendly Societies, and 33 branches of existing Friendly Societies have been added to the Register for the United Kingdom during November. Eight Trade Unions, 5 Industrial and Provident Societies, 17 Building Societies, and 29 Friendly Societies (including 12 branches) are reported as having ceased to exist, or to have commenced "winding-up," or to have had registration cancelled; while 1 Industrial Co-operative Society is reported to have amalgamated with another Society.

ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—West Bromwich and District Builders' Labourers' Protective Accident and Burial Soc., Mazeppa Inn, High-street, West Bromwich. Scotland.—Glasgow Assistant Hairdressers' Union, Typographical Hall, Maxwell-street, Glasgow. Ireland.—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—(A) Associations for Distribution.—England and Wales.—Lavenham Industrial Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 26, High-street, Lavenham, R.S.O., Suffolk. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—Lurgan Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 33, Church-place, Lurgan, Armagh.

(B) Associations for Production.—England and Wales.—National Co-op. Horse Shoeing Soc., Ltd., Prince Albert Inn, Wharfedale-road, King's Cross, N.; Dudley Home Brewing Soc., Ltd., 14, Stone-street, Dudley. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—Co-op. Agricultural and Dairy Societies at Calverstown, Co. Kildare; Tonmakeady, Partree, Co. Mayo; Belmullet, Co. Mayo; Ballyhar, Co. Kerry; Castledawson, Londonderry; Finn Valley, Killygorden, Donegal.

(C) Miscellaneous.—England and Wales.—Stowmarket Workmen's Club and Institute Soc., Ltd., Workman's Club, Stowmarket; London and Provincial Co-operation, Ltd., 40, Ranelagh-road, South Tottenham, N.; Tenant Right Soc., Ltd., 23, 24 and 25, Billiter-street, E.C.; Irish National League (Oldham Central Branch) Land and Builders' Soc., Ltd., 176, Union-street, Oldham. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Friendly Societies.—(A) New Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—Ordinary Friendly, 6; Dividing, 7; Female, 2; Collecting, 1; Benevolent, 1; Specially authorised, 3; Working Men's Clubs, 4. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—Ordinary Friendly, 1; Specially authorised, 4. (B) New Branches of Existing Societies.—England and Wales.—22. Scotland.—8. Ireland.—3.

Building Societies.—England and Wales.—3. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

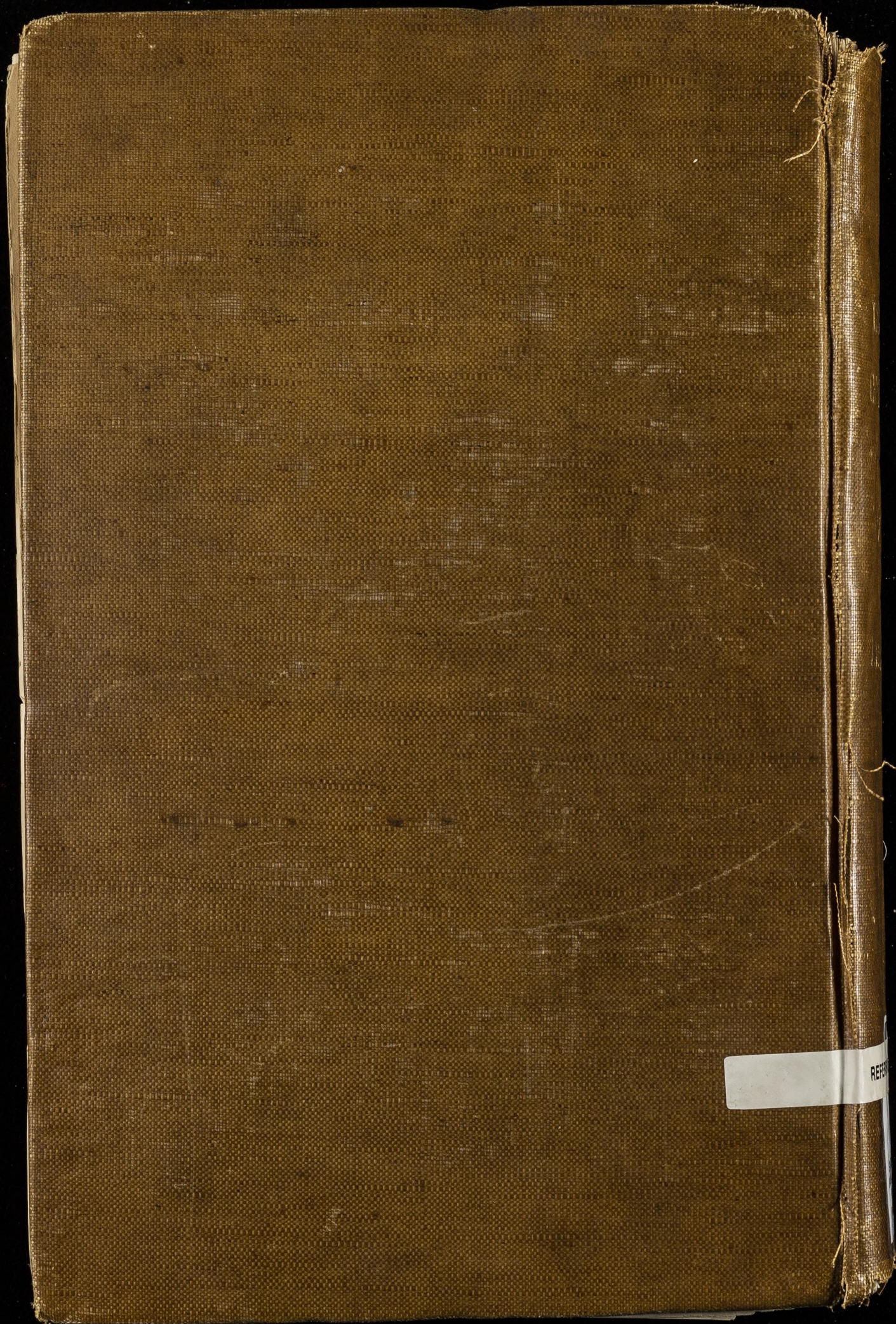
ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—Registration cancelled: East London Helpers' Soc., Branch No. 1, Builders' Arms, Grundy-street, Poplar, E. Bus Workers' Protective Soc., 31, Caledonia-street, St. Pancras, N.W.; Notice of dissolution received: Wigan and District Labourers' Union, Big Lamp, Wallgate, Wigan; London Amal. Soc. of Chasers and Engravers, Club and Institute Union Buildings, E.C.; Hotel Employees' Soc., 158 and 160, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.; National Soc. of Lithographic Artists, Designers, Writers, Draughtsmen, and Copper-plate and Wood Engravers, 1, Three Falcons-court, E.C.; Grantham Builders' Labourers' Protective Accident and Burial Soc., Black Horse, Westgate, Grantham. Scotland.—Operative Skinners' Trade Union. Ireland.—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—England and Wales.—Resolution to wind up received: Paddock Friendly Co-op. Trading Soc., Ltd., East-street, Paddock, Huddersfield; Kettering Co-op. Leather Dressers, Ltd., Co-operative Hall, Kettering. Registry cancelled: Ashover Co-op. Industrial and Provident Soc. Ltd., The Stores, Ashover, Chesterfield. Dissolved by instrument: Fritham Provident Soc. Ltd., Fritham, Hants. Amalgamation: Bootle and Seaforth Industrial Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 126, Peel-road, Bootle, with City of Liverpool Equitable Co-op. Soc., Ltd. Scotland.—Ceased to exist: Haddington Good Templar Hall Soc., Ltd. Ireland.—None.

Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—By instrument of Dissolution:—Ordinary Friendly, 6; Dividing, 1; Female, 1; Benevolent, 1; Branches, 2. Registration cancelled: Ordinary Friendly, 2; Juvenile, 1; Orders, 2; Specially authorised, 2. Dissolved otherwise: Juvenile, 1; Branches, 8. Scotland.—Dissolved otherwise, 1. Ireland.—By instrument of dissolution:—One branch.

Building Societies.—England and Wales.—Instrument of dissolution, 4; notice of commencement of dissolution, 3; notice of termination of dissolution, 8. Scotland.—Instrument of dissolution, 1; notice of termination of dissolution, 1. Ireland.—None.



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