

# THE Board of Trade LABOUR GAZETTE.

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[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

## EMPLOYMENT CHART.

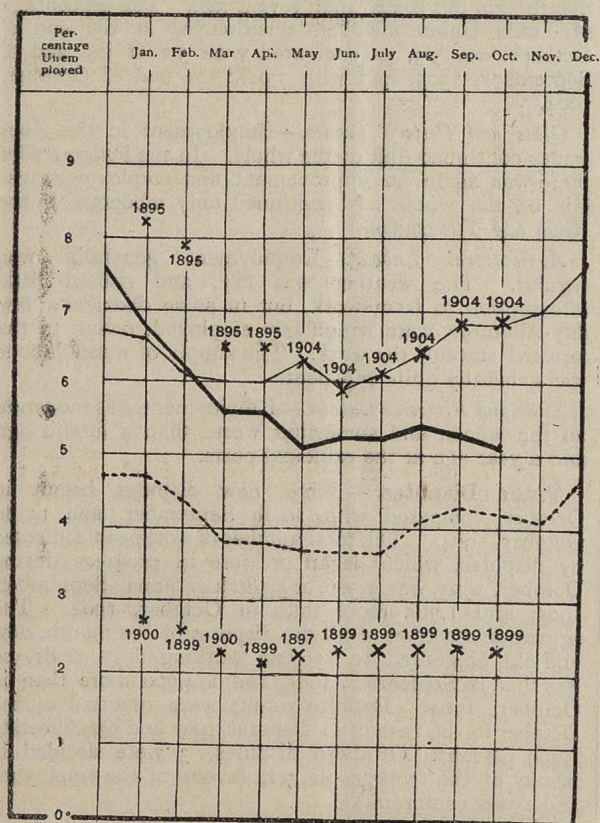


CHART SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve=1905  
— Thin Curve=1904.  
- - - Dotted Curve=Mean of 1895-1904.

x The crosses indicate the maxima and minima percentages of unemployed during the past ten years, with the dates thereof.

## STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN OCTOBER.

[Based on 4,793 returns, viz.: 3,515 from Employers or their Associations; 1,190 from Trade Unions, and 88 from other sources.]

EMPLOYMENT in October was better than in September. The pig iron, iron and steel and tinplate trades were all brisk; and there was an improvement in both the engineering and shipbuilding trades. The cotton and woollen trades continued to be very busy. The coal mining industry showed an improvement apart from the seasonal change at this time of the year.

As compared with a year ago, there was a general improvement in all the principal industries except the building trades.

In the 270 Unions, with an aggregate membership of 585,288, making returns, 29,560 (or 5.1 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of October, as

compared with 5.3 per cent. at the end of September, 1905, and 6.8 per cent. at the end of October, 1904.

**Employment in various Industries.**—*Building Trades.*—Employment in the building trades continued dull. It was, on the whole, about the same as a month ago, but slightly worse than a year ago. From a few towns, mainly in Lancashire, the reports are more favourable than for some time past.

*Coal Mining.*—Employment in this industry in October showed an improvement both as compared with September and a year ago, and is now up to the average of the ten years 1895-1904. The average number of days worked per week by the pits during the four weeks ended October 21st was 5.32, compared with 5.13 days in September, 1905, and 5.16 days in October, 1904. As compared with September, the improvement was most marked in house and manufacturing coal; and, as compared with a year ago, in manufacturing coal and anthracite.

*Iron Mining.*—Employment was good, and about the same as a year ago. At the 117 mines and open works covered by the returns received from employers, the average weekly number of days worked during the four weeks ended October 21st was 5.85, as compared with 5.87 a month ago, and 5.90\* in October, 1904.

*Pig Iron Industry.*—Employment in this industry during October continued good, being better than in the previous month, and much better than a year ago. Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters show that 331 furnaces, employing about 23,700 workpeople, were in blast at the end of October—five furnaces more than in the previous month, and 27 more than at the end of October, 1904. The number of furnaces now in blast is greater than in any month since November, 1900.

*Iron and Steel Manufacture.*—Employment at iron and steel works continued to improve and is now brisk; it was better than a month ago, and considerably better than a year ago, the number employed in 199 works from which returns have been received being 810 greater than a month ago and 7,448 or 8.6 per cent. greater than a year ago. The returns show that the volume of employment (shifts worked multiplied by numbers employed) in the week ended October 21st, 1905, was 2.0 per cent. greater than in the week ended September 23rd, and 11.8 per cent. greater than a year ago.

*Tinplate Manufacture.*—Employment in this industry continued good and showed little change as compared with September. It was much better than a year ago, and the number of mills now working (423) is higher than in any month during the ten years 1896-1905. In 1900, the maximum year of that period, the average was 384.

*Engineering Trades.*—Employment continued to show improvement, and was generally fair; it was better than a month ago, and much better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of October was 4.1, as compared with 4.6 in September, 1905, and 8.0 in October, 1904.

\* Revised figures.



**Shipbuilding.**—Employment in this industry showed an improvement as compared with a month ago, and was much better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of October was 11.9, as compared with 13.7 per cent. at the end of September, and 16.1 a year ago.

**Cotton Trade.**—Employment continued very brisk, and was decidedly better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 130,043 workpeople in the last week in October showed a decrease of 0.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the last week in September, and an increase of 7.7 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Woolen Trade.**—Employment was very good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. Returns from firms employing 19,050 workpeople during the last week in October showed an increase of 2.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the last week in September, and of 3.8 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Worsted Trade.**—Employment continued moderate, and was considerably better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 39,476 workpeople during the last week in October showed no change in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, but an increase of 5.4 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Flax (Linen) Trade.**—Employment was fair on the whole, and showed little change compared with a month ago. It was rather better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 45,753 workpeople during the last week in October showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the last week in September, and an increase of 2.9 per cent. compared with the corresponding week a year ago.

**Jute Trade.**—Employment in this industry was rather better than a month ago, but worse than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 19,980 workpeople in the last full week in October showed an increase of 0.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with the last full week in September, and a decrease of 3.5 per cent. compared with October, 1904.

**Silk Trade.**—Employment in the silk industry was only moderate, but it showed a slight improvement as compared with a month ago. Returns from firms employing 10,267 workpeople showed an increase of 1.1 per cent. in the number of throwing and spinning spindles working compared with September, but a decrease of 1.1 per cent. compared with a year ago; the number of looms working showed an increase of 2.2 per cent. as compared with the previous month, but a decrease of 0.5 per cent. compared with October, 1904.

**Hosiery Trade.**—Employment was fairly good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. Firms employing 18,818 workpeople in the last week in October showed an increase of 3.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the last full week in September, and of 5.1 per cent. compared with the corresponding week a year ago.

**Tailoring Trade.**—Employment in the *bespoke* branch in London was good, and much better than a month ago and a year ago; in the provinces it was fair. In the *ready-made* branch it was still only moderate, but was better than a year ago.

**Hat Trade.**—Employment in the *Silk* hat branch was quiet, in the *Felt* hat branch fairly good. The percentage of Trade Union members returned as unemployed in October was 4.0 compared with the same percentage at the end of September, and 2.6 a year ago.

**Boot and Shoe Trade.**—Employment continued quiet, but was better than a year ago. Returns from 489 firms, employing 63,838 workpeople, and paying £60,350 in wages on the last pay-day in October, showed an increase of 1.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the last pay-day in September, and of 4.3 per cent. compared with the last pay-day in October, 1904.

**Other Leather Trades.**—Employment during October was quiet on the whole. It was slightly better than a month ago and considerably better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members returned as unemployed at the end of October was 5.6, as compared with 6.0 per cent. in September 1905 and 9.8 per cent. in October, 1904.

**Printing and Bookbinding Trades.**—Employment was better than a month ago, but worse with letterpress printers than a year ago; with lithographic printers and bookbinders it was better than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of the month was 5.0, as compared with 5.4 in September and 4.7 in October, 1904.

**Papermaking Trade.**—Employment remained fairly good in machine mills, and quiet in the hand-made trade, showing little change compared with a month ago and a year ago.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Employment continued fair on the whole; it was about the same as a month ago, but better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of October was 5.3, as compared with 5.1 at the end of September, 1905, and with 7.0 at the end of October, 1904.

**Glass and Pottery Trades.**—Employment in the *Glass* trades continued dull on the whole. In the *Pottery* trades there was again an improvement, and employment was fair on the whole. It continued only moderate in the *Brick and Tile* trades.

**Agricultural Labour.**—Employment generally was regular. The weather was dry, and caused little interruption to farm work, but in some districts a few day-labourers were irregularly employed, owing to the forward state of the work. The supply of extra labour was generally quite sufficient.

**Dock and Riverside Labour.**—Employment was moderate on the whole, and somewhat worse than a month ago and a year ago at the principal ports.

**Trade Disputes.**—Nine new disputes began in October, compared with 10 in September, and 15 in October, 1904. The total number of workpeople affected by disputes, which began or were in progress during October, 1905, was 9,506, or 5,380 less than in September, 1905, and 1,765 more than in October, 1904. The aggregate duration of all the disputes of the month, new and old, amounted to 176,000 working days, or 81,300 less than in September, 1905, and 114,900 more than in October, 1904. Definite results were reported during October in the case of 11 disputes, new and old, affecting 1,889 persons. Of these disputes, 3 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 7 in favour of the employers, and 1 was compromised.

**Changes in Rates of Wages.**—The net effect of all the changes in rates of wages reported in October was an increase in wages of £610 per week. The changes affected 20,900 workpeople, of whom 19,200 received advances, while about 1,700 sustained decreases. The changes of the previous month affected 24,300 workpeople, the net result being an increase of about £70 per week. During October, 1904, the number of workpeople affected was nearly 116,200, and the net result a decrease of about £1,400 per week.

The principal changes reported were increases affecting 4,100 coal miners in Somerset, 6,800 ironstone miners in Cleveland, 1,500 limestone quarrymen in Weardale, 1,250 blastfurnacemen in South Wales, and 3,500 blastfurnacemen and labourers in Scotland.

One change, affecting the 4,100 coal miners referred to above, was arranged by a Conciliation Board, and eight changes affecting about 6,900 workpeople engaged in pig iron and iron and steel manufacture took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes affecting over 9,900 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives, two of these changes, affecting over 1,200 workpeople, being preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

**COURSE OF WAGES AND PRICES IN AMERICA.**

In the "Bulletin of the Bureau of Labor" for July, 1905, the United States Department of Commerce and Labour has published the results of an investigation into Wages and Hours of Labour, and into Retail Prices of Food, in the United States of America. As regards wages and hours, the investigation was designed to cover the principal distinctive occupations in the leading manufacturing and mechanical industries in the United States; agriculture, mining, and transport were excluded. For wages, etc., returns were obtained for 1890-1902 as to 519 distinct occupations in 3,429 establishments, and for 1903 and 1904 as to 350 occupations in 3,732 establishments. It is stated that the figures are believed to be fairly representative of the United States as a whole. As regards retail prices, 30 articles of food were dealt with.

The information obtained indicates that in 1904 the hours of labour per week continued to decrease, and that the rise in rates of wages which took place just failed, on the whole, to bring the weekly earnings per employee up to the level of the previous year. In addition, the retail prices of food showed an advance, and accordingly the purchasing power of weekly earnings, measured by the retail prices of food, was below the level of 1903.

The general results of the investigation are shown by the method of index numbers in the following Table, in which the figures for each of the years 1900-04 are shown as percentages of the average for the ten years 1890-99:—

	Mean for 1890-99.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Number of employees ...	100.0	115.6	119.1	123.6	126.5	125.7
Hours per week ...	100.0	98.7	98.1	97.3	96.6	95.9
Rate of wages per hour ...	100.0	105.5	108.0	112.2	116.3	117.0
Weekly earnings per employee ...	100.0	104.1	105.9	109.2	112.3	112.2
Retail prices of food* ...	100.0	101.1	105.2	110.9	110.3	111.7
Purchasing power of weekly earnings measured by retail prices of food ...	100.0	103.0	100.7	98.5	101.8	100.4

From the above Table it will be seen that in the five years 1900-04 there has been a gradual decrease in the hours of labour, accompanied by a steady advance in rates of wages, the latter being, in 1904, 17 per cent. above the average for 1890-99. The advance in rates of wages has more than counterbalanced the effect of the decrease in the number of hours worked, except in 1904, so that, apart from that year, the weekly earnings per employee have shown a steady rise. The decline in 1904 was very slight, and weekly earnings in that year were still, according to these figures, more than 12 per cent. above the average of the years 1890-99. Owing, however, to the rise in the retail prices of food, which advanced nearly 11 per cent. in the five years 1900-04, the purchasing power of the weekly earnings, as measured by the retail prices of food, has fallen during the five years under review, although it was not so low in 1904 as in 1902.

The following Table may be of interest as indicating the actual rates paid and hours worked. It shows the average rates of wages per hour and the average number of hours of labour per week in 1904 for certain selected trades in the three largest cities of the United States.

Trades.	New York.		Chicago.		Philadelphia.	
	Average Wages per hour.	Average Hours per week.	Average Wages per hour.	Average Hours per week.	Average Wages per hour.	Average Hours per week.
Bricklayers ...	s. d. 2 8½	44	s. d. 2 6	44	s. d. 2 6	44
Painters ...	1 11½	44	1 10½	44	1 6½	44
Plasterers ...	2 10	44	2 4½	44	2 1	44
Plumbers ...	2 4	44	2 4½	44	1 8	47
Carpenters ...	2 2½	44	2 1	44	1 8	46½
Cabinet Makers ...	1 8½	47	1 0½	52	1 0½	60
Pattern Makers ...	1 6½	54	1 6½	54	1 3½	56
Blacksmiths ...	1 7½	53½	1 4½	54	1 3½	55½
Turners ...	1 3	54	1 3	54	1 4	55
Iron Moulders ...	1 4½	54	1 5	53	1 0	55
Boiler Makers ...	1 5	52½	1 5	53	1 0	55
Compositors ...	2 4½	48½	2 6½	49	1 9½	49
Linotype Operators ...	2 6½	48½	2 10½	49½	2 5½	46

\* Weighted according to family consumption as shown by returns received in 1901 from 2,567 families containing 13,643 persons.

In 1900 retail prices of food as a whole were only 1 per cent. above the average of the ten years 1890-99. By 1902 they had risen nearly 10 per cent., but in the two succeeding years, 1903 and 1904, their general tendency has been to remain at about the level of 1902.

Of the 30 articles dealt with, half showed an advance and half a decline in 1904, as compared with 1903. Flour advanced 18.4 per cent., and bread 3.7 per cent.; sugar advanced 6.0 per cent., eggs 4.4 per cent., and potatoes 5.7 per cent.

The following Table shows the variation in the average price\* of some of the more important articles of food during the last five years, the prices being shown as percentages of the averages for 1890-99, which are taken at 100. The information respecting retail prices of food is based on 5,302 schedules obtained from 814 retail merchants for 1890-1902, on 5,293 schedules from 811 merchants for 1903, and on 6,760 schedules from 1,064 merchants for 1904. The firms furnishing prices were those selling largely to working men.

Food.	Mean for 1890-99.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Beef, Fresh (Roasting and Stewing) ...	100.0	106.5	110.7	118.6	113.1	112.8
Mutton and Lamb ...	100.0	105.6	109.0	114.7	112.6	114.1
Bacon ...	100.0	109.7	121.0	135.6	139.8	137.9
Pork, Fresh ...	100.0	107.7	117.0	128.3	127.0	124.0
Potatoes ...	100.0	93.5	116.8	117.0	114.8	121.3
Flour, Wheat ...	100.0	94.3	94.4	94.9	101.2	119.9
Bread, Wheat ...	100.0	97.7	99.4	99.4	100.2	103.9
Butter ...	100.0	101.4	103.2	111.5	110.8	109.0
Eggs ...	100.0	99.9	105.7	119.4	125.3	130.9
Sugar ...	100.0	104.9	103.0	96.0	96.1	101.9
Milk, Fresh ...	100.0	99.9	101.1	103.3	105.8	106.5
Coffee ...	100.0	91.1	90.7	80.6	89.3	91.8
Tea ...	100.0	105.5	106.7	107.2	106.0	105.8

It will be noticed that most of these articles showed a general tendency to rise in the years 1900-2, and to fall in 1903-4. Eggs, however, showed a steady rise throughout, their price being about 31 per cent. higher in 1904 than in 1900. On the other hand, sugar and coffee showed a tendency to fall, though recovering in 1904.

**RECENT CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.**

**Printers' Assistants at Manchester.**

A dispute having arisen between the proprietors of the "Daily Mail" and the National Society of Operative Printers' Assistants, it was agreed between the parties to refer the matter to arbitration. Six arbitrators were appointed, three by each side, and application for the appointment of an umpire was made to the Board of Trade, who on October 21st nominated Mr. G. R. Askwith, barrister-at-law, to act in that capacity. The six arbitrators were: Mr. A. B. Byles (Bradford); Mr. W. Brimelow (Bolton); Major Vane Stow (Secretary of the Master Printers' Federation); Mr. W. C. Steadman, L.C.C. (Secretary of the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress); Mr. James Macdonald (Secretary of the London Trades Council); and Mr. B. Cooper, L.C.C. (Secretary of the Cigar Makers' Union).

The point at issue was whether the stoppage of work by members of the above-named society and others in the printing works of the proprietors at Manchester on the night of August 3rd constituted a strike or a lock-out. At the hearing the arbitrators and umpire unanimously agreed upon a finding, and the principal clause of their award, dated October 27th, was as follows:—

We the said arbitrators and umpire under our hands and seals do award and declare that in our opinion the cessation of work on August 3rd 1905 was not technically a lock-out nor a premeditated strike but was caused by the too ready acceptance by the men of the hasty remarks of the foundry overseer and further we are strongly of opinion having examined the circumstances of this case that in order to avoid such occurrences and

\* By average price for the year is meant the arithmetic mean of 12 monthly quotations.



difficulty at a time of urgency particularly in newspaper offices representatives of the various organizations connected with the trade should confer together with a view to making rules or obtaining an undertaking upon the subject.

#### Boot and Shoe Makers at Pendleton.

On October 7th, 1904, the Amalgamated Society of Boot and Shoe Makers called out their members from the Pendleton Co-operative Industrial Society, Limited, on account of the refusal of the Co-operative Society to pay the same rate for "cheap" repair work as for "best" repair work. Only two men came out, while eleven left the Union and continued at work.

The dispute was submitted to the Joint Committee of Trade Unionists and Co-operators, who decided that the question was outside their jurisdiction, and advised the parties to refer it to three experts nominated by either side. This course was adopted, but the joint committee appointed by the Union and the Co-operative Society failed to settle the difference, and application was made to the Board of Trade for the appointment of a chairman to preside at a further meeting of the Committee.

The Board, on October 5th, appointed His Honour Judge Austin to act as chairman, but at the meeting the parties requested him to act as arbitrator.

In his award, dated October 26th, the arbitrator decides that it is both reasonable and necessary that the differential rates of payment now in use at the Stores in respect of "cheap" and "best" repairs should be maintained. The reasons given for this decision are that the wages paid to the "cheap" repairers are good wages and satisfactory to the workmen employed; there is no practical difficulty in distinguishing between "cheap" and "best" repairs; the Stores cannot raise the rates of payment to "cheap" repairers without running a very serious risk of losing the "cheap" repairing trade altogether; and the Stores cannot equalise the rates of payment without causing grave dissatisfaction to the "best" repairers.

#### WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION IN 1904.

The Statistics\* of Proceedings under the Workmen's Compensation Acts, 1897 and 1900, and the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, during the year 1904 has recently been issued by the Home Office. The Acts contain no provision for the making of returns to show the working of the systems of compensation which they established. In the majority of cases, compensation is settled by agreement, no memorandum is registered, and no official information is available. Only a small percentage of the total, therefore, were made the subject of formal arbitration, and even in cases of death in which large sums would generally be payable and which would thus be the most likely to be disputed, not more than 25 per cent. came in any way before the Courts, and of these many were finally settled out of Court. The actual number of deaths by accident on railways and in factories, mines and quarries in 1904 was 2,065, and the total number of cases brought before the County Courts was 524 (512 under the Workmen's Compensation Acts, and 12 under the Employers' Liability Act).

As regards claims for injury, the percentage of cases litigated cannot be given, but from the unofficial figures available in certain industries it seems probable that the number of cases taken into Court is less than 1 per cent. of the total number in which compensation is payable.

In the case of the Railway industry, however, information is available. The amount paid by the Railway Companies as compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Acts in 1904 was £162,155. Taking the Board of Trade returns as to the numbers employed by Railway Companies and the average weekly earnings, the amount paid as compensation in 1904 works out at less than 10s. per £100 of wages paid. Of the total amount paid in compensation less than 9 per cent. was the subject of proceedings in the Courts.

\* [Cd. 4727. Price 4½d.]

#### ENGLAND AND WALES.\*

*Arbitrations in County Courts.*—The number of cases under the Workmen's Compensation Acts dealt with by County Court Judges and Arbitrators in 1904, was 1,730, the highest number yet recorded, and 293 more than in 1903. In addition to these cases actually dealt with, there were 705 cases which were disposed of without any record of the results.

There were 1,466 claims for compensation finally settled in 1904 within the cognizance of the Courts. The proportion of cases in which the applicant was successful was 82 per cent., as against 84 per cent. in 1903, and 83 per cent. in 1902. In 557 of the 1,207 cases settled in favour of the applicant the award was a lump sum, in 650 a weekly payment.

In 452 cases the compensation was awarded on account of death; and in all of them the deceased had left dependants. The total amount thus awarded was £80,231, an average of £177½ per case.

In 105 cases of injury the compensation consisted of a lump sum; the average amount per case was £34 12s. 8d. In 650 cases of injury a weekly sum was assigned, averaging 11s. 9d. in 409 cases of total incapacity, and 10s. 8d. in 241 cases of partial incapacity.

*Agreements and Informal Arbitrations.*—The number of cases in which memoranda were registered in County Courts was 3,625 compared with 2,995 in 1903; of these 3,585 were settled by agreement, 34 by committee, and 6 by Arbitrator.

*Cases under Employers' Liability Act.*—The number of actions under the Employers' Liability Act was 598, of which 158 resulted in judgment for plaintiff, 86 in judgment for defendant, 1 was removed into High Court and 353 were otherwise disposed of. The number of actions was higher than in any year since 1898; the total amount of damages awarded (£12,087), was less than in 1903, but higher than in any other year since 1898.

*Appeals.*—The number of cases under the Workmen's Compensation Acts carried to the Court of Appeal was 34, or about 1·4 per cent. of the cases that came before the County Courts. Twelve were appeals by workmen and 22 by employers. Of the former 6, of the latter 5, were successful. Of the two appeals (both by workmen) to the House of Lords, neither was successful. Under the Employers' Liability Act, 3 out of 4 appeals by workmen, and 2 out of 4 by employers, were allowed by the High Court of Justice.

#### SCOTLAND.\*

In the introduction to the statistics for 1899 it was noticed that the Scottish returns showed results differing from the English in two important particulars: (1) the amount of litigation, which was greater; (2) the proportion of cases successfully litigated, which was smaller.

As regards the first point there has been some change. The number of cases taken into Court during 1904 under the Workmen's Compensation Act was 296, or 64 per million of population; in England and Wales the number was 2,435, or 72 per million of population. On the other hand the amount of litigation under the Employers' Liability Act still remains greater in Scotland, the number of cases in 1904 being 32 per million of population, compared with 18 in England and Wales. The proportion of appeals also has continued to be much higher in Scotland.

As regards the second point the general results are much the same as in 1899. Whereas in England and Wales 82 per cent. of the claims under the Workmen's Compensation Acts were settled in favour of the workmen in 1904, in Scotland only 64 per cent. were settled in their favour.

Under the three Acts, there were 51 appeals to the

\* It will be understood that these details relate only to a small fraction of the whole.

Court of Session. In 10 cases the verdict was for the workman, and in 10 for the employer; 21 appeals were dismissed, and the remaining 10 were otherwise disposed of.

#### IRELAND.\*

The number of actions taken under the Workmen's Compensation Acts rose from 59 in 1899 to 221 in 1904. The number of memoranda registered under these Acts was 84, compared with 13 in 1899. Fourteen cases were taken under the Employers' Liability Act. There were 6 appeals under the Workmen's Compensation Acts and 5 appeals under the Employers' Liability Act. Only one appeal, by an employer (under the Employers' Liability Act), was allowed.

#### SUBVENTION OF UNEMPLOYED BENEFIT FUNDS IN FRANCE.†

In France unemployed benefit is not so generally paid by Trade Unions as in this country. The total membership of such Unions, according to the latest year for which a comparison can be made, was 643,757, and of this number only 30,297, or less than 5 per cent., were known to belong to Unions which paid their members some allowance when out of work.

With a view to encouraging the system of unemployed benefit for workpeople, the French Government in their Budget of April, 1905, voted, for the ensuing financial year, a sum of £4,400 for subsidising the funds of societies which provide assistance to their members during unemployment. The conditions under which such societies may be subsidised have now been set forth in a Presidential Decree, dated September 9th last. The main provisions may be summarised as follows:—

The classes of funds eligible for participation are— (1) Those whose membership amounts to at least 100 persons engaged in the same or in kindred occupations; (2) Local Funds composed of not less than 50 members engaged in the same or in kindred occupations, provided such funds are already subsidised by the Communal Authorities; (3) In communes of less than 20,000 inhabitants, funds of at least 50 members, not necessarily engaged in the same or in kindred occupations, provided such funds are already subsidised by the Communal Authorities; (4) Funds organised by a federation of societies for the purpose of paying travelling benefit and supported by the lump sum contributions of the affiliated societies, provided the resources of these societies are formed from the contributions of their individual members.

A Fund, which is otherwise eligible, must comply with the following (amongst other) conditions in order to obtain the state subvention:—

When applying for assistance for the first time it must furnish a copy of its bye-laws and rules to the Ministry of Commerce. It must have an organised system of gratuitously assisting its members to find employment. It must have been in operation at least six months. Its bye-laws and rules must include the following (amongst other) provisions:—

A member may belong to one fund only for each kind of benefit; no member shall have a right to benefit until he has belonged to the fund for at least six months; an unemployed member is bound to accept such employment in his trade as may be found for him by the fund; he is to sign a register at the office of the fund at least three times a week during working hours.

The total amount of subvention paid to an Unemployed Benefit Fund is not to exceed 16 per cent. of the total benefit paid by the fund in accordance with its rules during the quarter, but in the case of funds which

\* It will be understood that these details relate only to a small fraction of the whole.

† Based on (a) *Bulletin de l'Office du Travail* (Journal of the French Labour Department), for September, 1905, (b) *Conseil Supérieur du Travail; Commission Permanente: Les Caisses de Chômage*, Paris, 1903, and (c) *Journal Officiel*, November 11th, 1905.

‡ Up to 1903 only two towns (Dijon and Limoges) were granting municipal subsidies to unemployed benefit funds.

operate in at least three different departments, and with at least 1,000 paying members, this maximum may be increased by one-half.

A commission has been formed, known as the "Commission of Unemployed Benefit Funds," the members of which shall be nominated each year by the Minister of Commerce.

#### UNEMPLOYED WORKMEN ACT, 1905.

##### ENGLAND AND WALES.

THE Orders of the Local Government Board establishing local Distress Committees for the purposes of the Unemployed Workmen Act in London and in Boroughs and Urban Districts of over 50,000 population, and the Regulations issued on October 10th, were noticed in the issue of the GAZETTE for October, p. 293. Under Section 2 (1) of the Act a Distress Committee may be established in any municipal borough or urban district with a population of between 10,000 and 50,000, if the council of the borough or district make an application for the purpose to the Local Government Board, and the Board consent. In accordance with this provision Orders have been made by the Local Government Board establishing Distress Committees in the following towns, viz.:—Chatham, Cheltenham, Edmonton, Gillingham, Heywood, Kettering and Middleton. Consent to establishment of Distress Committees has been promised to Dartford and Northfleet.

##### SCOTLAND.

An Order, establishing a Distress Committee of the Town Council of each burgh with a population of 50,000 and over, was made by the Local Government Board for Scotland, on October 17th, viz.: "The Burgh Distress Committees (Unemployed Workmen) (Scotland) Order, 1905." Copies of the Order were forwarded by the Board to the Local Authorities concerned, together with a circular of even date explaining the constitution of the Committees.

On October 23rd and 25th respectively, circulars were sent by the Board to Councils of counties and of burghs with a population under 50,000, drawing their attention to those provisions of the Act which affect such authorities.

On November 14th Regulations for carrying the Act into effect were issued by the Board.

#### COTTON OPERATIVES IN MASSACHUSETTS.\*

##### Sliding Scale Bonus.

NEARLY two years ago, when the cotton crop was small, the manufacturers in the Fall River district decided to reduce the wages in the textile works generally. The employers' terms were not accepted by the men, and a strike resulted which lasted a considerable time. The men eventually returned to work on the employers' terms, namely, a reduction of 12½ per cent. in their wages.

The cotton manufacturing trade has been in a prosperous condition lately, and the manufacturers proposed to advance wages 5 per cent.

At a meeting of the United Textile Workers of America, held in the month of October in New York, the operatives from the Fall River district stated that they had refused the offer of the manufacturers to increase their wages 5 per cent. and had demanded instead that the rate be restored to that prevailing before the strike above referred to.

On October 23rd, the Manufacturers' Association, representing all the print cloth mills in the district with one exception, voted to refuse the demand of the Textile Council for so large an increase at the present time. Instead of this, the manufacturers proposed to give an immediate increase of 5 per cent., and, in addition, the men were to receive a bonus (extra-wage) based on the

\* Based on a Report to the Foreign Office, by Mr. E. Seymour Bell, British Commercial Agent at New York, dated November 3rd.



market price of print cloth in relation to the market price of cotton. Before any bonus became payable, the market price of cloth had to show a margin of at least 3s. 1 1/4d. a cut over the market price of cotton. The bonus due to the employees was to be calculated monthly.

The above proposal of the manufacturers was refused by the men, and after several conferences a compromise was agreed upon on October 30th. The men are to receive an advance of 4 per cent. in wages, instead of 5 per cent. as originally proposed by the manufacturers, and a bonus. The margin, however, between the price of print cloth and the value of cotton is to be 3s. 0 1/4d. instead of 3s. 1 1/4d. It has also been agreed that the bonus shall be paid weekly instead of monthly.

The following are the terms of the agreement:—

"It is agreed between the representatives of the operatives and of the manufacturers that 18 cents\* per cut be made the basis of wages, with a margin of 7 1/2 cents between the cost of eight pounds of middling uplands cotton, New York quotation, and the selling value of 45 yards of 28-inch 64 by 64 print cloth and 33 1/2 yards of 38 1/2-inch 64 by 64, with a division of profits (bonus) on any additional margin above 7 1/2 cents, as stated by the manufacturers in their reply to the secretary of the Textile Council, October 16th, 1905, the above to take effect dating from October 23rd, 1905, the margin to be computed weekly. No change in the minimum margin shall be made before October 1st, 1906."

REPORT OF CHIEF REGISTRAR OF FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

The Report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the year 1904 has recently been issued, containing reports by the Chief and Assistant Registrars of the work done during the year, except so far as relates to building societies, as to which a separate report is required by the Building Societies Act, 1894.

The following is a summary of Registered Provident Societies and Certified and Post Office Savings Banks at the end of 1903:—

Table with 4 columns: Trade, 1902 (Amount of Bonus, Ratio of Bonus to Wages), 1903 (Amount of Bonus, Ratio of Bonus to Wages). Includes sub-tables for Registered Provident Societies and Certified and Post Office Savings Banks.

A comparison of these figures with those for 1898 shows that during the five years the membership of Friendly Societies increased by two millions and their accumulated funds by 9 1/2 millions sterling. Co-operative Societies increased their membership by half a million, and their assets by 13 1/2 millions. Trade Unions show an increase of 350,000 members, while the balance of their funds has been nearly doubled. In Railway Savings Banks the depositors have increased by nearly 12,000, and the balance standing to their credit by 1 1/2 millions, while in Trustee and Post Office Savings

\*The cent = 1/100.
†Report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the year ending December 31st, 1904; Part A. H.C. 47, 1905. Price 1s. 3d.
‡Includes Benevolent Societies, Working Men's Clubs, specially authorised Societies, specially authorised Loan Societies, Medical Societies, Cattle Insurance Societies, and Shop Clubs.

Banks the depositors increased by nearly two millions, and the total balance of deposits by upwards of 35 million pounds.

Appended to the Report are Memoranda on the history of and privileges enjoyed by Registered Friendly Societies, and on the Compulsory Valuation of Dividing Friendly Societies, and a historical memorandum on Friendly Societies in connection with Actuarial Certificates.

GAIN-SHARING.

In a Report on "Gain-sharing and certain other Systems of Bonus on Production" (C.—7848), published by the Department in 1895, a description was given of a system of bonus on production in force in relation to a considerable proportion of the work done in the engine-making works of Messrs. Willans and Robinson, Limited (of Rugby, Queen's Ferry, and Thames Ditton). "The manner in which this system is applied is (in general outlines) as follows:—For the purpose of calculating this bonus, a certain sum, known as 'the reference rate,' is fixed in relation to each operation; if the amount earned as time-wages (including overtime pay) in respect of this operation falls below the reference rate, then the balance (i.e., the difference between the actual cost in time-wages and the reference rate) is divided equally between the employers and the workman, or the group of workmen, employed on the job."

In the GAZETTE for June, 1896, July, 1899, and May, 1902, will be found particulars as to the ratio between bonus and time-wages in 1895-1901. The following Table, based on information supplied by the firm, gives figures showing the ratio of bonus to time-wages in the company's works in 1902 and 1903, the last years for which information is available:—

Table with 5 columns: Trade, 1902 (Amount of Bonus, Ratio of Bonus to Wages), 1903 (Amount of Bonus, Ratio of Bonus to Wages). Lists various trades like Grinders, Erectors, Turners, etc.

The total number of workmen (not including foremen, clerks, time-keepers, store-keepers, or draughtsmen) employed by the company in 1903 was 934, of whom 494 worked under the bonus system.\* Taking together all the classes of workmen referred to in the Table, the general average ratio of bonus to wages has been in each of the years 1895-1903 as follows:—In 1895, 24 1/4; in 1896, 29 1/6; in 1897, 28 7/11; in 1898, 37 0; in 1899, 43 1/5; in 1900, 42 3/3; in 1901, 42 2/2; in 1902, 40 0; and in 1903, 41 2/2.

FACTORY HOURS IN DENMARK.

THE statistical information contained in the Report on Factory Inspection in Denmark in the fiscal year 1903-4† includes a statement showing the hours of labour worked by the operatives of 18 years of age and upwards employed in all the establishments classed as "factories" under the

\*The bonus system is applied to a large part, but not the whole of the operations performed by the workmen employed under it. Thus, in regard to the workmen, to whose earnings the figures given in the Table relate, the amount of the time-wages, which these men received in respect of the work done by them under the bonus system, was, in 1903, equivalent to 51.8 per cent. of their total time-wages in respect of the whole of the work done by them in the year.
†It is stated that in 1897 circumstances attendant upon the removal of the firm to Rugby operated to reduce the wages and bonus to such an extent as to make the figures not strictly comparable with those for other years.

‡Beretning om Arbejds- og Fabriktilsynets Virksomhed i Finansåret 1903-4 Copenhagen: J. H. Schultz. 1904.

Danish Factory Act of July 11th, 1901 (see GAZETTE 1901, pp. 231-2). In collecting the data on which the statement is based, the object was to ascertain for each establishment the length of the working day (exclusive of intervals for meals, &c.), during the period when such establishment was working at its full capacity. The establishments covered by the inquiry numbered 4,504, in which a total of 76,706 operatives of 18 years of age and upwards were employed.

The results of the inquiry are set forth in the following Table:—

Table showing Number and Percentage of Workpeople of 18 years of age and upwards employed in Factories at which the daily hours of labour (exclusive of intervals for meals, &c.) were as below. Columns for 8 1/2, 9, 9 1/2, 10, 10 1/2, 11 hours or over, Total. Includes sub-tables for Number and Percentage Proportion.

From the above Table it will be seen that the bulk (60.6 per cent) of adult factory operatives in Denmark had a working day of 10 hours, exclusive of intervals for meals, &c. Over 83 per cent. of those employed in the printing trades worked 9 hours (or less) per day, while a considerable proportion (38.3 per cent.) of those employed in the glass, pottery, &c., group, worked 10 1/2 hours and upwards per day.

The average length of the working day for all the trades combined was 9.8 hours.

INDUSTRIAL POISONING AND ANTHRAX IN 1904.\*

THE annual number of cases of lead poisoning reported under the Factory and Workshop Acts† has fallen from 1,058 in 1900 to 597 in 1904, a decrease of 43.6 per cent. In the same period the number of deaths showed a decrease of 31.6 per cent., viz., from 38 to 26. The number of cases in 1904 showed a slight reduction on the figures for 1903, but the number of deaths and the proportion of deaths to cases were higher than in either of the two previous years.

Mercurial, arsenic and phosphorus poisoning in the same period showed a decrease in the number of reported cases from 34 in 1900 to 9 in 1904.

Cases of anthrax, on the other hand, have shown a tendency to increase in number, there being 50 in 1904, compared with 37 in 1900. The number of deaths in

\*See Annual Report of Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops for 1904; Part I. Cd. 2569. Price 3s. Return of Cases of Lead Poisoning in Earthenware and China Works. H.C. 197 of 1905. Price 1s. Report on Manufacture of Paints and Colours containing Lead. Cd. 2466. Price 1s. Wyman & Sons, Ltd.
†Section 73 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901 (previously Section 29 of the Act of 1895), requires "every medical practitioner attending on or called in to visit a patient whom he believes to be suffering from lead, phosphorus, arsenical or mercurial poisoning or anthrax contracted in a factory or workshop," to notify the case to the Chief Inspector of Factories. By the same section the duty is imposed on the occupier of sending written notice of every such case to the inspector and certifying surgeon of the district. Lead poisoning in industries, therefore, outside the Factory Act, as in house painting, or if contracted from contaminated drinking-water, is not notifiable. As, however, lead poisoning among house painters and plumbers is common and industrial in origin, many such cases are notified, notwithstanding the limitation of the section.

1904 was 12. It will be noticed that the proportion of deaths to cases is much higher for anthrax than for lead and other forms of poisoning.

The following Table shows comparative figures for the five years 1900-4:—

Table comparing Lead Poisoning, Other Forms of Industrial Poisoning, and Anthrax. Columns for Year, Cases, Deaths, No., Per cent. of cases.

Lead Poisoning.

Of the 597 cases of lead poisoning in 1904, the largest number, viz., 116, occurred at white lead works, while 106 occurred at china and earthenware works. Both these figures show some increase over the previous year. Coachmaking accounted for 49 cases, a much smaller figure than that for 1903, when 74 cases occurred. Shipbuilding accounted for 48 cases, smelting of metals and manufacture of electrical accumulators 33 each, the manufacture of paints and colours 32, and paint used in other industries 27.

In addition to the 597 cases referred to above, 227 cases of lead poisoning were reported among house painters and plumbers, including 39 deaths. But as the notification of cases in these occupations is not compulsory, the figures are not complete.

China and Earthenware.—A return relating to china and earthenware factories in the United Kingdom (excluding 60 in which no lead was used) shows that 6,694 persons were employed therein in 1904, rather more than one-third being females. Earthenware works employed 3873, tile works 1,119, china 774, jet and rockingham 287, and majolica, china furniture and sanitary ware factories about 200 each. Of the total, 77 per cent. were employed in North Staffordshire.

Of the 106 cases of lead poisoning among the above-mentioned workpeople, 72 occurred at earthenware works and 25 at tile works. Females were more affected than males, there being 67 cases among the former to 39 among the latter. In the dipping house there were 54 cases among females, or 20 more than in the previous year, when, however, the proportion of severe attacks was greater; among males there were 20 cases, or 5 less than in 1903. The proportion of cases to persons employed was, for the whole industry, 1.6 per cent.; for females alone, 2.9 per cent.; for males, 0.9 per cent. In the dipping house 5.6 per cent. of the females employed were affected and 1.5 per cent. of the males.

Manufacture of Paints and Colours containing Lead.—Special Rules were formulated in 1892 for the processes in the manufacture of paints and colours and the extraction of arsenic. These rules require the provision of washing accommodation and overalls for those employed in lead grinding.

In a recent Report by H.M. Medical Inspector it is stated that 73 per cent. of cases of plumbism occurring in recent years at paint and colour works under the Special Rules may be traced to the absorption of lead in the form of dust. The existing rules are stated to do little to remove or diminish this source of danger, and suggestions are appended to the Report as to the provisions regarding exhaust ventilation and other matters which might be inserted in any new code of regulations that may be issued for the industry.

Anthrax.

Of the 50 cases of anthrax reported under the Factory and Workshop Act in 1904, wool sorting and combing accounted for 12, the horse hair industry 12, handling of hides and skins 18, and other industries 8.

Of the 12 fatal cases, 4 arose from the manipulation of horsehair, 4 from the manipulation of hides and skins, and two occurred in wool-sorting and combing.

\*Cases reported under the Factory and Workshop Act.



## MERCHANT SHIPPING, 1904.

FROM a Return\* issued by the Board of Trade dealing with the Progress of Merchant Shipping in the United Kingdom and the principal maritime countries, the following particulars of vessels built, numbers of seamen employed, and wages of seamen, have been extracted.

## Vessels Built.

The tonnage of vessels built in the United Kingdom, the United States, France and Germany is shown in the following Table:—

Period.	United Kingdom.	United States.	France.	Germany.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Mean of 1880-1884 ... ..	669,063	242,217	36,469	50,345
" 1885-1889 ... ..	515,683	170,836	24,538	38,628
" 1890-1894 ... ..	735,659	241,178	22,224	62,279
" 1895-1899 ... ..	769,753	210,246	44,739	77,809
Year 1900 ... ..	944,267	393,790	89,299	118,828
" 1901 ... ..	983,133	483,489	105,682	101,986
" 1902 ... ..	950,425	468,851	159,532	108,318
" 1903 ... ..	758,377	436,152	50,046	132,873
" 1904 ... ..	884,259	378,542	Figures not available.	

From the above Table it will be seen that the tonnage built in the United Kingdom in 1904, although nearly 17 per cent. greater than in 1903, was still below that of each of the three previous years; it was, however, considerably above the average for 1895-1899. The tonnage built in the United States decreased in each year since 1901, but in 1904 was still nearly twice the average for 1895-1899. The figures for France show increases in 1901 and 1902, but in 1903 the tonnage built was less than one-third of that built in the previous year. The tonnage built in Germany in 1903 was 22.7 per cent. more than in 1902, and higher than in any other year of which figures are recorded. It will be noticed that in each country the five years 1885-1889 showed much less activity than the previous five years.

## Numbers of Seamen Employed.

*Apprentices.*—In 1870 there were 18,303 indentures of apprentices in existence, and since 1877, when the total number was 16,721, a decline occurred in each year except 1892, and in 1904 the number had fallen to 5,179.

*British and Foreign Persons.*—The number of British persons (not including Lascars) employed in 1904 was 176,975, and the number of foreign persons 39,832, a proportion of 225 foreigners to every 1,000 British persons. Since 1886, when statistics of Lascars and Asiatics were first recorded, the total number employed rose from 204,470 in that year to 259,489 in 1904. The increase, however, was confined to the Lascars and Asiatics (who numbered 16,673 in 1886, and 42,682 in 1904), and foreigners (of whom 25,183 were employed in 1886, and 39,382 in 1904).

The proportion of persons employed to 100 tons steadily decreased, from 2.95 in 1891 to 2.52 in 1904. In the foreign trade in which 188,048 persons were employed in 1904, it was 2.44 in 1891, and 2.05 in 1904; in the home trade, however, employing 65,415 persons, it increased from 6.78 to 7.55.

## Wages.

*Able Seamen.*—The predominant rates of wages paid per month (in addition to food) on sailing vessels during 1895-1904 showed an upward direction. In 1895 it was 55s.; in 1897-8, 55s. to 60s.; in 1899-1904, 60s. In 1890, however, the predominant rates were 60s. to 70s.

Rates of wages on foreign-going steamships have risen generally since 1895, and in 1904 were above the predominant rates of the former year. A fall in wages took place, however, in 1902 at certain ports, and the general level of wages in 1903 and 1904 remained slightly lower than in the years immediately preceding 1902. Figures are given for 1880 and 1890 where available, and show that in 1880 rates of wages were much lower than in 1895, but in 1890 they ruled higher than in any of the years 1895-1904.

The predominant rate in 1904 at ports on the East Coast was 90s., except at Hull, where it was 82s. 6d. and

85s. At ports in the Bristol Channel rates on the principal voyages were as follows:—70s. at Bristol, 85s. at Swansea and Avonmouth, 80s. at Barry and Newport, and 75s. at Cardiff and Penarth. At Liverpool and London they varied according to voyage, at the former port being 80s. and 90s. to the East Coast of North America, 80s. to the East Indies and China, 70s. to South America and West Indies, the West Coast of America, and the Mediterranean, and 60s. to the West Coast of Africa, while at London rates were 90s. to the East Coast of North America, 80s. and 85s. to the East Indies and China, and the Mediterranean, and 80s. to South America and the West Indies, Australia and New Zealand, and the Cape, Natal and East Coast of Africa. Rates at Southampton were 80s., at Glasgow 80s., and at Dublin and Belfast 85s. and 90s. respectively.

*Firemen.*—Wages of firemen remained practically unchanged during 1900-1904, except at ports in the British Channel, where predominant rates fell in 1902-3, and in 1904 were generally 5s. below the level of 1900.

On the East Coast, rates for firemen in 1904 were the same as for able seamen, except at Hull, where they were 5s. higher. Rates at most ports in the Bristol Channel were the same as for able seamen, but at Swansea, Bristol and Avonmouth they were 5s. higher. Wages of firemen from Liverpool and London were generally 10s. higher, but to the East Indies and China from Liverpool they were the same, and to the Mediterranean from London they were 5s. higher. From Southampton rates were 15s. higher. From Glasgow they were the same, and from Dublin and Belfast they were 5s. higher.

## EMPLOYMENT IN THE COLONIES.

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

## Canada.

Ordinary emigrants should not go to Canada during the winter season in search of work, but should wait till the spring. The Salvation Army, however, are sending some men to the lumber camps and other work. At Winnipeg there has been a strike of printers owing to several employers refusing to reduce the hours of labour from 9 to 8 per day. Wages for hand compositors at Winnipeg average 3 dols. to 3.33 dols. a day. Printers' hours at Hamilton (Ontario) have been reduced from 9 to 8 a day, and the demand for reduction is gaining ground in other places. Single women are not recommended to go out alone on the chance of getting work in factories. The wages they earn are not sufficient, at all events at first, to pay for their board and lodging, unless they live at home with their parents. The Dominion Department of Labour report for September:—"Manufacturing continued exceptionally busy, and building operations were on a more extended scale than in any previous year. The demand for men for the winter lumber camps in Ontario and Quebec, the activity of railway construction in Ontario and western Canada, the stimulus given to water transport by the beginning of the movement of the western grain crop, and in anticipation of the close of navigation, and the continued activity of civic improvement work in the larger centres, also contributed to make September a busy month." At many points—as at Toronto, Ottawa, and Montreal—the demand for dwellings was reported considerably in excess of the supply, and rents rose.

## Commonwealth of Australia.

A report from Sydney, in New South Wales, states that the demand for farm labour is in excess of the supply, that there is a considerable demand for female servants, and for men on sheep and cattle stations, and that there is "always employment for intelligent, sober, and industrious coal-miners;" there is not stated to be

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

## LABOUR ABROAD.

## FRANCE.\*

*Employment in September.*—Employment showed no falling off in the building trades, and continued satisfactory on the whole in the metal trades. As regards the textile trades, it remained indifferent in the north, and declined at Rheims, but experienced a slight revival in certain parts of Normandy. The unsatisfactory state of the cotton weaving industry in the Roanne district, reported in August, showed no improvement, but in the Vosges and at most of the western and southern centres employment was good. A partial revival in silk manufactories took place at St. Etienne and Lyons. The garment making trades at Paris and most of the other centres were still in their slack season. The vintage afforded employment to labourers in the south, who had been out of work for a considerable time. In the central districts there was less demand for agricultural labourers, owing to the termination of the threshing season. Employment for printers fell off, as usual in this month. The number of establishments engaged in sugar manufacturing was much greater than in the corresponding month of last year. The furnishing and coopering trades were well employed, and establishments engaged in making tin boxes for fish preserving showed improvement.

Of the 162,030 members of 929 Trade Unions which made returns to the French Labour Department as to the state of employment of their members during September, 12,407, or 7.7 per cent., were out of work in the month, as compared with 8.6 per cent. in the previous month, and 10.5 per cent. in September, 1904. The foregoing figures are exclusive of the Unions of miners in the Nord and Pas-de-Calais departments.

*Coal Mining in September.*—The average number of days worked per week by miners employed underground in September was 5.90, as compared with 5.83 in the previous month, and 5.81 in September, 1904. Taking surface and underground workers together, 71.58 per cent. worked full time (6 days and over per week), and 27.95 from 5 to 6 days per week, the corresponding percentages in the previous month being 51.20 and 48.60, and in September, 1904, 65.6 and 33.5. The above figures were supplied to the French Labour Department by the Committee of Coal Owners, and relate to over 150,000 workpeople, or more than three-fourths of all employed in and about the mines.

*Labour Disputes in September.*—Forty-five disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having occurred during September, the same number as in the previous month; the number occurring in September, 1904, was 53. The number of workpeople taking part in 37 of the new disputes was 15,057, as compared with 7,538 who took part in 44 of the disputes of the previous month, and 17,341 who took part in the disputes of September, 1904. The trades in which disputes were most frequent in September were the metal, textile and transport, with 10, 7 and 6 disputes respectively. During September 37 disputes came to an end: of these 7 terminated in favour of the workpeople, 9 in favour of the employers, and 21 were compromised.

*Conciliation and Arbitration in September.*—Five instances of recourse to the Law on Conciliation and Arbitration were reported to the French Labour Department as having taken place during September, the Justice of the Peace having taken the initiative in 4 cases, and the workpeople in 1. In 2 cases the proffered mediation was declined by the employers. In 2 of the remaining 3 cases conciliation committees were formed, and 1 dispute was settled. In the remaining case the dispute was settled by the Justice of the Peace in person.

## GERMANY.

*Employment in September.*—The state of the labour market in September, as in previous months, may be described as distinctly favourable on the whole. The

\* Bulletin de l'Office du Travail (Journal of the French Labour Department).  
† Reichs-Arbeitsblatt (Journal of the German Labour Department).



month under review was, as usual, characterised by a strong demand for agricultural labour, and by a revival in certain trades, including those of ready-made clothing, warehousing and printing.

In coal mining, the state of employment, generally speaking, was favourable. In the metal, engineering, and electrical trades, the activity reported for the month of August continued in September, the last-named industry being only temporarily disturbed by the dispute at Berlin (see below). The textile and chemical trades were fully employed. In the building trades the first indications of a slight decline in activity were noticed in certain districts.

Returns relating to the state of employment during the third quarter of 1905 were supplied to the Imperial Statistical Office by Trade Unions with an aggregate membership of 957,073, as compared with a membership of 845,218 in the Unions which reported at the end of June, and 589,928 in the Unions which reported at the end of September, 1904. Of the total membership of the branches reporting in September last, 11,805, or 1.4 per cent. were unemployed on the last day of the month, the corresponding percentage for June being 1.6, and for a year ago 1.8.

The number and percentage of members unemployed in each of the five principal Unions for which the figures are available for each of the three periods compared were as follows:—

Quarter ending	Metal Workers (Head-quarters, Stuttgart).	Engineers and Metal Workers (Head-quarters, Berlin).	Printers (Head-quarters, Berlin).	Commercial & Transport Employees (Head-quarters, Berlin).	Wood-workers (Head-quarters, Stuttgart).	Total of five Unions.
Total Membership.						
Sept., 1905	227,875	46,549	41,217	48,150	123,037	481,828
June, 1905	212,755	47,355	40,060	44,953	114,160	459,283
Sept., 1904	168,750	42,838	36,943	37,714	99,365	385,608
Membership Unemployed.*						
Sept., 1905	2,750	265	2,681	404	1,226	6,826
June, 1905	2,670	233	2,166	370	1,501	7,040
Sept., 1904	2,480	261	3,039	415	976	7,171
Percentage Unemployed.*						
Sept., 1905	1.0	0.6	6.5	0.8	1.0	1.4
June, 1905	1.3	0.5	5.7	0.8	1.3	1.5
Sept., 1904	1.5	0.7	8.2	1.1	1.0	1.9

**Labour Disputes in October.**—According to the Berlin journal *Der Arbeitsmarkt*, the number of labour disputes which occurred in Germany during October was 39, as compared with 40 which began in the previous month. These new disputes included 6 in each of the following groups of trades:—building, metal and engineering, clothing and cleaning, printing, woodworking.

**Dispute in Electrical Industry in Berlin.**—In order to support two of the principal electrical companies in resisting the demands of certain of their workpeople (chiefly screwmakers and warehousemen) who were on strike for increased wages (see last month's GAZETTE, pp. 298-9), the Association of Berlin Metal Manufacturers had announced a lock-out, to take effect from October 14th, in all establishments owned by members of the Association, unless the strikers had accepted their employers' terms by that day. Owing to the men's acceptance of these terms, under which they obtain a slight advance in wages, the threatened lock-out, which would have increased the number of those already on strike or locked-out from 45,000 to 65,000, has been averted.

The terms of settlement provided for the resumption of work on October 16th.

\* i.e., in branches for which the numbers unemployed were returned.

† Based on information contained in the *Reichs-Arbeitsblatt* (Journal of the German Labour Department) and in a despatch to the Foreign Office from H.M. Commercial Attaché at Berlin, dated October 15th.

AUSTRIA.\*

**Employment in September.**—According to reports made to the Austrian Labour Department by public and private labour registries, relief stations, and other agencies for procuring employment, the number of applications for situations, the number of situations offered and the number of situations found were as follows:—

	Sept., 1905.	Aug., 1905.	Sept., 1904.	
Number of Situations:				
Applied for	Males ...	38,868	37,370	43,501
	Females ...	29,639	13,435	39,358
	Total ...	68,497	55,805	73,859
Offered	Males ...	25,645	24,966	22,829
	Females ...	39,726	18,507	27,330
	Total ...	56,371	43,773	50,159
Found	Males ...	17,438	16,774	16,527
	Females ...	19,041	10,775	17,880
	Total ...	36,479	27,549	34,407
No. of Applications per 100 Situations offered	Males ...	152	150	191
	Females ...	96	98	111
	Total ...	122	127	147
No. of Situations found per 100 Applications	Males ...	45	45	38
	Females ...	64	58	59
	Total ...	53	49	47

In so far as can be judged by these figures, therefore, employment would appear to have been slightly better in September than in August, and considerably better than a year ago.

**Labour Disputes in September.**—Thirty-five disputes were reported to the Austrian Labour Department as having begun in September, the number of workpeople taking part in 30 of these being 2,237. The trades in which disputes were most frequent were building and wood-working, in each of which there were 8 in September. The results were reported in the case of 25 disputes, 7 of which terminated in favour of the workpeople, 5 in favour of the employers, and 13 in a compromise.

NORWAY.†

**Employment: August-September.**—The proportion of members unemployed in the Trade Unions forwarding returns to the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics, was as follows at the end of August and September in 1904 and 1905:—

	Total Membership of Unions reporting.		Percentage of Unemployed at end of month.	
	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.
All Unions	Aug. 11,390 Sept. 10,710	Aug. 11,948 Sept. 10,875	Aug. 2.4 Sept. 2.3	Aug. 2.8 Sept. 2.5
Metal Workers (excluding Moulders)	Aug. 4,599 Sept. 4,561	Aug. 4,479 Sept. 4,437	Aug. 1.5 Sept. 1.2	Aug. 1.5 Sept. 1.8
Moulders	Aug. 717 Sept. 733	Aug. 753 Sept. 746	Aug. 3.5 Sept. 1.4	Aug. 0.3 Sept. 0.1
Printers	Aug. 1,038 Sept. 1,009	Aug. 1,055 Sept. 1,086	Aug. 7.3 Sept. 5.4	Aug. 8.4 Sept. 4.1
Painters	Aug. 503 Sept. 361	Aug. 678 Sept. 669	Aug. — Sept. 3.0	Aug. 1.3 Sept. 4.2
Masons and Bricklayers	Aug. 278 Sept. 218	Aug. 257 Sept. 186	Aug. 9.4 Sept. 14.7	Aug. 10.5 Sept. 21.0
Bakers	Aug. 535 Sept. 793	Aug. 467 Sept. 479	Aug. 6.5 Sept. 6.5	Aug. 3.4 Sept. 5.2
Boot and Shoe Makers	Aug. 315 Sept. 308	Aug. 458 Sept. 419	Aug. 1.3 Sept. 1.0	Aug. 0.2 Sept. 0.2

RUSSIA.

**Agreement in the Bookbinding Trades at Saratoff.**—A general strike in the bookbinding trade in Saratoff was settled on October 17th (N.S.), by an agreement between the representatives of the employers and the men, of which the terms are published in the *Torgovo-Promuishlennaya Gazeta* (the daily journal of the Ministry of Finance). The following are among the terms

\* Information supplied through the courtesy of the Austrian Labour Department.  
† Information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics.

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES IN OCTOBER.

BUILDING TRADES.

(Based on Returns from Employers and Employers' Associations received through the Trade Correspondent, and on Returns from Trade Unions and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the building trades continued dull during October, and on the whole was much the same as a month ago. Bricklayers, slaters and tilers in England and Ireland, and masons in Scotland, report a slight improvement, but with carpenters and joiners, plumbers, and masons in England employment was worse.

Compared with a year ago employment was slightly worse. With carpenters and joiners, however, it was about the same, and with bricklayers and in Scotland with slaters, there was some improvement. From some towns in Lancashire also improvement was reported.

The percentage of Trade Union carpenters and joiners unemployed at the end of October was 8.2, as compared with 7.1 per cent. a month ago, and 8.3 per cent. in October, 1904. The percentage of Trade Union plumbers unemployed at the end of October was 12.0, as compared with 8.9 a month ago, and 9.3 a year ago. The figures for the principal districts are given in the following Table:—

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Oct., 1905.*	Percentage of Members of Unions returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Percentage for Oct., 1905, as compared with a	
		Oct., 1905.	Sept., 1905.	Oct., 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.				
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
London	6,742	8.8	7.1	8.5	+ 1.7	+ 0.3
Northern Counties†	5,887	10.9	8.5	11.5	+ 2.4	— 0.6
Lancashire and Cheshire	9,026	6.8	6.4	7.6	+ 0.4	— 0.8
Yorkshire	4,868	9.2	9.1	8.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
East Midlands	2,923	7.2	5.3	6.8	+ 1.9	+ 0.4
West Midlands	4,468	6.2	4.8	5.0	+ 1.4	+ 1.2
Eastern Counties	1,020	9.3	7.5	6.7	+ 1.8	+ 2.6
S. and S.W. Counties	5,721	5.5	5.3	5.5	+ 0.2	+ 1.8
Wales and Monmouth	1,808	6.1	4.9	6.8	+ 1.2	+ 2.0
Other Districts	608	6.1	4.9	6.8	+ 1.2	— 0.7
SCOTLAND	5,593	9.3	7.6	11.0	+ 1.7	— 1.7
IRELAND	4,749	8.3	9.4	11.0	— 1.1	— 2.7
UNITED KINGDOM	53,413	8.2	7.1	8.3	+ 1.1	— 0.1
PLUMBERS.‡						
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
London	1,124	13.2	9.9	13.1	+ 3.3	+ 0.1
Northern Counties†	1,599	8.0	7.0	8.5	+ 1.0	— 0.5
Lancashire and Cheshire	2,543	8.1	8.3	8.3	— 0.2	+ 0.2
Yorkshire	1,054	8.7	8.5	8.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
East Midlands	575	5.9	7.0	7.0	+ 1.1	— 6.4
West Midlands	466	5.6	6.7	12.0	+ 0.1	— 6.4
Eastern Counties	110	10.9	4.5	4.5	+ 6.4	+ 6.0
S. and S.W. Counties	445	9.4	7.8	5.4	+ 1.6	+ 4.0
Wales and Monmouth	291	6.9	10.6	3.6	— 3.7	+ 3.3
Other Districts	49	8.2	10.5	15.4	— 2.3	— 7.2
SCOTLAND	2,153	24.3	14.0	11.7	+ 10.3	+ 12.6
IRELAND	614	13.8	12.4	9.1	+ 1.4	+ 4.7
UNITED KINGDOM	11,023	12.0	8.9	9.3	+ 3.1	+ 2.7

Returns received through the Trade Correspondent from 62 London employers show that in the last week of October they paid wages to 11,819 workpeople of all classes, as compared with 12,360 in September, 1905, and 13,795 in October, 1904. Employment was worse than a month ago, and much worse than a year ago.

According to returns received from Employers' Associations for 73 districts in the provinces and in Scotland and Ireland, employment showed some improvement as compared with the previous month in Blackpool and Burslem, while in Ashton, Bradford, Leicester and Newport, and a few smaller towns there was a falling-off. In the remaining districts there was little change. Compared with a year ago employment was reported to be worse in 35 out of the 73 districts, while in 31 districts it was stated to be the same. Only seven districts reported an improvement, viz., Accrington, Blackpool, Lancaster, Chester, Coventry, Leigh, and Paisley.

\* Exclusive of superannuated members. † Including Middlesbrough. ‡ Revised figures for October, 1904.

conceded by the employers: the hours of labour to be reduced to 9 per day; wages of all workpeople earning less than £2 12s. 9d. per month to be increased 10 per cent.; piecework, overtime and engagements by the day to be abolished; full wages for a fortnight during sickness; half wages to be paid as back-pay for the period of the strike; future disputes to be referred to a joint board of arbitration.

SWEDEN.

**Lock-out in Engineering Trades.**—The lock-out in the engineering trades in Sweden (see GAZETTE for July 1905) which began on June 10th, and by which some 17,000 workmen were affected, has now terminated, arrangements having been made for the resumption of work on the 13th November. The settlement was brought about by a committee, including representatives of employers and workpeople, the formation of which was due to the initiative of the Ministers of Finance and of the Interior. Details of the terms of agreement had not yet been published at the date of reporting.

ITALY.†

**Labour Disputes in September.**—Forty-one disputes (one described as a lock-out) were reported to the Italian Labour Department as having begun in September, as compared with 60 in August. The number of workpeople directly affected by 34 of the September disputes was 10,959, as compared with 11,129 affected by 50 of the disputes of August. Agriculture and the transport trades were chiefly affected by labour disputes in September. In the former 9 strikes were reported, in 8 of which 4,889 labourers took part, while in 3 of the 4 strikes in the transport trades 2,944 workpeople participated. A lock-out of about 1,700 bakers at 210 bakeries in Turin lasted from the 5th to the 10th of September.

Out of a total of 31 disputes terminating in September, 17, involving about 6,000 workpeople, ended entirely in favour of the employers; 7, involving some 1,500 workpeople, resulted in a compromise; while 5 disputes, in 4 of which 298 workpeople were involved, ended entirely in favour of the workpeople. The results of 2 disputes (involving 20 workpeople) were indeterminate.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

**Strike of "Teamsters" in New York.**—The teamsters employed by a member of the New York Team Owners' Association demanded a 10-hour day with 1s. 0½d. per hour for overtime and the adoption of the "closed shop" principle. The employer was willing to concede these demands except as regards the "closed shop," and a conference of the presidents of 18 employers' associations in New York unanimously adopted a resolution to support him in the position he had taken up.

A strike was declared, and on October 24th, a meeting of the Council of the men's Union endorsed this strike, and decided to order strikes against individual members of the Owners' Association who might render any assistance to the employer against whom the strike had been declared. No general sympathetic strike, however, was ordered.

On October 30th, the New York Team Owners' Association formed a company, to be known as the Interstate Teaming Company, in order to enable the team owners to apply for federal injunctions, under which picketing and interference with "strike breakers" might be prohibited. Similar action was stated to be the most potent cause of the failure of the teamsters' strike in Chicago.

On November 1st, it was announced that all the railroad companies had decided to support the position taken up against the "closed shop" policy.

**Strike against American Bridge Company.**—On November 8th a strike, which, it was stated, would affect 15,000 men, was ordered against the American Bridge Company.

\* Based on a despatch to the Foreign Office by Sir Rennell Rodd, H.M. Minister at Stockholm, dated November 10th, 1905.

† *Bollettino dell' Ufficio del Lavoro* (Journal of the Italian Labour Department).

‡ Based on despatches to the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul-General at New York, dated October 24th and 31st and November 3rd, 1905.

§ Based on a telegram to the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul-General at New York, dated November 8th, 1905.



**COAL MINING.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this industry in October was much better both as compared with September and a year ago. The average number of days worked by the pits was 5.32 per week. This compares with 5.16 in October, 1904, and 5.21 in October, 1903. It is above October in the years of depression 1894-6, when the average was 5 days only; but it is below the years of rising trade 1898-1900, when the average was slightly over 5½ days per week.

Of the 551,403 workpeople covered by the returns 437,536 (or 79.3 per cent.) were employed at pits working 20 or more days during the four weeks ended October 21st, and of these 304,188 (or 55.2 per cent. of the whole) worked 22 days or more.

As compared with a month ago, employment in Northumberland and Durham showed little change; in all other districts an improvement was shown, which was most marked in Lancashire and Cheshire, the Midland Counties, and Gloucester and Somerset.

As compared with a year ago, employment in most districts has improved, particularly in the Lancashire and Cheshire, South Wales and Monmouth, and Derbyshire districts. Northumberland, Cumberland, and the Lothians showed some decline.

The following Table shows the average weekly time worked by the pits for the three periods specified:—

Districts.	No. of Workpeople employed in Oct., 1905, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average No. of Days worked per week by the Collieries in Four Weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Oct., 1905, as compared with	
		Oct. 21st, 1905.	Sept. 23rd, 1905.	Oct. 22nd, 1904.	A month ago.	A year ago.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.</b>		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland ...	41,979	5.26	5.24	5.33	+ .02	- .07
Durham ...	104,988	5.44	5.44	5.38	—	+ .06
Cumberland ...	7,044	5.23	4.68	5.34	+ .55	- .11
South Yorkshire ...	61,806	5.42	5.34	5.23	+ .08	+ .19
West Yorkshire ...	19,527	4.81	4.45	4.78	+ .36	+ .03
Lancashire and Cheshire...	50,949	5.05	4.22	4.74	+ .83	+ .31
Derbyshire ...	35,589	4.97	4.58	4.70	+ .39	+ .27
Nottingham and Leicester	29,423	4.72	4.42	4.68	+ .30	+ .04
Staffordshire ...	24,075	4.96	4.53	4.79	+ .43	+ .17
Warwick, Worcester, and Salop ...	8,943	5.30	5.13	5.31	+ .17	- .01
Gloucester and Somerset	7,709	5.35	4.71	5.18	+ .64	+ .17
North Wales ...	10,534	5.11	4.76	5.07	+ .35	+ .04
South Wales and Mon. ...	105,984	5.76	5.18	5.47	+ .58	+ .29
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES...</b>	<b>508,580</b>	<b>5.32</b>	<b>5.12</b>	<b>5.16</b>	<b>+ .20</b>	<b>+ .16</b>
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
West Scotland ...	22,748	5.26	5.14	5.20	+ .12	+ .06
The Lothians ...	4,759	5.55	5.36	5.75	+ .19	- .20
Fife ...	14,716	5.49	5.27	5.26	+ .22	+ .23
<b>SCOTLAND ...</b>	<b>42,223</b>	<b>5.37</b>	<b>5.22</b>	<b>5.28</b>	<b>+ .15</b>	<b>+ .09</b>
<b>IRELAND.</b>						
United Kingdom ...	551,403	5.32	5.13	5.16	+ .19	+ .16

In Northumberland and Durham employment was good, especially in the latter county in pits producing manufacturing coal. With coke yard workers employment improved. In Cumberland it was fair on the whole and slightly better than in September.

In Yorkshire and Lancashire employment showed an improvement on the previous month. The improvement was most considerable in Lancashire, where employment is now fairly good.

Employment in the Midland Counties generally continued to improve. In the Cannock Chase district it was fairly good, about 5 days per week being worked.

In the Forest of Dean a continued improvement was reported. Employment in steam coal pits in Somersetshire was fair.

Nearly all counties in Scotland reported an improvement, and employment was fairly good generally, being good in West Scotland, fair in the Lothians, and brisk in Fifeshire. As compared with a year ago, employment showed a slight falling off in the Lothians.

In the case of returns relating to about 263,000 workpeople it was found possible to classify the number of workpeople employed according to the principal kind of coal produced at the pits at which the men were engaged, and the following Table has been compiled:—

Description of Coal.	No. employed in Oct., 1905, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in four weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Oct., 1905, as compared with	
		Oct. 21st, 1905.	Sept. 23rd, 1905.	Oct. 22nd, 1904.	A month ago.	A year ago.
Anthracite ...	6,763	5.72	5.60	5.28	+ .12	+ .44
Coking ...	17,148	5.41	5.43	5.28	—	+ .13
Gas ...	23,217	5.29	5.08	5.10	+ .21	+ .19
House ...	55,952	4.86	4.40	4.60	+ .46	+ .26
Manufacturing ...	12,011	5.33	4.92	4.90	+ .41	+ .43
Steam ...	147,585	5.57	5.42	5.42	—	+ .15

It will be seen that employment at the house and manufacturing coal pits was much better in October than in the previous month, and in the gas, steam and anthracite, it showed some improvement. All classes of coal pits furnished better employment than a year ago, particularly manufacturing coal and anthracite.

The Exports of coal, coke, and patent fuel in October, 1905, amounted to 4,350,621 tons, as compared with 4,308,304 tons in September, 1905, and 4,181,274 tons in October, 1904.

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

(Based on information from Employers, Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued good in iron mines, and was about the same as a year ago. It was also good in shale mines.

In tin and copper mines in Devonshire and Cornwall employment was moderate. In lead mines it was good in Denbighshire and Flintshire, fair in Weardale.

Employment in quarries was moderate on the whole.

**Mining.**

*Iron Mining.*—During the four weeks ended October 21st, the average weekly number of days worked by the 117 mines and open works covered by the returns received from employers was 5.85, as compared with 5.87 a month ago, and 5.90\* in October, 1904.

The following Table summarises the returns received:—

Districts.	No. employed in Oct., 1905, at the 117 Mines included in the Returns.	Average Number of Days worked per week by Mines in 4 weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Oct., 1905, as compared with	
		Oct. 21st, 1905.	Sept. 23rd, 1905.	Oct. 22nd, 1904.*	A month ago.	A year ago.
Cleveland...	7,267	5.92	5.91	6.00	+ .01	- .08
Cumberland and Lancashire	4,840	5.94	5.89	5.89	+ .05	+ .05
Scotland...	994	5.39	5.55	5.51	- .16	- .12
Other Districts...	2,394	5.64	5.80	5.80	- .16	- .16
<b>Total and Averages</b>	<b>15,495</b>	<b>5.85</b>	<b>5.87</b>	<b>5.90</b>	<b>- .02</b>	<b>- .05</b>

Of the 15,495 workpeople covered by the returns 14,010, or 90.4 per cent. were employed in mines working twenty-two or more days during the four weeks ended October 21st, as compared with 92.4 per cent. a month ago, and 92.7\* per cent. in October, 1904.

*Shale Mining.*—At 27 mines respecting which returns have been received 2,961 men were employed in October, as compared with 2,900 men a month ago, and 2,854 a year ago. The average weekly number of days worked by the mines in the four weeks ended October 21st was 5.72†, as compared with 5.81† a month ago, and 5.66\*† a year ago.

\* Revised figures

† The average number of days worked was affected by holidays.

**IRON AND STEEL WORKS.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, received partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent; from Trade Unions and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this industry continued to improve, and works generally are now quite as busy as in a good year like 1900. Compared with a year ago nearly 7,500, or 8.6 per cent., more workers were employed at the works covered by the returns received.

The total volume of employment (i.e., numbers employed multiplied by the number of shifts worked) at 199 iron and steel works from which returns were received was 2.0 per cent. greater during the week ended October 21st, 1905, than during the week ended September 23rd, and 11.8 per cent. greater than a year ago.

The aggregate number of shifts worked during the week by all the workpeople included in the returns was approximately 530,000, as compared with 520,000 last month, and 474,000 a year ago.

Departments.	Number of Workpeople employed by firms making returns			Average Number of Shifts worked per man		
	In week ended Oct. 21st, 1905.	Increase (+) or decrease (-) as compared with A month ago.	A year ago.	In week ended Oct. 21st, 1905.	Increase (+) or decrease (-) as compared with A month ago.	A year ago.
<b>Open-Hearth Melting Furnaces</b>	8,311	+ 246	+ 716	5.90	...	+ 0.05
Crucible Furnaces ...	536	- 6	+ 39	5.56	+ 0.03	+ 0.68
Bessemer Converters ...	1,967	- 92	- 47	5.70	...	+ 0.30
Puddling Forges ...	10,048	+ 337	+ 476	5.74	+ 0.14	+ 0.28
Rolling Mills ...	30,576	+ 254	+ 1,845	5.42	+ 0.12	+ 0.22
Forging and Pressing ...	3,853	- 27	+ 649	5.65	+ 0.10	+ 0.14
Founding ...	11,951	- 178	+ 1,138	5.83	...	+ 0.06
Other Departments ...	9,528	+ 415	+ 1,274	5.83	- 0.01	+ 0.10
Mechanics, Labourers ...	17,699	- 139	+ 1,353	5.66	+ 0.03	+ 0.09
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>94,469</b>	<b>+ 810</b>	<b>+ 7,448</b>	<b>5.61</b>	<b>+ 0.06</b>	<b>+ 0.16</b>
<b>Districts.</b>						
Northumberland & Durham	11,811	+ 93	+ 613	5.60	+ 0.03	+ 0.06
Cleveland ...	8,518	+ 254	+ 118	5.66	- 0.01	+ 0.24
Sheffield and Rotherham ...	17,532	- 124	+ 2,200	5.69	+ 0.02	+ 0.17
Leeds, Hull and other Yorkshire Towns	4,242	- 22	+ 673	5.64	+ 0.04	+ 0.27
Cumberland, Lanes. & Ches.	11,584	- 144	+ 28	5.59	+ 0.21	+ 0.29
Staffordshire ...	10,105	+ 18	+ 85	5.41	- 0.01	+ 0.10
Other Midland Counties ...	4,376	- 19	+ 335	5.44	+ 0.08	+ 0.20
Wales and Monmouth ...	9,256	+ 173	+ 1,169	5.67	+ 0.05	+ 0.03
<b>England and Wales ...</b>	<b>77,425</b>	<b>+ 139</b>	<b>+ 5,981</b>	<b>5.60</b>	<b>+ 0.04</b>	<b>+ 0.16</b>
Scotland ...	17,044	+ 671	+ 1,467	5.64	+ 0.14	+ 0.15
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>94,469</b>	<b>+ 810</b>	<b>+ 7,448</b>	<b>5.61</b>	<b>+ 0.06</b>	<b>+ 0.16</b>

Compared with a month ago there was an increase of 1,252 in the number of workpeople employed in four departments, and a decrease of 442 in five departments of lesser importance. Compared with a year ago, all departments showed an increase except the Bessemer Converting Department, the decrease in which is, however, very small, and more than compensated for by the larger number of shifts worked per week as compared with 1904.

The average number of shifts worked per man per week was higher than both a month and a year ago; no department showed a decrease compared with a year ago, and the only decrease compared with a month ago, a very slight decline, was in "Other Departments."

The most important change in the number of workpeople employed, compared with a month ago, was in Scotland, where an increase of 671 (nearly 4 per cent.) was recorded. The number employed in the Sheffield and Rotherham district was 2,200 greater than a year ago, and over 1,000 more were in employment in Scotland and in Wales and Monmouth.

The average number of shifts worked per man per week showed a small decline on last month in Cleveland and Staffordshire. There was no decline compared with a year ago. The greatest increase both on a month ago (0.21 of a shift), and on a year ago (0.29 of a shift), took place in Cumberland, Lancashire and Cheshire.

**Quarrying.**

*Slate.*—Employment continued slack in North Wales with slate quarrymen and slate makers. In the Festiniog district employment was very slack, and some quarries were only working four days per week.

*Granite.*—Employment was moderate in Aberdeenshire, fair in North Wales and Leicestershire. In Devonshire and Cornwall it was still bad.

*Limestone.*—Employment was fair in North Wales and at Stanhope. It was moderate at Westgate, in Upper Weardale and Derbyshire, and dull in the Plymouth district, Somerset (blue lias), and in the Bath stone quarries in the Bristol district. In Cumberland employment continued bad.

*Other Stone.*—Chert quarrymen in the Bakewell district were well employed. Employment was fair in sandstone quarries in North Wales, moderate in the Clew Hill road-material and Rowsley grindstone and building stone quarries. Employment in the Gateshead district was dull; it continued bad in Forfarshire and was also bad in pennant stone quarries in Gloucestershire.

*Sett-making.*—At Airdrie and in Leicestershire employment was good. In Aberdeenshire, the Edinburgh district, and in North Wales it was fair; at Rowley Regis and in the Clew Hill district, moderate.

*China Clay.*—Employment was good at Lee Moor and fair in the St. Austell district.

**PIG IRON INDUSTRY.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this industry continued good and was better than both a month and a year ago. The number of furnaces now in blast is greater than in any month since November, 1900.

Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters show that during October seven furnaces—two each in Cleveland, and Staffordshire, and one each in Cumberland, Lancashire and Lincolnshire—were re-lit, while two, one in South Wales and the other in Scotland, were blown out. The number of furnaces in blast at the end of October was 331, or 5 more than in September, 1905, and 27 more than in October, 1904. The number of workpeople employed at the works included in the returns which are summarised below is estimated at 23,700.

Districts.	Number of Furnaces, included in the returns, in Blast at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Oct., 1905, as compared with	
	Oct., 1905.	Sept., 1905.	Oct., 1904.	A month ago.	A year ago.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES—</b>					
Cleveland ...	87	85	77	+ 2	+ 10
Cumberland & Lanes.	36	34	32	+ 2	+ 4
S. and S.W. Yorks.	16	16	14	...	+ 2
Derby & Nottingham	38	38	37	...	+ 1
Leicester, Lincoln, } and Northampton }	28	27	25	+ 1	+ 3
Stafford & Worcester	34	32*	28	+ 2	+ 6
S. Wales & Monmouth	14	15	15	- 1	- 1
Other districts ...	7	7	6	...	+ 1
<b>Returned from England &amp; Wales</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>254*</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>+ 6</b>	<b>+ 26</b>
<b>Returned from Scotland ...</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>- 1</b>	<b>+ 1</b>
<b>Total furnaces included in returns</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>326*</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>+ 5</b>	<b>+ 27</b>

The Imports of iron ore in October amounted to 599,038 tons, or 112,303 tons more than in October, 1904, and 184,631 more than in October, 1903.

The Exports of pig iron from the United Kingdom during October, 1905, amounted to 95,426 tons, as compared with 67,050 tons in October, 1904, and 79,714 tons in October, 1903.

\* Revised figures.



**TINPLATE WORKS.**

(Based on Returns from Employers and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the tinplate industry in October continued to be good and was much better than in October, 1904. The number of mills now working, viz., 423, is higher than at any time during the ten years 1896-1905. In 1900, the maximum year of that period, the average was 384.

At the end of October 423 mills were working, an increase of 1 as compared with the previous month and of 29 (or 7.4 per cent.) as compared with October, 1904. The number of workpeople employed at the 423 mills at work was about 21,150.

The following Table shows the number of mills at the works which were giving employment, full or partial,\* at each of the three periods:—

	No. of Works open.	No. of Mills in such Works.		
		Working.	Not Working.	Total.
Works giving full employment ...	68	373	—	373
Works giving partial employment ...	10	50	22	72
<b>Total at end of October, 1905*</b> ...	<b>78</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>445</b>
<i>Corresponding Total for Sept., 1905*</i> ...	78	422	21	443
<i>Corresponding Total for Oct., 1904*</i> ...	76	394	23	417

The Exports of tinplates and tinned sheets, and black-plates for tinning are given in the Table below for the three periods stated. Out of the 25,531 tons of tinplates exported in October, 4,359 tons went to the United States, and over 2,000 tons to each of the following countries, viz., Canada, the Netherlands, Germany and British East Indies. Out of a total of 7,145 tons of black-plates exported 4,625 tons went to Russia.

	Month ended 31st Oct., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with October.		Ten Months ended 31st Oct., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in	
		1904.	1903.		1904.	1903.
		Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets.				
To United States ...	4,359	- 1,308	- 1,313	56,221	- 4,984	+ 1,910
„ Other Countries ...	21,172	- 6,726	- 785	243,858	+ 13,543	+ 42,964
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>25,531</b>	<b>- 8,034</b>	<b>- 2,098</b>	<b>300,119</b>	<b>+ 8,559</b>	<b>+ 56,874</b>
Black Plates for Tinning.						
To United States ...	—	- 54	- 11	84	- 13	- 429
„ Other Countries ...	7,145	+ 1,947	+ 1,687	55,175	+ 2,500	+ 1,714
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>7,145</b>	<b>+ 1,893</b>	<b>+ 1,676</b>	<b>55,259</b>	<b>+ 2,487</b>	<b>+ 1,285</b>

**ENGINEERING TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued to show improvement, and was generally fair. It was much better than a year ago. A good deal of overtime was reported and the percentage of unemployed members is the lowest recorded since July, 1903.

As compared with a month ago, there was a general improvement. The greatest improvement shown was on the North East Coast, and in Glasgow and district.

As compared with a year ago the South Coast alone exhibited a decline, the greatest improvement being shown in the Manchester and Liverpool, Oldham, Bolton, and Blackburn, Notts, Derby, and Leicester districts, Glasgow and district, the East of Scotland, and the West Riding towns.

Returns relating to 146,646 members of Trade Unions show that 6,078 (or 4.1 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of October, as compared with 4.6 in September,

\* It will be understood that, in addition to the works returned as giving full or partial employment, a certain number of tinplate works were wholly idle at each of the dates to which the returns relate.

1905, and 8.0 in October, 1904. These figures include 19 Unions with a membership of 27,654, of whom 861, (or 3.1 per cent.) were unemployed, for which district figures of membership and unemployment were not available.

The percentages for the various districts so far as they are available are shown below:—

District.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Oct., 1905, included in the returns.*	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed for Oct., 1905, as compared with a	
		Oct., 1905.	Sept., 1905.	Oct., 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
North-East Coast ...	14,562	4.8	6.0	7.6	- 1.2	- 2.8
Manchester and Liverpool District ...	17,887	3.8	4.2	9.7	- 0.4	- 5.9
Oldham, Bolton, and Blackburn District ...	11,802	3.3	3.2	12.0	+ 0.1	- 8.7
West Riding Towns ...	12,073	5.2	4.7	10.4	+ 0.5	- 5.2
Hull and Lincolnshire District ...	3,543	3.3	4.0	7.0	- 0.7	- 3.7
Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Coventry District ...	6,356	2.8	3.8	6.1	- 1.0	- 3.3
Notts, Derby, and Leicester District ...	3,780	4.9	5.5	9.9	- 0.6	- 5.0
London and Neighbouring District ...	12,393	4.2	4.4	5.4	- 0.2	- 1.2
South Coast ...	3,858	4.2	4.5	3.3	- 0.3	+ 0.9
South Wales and Bristol District ...	6,592	4.5	4.9	5.5	- 0.4	- 1.0
Glasgow and District ...	13,565	5.4	7.1	9.2	- 1.7	- 3.8
East of Scotland ...	3,684	7.4	8.4	11.1	- 0.7	- 3.7
Belfast and Dublin ...	3,406	6.6	6.9	12.2	- 0.3	- 5.6
Other Districts ...	5,491	2.7	2.9	6.4	- 0.2	- 3.7
<b>United Kingdom</b> (Including certain Unions—see note above—for which district figures are not available)	<b>146,646</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>- 3.9</b>

On the North East Coast employment generally showed continued improvement, and there was a good deal of overtime and night work on the Tyne, Wear and Tees.

In the Manchester district employment continued to improve, overtime being pretty general, except in textile machinery shops. At Liverpool and Birkenhead employment with engineers, ironfounders, and iron dressers was dull, but rather better than last month; with brassfounders, copper-smiths, and hammermen it was rather worse. At Crewe and Horwich the works were on short time. At Blackburn, Oldham, and Burnley it was good with most sections; at Preston moderate; with brassfounders at Oldham fair. Spindle and flyer makers reported employment as good. Machine, engine and iron grinders and glaziers were very busy. At Barrow-in-Furness it was moderate, slightly better than in September, and about the same as a year ago.

Although the general percentage of unemployed in the West Riding towns was slightly higher than in the previous month, the state of employment at Leeds was fair, about the same as a month ago, and distinctly better than a year ago. At Wakefield it was improving. At Sheffield the engineering trade as a whole was fairly well employed, but iron and steel founders showed a falling off, as compared with last month; coremakers were well employed. At Barnsley and Bradford employment was moderate; at Rotherham, fair; at Dewsbury and Halifax, bad.

Employment was reported good in most sections at Hull, some overtime being worked; smiths, pattern-makers, brassfounders and finishers were fairly well employed, but with ironfounders employment was slack. At Doncaster there was general slackness, short time being worked.

At Birmingham employment generally was moderate; the cycle industry was fair for the time of year, the motor trade fairly good, and electrical engineering good. At Wolverhampton electrical and general engineers were steadily employed, the cycle trade improved, and the motor industry was busy.

Employment generally at Derby and Nottingham was moderate; in the motor, cycle, and lace and hosiery machine sections at the latter town it was good; it was improving at Burton-on-Trent, good at Leicester, and moderate at Loughborough, Rugby, and Northampton.

\* Exclusive of Superannuated Members. † Revised figures.

In the London district employment generally was in much the same condition as in the previous month, but the brass trade was slack.

Employment in the dockyard towns was bad; at Southampton it was fair.

At Cardiff, Newport and Swansea, employment was bad, but better than a month ago. At Bristol and Swindon it was fair, at Gloucester good; ironfounders at Bristol, however, were slack, and brassfounders and finishers worked short time.

In the Clyde district employment was fairly good, and showed an improvement upon the previous month; a good deal of overtime was worked. At Leith employment was bad, but at Aberdeen, Dundee and Edinburgh the general state of employment was good.

A slight improvement was shown during the month at Belfast, but at Dublin and Cork employment was bad.

Employment generally in the Eastern Counties was moderate, but at Ipswich it was fair and at Chelmsford good.

**SHIPBUILDING TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT showed an improvement on a month ago, and was much better than a year ago. It was still slack in repairing work, but new work was opening up.

Branches of Trade Unions with 57,566 members had 6,872 (or 11.9 per cent.) unemployed at the end of October, as compared with 13.7 per cent. at the end of September, and 16.1 per cent. a year ago.

As compared with the previous month, the greatest improvement was shown in the Bristol Channel Ports and the Mersey district. There was a slight decline on the Humber.

As compared with a year ago, there was an improvement in all districts except the South Coast and the Mersey.

District.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Oct., 1905, included in the returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage for Oct., 1905, as compared with a	
		Oct., 1905.	Sept., 1905.	Oct., 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Tyne and Blyth ...	9,520	10.9	11.1	16.0	- 0.2	- 5.1
Wear ...	4,958	7.2	8.1	12.5	- 0.9	- 5.3
Tees and Hartlepool ...	5,105	10.0	10.8	25.9	- 0.8	- 15.9
Humber ...	2,593	8.9	8.0	15.0	+ 0.9	- 6.1
Thames and Medway ...	4,190	13.6	14.8	13.9	- 1.2	- 0.3
South Coast ...	3,551	9.4	10.6	5.2	- 1.2	+ 4.2
Bristol Channel Ports ...	2,613	16.3	34.0	25.2	- 17.7	- 8.9
Mersey ...	3,877	23.5	30.2	15.7	- 6.7	+ 7.8
Clyde ...	12,436	12.0	11.7	15.6	+ 0.3	- 3.6
Dundee, Leith, and Aberdeen ...	2,295	16.5	20.2	26.9	- 3.7	- 10.4
Belfast ...	2,582	9.6	10.7	18.7	- 1.1	- 9.1
Other Districts ...	3,162	9.9	9.5	9.5	+ 0.4	+ 0.4
<b>United Kingdom</b> (Including certain Unions for which district figures were not available)	<b>57,566</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>16.1</b>	<b>- 1.8</b>	<b>- 4.2</b>

On the Tyne and Wear employment continued fair, and further improvement was shown in Tees and Hartlepool yards. At Hull it was fair on new work, slack on repairs. On the Thames and Medway and South Coast there was little change, but at Southampton employment was better than a month ago. Repairs at Bristol Channel ports were still dull, but there has been an improvement since the termination of the ship painters' and general labourers' dispute at Cardiff, Penarth, and Barry. On the Mersey employment was still dull, but showed a slight improvement. An improvement continued on the Clyde and at Belfast. Employment was fair at Aberdeen and Dundee; slack at Leith; moderate at Barrow.

**MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

In most of these trades employment was better than a month and a year ago. As compared with the previous month, there was a marked improvement in some of the

subsidiary iron and steel trades and in the jewellery trade.

Brasswork, Bedsteads, etc.—With brassworkers employment was fair on the whole. It showed a further improvement, and was much better than a year ago. With bedstead makers at Birmingham employment was bad. With fender and fire brass makers it showed a marked improvement, but there was still some short time in a few shops.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, etc.—In the nut and bolt trade there was a slight improvement at Dudley; at Winlaton employment was good; in South Wales fair; at Birmingham moderate and improving. At the latter place employment with wire nail, shoe rivet, and cut nail makers was fair, and better than a month ago.

Tubes.—In the South Staffordshire tube trade employment was better than a month and a year ago, with some overtime. At Birmingham it improved, and in South Wales was fair.

Chains, Anchors, etc.—At Cradley employment was fair with small chain makers, good with cable chain makers, fairly good on block chains; with anchor smiths it was worse than a month ago. Chain makers at Gateshead and Pontypridd were well employed. At Dudley employment improved with anvil and vice makers. With axle and spring makers at Birmingham and West Bromwich it was fair. Employment was very good on railway iron work at Wednesbury, and was moderate with railway spring makers at Sheffield.

Locks, Keys, and General Hardware.—In the lock and latch trade at Wolverhampton and Willenhall employment remained bad, with much short time. At Wolverhampton it was good on stamped and light hollow-ware, and iron fences and hurdles. At Birmingham and West Bromwich it was quiet with hollow-ware makers.

Cutlery, Tools, etc.—Employment continued slack generally in the Sheffield cutlery trade, but was good with sheep shear makers. In the file trade it was moderate at Sheffield and Birmingham, fair at Wolverhampton. With edge tool makers at Birmingham it was fair.

Stoves, Grates, etc.—Employment was very slack at Sheffield; fair at Glasgow and Falkirk; moderate at Birmingham; and good at Bolton and Bury.

Sheet Metal, etc.—Employment in London was better than a month and a year ago, but tinmen and zinc workers were slack. In the ironplate trade employment improved at the Lye and at Birmingham. In Glasgow employment was quiet; in Edinburgh good; at Nottingham very good; at Oldham moderate.

Gold, Silver, Britannia Metal, etc.—At Sheffield employment was quiet with silversmiths and britannia metal smiths; at Birmingham it was good. In London it was fair and better than a month ago in the silver and electroplate trades; with goldsmiths and jewellers it also showed an improvement and was very fair. With jewellers at Birmingham there was a decided improvement. In the Coventry watch trade employment was only moderate.

Wires.—Employment was good, and rather better than a month and a year ago.

Farriers.—Employment continued quiet on the whole.

**COTTON TRADE.**

(Based on Returns received from Employers through the Trade Correspondent, and on Returns from Trade Unions and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued very brisk and was decidedly better than a year ago notwithstanding the general improvement shown at that period.

The average price of "middling American" raw cotton in October was 5.49d. per lb., compared with 5.66d. in September, and 5.50d. in October, 1904. The price of "good fair Egyptian" averaged 7.50d. per lb. compared with 7.56d. per lb. in September, and 7.63d. in October, 1904.



The number of workpeople employed by firms making returns for the last week in October was 166,295, an increase of 0.3 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 3.2 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Firms employing 130,043 of these operatives have stated the amount of wages paid in the periods under review. Compared with a month ago the number employed by these firms showed an increase of 0.3 per cent., and the amount of wages paid a decrease of 0.5 per cent.

Compared with a year ago, the number employed showed an increase of 3.3 per cent., and the amount of wages paid an increase of 7.7 per cent.

Analysis by Departments and Districts.

Compared with a month ago there was a very slight improvement in the Preparing and Spinning departments. In the Weaving department there was a slight decline; in the coloured goods trade the demand for striped cloths was good, but employment on check cloths was slack.

Compared with a year ago there was an improvement in all departments.

The following Table relates only to those firms that furnished information as to wages paid as well as numbers employed in the three periods mentioned:-

Table with columns: Departments, Workpeople covered by returns (No. employed, Increase + or Decrease -), Earnings (Aggregate Amount of Wages paid, Increase + or Decrease -). Rows include Preparing, Spinning, Weaving, Other, and various Districts.

Compared with a month ago, there was a slight decline in the spinning branch in Oldham; in Ashton, Bolton, Bury, Preston, Blackburn and Burnley districts there was some decline in the wages paid in the weaving branch, the decline being most marked in the Burnley district. In the Stockport district an improvement was shown in both branches.

Compared with a year ago every district showed an improvement in every branch.

Raw Cotton.

American Cotton.—During the month of October the average price of raw cotton "middling American" at Liverpool was 5.49d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 5.81d., and the lowest, 5.26d. The price for September was 5.66d., and for October, 1904, 5.50d. For the period from 1st to 11th November the average price of "middling American" was 6.01d. per lb.

Egyptian Cotton.—The price of "good fair Egyptian" during October averaged 7.50d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 7.74d., and the lowest, 7.15d. The price for September was 7.56d., and for October,

1904, 7.63d. For the period from 1st to 11th November the average price of "good fair Egyptian" was 7.91d. per lb.

Particulars of the various descriptions of cotton forwarded from ports to inland towns are given below:-

Table showing cotton descriptions (American, Brazilian, East Indian, Egyptian, Miscellaneous) with columns for Month ended Oct. 31st, 1905, and Ten months ended Oct. 31st, 1905, comparing 1904 and 1903.

The visible supply of American cotton for the United Kingdom on November 10th, 1905, was estimated by the Liverpool Cotton Association to be 880,220 bales, as compared with 721,920 bales on November 11th, 1904.

Exports of Cotton Goods.

The following Table shows the quantities of exported cotton yarn and cotton piece goods for the periods stated:-

Table showing cotton exports (Cotton Yarn and Piece Goods) with columns for Description, Month ended Oct. 31st, 1905, and Ten months ended Oct. 31st, 1905, comparing 1904 and 1903.

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

(Based on Returns received from Employers through the Trade Correspondent and on Returns from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the Woollen and Worsted trades showed a further improvement. The prices of raw material continued very high, and, with the exception of the period 1895-6, are now higher than they have been for sixteen years.

Woollen Trade.

Employment in the Woollen trade was very good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. Overtime was general in Huddersfield and the surrounding districts; night workers were in demand. In the Batley district employment was good. In Leeds it was fairly good, with overtime in some firms.

The number of workpeople employed by firms making returns for the last week in October was 26,496, an increase of 0.8 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 1.5 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Firms employing 19,050 of these operatives have stated the wages paid in the periods under review. Compared with a month ago the number employed by these firms showed an increase of 1.1 per cent., and the amount of wages paid an increase of 2.6 per cent. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 1.6 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Table showing workpeople covered by returns and earnings by departments (Wool Sorting, Spinning, Weaving, etc.) with columns for No. employed, Increase + or Decrease -, Aggregate Amount of Wages paid, and Earnings.

Table showing workpeople covered by returns and earnings by districts (Huddersfield, Leeds, Dewsbury, etc.) with columns for No. employed, Increase + or Decrease -, Aggregate Amount of Wages paid, and Earnings.

Worsted Trade.

Employment in the Worsted Trade continued moderate, and was decidedly better than a year ago.

The number of workpeople employed by firms making returns for the last week in October was 51,819, an increase of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed by these firms compared with a month ago, and of 1.6 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Firms employing 39,476 of these operatives have stated the wages paid in the periods under review. Compared with a month ago, the number employed by these firms showed an increase of 0.4 per cent., and the amount of wages paid showed no change. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 1.6 per cent. in the number employed, and of 5.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

EMPLOYMENT showed a decline in the wool sorting and combing branch and was bad; in the spinning and weaving branches it showed an improvement and was fair; in the other departments there was a decline. Compared with a year ago, there was a considerable improvement in the combing and weaving branches.

In the Bradford district employment continued quiet; in Huddersfield it was good; in Keighley it was fair in the weaving branch, but short time and stopped machinery were reported in the spinning branch.

Table showing workpeople covered by returns and earnings by departments (Wool Sorting & Combing, Spinning, Weaving, etc.) with columns for No. employed, Increase + or Decrease -, Aggregate Amount of Wages paid, and Earnings.

Table showing workpeople covered by returns and earnings by districts (Bradford, Keighley, Halifax, etc.) with columns for No. employed, Increase + or Decrease -, Aggregate Amount of Wages paid, and Earnings.

Prices of Raw Material.

The course of prices at Bradford for the three periods, October, 1905, September, 1905, and October, 1904, is

shown in the Table below. Compared with September, there was little change, and prices were generally higher than a year ago.

Table showing prices of raw wool (Lincoln Hogs, 40's Crossbred tops, etc.) for Oct., 1905, Sept., 1905, and Oct., 1904.

Imports and Exports.

The following Table shows the quantities of imported and exported raw wool, and of British and Irish exports of woollen, worsted, and alpaca and mohair yarn, and of woollen and worsted piece goods for the periods stated:-

Table showing imports and exports of raw wool (Raw Wool (Sheep or Lambs')), British and Irish manufactures exported, and piece goods.

FLAX (LINEN) TRADE.

(Based on Returns from Employers, Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was fair on the whole, and showed very little change compared with a month ago. It was rather better than a year ago.

The number of workpeople employed by firms making returns in the last full week in October, 1905, was 54,536, an increase of 0.1 per cent. in the number employed, compared with the last full week in September, 1905, and of 1.4 per cent., compared with October, 1904.

In addition to supplying particulars of numbers employed, firms employing 45,753 operatives have stated the amount of wages paid in the periods under review. From these returns it appears that, compared with September, there was an increase of 0.1 per cent. in the number employed and a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the wages paid. Compared with a year ago there were increases of 1.1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Table showing workpeople covered by returns and earnings by departments (Preparing, Spinning, Weaving, etc.) with columns for Number employed, Increase + or Decrease -, Aggregate Amount of Wages paid, and Earnings.

Compared with a month ago, little change was shown. In Belfast and Ulster employment was reported as fairly good. In Dundee it was fair on the whole. In Dunfermline it is reported as having improved, and some overtime has been worked at Brechin. Compared with a year ago, there was some improvement in all departments and districts.



Districts.	Workpeople covered by Returns.			Earnings.		
	Number employed in last full week of Oct., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last week of		Aggregate amount of wages paid in last full week of Oct., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last week of	
		Sept., 1905.	Oct., 1904.		Sept., 1905.	Oct., 1904.
Belfast	16,066	+ 0'2	+ 0'4	9,099	+ 0'0	+ 2'3
Other Places in Ireland	16,286	- 0'0	+ 2'1	8,400	- 1'2	+ 4'0
Ireland ...	32,352	+ 0'1	+ 1'3	17,499	- 0'6	+ 3'1
Fifeshire ...	6,413	+ 0'4	- 0'1	3,964	+ 0'5	+ 1'7
Other Places in Scotland	6,180	+ 0'2	+ 1'1	3,759	- 0'4	+ 1'9
Scotland ...	12,593	+ 0'3	+ 0'5	7,723	+ 0'1	+ 1'8
United Kingdom*	45,753	+ 0'1	+ 1'1	25,701	- 0'4	+ 2'9

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following Table shows the quantities of imported flax, and of British and Irish exports of linen yarn and manufactured goods for the periods stated :-

Description.	Month ended Oct. 31st, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with October,		Ten months ended Oct. 31st, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with the corresponding period in	
		1904.	1903.		1904.	1903.
		<b>Imports:</b> Flax (Dressed and Undressed, Tow or Codilla) Tons	2,716		- 643	- 1,426
<b>Exports:</b> Linen Yarn 100 Lbs.	12,917	+ 693	+ 627	120,112	- 1,425	+ 3,894
Linen Piece Goods ,, Yds.	137,527	+ 23,237	+ 22,668	1,500,039	+ 175,926	+ 214,302

JUTE TRADE.

(Based on Returns from Employers, Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this industry was slightly better than a month ago, but worse than a year ago. The price of the raw material still remains very high. The number of workpeople employed in the last full week in October, by firms making returns, was 25,992, an increase of 0'7 per cent. on the number employed in the last full week in September, and a decrease of 2'4 per cent. as compared with a year ago. Of the total number covered by the returns, 22,018 were employed in Dundee, an increase of 0'8 per cent. as compared with the number employed by the same firms in September, and a decrease of 3'1 per cent. as compared with October, 1904.

Firms employing 19,985 workpeople supplied particulars of the wages paid in the last week of October, 1905, compared with a month ago and a year ago. The following Table summarises these returns :-

Departments.	Workpeople covered by Returns.			Earnings.		
	Number employed in last full week of Oct., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last week of		Aggregate amount of Wages paid in last full week of Oct., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last week of	
		Sept., 1905.	Oct., 1904.		Sept., 1905.	Oct., 1904.
Preparing ...	4,522	+ 2'2	- 2'7	2,791	+ 2'6	- 0'2
Spinning ...	5,360	+ 2'3	- 4'0	3,065	+ 2'2	- 2'3
Weaving ...	6,754	- 0'8	- 4'0	4,634	- 1'3	- 7'4
Other ...	2,111	- 0'7	+ 3'7	2,116	+ 0'4	- 1'9
Departments not specified	1,233	+ 0'2	+ 0'2	886	+ 0'2	+ 0'9
Total ...	19,980	+ 0'8	- 3'4	13,492	+ 0'6	- 3'5

It will be seen that as compared with a month ago there was some improvement in the *Preparing* and *Spinning* Departments. As compared with a year ago, there was a general decline, which was most marked in the *Weaving* Department.

\* Including 5 English returns.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The quantities of imported jute and of British and Irish exports of jute yarn and manufactured goods for the periods stated were as under :-

Description.	Month ended Oct. 31st, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with October,		Ten months ended Oct. 31st, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in	
		1904.	1903.		1904.	1903.
		<b>Imports:</b> Jute ... Tons	42,584		+ 14,576	+ 10,005
<b>Exports:</b> Jute Yarn 100 Lbs.	37,396	+ 5,564	- 5,453	359,918	- 16,437	- 32,361
Jute Piece Goods 100 Yds.	159,924	- 6,267	- 36,429	1,395,317	- 252,830	- 303,283

SILK TRADE.

(Based on Returns from Employers and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the silk industry in October was only moderate, but it showed a slight improvement as compared with a month and a year ago.

Number of Workpeople.

The number of workpeople employed at the end of October by firms making returns was 10,267, or 1'4 per cent. more than in the previous month, and 1'6 per cent. more than in October, 1904.

The increase in the numbers employed was most marked in the weaving departments compared with September, and in the spinning department compared with a year ago.

It will be seen from the Table below that, as compared with a month ago, the numbers employed increased in all districts except Lancashire and the West Riding of Yorkshire, where there was little change. Compared with a year ago, marked increases were shown in the Macclesfield, &c. district and "Other Districts," while the Eastern Counties showed a decrease.

Districts.	Number employed in Oct., 1905, by firms making returns.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Lancashire and W. Riding of York	3,485
Macclesfield, Congleton and District	1,997	+ 2'6	+ 6'9
Leek ...	576	+ 1'8	+ 1'8
Eastern Counties ...	2,373	+ 1'6	- 3'4
Other Districts, including Scotland	1,836	+ 2'8	+ 7'2
Total ...	10,267	+ 1'4	+ 1'6

Number of Spindles and Looms.

The number of spindles and looms returned as working in the three periods specified, shows an increase as compared with September, but a decrease as compared with a year ago.

Spindles and Looms.	Number of Spindles and Looms working in last week of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
	Oct., 1905.	Sept., 1905.	Oct., 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago
	Throwing Spindles ...	147,669	145,012	148,967	+ 1'8
Spinning Spindles ...	120,194	119,934	121,941	+ 0'2	- 1'4
Looms ...	4,340	4,351	4,370	+ 2'2	- 0'5

As compared with a month ago, the number of throwing and spinning spindles working increased in the Eastern Counties and decreased in the Macclesfield and Lancashire districts. Compared with a year ago, a decrease took place in the number of throwing spindles working in the Eastern Counties and Lancashire, etc. district, and an increase in "Other Districts." The number of spinning spindles at work showed an increase in the Macclesfield district, but this was more than counterbalanced by decreases in the Leek and Lancashire districts. As compared with a month ago, there was an increase in the number of looms working, chiefly in the Macclesfield district.

Imports and Exports.

The imports of raw and thrown silk, of spun silk yarn, and the exports of thrown silk and yarn and of silk broadstuffs are shown in the Table below for the periods specified :-

Description.	Month ended Oct. 31st, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with October,		Ten months ended Oct. 31st, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in	
		1904.	1903.		1904.	1903.
		<b>Imports:—</b> Raw Silk ... Lbs.	96,882		- 47,010	- 197
Thrown Silk ... Lbs.	41,289	- 3,121	- 10,013	454,034	+ 2,523	- 2,105
Spun Silk Yarn ... Lbs.	26,550	+ 6,682	+ 21,998	282,640	+ 100,409	+ 190,823
<b>Exports:—</b> Thrown Silk, Twist & Yarn ... Lbs.	66,126*	+ 22,331	+ 7,626	674,443	+ 204,332	+ 49,224
Silk Broad-stuffs ... Yds.	513,618	+ 122,680	+ 149,965	5,593,657	+ 1,812,952	+ 1,546,982

\* Yarn, 65,224 lbs. † Yarn, 661,554 lbs.

HOSIERY TRADE.

(Based on Returns from Employers, a Trade Union, and Local Correspondents.)

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

Firms employing 18,818 workpeople, and paying £14,029 in wages during the last week in October made returns, which are summarised in the Table below. From these it appears that there was an increase of 1'8 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3'0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 5'2 per cent. in the number employed, and of 5'1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

At Leicester employment showed a further improvement, and was fair. It continued good at Hinckley, and fairly good at Loughborough. In the Nottingham district employment was good on the whole and better than a month ago and a year ago. In the Derbyshire district a decided improvement was shown as compared with a year ago. In Hawick and Selkirk employment continued good.

District.	Workpeople covered by the Returns received.			Earnings.		
	Number paid wages on last pay-day in Oct., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) compared with		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on last pay-day in Oct., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) compared with	
		Sept., 1905.	Oct., 1904.		Sept., 1905.	Oct., 1904.
Leicester ...	8,925	+ 1'7	+ 5'0	6,882	+ 2'8	+ 4'3
Leicester Country District ...	2,954	+ 0'8	+ 8'4	2,467	+ 0'8	+ 3'8
Notts and Derbyshire ...	3,047	+ 1'0	+ 6'5	2,189	+ 1'5	+ 8'1
Hawick ...	842	+ 3'1	+ 4'0	756	+ 10'0	+ 10'2
Other Parts of Scotland ...	2,264	+ 4'1	+ 5'4	1,295	+ 4'8	+ 7'1
Other Parts of United Kingdom	786	+ 1'8	- 7'2	440	+ 11'7	- 3'5
Total ...	18,818	+ 1'8	+ 5'2	14,029	+ 3'0	+ 5'1

OTHER TEXTILE TRADES.

Lace Trade.

(Based on Returns from an Employers' Association, a Trade Union and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT again showed a slight improvement compared with a month ago, and was better than a year ago. In Nottingham it was reported as bad in the curtain section; in the levers section employment was better and more regular, and was much better than a year ago. Employment continued good in the plain net branch and showed a distinct improvement in the minor branches of the trade. Employment was reported as improved at Beeston, fairly steady at Stapleford and Sandiacre, moderate at Kimberley and Bulwell. A slight improvement was reported at Ilkeston, though much short time was still worked. Employment was good and better than a month ago at Glasgow and Newmilns, where overtime was again reported.

Printing, Dyeing, Bleaching, and Finishing.

(Based on Returns from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

**Woolen and Worsted Dyers.**—Employment in the West Riding showed no change compared with a month ago, but was slightly better than a year ago. About two-fifths of the Trade Union members worked overtime, and about three-fifths worked short time.

**Cotton Dyers.**—Employment was good, better than a month ago, and much better than a year ago. Much overtime was reported.

**Calico Printers, etc.**—Employment was reported as good at Manchester, and better than a month ago and a year ago; as dull at New Mills, and worse than a month ago and a year ago; with calico printers' engravers at Dinting it showed a slight decline. At Glasgow it was reported as fairly good with calico printers, as fair with engravers to calico printers, and better than a month ago and a year ago; as dull with block printers, and worse than a month ago.

**Hosiery and Lace Dyers, Trimmers, etc.**—At Leicester although employment showed a slight improvement in some branches, short time was still general; at Hinckley employment was fairly good. Employment was good with silk dyers, and improved with lace dyers at Nottingham; it was better than a year ago. It was good with bleachers at Nottingham and Basford, and much better than a month ago and a year ago; there was some short time, but more overtime.

**Calenderers, etc.**—In Glasgow employment was fair. In Dundee it continued fair in the finishing department; the Trade Union bleachfield workers again reported it as moderate, and the Trade Union calenderers as fair.

TAILORING TRADE.

(Based on Returns from Employers, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the *bespoke* branch in London was good and much better than a month ago and a year ago; in the provinces it showed an improvement and was fair. In the *ready-made* branch it was still only moderate, but was better than a year ago.

Bespoke Branch.

London.—Employment was good and better than a month ago and a year ago.

Firms paying £15,539 to their workpeople during the four weeks ended October 28th, showed an increase of 27'2 per cent. in the amount paid compared with the four weeks ended September 30th, and of 15'4 per cent. on the corresponding period a year ago.

**Other Centres.**—Employment generally showed an improvement. It was fair at Liverpool and Glasgow, good at Edinburgh, improving in Dublin, bad at Belfast.

Ready-made Branch.

London.—Employment generally continued moderate and was about the same as a year ago.

**Leeds.**—Employment during the month, although only moderate, was much better than a year ago. According to returns received from firms employing about 9,000 workpeople in their factories, in addition to persons employed on work for them in workshops, employment during October was good with firms employing 20 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns, and moderate with firms employing 80 per cent. Compared with a month ago, firms employing 30 per cent. reported employment as improved, firms employing 25 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 45 per cent. as worse. Compared with a year ago, firms employing 90 per cent. reported employment as improved, and firms employing 10 per cent. as unchanged. The Jewish operatives reported employment as improved.

**Other Centres.**—In Manchester employment remained moderate, and was about the same as a year ago. In Bristol employment continued moderate, and was better than a year ago; at Stroud employment continued good, considerable overtime being reported. In Staffordshire employment was good. At Leicester an improvement was reported. At Norwich employment was fair; at Colchester it was moderate. In Glasgow employment was fairly good and slightly better than a year ago.



**BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.**

(Based on Returns received through the Trade Correspondent, and on Returns from Trade Unions and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued quiet, but was better than a year ago.

The number employed in the last week of October by the 591 firms making returns was 75,035, a decrease of 0.2 per cent., compared with a month ago, and an increase of 1.9 per cent., compared with a year ago.

In addition to supplying particulars of numbers employed, 489 firms, employing 63,338 workpeople, stated the amount of wages paid in the periods under review. These returns showed an increase of 1.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with the last week in September, and of 4.3 per cent., compared with a year ago.

Employment in London continued quiet, but was fair with handsewn makers. In Leicester, although the amount of wages paid showed a marked improvement, compared with a month ago and a year ago, most firms reported some short time, and the Trade Union lasters and finishers reported employment as bad, with many unemployed. Employment in Northampton was fair. At Stafford the Trade Union lasters and finishers reported one-third of their members as on short time; at Stone short time was general. The Trade Union lasters and finishers reported employment as good at Bishop Auckland, Chesterfield, and Kendal, bad at Birmingham and Nottingham. In Scotland employment was reported as improved at Glasgow, good at Maybole, Kilmarnock, Dundee, and Aberdeen, and fairly good at Edinburgh; it was good in the handsewn branch generally.

District.	Workpeople covered by the Returns.		Earnings.					
	No. employed during last week in Oct., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with last week in Sept., 1905.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on last pay-day in Oct., 1905.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with last week in Sept., 1905.	
					£	Per cent.	£	Per cent.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.</b>								
London ... ..	3,186	+ 1.6	+ 2.5	3,835	- 0.5	12,001	+ 6.9	+ 5.3
Leicester ... ..	12,643	+ 0.4	+ 1.1	2,427	- 0.5	2,427	- 0.5	+ 3.6
Leicester Country District	2,726	+ 0.1	- 0.1					
Northampton ... ..	8,268	- 1.0	+ 8.3	8,440	- 0.3	8,440	- 0.3	+ 12.3
Northampton Country District	9,259	+ 1.1	+ 4.2	8,543	+ 2.2	8,543	+ 2.2	+ 6.0
Stafford ... ..	3,109	- 1.1	+ 2.7	3,233	- 1.6	3,233	- 1.6	+ 7.8
Stafford and District ... ..	2,390	- 1.0	+ 1.8	1,862	- 6.9	1,862	- 6.9	- 0.4
Norwich and District ... ..	3,723	+ 1.3	+ 8.0	3,053	+ 0.8	3,053	+ 0.8	+ 13.6
Bristol and District ... ..	2,005	+ 0.9	+ 1.2	1,897	- 3.9	1,897	- 3.9	+ 3.4
Kingswood ... ..	2,558	- 0.4	- 1.9	2,834	- 0.4	2,834	- 0.4	+ 4.2
Leeds and District ... ..	2,663	- 0.5	- 5.6	2,814	- 1.2	2,814	- 1.2	+ 0.7
Manchester and District ... ..	1,873	+ 0.7	- 3.5	1,756	- 1.8	1,756	- 1.8	+ 2.3
Birmingham and District ... ..	875	- 2.7	- 8.4	768	- 5.7	768	- 5.7	- 3.6
Other parts of England and Wales	2,947	+ 0.3	+ 0.8	2,438	- 2.8	2,438	- 2.8	+ 3.7
<b>England and Wales ... ..</b>	<b>59,245</b>	<b>- 0.0</b>	<b>+ 2.3</b>	<b>55,901</b>	<b>+ 0.8</b>	<b>55,901</b>	<b>+ 0.8</b>	<b>+ 4.7</b>
<b>SCOTLAND ... ..</b>	<b>4,076</b>	<b>+ 1.6</b>	<b>- 2.9</b>	<b>4,065</b>	<b>+ 4.3</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>+ 4.0</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>
<b>IRELAND ... ..</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>- 4.1</b>	<b>- 3.5</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>- 4.0</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>- 4.0</b>	<b>- 4.7</b>
<b>UNITED KINGDOM ... ..</b>	<b>65,838</b>	<b>+ 0.1</b>	<b>+ 1.9</b>	<b>60,350</b>	<b>+ 1.0</b>	<b>60,350</b>	<b>+ 1.0</b>	<b>+ 4.3</b>

**Imports and Exports.**—The following Table gives the quantities and values of the boots and shoes imported, exported, and re-exported during October, 1905, and the ten months ended October, 1905, together with the increases or decreases, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1904 and 1903:

	Month ended Oct. 31st, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with October, 1904.		Ten months ended Oct. 31st, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with corresponding period in 1904.	
		1904.	1903.		1904.	1903.
<b>Imports</b>						
Dozen pairs ... ..	79,551	+ 1,705	- 2,403	183,742	+ 5,743	- 19,079
Value ... ..	£ 74,358	+ 8,553	- 16,396	£ 709,150	+ 51,298	- 104,793
<b>Re-Exports</b>						
Dozen pairs ... ..	1,019	- 488	- 947	11,841	- 3,509	- 6,353
Value ... ..	£ 3,219	- 1,941	- 1,916	£ 32,485	- 10,935	- 16,753
<b>Exports (British and Irish)</b>						
Dozen pairs ... ..	73,550	+ 8,382	+ 10,572	636,236	+ 97,436	- 25,284
Value ... ..	£ 179,893	+ 34,271	+ 27,902	£ 1,541,384	+ 269,881	- 37,671

**HAT TRADE.**

(Based on Returns from Employers' and Trade Unions.)

In the *Silk* hat trade the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of October was 13.0, compared with 13.8 at the end of September and 11.3 a year ago. In London employment was quiet, but better than a month ago and a year ago. In Denton it continued quiet, with considerable short time. In the *Felt* hat trade the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of October was 2.6, compared with 2.5 at the end of September, and 1.2 a year ago. Employment generally was fairly good.

**OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, Local Correspondents, Trade Unions, and Women's Employment Bureaux in London.)

EMPLOYMENT in London showed an improvement in the dressmaking trade and a decline in the blouse and millinery trades; it was generally better than a year ago; firms employing 7,604 workpeople in the dressmaking, blouse, and millinery trades in the last week in October employed 121 more than a month ago, and 255 more than a year ago. Employment in the shirt and collar trade was moderate, and better than a year ago. In the corset trade it continued moderate, but was better than a month ago and a year ago.

**Dress, Millinery, and Mantle Trades.**—In London returns from retail firms, chiefly in the West-end district, employing 1,766 dressmakers in the last week in October, showed an increase of 7.3 per cent. in the number employed, compared with a month ago, and of 2.7 per cent., compared with a year ago; employment during the month was fairly good. Court dressmakers, employing 1,577 workpeople, showed an increase of 8.8 per cent., compared with a month ago, and of 7.2 per cent., compared with a year ago; employment generally was good. In the wholesale mantle, costume and blouse trades, firms employing 2,988 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) during the last week in October showed a decrease of 2.1 per cent., compared with a month ago, and an increase of 1.3 per cent., compared with a year ago; employment generally was moderate. Firms employing 1,273 milliners showed a decrease of 4.8 per cent., compared with a month ago, but an increase of 5.4 per cent., compared with a year ago.

Returns from two Employment Bureaux showed an increase in the demand for dressmakers and milliners, compared with a month ago and a year ago, and a considerable decrease in the supply.

In Manchester employment with mantle makers continued good, and was better than a month ago and a year ago. In the costume and skirt trade employment showed a decline, but was better than a year ago; firms employing 1,820 workpeople in the last week in October showed a decrease of 2.2 per cent. in the number employed, compared with a month ago, and an increase of 3.5 per cent., compared with a year ago.

In Glasgow employment with mantle makers was good, and better than a year ago.

**Shirt and Collar Trade.**—Returns received from shirt and collar manufacturers in England, Scotland, and Ireland, employing 6,045 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) and paying £3,995 in wages during the last week in October, showed an increase of 0.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago, and of 5.0 per cent., compared with a year ago. Employment was moderate in London, good in Manchester, fair in Glasgow and Belfast, moderate in Londonderry.

**Corset Trade.**—Returns received from corset manufacturers employing 3,917 workpeople in their factories at the end of October showed an increase of 4.5 per cent. in the number employed, compared with a month ago, and of 2.4 per cent., compared with a year ago. Employment generally was reported as moderate during the month. Compared with a year ago, firms employing 40 per cent. reported employment as improved, firms employing 32 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 28 per cent. as worse.

**OTHER LEATHER TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from an Employers' Association, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during October was quiet on the whole. It was slightly better than a month ago, and considerably better than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 4,763 had 5.6 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 6.0 per cent. in September and 9.8 per cent. in October, 1904.

**Skinner, Tanners, Curriers, Dressers, etc.**—Employment was moderate on the whole, better than a month ago, and considerably better than a year ago. With curriers it was good in London, Edinburgh, and Glasgow.

**Saddle and Harness Makers, etc.**—Employment continued quiet, but showed some improvement as compared with a year ago. Short time was still worked at Walsall. In London employment was fair with saddlers, but remained bad with harness makers. With horse-collar makers employment was slack generally, and not so good as a month ago.

**Miscellaneous Leather Workers.**—Employment with portmanteau and trunk makers continued fair. With fancy leather workers it was bad, and worse than in September, but better than a year ago.

**PAPER, PRINTING AND BOOK-BINDING TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good in the paper trade. In the printing trade it was quiet, but slightly better than a month ago; compared with a year ago it declined with letterpress printers and improved with lithographic printers. In the bookbinding trade employment was fair, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

**PAPER TRADE.**

Employment in the machine trade continued fair in England. In Scotland it was reported as good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. In the hand-made trade employment continued quiet; it was rather better than a month ago, and rather worse than a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 19,688 workpeople at the end of October show that there was practically no change in the total number of workpeople employed, as compared with the end of September. As compared with October, 1904, there was a slight increase in the number employed.

	Number of Workpeople paid Wages in last week of Oct., 1905, by firms making Returns.	Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in No. of Workpeople as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Machine-made Paper and Milled Boards:</b>			
Northern Counties ... ..	6,307	- 0.0	- 0.2
Midlands, Wales and Ireland ... ..	1,550	- 2.6	- 3.7
Southern Counties ... ..	5,888	+ 0.5	+ 2.1
Scotland ... ..	5,020	+ 0.2	+ 0.6
<b>Total Machine-made Paper, &amp;c. ... ..</b>	<b>18,765</b>	<b>- 0.0</b>	<b>+ 0.5</b>
<b>Hand-made Paper ... ..</b>	<b>923</b>	<b>+ 0.9</b>	<b>- 1.1</b>
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>19,688</b>	<b>+ 0.0</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>

Trade Unions in the machine trade with 1,733 members had 3.2 per cent. unemployed at the end of October, against 2.4 a month ago and 1.5 per cent. a year ago. In the hand-made trade, Trade Unions with 617 members had 6.0 per cent. unemployed, against 7.1 in September, 1905, and 5.5 in October, 1904.

**PRINTING TRADES.**

Employment remained quiet, but was slightly better than a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decline in letterpress printing and an improvement in lithographic printing. Trade Unions of letterpress printers with 40,391 members had 5.2 per cent. unemployed

at the end of the month, compared with 5.5 per cent. in September, 1905, and 4.5 per cent. in October, 1904. Trade Unions of lithographic printers and artists with 6,455 members had 4.9 per cent. unemployed at the end of October, against 5.0 a month ago and 5.8 a year ago.

The following Table shows by districts the percentage unemployed in certain Trade Unions in the *Printing Trades*:

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Oct., 1905 included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed as compared with a	
		Oct., 1905.	Sept., 1905.	Oct., 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London ... ..	18,600	6.3	7.4	4.5	- 1.1	+ 1.8
Northern Counties and Yorkshire ... ..	5,245	4.6	5.1	4.1	- 0.5	+ 0.5
Lancs. and Cheshire ... ..	6,766	5.6	3.9	6.5	+ 1.7	- 0.9
East Midland and Eastern Counties ... ..	2,388	3.2	2.0	4.5	+ 1.2	- 1.3
West Midlands ... ..	2,317	4.9	5.6	5.9	- 0.7	- 1.0
S. & S. W. Counties and Wales ... ..	3,623	2.6	2.7	2.2	- 0.1	+ 0.4
Scotland ... ..	5,484	2.4	3.0	3.0	- 0.6	- 0.6
Ireland ... ..	2,423	8.9	7.3	9.7	+ 1.6	- 0.8
<b>United Kingdom ... ..</b>	<b>46,846</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>- 0.2</b>	<b>+ 0.5</b>

**London.**—Employment with letterpress printers was slack, but considerably better than a month ago, though worse than a year ago. Trade Unions with 16,690 members having 6.4 per cent. unemployed, compared with 7.5 in September, and 4.1 in October, 1904. Electrotypers and stereotypers, however, continued fairly well employed, with some overtime. In the lithographic trade employment with printers, though still quiet, was better than a month ago and a year ago; with artists, employment was good.

**Other Centres.**—In Edinburgh the letterpress branches continued busy, overtime still being worked; lithographic printers and typefounders reported an improvement. At Glasgow letterpress printers remained fairly well employed; lithographic printers reported employment as moderate. At Manchester letterpress printers were fairly well employed at the beginning of the month, but at the end of the month employment was slack; in the lithographic trade employment continued good with artists and fair with printers. At Liverpool employment was slack generally. With letterpress printers at Sheffield and Bradford there was an improvement, owing to municipal election work, but at Leeds a good deal of short time was worked. At Newcastle and Leicester employment declined, partly owing in each case to the collapse of an evening newspaper. At Birmingham employment was moderate generally. At Derby and Nottingham it was good with letterpress printers, but lithographic printers at the latter town were badly employed, much short time being worked. At Oxford employment continued to improve with compositors and to decline with machine minders. At Bristol employment with letterpress printers was bad, and worse than a month ago; with lithographic printers it was good, overtime being worked. At Plymouth letterpress printers had been fairly well employed on municipal work, but employment slackened towards the end of the month. At Dublin employment was bad.

**BOOKBINDING TRADES.**

Employment was fair on the whole and much better than a month ago. It was also better than a year ago.

The following Table shows the percentage unemployed in certain Trade Unions:

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Oct., 1905 included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed as compared with a	
		Oct., 1905.	Sept., 1905.	Oct., 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London ... ..	3,671	2.7	4.0	4.2	- 1.3	- 1.5
Other Districts ... ..	3,294	4.3	6.3	4.9	- 2.0	- 0.6
<b>United Kingdom ... ..</b>	<b>6,965</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>- 1.6</b>	<b>- 1.0</b>



In London a considerable number of men worked overtime, but some were still on short time. In Edinburgh employment remained good. At Manchester it was reported as moderate; at Liverpool as dull; at Dublin as improving.

**FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during October continued fair on the whole, and about the same as a month ago, but was better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members in the furnishing and woodworking trades unemployed at the end of October was 5.3, as compared with 5.1 at the end of September, 1905, and with 7.0 at the end of October, 1904.

**Millsawyers and Woodcutting Machinists.**

Employment with millsawyers and woodcutting machinists continued slack, and was rather worse than a month ago. It was, however, better than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 4,719 showed 248 (or 5.3 per cent.) unemployed at the end of October, as compared with 4.8 per cent. at the end of September, 1905, and 6.2 per cent. at the end of October, 1904.

**Furnishing Trades.**

In the furnishing trades employment continued slack on the whole, and was about the same as a month ago. It was better than a year ago. Sixteen Trade Unions, with a membership of 13,933, showed 961 (or 6.9 per cent.) unemployed at the end of October, as compared with 6.5 at the end of September, 1905, and 8.6 per cent. at the end of October, 1904.

**Coopers.**

Employment with coopers was slightly better than a month ago and a year ago. It continued good at Fraserburgh and Peterhead, and was fair at Edinburgh, Hull and Manchester.

**Coachbuilding.**

Employment in the coachbuilding industry continued moderate. It was not quite so good as a month ago, but was better than a year ago. Trade Unions of coach-makers, wheelwrights, smiths, &c., with a membership of 8,199, reported 323 (or 3.9 per cent.) unemployed at the end of October, as compared with 3.3 per cent. at the end of September, 1905, and 6.5 per cent. at the end of October, 1904.

**Miscellaneous.**

**Brushmakers.**—Employment with brushmakers on the whole was better than a month ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 1,671 reported 77 (or 4.6 per cent.) unemployed at the end of October, as compared with 5.8 per cent. at the end of September, 1905, and 8.6 per cent. at the end of October, 1904.

**Other Trades.**—With packing-case makers employment was fair; with basket makers it was good, and better than a month ago.

**GLASS, POTTERY, AND BRICK AND TILE TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the Glass trades continued dull on the whole. In the Pottery trades there was again an improvement, and employment was fair on the whole. It continued only moderate in the Brick and Tile trades.

**Glass Trades.**—Employment with glass bottle-makers was dull on the whole, and showed little change as compared with a month ago. It continued fair at Glasgow, and had improved at Bristol. Makers of medicine bottles at Rotherham were fairly busy.

Employment with flint-glass makers was dull on the whole, and about the same as a month ago, but worse than a year ago. It was, however, good at Birmingham, fairly good at Stourbridge, and fair at Glasgow. With flint-glass cutters employment continued moderate generally, and was better than a year ago. It was,

however, good at Wordsley, quiet at Edinburgh, and bad at Glasgow. Employment with sheet glass makers and flatteners at St. Helens continued good. With pressed glass makers in the Tyne and Wear district it continued slack, with much short time, though there was a slight improvement in the Wear district. With plate-glass bevellers and silverers at Birmingham employment was fair, and better than a month ago. With glass blowers in London it continued fairly good, and was better than a year ago.

**Pottery Trades.**—In Staffordshire employment continued to improve, and was fairly good. At Swadlincote (Derbyshire) employment was worse, with much short time. At Newcastle-on-Tyne it continued fair. In the South Yorkshire district it was fair, and better than a month ago. Employment in the North and South Devon districts was quiet on the whole.

In Scotland employment generally continued fair. At Glasgow it was good with stoneware throwers, quiet with white hollow-ware potters, and bad with tobacco-pipe makers.

**Brick and Tile Trades.**—Employment in the Peterborough district showed little change. It was bad at Birmingham, Ipswich, Sudbury and Glasgow; slack in the Market Harborough and Sibley districts, and in North Wales; dull at Calstock and Gunnislake; moderate at Nottingham, Chelmsford, and in the Tees and Hartlepool district; fair in South Staffordshire; improving at Exeter; and good at Oldham and in South Wales.

**AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.**

(Based on Reports from Correspondents in various parts of England.)

EMPLOYMENT generally was regular during October. The weather was fine on the whole, and field work suffered but little interruption. In some districts, however, a few day labourers were irregularly employed, on account of the forward state of the work. The supply of extra labour was generally quite sufficient for the demand.

**Northern Counties.**—Regularity of employment is reported in Cumberland and Westmorland. In Lancashire farm work was well forward, and some day labourers lost time on this account. A correspondent in the Garstang Union states that some men found employment on public works in the neighbourhood. Sowing wheat and lifting roots provided regular employment for day labourers generally in Yorkshire. There was an ample supply of both day and permanent labour in most districts of the county, but in the Ripon Union the demand for extra men is said to have been somewhat in excess of the supply.

**Midland Counties.**—Employment was fairly regular in Cheshire and Derbyshire. The supply of men for permanent situations is stated to have been rather greater than the demand in the Hayfield Union (Derbyshire). In Nottinghamshire day labourers were in demand for root-lifting and threshing, but the supply was sufficient. A report from the Basford Union states that more permanent labourers were offering than for some time past. Employment was regular in Leicestershire, and the weather was favourable for all outdoor work. Potato lifting furnished a good deal of employment in Staffordshire and Shropshire. The supply of casual labour was generally equal to the demand in these counties, except in the Wellington Union, where some scarcity of day labourers is reported. Owing to the dry weather, employment was generally regular with day labourers in Worcestershire and Warwickshire. In certain districts some difficulty was found in obtaining men for permanent situations. Employment was regular in Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, and Buckinghamshire. The supply of day labourers in these counties was plentiful, but there was some scarcity of men for permanent situations. In Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire threshing, wheat drilling, and root lifting provided full employment. A scarcity of men for tending horses and cattle is reported from the Luton Union.

**Eastern Counties.**—Correspondents in Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire report that employment was regular during October. The supply of casual labour was about equal to the demand. A correspondent in the St. Neots Union mentions a scarcity of lads for ploughing. Except for some little interruption by rain, employment was fairly regular in Lincolnshire. Day labourers were in some demand for threshing, but the supply was generally sufficient. Some day labourers lost time in Norfolk owing to wet weather. In Suffolk and Essex day labourers were mostly in regular employment on such work as threshing and lifting and storing roots. The supply of such men was in excess of the demand in several districts.

**Southern and South Western Counties.**—Employment was generally regular in Kent and Surrey, and agricultural work is well forward. In Sussex and Hampshire wheat-sowing was generally finished, and there was a good deal of work in raising and storing roots. There was a plentiful supply of day labourers in most districts. Employment was regular in Berkshire. Good progress was made with field work in Wiltshire. The supply of extra men was, generally speaking, in excess of the demand, but a scarcity of thatchers is reported from the Wantage Union. Employment was fairly regular in Dorset, although frost hindered work on the root crop, and wheat-sowing was delayed by the dry state of the land. Regularity of employment is reported from Somerset. Some scarcity of extra labour is mentioned in the Langport and Wells Unions. In Herefordshire the supply of odd men was generally sufficient. A correspondent in the Ledbury Union states that stockmen and teamsters, and men for ploughing and hedge-making were difficult to obtain. There was a good deal of work for day labourers in Gloucestershire, in threshing, root-gathering, manure-carting and hedge-cutting, but the supply of such men was quite sufficient. Regularity of employment is reported from Devon and Cornwall. The supply of labour was generally ample, but a scarcity of men for permanent situations is mentioned in the South Molton and Camelford Unions.

**DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.**

(Based, as regards London, on Returns from Dock Companies, the Owners of the principal Wharves, the Shipping Federation, and Trade Unions; as regards other principal ports, on information supplied by Superintendents of Mercantile Marine, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents of the Department.)

EMPLOYMENT was moderate on the whole, and worse than a month ago and a year ago.

**London.\***—Employment was fair during the first two weeks of the month, but during the third week there was a decline in the numbers employed at some of the docks, and taking the month as a whole little change is shown compared with September.

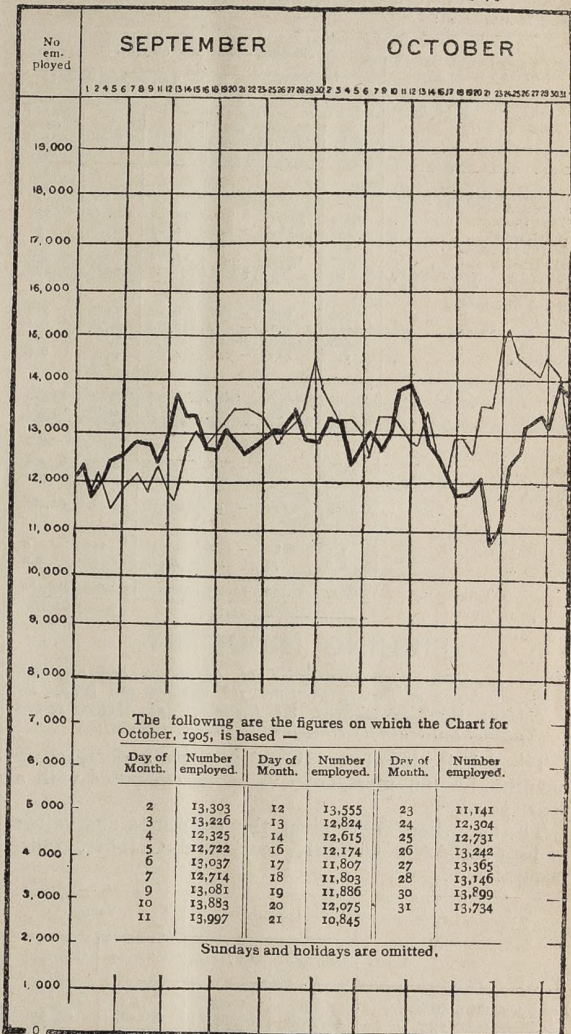
The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves during the four weeks ended October 28th was 12,658, a decrease of 0.3 per cent. on last month and of 5.8 per cent. on October, 1904.

The daily numbers in October ranged from 10,845 on the 21st to 13,997 on the 11th. During October, 1904, the numbers ranged from 12,212 on the 17th to 15,170 on the 25th.

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves.			At 108 Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended Oct. 7th	5,042	1,913	6,955	5,933	12,888
" " " 14th	4,987	2,226	7,213	6,113	13,326
" " " 21st	4,545	1,254	5,799	5,966	11,765
" " " 28th	4,725	1,937	6,662	5,993	12,655
Average for 4 weeks ended Oct. 28th	4,825	1,832	6,657	6,001	12,658
Average for Sept., 1905	5,218	1,840	7,058	5,644	12,702
Average for Oct., 1904	5,337	2,074	7,411	6,031	13,442

\* Exclusive of Tilbury † Revised figures.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 108 of the principal Wharves, for each day during the months of September and October, 1905. The corresponding curve for September and October 1904, is also given comparison. (The thick curve applies to 1905, and the thin curve to 1904.)



In Liverpool employment was dull with dock labourers, and rather worse than a month ago. With flatmen and quay and railway carters employment was moderate, having improved in the case of the carters mainly owing to importations of dried fruit for the Christmas market.

In South Wales employment with coal trimmers was reported as slack at Cardiff and Barry; fair at Swansea at Newport. Patent fuel work was reported as slack; work on the discharging of iron ore and timber as fair; general dock labour as slack at Cardiff, fair at Swansea.

**Other Ports.**—Employment, on the whole, was moderate, and worse than a month ago. At Dundee, however, it was reported as much improved, owing to imports of jute.

**SEAMEN SHIPPED IN OCTOBER.**

(Based on Returns from the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.) RETURNS received from certain selected ports (at which 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the Foreign Trade is entered and cleared) showed that, during October, 39,152\* seamen were shipped on foreign-going vessels, an increase of 2,315 on the number shipped in October, 1904. The principal increases were at Liverpool, the Tyne ports, and London; the principal decreases were at Sunderland, Swansea, and Bristol.

During the ten completed months of 1905, 374,659 seamen were shipped, of whom 53,219 (or 14.2 per cent.) were foreigners. Compared with the corresponding period of 1904, this shows an increase of 6,481: the

\* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, not of separate individuals.



greatest increases were at Liverpool and Glasgow, and the most marked decreases at Southampton and Bristol.

Table showing number\* of persons shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom during the periods mentioned:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in					
	October,			Ten months ended October.		
	1904.	1905.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1905.	1904.	1905.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1905.
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>						
<b>East Coast.</b>						
Tyne Ports ...	2,353	3,090	+ 737	29,002	28,647	- 355
Sunderland ...	454	311	- 143	4,885	4,630	- 255
Middlesbrough ...	301	318	+ 17	2,603	2,967	+ 364
Hull ...	1,093	1,093	...	11,152	10,892	- 260
Grimsby ...	60	63	+ 3	950	1,322	+ 372
<b>Bristol Channel.</b>						
Bristol ...	799	681	- 118	6,692	5,973	- 719
Newport, Mon. ...	732	739	+ 7	8,214	9,118	+ 904
Cardiff ...	4,668	4,039	- 629	45,275	45,727	+ 452
Swansea ...	548	425	- 123	4,839	4,953	+ 114
<b>Other Ports.</b>						
Liverpool ...	13,701	14,877	+ 1,176	134,333	139,016	+ 4,683
London ...	6,354	7,074	+ 720	60,848	61,201	+ 353
Southampton ...	2,983	2,133	- 850	21,525	19,497	- 2,028
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
Leith ...	288	293	+ 5	3,690	4,120	+ 430
Kirkcaldy, Methil, & Grange-mouth	116	235	+ 117	1,978	2,280	+ 302
Glasgow ...	2,960	2,862	- 98	29,938	31,424	+ 1,486
<b>IRELAND.</b>						
Dublin ...	131	85	- 46	717	715	- 2
Belfast ...	246	246	...	2,417	2,168	- 249
Total ...	36,837	39,152	+ 2,315	368,178	374,659	+ 6,481

**FISHING INDUSTRY.**

(Based on Returns from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Collectors of Fishery Statistics for England and Wales, the Fishery Board for Scotland, the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, and Local Correspondents.)

The fish landed during October show a decrease in quantity, but an increase in value, as compared with a year ago.

The following Table gives the quantities and values of fish landed in October, 1905, and October, 1904, respectively:—

	Quantity.		Value.	
	Oct., 1905.	Oct., 1904.	Oct., 1905.	Oct., 1904.
<b>Fish (other than Shell):</b>	Cwts.	Cwts.	£	£
England and Wales ...	1,529,264	1,774,578	832,989	609,918
Scotland ...	242,721	257,066	132,337	114,731
Ireland ...	185,706	107,137	57,029	39,293
Total ...	1,957,691	2,138,781	1,022,955	754,942
<b>Shell Fish</b> ...	—	—	33,995	37,824
Total Value ...	—	—	1,076,950	792,766

From the Tyne, Blyth and Wear it is reported that only moderate supplies of white fish and poor catches of herrings were landed during the month, fishing operations being interrupted by bad weather.

At Hull employment continued good among fishermen, and fair with fish curers. With fishermen it was better than a year ago, and with fish curers it was the same. Among fish dock labourers employment was good, better than last month, and the same as in October, 1904. Employment at Grimsby continued good among all classes, and was better than a year ago. At Yarmouth it was good with all classes, better than a month ago, and the same as in October, 1904. Employment was fair with all classes at Lowestoft, and with fishermen at Harwich.

Fishing operations from Brixham and Plymouth were fairly successful, but from the Cornish coast the catches were light. Employment with fish packers, carters, and curers was moderate. At Cardiff, Swansea and Milford fair catches were landed.

Employment in all branches continued good generally at Aberdeen and Peterhead, and was the same as a year ago. At Macduff it was moderate with fishermen and

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

fish curers, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. Employment at Fraserburgh was only moderate with fishermen, owing to stormy weather, and was worse than last month and a year ago. With fish dock labourers it was fair, and worse than a month ago, but the same as in October, 1904. With fish curers it continued good, and was the same as a year ago. At Dundee fishing was not so good, but at Arbroath and Montrose fair catches were landed.

Off the South and South-Western coasts of Ireland fishing was unusually good during the month.

**LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.**

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

**Workmen's Compensation Acts.**

**SUB-CONTRACTING: WORK ANCILLARY TO BUSINESS OF UNDERTAKERS.**

It is provided by the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, that in an employment to which the Act applies, where the undertakers contract with any person for the execution by such contractor of any work, and the undertakers would, if such work were executed by workmen immediately employed by them, be liable to pay compensation under the Act to their workmen in respect of any accident arising out of and in the course of their employment, the undertakers shall be liable to pay to any such workmen any compensation which is payable to the workman by such contractor, or would be so payable if such contractor were an employer to whom the Act applied. This provision, however, does not apply where the work contracted to be done is merely ancillary or incidental to, and is no part of, or process in, the trade or business carried on by the undertakers.

A company carried on business as colliery proprietors, and as brick manufacturers, and also made machinery plant and carried on several other businesses. For the purposes of these various enterprises a large amount of steam power was required, and the company possessed eighty boilers. The boilers were connected with the various parts of the works by pipes, and in order to minimise waste the pipes were coated with a non-conductive composition. The company sometimes employed their own men to do this coating, sometimes it was done under contract by men not in their employ. They contracted with the chemical manufacturers, who supplied the composition to do some of this coating, and while doing it one of the workmen employed by the chemical manufacturers was injured. This man claimed compensation from the company, but the County Court Judge refused to make an award in his favour on the ground that the work done by the claimant was not part of the business carried on by the company but merely ancillary to their business.

On appeal this decision was affirmed by the Court of Appeal.—*Morris v. New Huchnall Colliery Co., Ltd., Court of Appeal, October 26th, 1905.*

**WHAT IS A WAREHOUSE? : QUESTION OF FACT.**

The Act applies to employment in a factory, and "factory" includes "warehouse." A man was employed by a maker of lifts. The lifts, which as a rule were only made to order, were built in a long shed adjoining the house and shop where the manufacturer lived and carried on business. Some materials for use in the construction of the lifts were stored in the shed. While the man was helping to prepare a piece of iron for use in the construction of a lift, he was accidentally struck in the eye by a chip of metal and the eye had to be removed. On the hearing of a claim for compensation, the County Court Judge decided that the shed was a warehouse within the meaning of the Act, and made an award in favour of the workman.

On appeal, the Court of Appeal held it was a question of fact whether the place was a warehouse or not, and they saw no reason to interfere with the decision of the Judge.—*Clark v. Clark, Court of Appeal, October 25th, 1905.*

**ON OR IN OR ABOUT AN ENGINEERING WORK: REPAIRING TRAMWAY WIRES.**

The Act applies to employment on or in or about an engineering work. "Engineering work" is defined to mean any work of construction or alteration or repair of a railroad. It has been judicially decided that a tramway along a road is a "railroad" within this definition.

The Corporation of a town were the owners of electric tramways in the streets. A workman was employed by them in the work of repairing the overhead wires of the system. For this purpose he was supplied with a tower wagon which was a high trolley moved from place to place by a horse, and fitted with a lofty platform by means of which he was enabled to reach the wires. One day having finished certain repairs at one part of the tramway, he started driving the trolley along a street over which the tramway ran towards another place three-quarters of a mile distant where repairs were required. He had only gone about 200 yards when the horse bolted, and he was thrown out and injured. He claimed compensation and the County Court Judge made an award in his favour. The Corporation appealed.

It was argued before the Court of Appeal that the Act did not apply to the applicant as he was not at the time of the injury employed on or in or about an engineering work. The Court of Appeal said that the work must be done within the physical limits of the undertaking, but the Judge had decided that these limits were co-extensive with the tramway itself and not confined to the particular point where work had been done, and he was justified on the facts in so deciding. The appeal was therefore dismissed.—*Rogers v. Mayor & Corporation of Cardiff, Court of Appeal, October 27th, 1905.*

**ACT OF 1900: WHO ARE WORKMEN IN AGRICULTURE? : FARM CARPENTER.**

It is provided by the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1900, that the Act of 1897 shall apply to the employment of workmen in agriculture. Where any workman is employed by the same employer, mainly in agriculture but partly or occasionally in other work, the Act applies also to the employment of the workman in such other work. The expression "agriculture" is defined to include horticulture, forestry, and the use of land for any purpose of husbandry, inclusive of the keeping or breeding of live stock, poultry or bees, and the growth of fruit and vegetables.

A man, who was a carpenter by trade, was employed by a farmer as farm carpenter and keeper. He helped in carting fences and gates and put up wire netting. He helped in carting work, and lent a hand at harvest work and at rick-making, but never did any ploughing. For two or three months in the year he acted as gamekeeper, looking after partridges, hares and rabbits and trapping vermin. In November, 1904, he received orders from his employer's son to repair the fence of an enclosure. On his way to the enclosure, and also on his way back, he was accompanied by the son, who carried a gun, and shot rabbits. They had reached the farmyard on the way back, and the workman was walking towards the carpenter's shop, when, by some accident, the gun carried by his companion was discharged and he was injured. As a consequence the workman's leg had to be amputated, and subsequently he claimed compensation under the Acts. The County Court Judge made an award of compensation, and the employer appealed.

It was argued before the Court of Appeal that the applicant was not an agricultural workman, and that the Acts did not apply to him. The Court, however, upheld the award, holding that there was evidence upon which the Judge was justified in finding that the applicant's employment was "mainly" in agricultural work, he being employed always on and for the purposes of the farm, and for the greater part of his time in work essential to the proper conduct of the farm.—*Smith v. Coles, Court of Appeal, October 26th, 1905.*

**COMPENSATION IN CASE OF DEATH: MODE OF CALCULATION.**

Where death results from an injury, and the workman leaves dependants wholly dependent upon his earnings at the time of his death, the compensation payable under the Act of 1897, is a sum equal to his earnings in the employment of the same employer during the three years next preceding the injury or the sum of £150, whichever of those sums is the larger, but not exceeding in any case £300. If the workman does not leave any such dependants, but leaves any dependants in part dependent upon such earnings, the compensation is such sum, not exceeding in any case the amount payable under the first mentioned provision, as may be agreed upon, or, in default of agreement, may be determined on arbitration under the Act, to be reasonable and proportionate to the injury to the said dependants.

A workman in the employment of a wool-combing company accidentally contracted anthrax in the course of his employment and died in consequence. His widow claimed compensation under the Act. The workman's wages were 19s. 10d. a week. In her husband's lifetime the applicant earned 1s. 10d. a week by washing. The County Court Judge awarded her £150. The employers appealed on the ground that this sum was excessive under the provisions of the Act.

It was argued before the Court of Appeal that the Judge ought to have gone into the question what sum was necessary to maintain the man during his life, and that that sum ought to be deducted from the wages before the injury to the widow could be arrived at; also that as she was only partly dependent on his earnings the maximum sum payable in case of total dependency must be reduced proportionately. The Court dismissed the appeal, holding that the Act did not attempt to measure the precise amount of a loss. It fixed a maximum beyond which the compensation must not go, but neither in the case of persons wholly or partially dependent did any consideration enter into the calculation as to what the deceased man had spent on himself. The Judge had decided upon the facts. There was no evidence that the award was made upon any wrong principle, and the amount awarded was not beyond the maximum.—*Osmond v. Campbell & Harrison, Ltd., Court of Appeal, October 27th, 1905.*

**RECORDING MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT: AGREEMENT MADE UNDER MISTAKE.**

It is provided by the rules made under the Acts that where the amount of compensation is fixed by agreement, a memorandum of the agreement may be recorded by the officer of the court. If all the parties admit the genuineness of the memorandum, or do not dispute it within a reasonable time, the Officer must record it without further proof.

A workman employed by a shipbuilding company was injured in March, 1904, and his employers made an agreement to pay him

compensation at the rate of 16s. a week. They paid this compensation weekly until July, 1904, when they discovered that in fact the man had only been in their employment for one day when he was injured, and that he was, therefore, entitled to only 3s. 2d. a week, being half of what he had actually earned. The company, therefore, ceased paying the agreed compensation. The injured man thereupon sent a memorandum of the agreement to the Sheriff-Clerk to be recorded. The company objected to the agreement being recorded, but the Sheriff-Substitute ordered it to be recorded. The Sheriff, however, overruled this order, and refused to order the agreement to be recorded on the ground that it was arrived at under an error of fact.

On appeal the Court of Session decided that the Sheriff-Substitute was right, and that the only duty of the officer of the court was to record the memorandum if it were genuine on the face of it.—*Macdonald v. Fairfield Shipbuilding Co., Ltd., Court of Session, October 20th, 1905.*

**PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT, AND FLOUR.**

**I.—BREAD.\***

THE Returns as to the price of bread per 4 lbs., as furnished by the Local Correspondents of the Department, relate to London and 26 large provincial towns at the beginning of November.

Place.	Present Price (Nov. 1st, 1905.)	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Last Change.
		Month ago.	Year ago.	
London ...	4½ d.	- ½	- ½	Oct. '05
Birmingham ...	4½ to 5½	...	...	Aug. '05
Bolton ...	5	...	...	Oct. '05
Bristol ...	5	- ½	- ½	Oct. '04
Cardiff ...	5½	...	...	...
Derby ...	4½ to 5	...	...	Feb. '05
Gateshead ...	5½	...	...	Jan. '05
Huddersfield ...	5	...	...	...
Hull ...	4½ to 5½	...	...	Feb. '04
Ipswich ...	5½	...	...	Aug. '03
Leicester ...	4½	...	...	...
Liverpool ...	5	...	...	...
Manchester ...	4½	...	...	June '05
Middlesbrough ...	6	...	...	Mar. '05
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	5½	...	...	Aug. '05
Norwich ...	5	...	...	April '05
Nottingham ...	4½	...	...	July '04
Oldham ...	5	...	...	...
Plymouth ...	4½	...	...	Sept. '05
Potteries ...	5	- ½	- ½	Feb. '05
Wolverhampton ...	4	- ½	- ½	Oct. '05
Aberdeen ...	5½	...	...	Aug. '04
Dundee ...	5½	...	...	Mar. '05
Edinburgh ...	6½	...	...	Aug. '05
Glasgow ...	6	...	...	April '05
Belfast ...	5½	- ½	- ½	May '05
Dublin ...	5½	- ½	- ½	June '05
Dublin ...	6	...	...	Sept. '05

Compared with the previous month the price of bread per 4 lbs. is ½d. less at Bristol and the Potteries; in London it is ¼d. less. No other change was recorded at any of the towns given in the Table. As compared with a year ago, decreases of ½d. per 4 lbs. have taken place at eight towns, viz., five in England and Wales (including London); two in Scotland; and one in Ireland.

**II.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.**

The Table below gives the mean London Gazette price of British wheat, the average declared value of the wheat and flour imports, and the market price of London flour (Town Households) for the periods stated:—

Month.	British Wheat.	Imports.		Average Monthly Price of London Flour (Town Households) ex Mill for cash.
		Wheat.	Wheat-meal and Flour.	
	Mean London Gazette Price (England and Wales).	Average Declared Value.	Average Declared Value.	
	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.
October 1904 ...	7 1	7 1½	10 3	10 9½
September 1905 ...	6 3½	7 1½	9 11½	9 9½
October ...	6 3½	7 2½	10 4	10 0

\* Though it is not possible to state that the quality of bread referred to is in all cases the same, the prices for each place are believed to be, generally speaking, comparable with those for a month and a year ago. The prices selected represent, so far as can be ascertained, the prevailing prices paid at the various places by workpeople for 4 lbs. of ordinary bread of average quality.



The imports of wheat from foreign countries and the Colonies from 1st September to 31st October, 1905, amounted to 15,212,500 cwts., or 4,188,800 cwts. less than in the corresponding period of 1904. The imports of wheat-meal and flour during September-October, 1905, amounted to 2,524,078 cwts., or 585,258 cwts. more than during September-October, 1904.

**DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.**

THE total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act during October was 62, consisting of 53 cases of lead poisoning, 1 of phosphorus poisoning, and 8 cases of anthrax. Six deaths were reported, 2 of which were due to lead poisoning, 1 to phosphorus poisoning, and 3 to anthrax.

During the ten months ended October, 1905, the total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax was 549, as compared with 522 during the corresponding period of 1904. The greatest increase occurred in the lead poisoning group. The number of deaths was 33, being 5 more than in the corresponding period of 1904. Deaths due to lead poisoning showed a decrease of 1, but those due to anthrax rose from 6 to 12.

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

Disease and Industry.	CASES.		DEATHS.	
	Ten Months ended Oct., 1905.		Ten Months ended Oct., 1904.	
	Oct., 1905.	1905.	1905.	1904.
<b>Lead Poisoning—</b>				
Smelting of Metals ... ..	2	22	—	1
Brass Works ... ..	—	4	—	1
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping ... ..	4	9	—	—
Plumbing and Soldering ... ..	1	18	—	2
Printing ... ..	1	15	—	4
File Cutting ... ..	1	8	—	3
Tinning and Enamelling of Iron				
Hollow-ware ... ..	—	11	—	—
White Lead Works ... ..	10	78	—	2
Red and Yellow Lead Works ... ..	2	6	—	—
China and Earthenware* ... ..	6	77	1	3
Litho-transfer Works ... ..	—	3	—	—
Glass Cutting and Polishing ... ..	—	3	—	—
Enamelling of Iron Plates ... ..	3	22	—	—
Electrical Accumulator Works ... ..	6	51	—	1
Paint and Colour Works ... ..	4	46	—	2
Coach Making ... ..	2	30	—	—
Shipbuilding ... ..	3	41	—	3
Paint used in other Industries ... ..	8	49	—	3
Other Industries ... ..	—	—	—	—
<b>Total Lead Poisoning†</b> ... ..	<b>83</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Mercurial Poisoning—</b>				
Barometer and Thermometer making	—	1	—	—
Furriers' processes ... ..	—	4	—	—
Other Industries ... ..	—	—	—	—
<b>Total Mercurial Poisoning</b> ... ..	<b>—</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Phosphorus Poisoning; ... ..</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Arsenic Poisoning—</b>				
Paints, Colours and Extraction of Arsenic ... ..	—	3	—	—
Other Industries ... ..	—	1	—	—
<b>Total Arsenic Poisoning</b> ... ..	<b>—</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Anthrax—</b>				
Wool Sorting ... ..	—	3	—	—
Wool Combing ... ..	6	23	—	—
Handling of Horsehair ... ..	—	6	—	—
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.) ... ..	2	12	—	—
Other Industries ... ..	—	1	—	—
<b>Total Anthrax</b> ... ..	<b>8</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Grand Total</b> ... ..	<b>62</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>33</b>

\* Of the 6 persons affected in the china and earthenware industry in October, 1905, 4 were females.  
 † House Painters and Plumbers.—In addition to the cases included in the Table, 25 cases of lead poisoning (including 2 deaths) were reported during October among house painters and plumbers. The number of such cases reported during the ten months ended October, 1905, was 132 (including 23 deaths), and for 1904, 128 (including 31 deaths).  
 ‡ The case of phosphorus poisoning relates to a man reported for the same disease in 1893, and the death to a woman was included in the return for April of this year.

**FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN OCTOBER.**

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

EXCLUSIVE of seamen, the number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during October, 1905, was 192, being 62 less than in September, 1905, and 29 less than in October, 1904. The mean number for October in the years 1900-1904 was 240, the maximum year in this period being 1903, with 252 deaths, and the minimum year 1904, with 221 deaths.

The number of fatal accidents to seamen reported in October, 1905, was 108. The number reported in October of the years 1900-1904 varied from 59 to 116, the mean for the five years being 93.

In the classes of industries in which the number of persons employed is approximately known, viz., Railway Service (exclusive of contractors' servants), Mines, Quarries, Shipping, Factories, and Laundries, the number of workpeople reported as killed was 282, as compared with 244 in the corresponding period of 1904. The approximate number of workpeople employed in these industries according to the latest returns was about 5,800,000.

In the following Table the accidents reported in October, 1905, are classified by the trades in which they occurred, and comparative figures are given for the preceding month and for the corresponding month of last year:—

Trade.	Number of Workpeople killed during			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Oct., 1905, as compared with a	
	Month ago.			Year ago.	
	Oct., 1905.	Sept., 1905.	Oct., 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Railway Service—</b>					
Brakemen and Goods Guards	3	3	1	—	+ 2
Engine Drivers ... ..	2	1	4	+ 1	- 2
Firemen ... ..	1	1	1	—	—
Guards (Passenger) ... ..	—	1	—	—	—
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	8	14	12	- 6	- 4
Porters ... ..	3	7	8	- 4	- 5
Shunters ... ..	4	1	—	+ 3	+ 4
Miscellaneous ... ..	12	16	16	- 4	- 4
Contractors' Servants ... ..	2	2	2	—	—
<b>Total Railway Service</b> ... ..	<b>35</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>- 11</b>	<b>- 9</b>
<b>Mines—</b>					
Underground ... ..	56	75	64	- 19	- 8
Surface ... ..	13	10	9	+ 3	+ 4
<b>Total Mines</b> ... ..	<b>69</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>- 16</b>	<b>- 4</b>
<b>Quarries over 20 feet deep</b> ... ..	<b>11</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>+ 5</b>	<b>+ 2</b>
<b>Factories—</b>					
<b>Textile—</b>					
Cotton ... ..	2	8	—	- 6	- 3
Wool and Worsted ... ..	1	5	3	- 4	- 2
Other Textiles ... ..	2	1	2	+ 1	—
<b>Non Textile—</b>					
Extraction of Metals	3	8	—	- 5	+ 3
Founding and Conversion of Metals	10	12	6	- 2	+ 4
Marine and Locomotive Engineering	2	2	2	—	—
Ship and Boat Building ... ..	7	10	9	- 3	- 2
Wood ... ..	2	3	5	- 1	- 3
Chemicals, &c. ... ..	7	4	2	+ 3	+ 5
Other Non-Textile Industries	24	34	27	- 10	- 3
<b>Total Factories</b> ... ..	<b>60</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>- 27</b>	<b>- 1</b>
<b>Workshops</b> ... ..	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>+ 1</b>	<b>+ 1</b>
<b>Accidents reported under Factory Act, Bs. 103-5—</b>					
Docks, Wharves, and Quays ... ..	9	13	13	- 4	- 4
Warehouses ... ..	—	1	—	—	—
Buildings to which Act applies	4	11	11	- 7	- 7
Laundries ... ..	1	1	—	—	+ 1
<b>Total under Factory Act, Bs. 103-5</b> ... ..	<b>14</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>- 12</b>	<b>- 10</b>
<b>Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894</b> ... ..	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>- 2</b>	<b>- 8</b>
<b>Total, exclusive of Seamen</b> ... ..	<b>192</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>- 62</b>	<b>- 29</b>
<b>Seamen—</b>					
<b>On Trading Vessels—</b>					
Sailing ... ..	33	45	12	- 12	+ 21
Steam ... ..	58	65	39	- 7	+ 19
<b>On Fishing Vessels—</b>					
Sailing ... ..	1	3	1	- 2	—
Steam ... ..	16	3	7	+ 13	+ 9
<b>Total Seamen</b> ... ..	<b>108</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>- 8</b>	<b>+ 49</b>
<b>Total, including Seamen</b> ... ..	<b>300</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>- 70</b>	<b>+ 20</b>

**TRADE DISPUTES IN OCTOBER.\***

**Number and Magnitude.**—Nine new disputes began in October, 1905, compared with 10 in September, 1905, and 15 in October, 1904. By the 9 disputes, 880 workpeople were directly and 170 indirectly affected, and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople affected by old disputes which began before October, and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 9,506 workpeople involved in trade disputes during October, 1905, compared with 14,886 in September, 1905, and 7,741 in October, 1904.

**New Disputes in October, 1905.**—In the following Table the new disputes in October are summarised by trades affected:—

Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople affected.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Building ... ..	1	32	40	72
Mining and Quarrying ... ..	2	258	—	258
Engineering ... ..	1	10	—	10
Other Metal ... ..	1	100	—	100
Textile ... ..	2	316	130	446
Other Trades ... ..	2	164	—	164
<b>Total, October, 1905</b> ... ..	<b>9</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>1,050</b>
<b>Total, September, 1905</b> ... ..	<b>10</b>	<b>1,388</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>1,509</b>
<b>Total, October, 1904</b> ... ..	<b>15</b>	<b>3,511</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>4,154</b>

**Causes.**—Of the nine new disputes, three arose on demands for increased wages, two on objections to reductions in wages, two on other wages questions, one upon a question of hours of labour, and one in sympathy with members of the same trade who were in dispute in another district.

**Results.**—Definite results were reported in October in the case of eight new disputes, affecting 900 workpeople, and three old disputes, affecting 989 workpeople. Of these eleven new and old disputes, three, involving 439 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople;

seven, involving 1,100 persons, in favour of the employers; and one involving 350 persons was compromised.

**Aggregate Duration.**—The aggregate duration in October of disputes that started or were settled in that month was 17,200 working days. In addition, 158,800 working days were lost during October owing to disputes that began before that month, and at the end of the month were still unsettled. Thus the total duration in October of all disputes, new and old, was 176,000 working days, as compared with 257,300 in the previous month, and 61,100 in the corresponding month of 1904.

**Summary for the Ten completed Months of 1904 and 1905†.**—The number of disputes, the number of workpeople affected, and the aggregate duration in working days for the ten months January-October, 1904 and 1905, respectively, were as follows:—

Groups of Trades.	January to October.					
	1904.			1905.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople affected.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople affected.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.
Building ... ..	32	8,528	343,500	23	6,315	407,000
Mining and Quarrying ... ..	90	40,736	528,800	81	39,660	884,200
Metal, Engineering, and Shipbuilding	56	10,146	144,900	53	10,758	448,700
Textile ... ..	40	11,259	117,500	48	12,865	116,400
Clothing ... ..	21	1,128	11,200	26	2,925	71,000
Transport ... ..	8	1,747	32,700	7	1,359	49,700
Other Trades ... ..	34	3,621	102,700	31	6,996	58,100
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>281</b>	<b>77,165</b>	<b>1,281,300</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>80,878</b>	<b>2,035,100</b>

**Principal Disputes.**—Particulars of the principal disputes which began or were settled during October are given below. The details of the other disputes in progress during October are not separately stated in this Table, but they are included in the preceding statistics.

**Principal Trade Disputes.**

Occupations.	Locality.	Number of Workpeople Affected.		Date when Dispute began in 1905.	Duration in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
		Directly.	Indirectly.				
<b>Building—</b>							
Plumbers ... ..	Glasgow ... ..	500	—	1 May	142	Against proposed reduction in wages from 9d. to 8d. per hour	Reduction accepted.
<b>Fishing—</b>							
Trawling Engineers, Firemen and Fishermen	Aberdeen ... ..	150	—	17 Oct.	7	For advance in wages...	Matter referred to Aberdeen Conciliation and Arbitration Board.

\* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration exceeded 100 days.  
 † In making up the totals for the several months of the year, the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information.

**FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.**

**Summary for October.**

	IMPORTS.*				
	Month ended 31st Oct.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1905 as compared with	
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1903.
<b>I.—Food, Drink and Tobacco.</b>	21,989,475	22,944,160	20,686,344	- 1,357,816	- 1,503,131
<b>II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured.†</b>	14,093,440	16,080,856	15,599,775	- 481,081	+ 1,506,335
<b>III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured;‡</b>	11,512,760	11,233,284	12,247,045	+ 1,013,761	+ 734,285
<b>IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post).</b>	162,513	159,525	143,254	- 16,271	- 19,259
<b>Total value of Imports</b>	<b>47,758,188</b>	<b>49,517,825</b>	<b>48,676,418</b>	<b>- 841,407</b>	<b>+ 918,230</b>

\* The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight; or when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.  
 † Raw cotton, wool, wood and timber, metallic ores, oils and oil-seeds, hides and skins, &c.  
 ‡ Yarns and textile fabrics, manufactures of metal and leather, chemicals, &c.

**EXPORTS OF BRITISH PRODUCE.\***

	Month ended 31st October, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1905 as compared with				
	1903.			1904.	
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1903.
<b>I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco.</b>	1,809,060	1,770,186	2,095,739	+ 325,553	+ 286,679
<b>II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured.†</b>	3,067,944	3,025,236	3,197,039	+ 170,803	+ 129,095
<b>III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured;‡</b>	20,572,759	20,263,962	23,594,344	+ 3,327,382	+ 3,018,585
<b>IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)</b>	411,417	383,393	483,434	+ 100,131	+ 72,017
<b>Total value of Exports of British produce</b>	<b>25,861,180</b>	<b>25,442,777</b>	<b>29,367,556</b>	<b>+ 3,924,779</b>	<b>+ 3,506,376</b>

The re-exports of foreign and colonial merchandise amounted to £6,381,457 in October, 1903; £5,661,373 in October, 1904, and £6,235,810 in October, 1905.

\* The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.  
 † Coal, wool, oil seeds, hides and skins, &c.  
 ‡ Yarns, textile fabrics and apparel, metal manufactures, machinery, chemicals, &c.



CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.\*

**Wages.**  
*Changes reported in October.*—The net effect of all the changes reported in October was an increase of £610 per week, as compared with an increase of £69 per week in September, 1905, and a decrease of £1,401 per week in October, 1904. The number of workpeople affected was 20,941, of whom 19,243 received advances amounting to £730 per week, and 1,698 sustained decreases amounting to £120 per week. The total number affected in September, 1905, was 24,328, and in October, 1904, 116,181.

One change, affecting 4,090 miners in Somerset, was arranged by a Conciliation Board, and eight changes, affecting 6,888 workpeople engaged in pig iron and iron and steel manufacture, took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting 9,963 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives, two of these changes, affecting 1,225 workpeople, being preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

*Summary for the Ten completed Months of 1905.*—For the ten months, January-October, 1905, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) respecting whom wages-changes were reported was 544,117, as compared with 640,296 for the corresponding period of 1904. The changes arranged gave 265,619 workpeople a net increase amounting to £12,520 per week, and 248,079 a net decrease amounting to £17,841 per week, while the remaining 30,419 had upward and downward changes which left their wages at the same level as at the beginning of the year. The net effect of all the changes reported was a decrease of £5,321 per week, as compared with a decrease of £32,536 per week in the corresponding period of 1904.

Summarised by trades, the number of workpeople

affected by the changes reported during the ten months January-October, 1904 and 1905 respectively, and the net result of the changes on their weekly wages, were as follows:—

Groups of Trades.	January-October.			
	1904.		1905.	
	No.	£	No.	£
Building ... ..	9,120	- 738	10,221	- 966
Coal Mining ... ..	505,890	-24,578	198,246	-13,471
Iron Mining ... ..	10,813	- 511	7,094	+ 302
Quarrying ... ..	2,731	- 91	8,357	+ 331
Pig Iron Manufacture ... ..	11,235	- 680	14,796	+ 844
Iron and Steel Manufacture ... ..	52,046	-2,895	37,662	+ 440
Engineering and Shipbuilding ... ..	31,034	-2,620	37,251	- 2,346
Other Metal Trades ... ..	553	+ 31	719	- 39
Textile Trades ... ..	2,619	- 59	220,331	+ 9,982
Glass, Chemical, &c. Trades ... ..	4,879	- 691	1,544	- 137
Other Trades ... ..	4,277	- 72	3,785	+ 255
Employees of Local Authorities ... ..	4,939	+ 388	4,173	+ 346
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>640,296</b>	<b>-32,536</b>	<b>544,117</b>	<b>- 5,321</b>

**Hours.**  
 The changes in hours of labour reported during October, 1905, affected 78,911 workpeople, of whom 1,400 had their working time increased by 2,719 hours per week, and 77,511 had their working time decreased by 44,602 hours per week. During the ten months, January-October, the total number of workpeople reported as affected by changes in hours of labour was 90,562, the net reduction in their working time being 58,114 hours per week.

**Principal Changes in Wages and Hours in October.**  
 Particulars of the principal changes in rates of wages and hours of labour reported in October are given below. The details of the other changes reported in October are not separately stated in this Table, but they are included in the preceding statistics.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES REPORTED IN OCTOBER.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change takes effect in 1905.	Occupation.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Particulars of Change. (Decreases in <i>Italics</i> .)
				Increase.	Decrease.	
Mining ...	Somerset (Radstock District)	29 Sept.	Coal Hewers and other Under-ground Workers	4,000	...	Advance of 2½ per cent., making wages 27½ per cent. above the standard of 1879.
			Banksmen and Screenmen Enginemens and Stokers ... ..	90	...	Advance of 2½ per cent. Advance of 2½ per cent., making wages 12½ per cent. above the standard of 1879.
Quarrying ...	Cleveland ... ..	16 Oct.	Ironstone Miners ... ..	6,800	...	Advance of 0.0125 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 22.4875 per cent. above the standard of 1879.
			North Staffordshire	1,500	...	Advance of ½ per cent. under sliding scale, making wages 14½ per cent. above the standard.
Pig Iron Manufacture	South Wales ... ..	1 Oct.	Blastfurnacemen ... ..	1,250	...	Advance of 2½ per cent. under sliding scale, making wages 2½ per cent. above the standard of 1895.
	Scotland ... ..	1 Nov.	Blastfurnacemen and Labourers ... ..	3,500	...	Advance of 10 per cent. under sliding scale, making wages 25 per cent. above the standard of 1st January, 1899.

II.—HOURS OF LABOUR.

Trade.	Locality.	Date.	Occupation.	No. of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
		1 Nov.	Stonemasons ... ..	120	Average decrease of about 1½ hours per week in winter working hours. Hours after change 41½ for 13 weeks and 44 for 4 weeks.
		2 Oct.	Plasterers ... ..	160	Average decrease of nearly 3 hours per week. Summer hours after change 5½ per week; winter hours 44 and 41½.
	London District	1 Oct.	Bricklayers, Stonemasons, Carpenters and Joiners, Painters, Smiths & Fitters, Millsawyers & Labourers	70,000†	Re-arrangement of winter working hours and extension of winter period. Hours before change, 47 for 6 weeks, and 44 for 6 weeks; after change 44 for 13 weeks.
		16 Oct.	Plumbers ... ..	1,400†	Average increase of nearly two hours per week. Summer hours after change 50 per week; winter hours 44 for 3 weeks and 41½ for 10 weeks.

\* Based on information obtained from all available sources verified and corrected by direct application to the Employers, Trade Unions, and other parties concerned. In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information.  
 The following kinds of changes are not included in the statistics:—(1) Changes in wages affecting agricultural labourers, seamen and railway servants; (2) Increments accruing under scales of pay, as in the case of policemen, some municipal employees, and many railway servants, &c.; (3) Changes in pay of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c.  
 † Estimated. ‡ Exclusive of men employed by members of the London Society of Associated Master Plumbers who are still working to the old rules.

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

The Return shows the name of every seaman whose death has been reported during the month, together with his age, nationality, and last place of abode; the cause, date, and place of death; and the name, official number, and port of registry of the ship on which he was serving.

EMIGRATION FROM UNITED KINGDOM.

DURING October 38,982 passengers left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe. Of this number 23,857 were of British or Irish origin, and 15,125 were foreigners or other persons whose nationality was not stated. As compared with October, 1904, there was a decrease of 7,540 in the number of British or Irish emigrants, and of 3,151 in the number of foreign passengers or those whose nationality was not stated. There was thus a decrease of 10,691 in the total number of emigrants.

During the ten months ended October, 1905, the total number of passengers was 412,257, an increase of 16,645 on the figure for the corresponding period of 1904. There was a decrease of 8,042 British and Irish passengers, but an increase of 24,687 foreigners, &c.

The following Table shows the destination of the passengers:—

Destination. (Country in which passenger contracted to land.)	October,		Ten months ended Oct.,		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1905.	
	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.		
British and Irish Passengers.						
<b>British Colonies and Possessions:</b>						
British North America	4,814	4,600	+ 214	78,648	66,141	+ 12,507
Australia and New Zealand	1,957	1,888	+ 69	11,726	11,289	+ 437
British South Africa ...	3,050	3,886	- 836	22,046	22,954	- 908
India (including Ceylon) ...	1,038	856	+ 182	3,435	3,315	+ 120
Other British Colonies and Possessions	651	539	+ 112	3,534	3,405	+ 129
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>11,540</b>	<b>11,769</b>	<b>- 229</b>	<b>119,440</b>	<b>107,334</b>	<b>+ 12,106</b>
<b>Foreign Countries:</b>						
United States ... ..	11,471	19,040	-7,569	111,613	132,739	-21,126
Other Foreign Countries ...	846	588	+ 258	5,380	4,402	+ 978
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>12,317</b>	<b>19,628</b>	<b>-7,311</b>	<b>116,993</b>	<b>137,141</b>	<b>-20,148</b>
<b>Total, British and Irish...</b>	<b>23,857</b>	<b>31,397</b>	<b>-7,540</b>	<b>236,433</b>	<b>244,475</b>	<b>- 8,042</b>
Foreigners and Nationality not stated.						
<b>British Colonies and Possessions:</b>						
British North America ...	1,666	1,531	+ 135	23,071	19,529	+ 3,542
British South Africa ...	377	559	- 182	3,962	4,600	- 638
Other British Colonies and Possessions	1,013	883	+ 130	4,530	4,008	+ 522
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>3,056</b>	<b>2,973</b>	<b>+ 83</b>	<b>31,563</b>	<b>28,137</b>	<b>+ 3,426</b>
<b>Foreign Countries:</b>						
United States ... ..	11,305	14,876	-3,571	138,258	119,485	+ 18,773
Other Foreign Countries ...	704	427	+ 277	6,003	3,515	+ 2,488
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>12,009</b>	<b>15,303</b>	<b>-3,294</b>	<b>144,261</b>	<b>123,000</b>	<b>+ 21,261</b>
<b>Total, Foreigners, &amp;c...</b>	<b>15,125</b>	<b>18,276</b>	<b>-3,151</b>	<b>175,824</b>	<b>151,137</b>	<b>+ 24,687</b>
<b>Grand Total, all Passengers</b>	<b>38,982</b>	<b>49,673</b>	<b>-10,691</b>	<b>412,257</b>	<b>395,612</b>	<b>+ 16,645</b>

It will be noticed that the total increase (16,645) in emigration during the ten months of 1905 is almost entirely accounted for by the increased numbers going to British North America (12,507 British and Irish passengers and 3,542 foreigners). The total number of passengers going to the United States was less by 2,353 than in the corresponding period of 1904 (British and Irish passengers showed a decrease of 21,126, but the foreigners, &c., an increase of 18,773).

ALIEN IMMIGRATION FROM CONTINENT.

During October 14,281 aliens arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent, of whom 8,473 were stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to places out of the United Kingdom, a decrease of 914 as compared with October, 1904. Those not stated to be on their way to places out of the United Kingdom numbered 4,704 (exclusive of seamen), being 3,383 less than in October, 1904. In the following Table the figures for October, 1905 and 1904, and for the ten months ended October, 1905 and 1904, are compared.

	Month of Oct.,		Ten months ended Oct.,		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1905.	
	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.		
Aliens not stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to other countries	1,104	1,189	- 85	11,650	10,700	+ 950
Seamen	4,704	8,087	-3,383	65,591	64,766	+ 825
Aliens stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to other countries	8,473	9,387	- 914	96,771	86,504	+ 10,267
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>14,281</b>	<b>18,663</b>	<b>-4,382</b>	<b>174,012</b>	<b>161,970</b>	<b>+ 12,042</b>

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE: WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.

THE Workmen's Compensation Act, 1905, recently passed by the Legislature of the Cape of Good Hope, came into force in that colony in September. The new Act repeals the Employers' Liability Act, 1886, and restricts a workman in respect of any personal accidental injury to which the Act applies to such rights as he may have under the Act. The Act applies to any employment in any trade, business, or public undertaking in the Colony, on land or upon or within the territorial waters of the Colony; except domestic, messenger and errand service, and employment in agriculture.

RAILWAY GOODS AND MINERAL TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

THE receipts from goods and mineral traffic of twenty of the principal railways during the four weeks ended October 28th, 1905, amounted to £4,422,730, an increase of £190,523 (or 4.5 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1904.

During the forty-three weeks ended October 28th, 1905, the total receipts amounted to £42,571,660, being an increase of £188,510 (or 0.4 per cent.) as compared with the same period of 1904.

	4 weeks ended Oct. 28th, 1905.		43 weeks ended Oct. 28th, 1905.	
	Amount.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with 1904.	Amount.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with 1904.
<b>English Lines:—</b>				
L. & N. W., Midland, Gt. Central, and N. London.	1,582,046	+ 93,075	15,141,264	+ 253,932
Gt. Northern, Gt. Eastern, and London & Tilbury.	501,413	+ 22,368	4,616,799	- 136,699
Lanes. & Yorks., N. Eastern, and N. Staffs.	834,856	+ 22,754	8,232,218	+ 83,218
L. & S. W., and Gt. Western	659,400	+ 36,000	6,383,100	+ 32,400
L. B. & S. C., and S. E. & C.	164,927	+ 4,516	1,612,313	- 15,807
<b>Glasgow &amp; S. Western, N. British, and Caledonian.</b>	<b>551,343</b>	<b>+ 13,694</b>	<b>5,392,773</b>	<b>+ 51,584</b>
<b>Irish Lines:—</b>				
Gt. Southern & Western, Midland G. W., & Gt. Northern	128,745	- 1,884	1,193,193	- 34,118
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>4,422,730</b>	<b>+ 190,523</b>	<b>42,571,660</b>	<b>+ 188,510</b>

REGULATIONS FOR LOCOMOTIVES AND WAGGONS ON LINES AND SIDINGS UNDER THE FACTORY ACT.

IN May last the Home Office issued draft regulations which it was proposed to make under Section 79 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, for the use of locomotives and waggon on lines and sidings in, or in connection with, premises under the Act. The Secretary of State considered it necessary to certify this description of work as dangerous and to frame regulations, in view of the large number of accidents in the United Kingdom in connection with the use of locomotives or other moving railway plant reported in recent years on premises under the Factory Act. In 1903 there were reported 69 fatal and 518 non-fatal accidents of this nature.

It is now announced that the Secretary of State, in pursuance of Section 81 of the Act, has appointed Mr. Chester Jones, barrister-at-law, of 1, Paper Buildings, Temple, E.C., to hold an enquiry with regard to the draft regulations. The enquiry, which is a public one, will be opened at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, London, on Wednesday, November 22nd, 1905, at 10 a.m.; and any person who has objected to the draft regulations and any other person who, in the opinion of Mr. Chester Jones, is affected by them, may appear either in person or by counsel, solicitor or agent.

**Bankruptcies.**—The bankruptcies gazetted during October numbered 445, an increase of 90 as compared with October, 1904. For the ten months ended October, 1905, the number was 4,014, as compared with 3,750 during the corresponding period of 1904.

**Information for Intending Emigrants.**—A new handbook, giving general information for intending settlers in the Federated Malay States, with a chapter on the Straits Settlements, has been issued. Copies can be obtained from the Chief Clerk, Emigrants' Information Office, 31, Broadway, Westminster, S.W., price 6d. post free.



PAUPERISM IN OCTOBER.

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

THE number of paupers relieved in the 35 selected Urban Districts named below on one day in October corresponded to a rate of 224 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Compared with September, 1905, the total number of persons relieved increased by 5,426 (1.4 per cent.) and the rate per 10,000 by 3. There was an increase of 4,694 (2.9 per cent.) in the total number of indoor paupers, and of 732 (0.3 per cent.) in the total number of outdoor paupers. Increases occurred in 20 districts, decreases in 9, and 6 districts showed no change.

Compared with October, 1904, the total number of persons relieved increased by 12,429, and the rate per 10,000 by 5. In the same period last year the rate of increase was 4 per 10,000. There was an increase of 4,010 (2.5 per cent.) in the total number of indoor paupers, and of 8,419 (3.9 per cent.) in the total number of outdoor paupers. Increases occurred in 24 districts, decreases in 10, and 1 district showed no change. The most marked increases were shown in the East London (53 per 10,000) and Leicester (30) districts.

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of Oct., 1905.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.		A month ago.	A year ago.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.*</b>						
<b>Metropolis.</b>						
West District	11,577	3,909	15,486	186	+ 6	+ 5
North District	16,296	10,109	26,405	246	+ 11	+ 8
Central District	7,131	2,887	10,018	812	+ 17	+ 15
East District	15,368	9,837	25,205	350	+ 13	+ 53
South District	25,026	19,378	44,404	241	+ 7	+ 4
<b>Total Metropolis</b>	<b>75,398</b>	<b>46,120</b>	<b>121,518</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>+ 10</b>	<b>+ 13</b>
West Ham	3,741	13,594	17,335	260	+ 19	+ 25
<b>Other Districts.</b>						
Newcastle District	2,161	5,258	7,419	172	...	+ 10
Stoekton & Tees District	1,286	4,359	5,645	263	+ 3	+ 6
Bolton, Oldham, &c.	4,083	7,590	11,673	153	- 2	- 22
Wigan District	2,057	6,399	8,456	213	- 1	+ 1
Manchester District	9,833	9,349	19,202	204	+ 1	- 1
Liverpool District	11,883	9,700	21,583	211	+ 5	+ 5
Bradford District	11,823	3,989	4,914	135	...	- 1
Hullfax & Huddersfield	1,319	3,979	5,298	145	...	+ 6
Leeds District	2,538	6,115	8,653	182	- 1	- 9
Barnsley District	821	3,011	3,832	167	+ 3	+ 3
Sheffield District	3,248	4,027	7,275	282	+ 1	+ 2
Hull District	1,515	5,358	6,873	278	- 15	...
North Staffordshire	2,408	7,869	10,277	198	+ 2	+ 6
Nottingham District	2,122	5,975	8,097	198	+ 2	+ 4
Leicester District	1,524	5,795	7,320	323	- 5	+ 30
Wolverhampton District	3,667	12,998	16,665	288	+ 2	- 4
Birmingham District	5,052	3,520	8,572	148	+ 2	+ 1
Bristol District	2,769	6,879	9,648	284	- 2	+ 5
Cardiff & Swansea	2,004	7,172	9,176	246	- 5	- 6
<b>Total "Other Districts"</b>	<b>62,135</b>	<b>118,443</b>	<b>180,578</b>	<b>203</b>	...	...
<b>SCOTLAND.*</b>						
Glasgow District	5,006	17,707	22,713	234	...	- 1
Paisley & Greenock District	743	2,512	3,255	186	+ 2	+ 2
Edinburgh & Leith District	1,749	5,668	7,417	184	+ 1	- 5
Dundee & Dunfermline	1,052	2,970	4,022	202	+ 2	+ 2
Aberdeen	699	3,112	3,811	230	+ 4	+ 0
Perth & Arbroath	352	1,414	1,766	186	+ 2	- 2
<b>Total for the above Scottish Districts</b>	<b>9,601</b>	<b>33,331</b>	<b>42,932</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>+ 1</b>	...
<b>IRELAND.†</b>						
Dublin District	6,987	5,167	12,154	310	- 10	+ 7
Belfast District	3,499	325	3,824	96	...	+ 2
Cork, Waterford, & Limerick District	4,272	5,065	9,337	381	+ 4	+ 19
Galway District	351	321	672	189	- 9	+ 9
<b>Total for the above Irish Districts</b>	<b>15,109</b>	<b>10,878</b>	<b>25,987</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>- 3</b>	<b>+ 7</b>
<b>Total for above 35 Districts in Oct., 1905.</b>	<b>163,984</b>	<b>222,416</b>	<b>386,400</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>+ 3</b>	<b>+ 8</b>

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

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

LABOUR BUREAUX IN OCTOBER.

TWENTY-TWO Bureaux furnished Returns, of which thirteen can be compared with similar returns for a year ago. The figures of the remaining nine are not available for October, 1904.

(I.) Work done in October.

Name of Labour Bureau.	Applications by Workpeople during		Situations offered by Employers during		Workpeople found Work during	
	Oct., 1905.	Oct., 1904.	Oct., 1905.	Oct., 1904.	Oct., 1905.	Oct., 1904.
<b>London.</b>						
Battersea (Lavender Hill, S.W.)	208	230	3	23	3	23
Salvation Army (Whitechapel Rd., E.)	1,580	1,936	618	967	713	1,114
St. Pancras (Crownale Rd., N.W.)	389	450	51	104	40	86
Southwark (Borough Road, S.E.)	252	29	7	2	7	2
Hammersmith (Brook Green Rd., W.)	271	41	22	7	22	7
Finsbury (Rosebery Avenue, E.C.)	409	383	376	131	160	113
Westminster (Caxton Hall, Caxton Street, S.W.)	344	149	77	87	47	56
Kensington (Lancaster Road, W.)	282	259	2	15	17	35
<b>Provincial.</b>						
Ipswich (Fore Street)	76	48	22	25	19	16
Plymouth (Basket Street)	430	159	109	70	108	66
Liverpool (Dale Street)	325	215	6	...	4	...
Glasgow (158, George Street)	537	853	524	544	172	152
Wigan (Library Street)	46	89	11	30	11	30
<b>Total of 13 Bureaux</b>	<b>5,149</b>	<b>4,841</b>	<b>1,828</b>	<b>2,005</b>	<b>1,323</b>	<b>1,700</b>
<b>London.</b>						
Hampstead (Finchley Road, N.W.)	96	...	36	...	30	...
Islington (93, St. Paul's Rd., High-bury, N.)	592	...	43	...	293	...
Poplar (Glaucus Street, Bromley, E.)	906	...	7	...	17	...
<b>Provincial.</b>						
Croydon (Katherine Street)	900	...	92	...	96	...
Newcastle-upon-Tyne (Pilgrim St.)	308	...	37	...	26	...
Coventry (3, Market Hall Arcade)	198	...	65	...	60	...
Eastbourne (Public Library)	1	...	...	...	...	...
Dudley	15	...	8	...	28	...
Manchester (Albert St., Deansgate)	385	...	34	...	29	...
<b>Total of 23 Bureaux</b>	<b>8,850</b>	...	<b>2,150</b>	...	<b>1,902</b>	...

(II.) Employment found for Workpeople during October, 1905.

Capacity in which employed.	No. permanently engaged.	No. temporarily engaged.	Total.
<b>Engaged by Private Employers.</b>			
<b>Men.</b>			
Building Trades	40	56	96
Carmen, Stablemen, &c.	17	10	27
Porters and Messengers	29	27	56
Bill Distributors	...	596	596
General Labourers	2	8	10
Other Occupations	121	83	204
<b>Lads and Boys</b>	107	9	116
<b>Women and Girls.</b>			
Domestic Servants	79	15	94
Charwomen, daily work, &c.	26	63	89
Other Occupations	70	11	81
<b>Total engaged by Private Employers</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>878</b>	<b>1,369</b>
<b>Engaged by Local Authorities.</b>			
Men, Lads and Boys	14	414	428
Women and Girls	...	...	...
<b>Engaged by Salvation Army</b>	...	105	105
<b>Total of 22 Bureaux</b>	<b>805</b>	<b>1,397</b>	<b>1,902</b>

(III.) Occupations of Workpeople on the Registers of 22 Bureaux at the end of October, 1905.

Name of Bureau.	Men.					Lads and Boys.	Women and Girls.
	Build-ing Trades.	Engin-eer-ing Trades.	General Labour-ers.	Porters, Messen-gers, Carmen &c.	Other Occu-pations.		
<b>London.</b>							
Battersea	3	1	60	20	80	2	13
Salvation Army	131	58	100	90	353	...	...
St. Pancras	166	38	223	181	59	104	47
Southwark	50	22	115	61	18	4	2
Hammersmith	53	6	105	20	8	...	...
Finsbury	15	26	285	419	338	102	412
Westminster	116	2	60	76	43	20	52
Kensington	140	23	85	60	52	15	44
Hampstead	103	5	20	40	36	12	5
Islington	390	25	1,399	170	67	68	28
Poplar	411	156	544	126	712	1	...
<b>Provincial.</b>							
Croydon	548	8	86	24	150	6	4
Ipswich	4	...	22	18	7	9	16
Plymouth	41	6	304	50	54	10	...
Liverpool	8	32	99	29	36	13	23
Glasgow	50	32	65	45	34	34	166
Wigan	63	4	175	48	65	33	...
Newcastle-upon-Tyne	12	16	176	18	20	2	54
Manchester	283	125	794	164	123	43	...
Coventry	4	200	30	20	36	48	...
Eastbourne	74	10	82	15	42	...	...
Dudley	33	70	45	14	10	28	...
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,698</b>	<b>838</b>	<b>4,911</b>	<b>1,868</b>	<b>2,373</b>	<b>544</b>	<b>866</b>

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN OCTOBER.

DURING October 876 fresh applications (507 from domestic servants, &c.) for work were registered by eight bureaux furnishing returns, and 798 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 202 persons, of whom 125 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 202 situations found for applicants, 162 were of a more or less permanent character, while 40 were temporary only.

The work done by the Bureaux during October is shown by the following Table.

WORK DONE IN OCTOBER.

Name of Bureau.	Applications by Work-people during		Situations offered by Employers during		Number of Workpeople engaged by Employers.			
	Oct., 1905.	Oct., 1904.	Oct., 1905.	Oct., 1904.	Perma-nently.	Temp-orarily.	Oct., 1905.	Oct., 1904.
<b>Summary by Bureaux.</b>								
Central Bureau ... 9, Southampton St., W.C.	95	107	58	64	19	20	5	1
Y.W.C.A.—25, George Street, (1) ... Hanover Sq., W. (2) ...	522	545	494	463	79	87	17	13
Other Bureaux (Liverpool, Manchester, Watford, Edinburgh and Dublin)	99	123	123	95	25	33	11	11
<b>Total of 8 Bureaux</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>876</b>	<b>909</b>	<b>798</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Summary by Occupations.</b>								
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc.	57	50	16	14	5	1	1	—
Shop Assistants	21	15	3	4	—	—	—	—
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc.	51	83	88	71	20	30	13	9
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists	68	54	17	11	7	3	—	2
Apprentices and Learners	6	5	26	27	5	5	—	—
Domestic Servants, etc.	507	556	581	537	102	115	23	17
Miscellaneous	165	146	67	56	23	17	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>876</b>	<b>909</b>	<b>798</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>31</b>

LONDON CENTRAL EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE.

FROM the following Table it will be seen that during the four weeks ended October 28th, of 33 situations which certain local bureaux, affiliated to the Central Exchange, were unable to fill; 23 were filled through the operations of the Central Exchange as a "clearing house."

Period.	Total number of Fresh Applications by Work-people at Six Bureaux.*	Total number of Situations offered which Local Bureaux were unable to fill.	Situations reported filled through Central Labour Exchange.
Week ended Oct. 7th	578	2	17
" " " 14th	931	18	0
" " " 21st	434	8	5
" " " 28th	368	5	1

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONVENTION BETWEEN BELGIUM AND LUXEMBURG.

THE *Moniteur Belge* of October 30.31 contains the text of a Labour Convention, of which the ratifications were exchanged in Brussels on October 25th, between the Kingdom of Belgium and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. The purpose of this Convention is to place the working classes of each of the contracting countries in such a position that, in the event of their meeting with accidents in the course of their employment within the territory of the other country, they may be entitled to such compensation as would accrue to a native workman under similar circumstances, in virtue of the Accident Compensation Laws in force within that country.

\* Westminster, Chelsea, Kensington, Hampstead, Islington, St. Pancras.

HOME OFFICE ORDER.

Dangerous Machinery: Self-Acting Mules.

By section 79 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, it is provided that when the Secretary of State is satisfied that any machinery used in factories or workshops is dangerous to life or limb, he may certify that machinery to be dangerous; and thereupon he may, subject to the provisions of the Act, make such regulations as appear to him to be reasonably practicable and to meet the necessity of the case. In pursuance of these powers the Home Secretary has certified self-acting mules, used in the process of spinning in textile factories, to be dangerous to life and limb; and he has made Regulations,\* dated October 17th, 1905, which apply to all factories or parts thereof in which the process of spinning by means of self-acting mules is carried on. Duties are thrown by these Regulations upon the occupiers of factories, upon the owners of tenement factories, and upon the persons employed. Upon the first two classes of persons are imposed the duties to see that after January 1st, 1906, the parts specified of every self-acting mule are securely fenced as far as is reasonably practicable, unless it can be shown that by their position or construction they are equally safe to every person employed as they would be if securely fenced. The person in charge of a mule is required to see



Soc., Birmingham; Carlisle Mutual Sick and Dividend Soc., Birmingham; Duke of York Friendly Sick and Dividend Soc., Birmingham; Queen's Sick and Dividend Soc., Birmingham; Lily in the Dale Independent Soc. of the Golden Fleece, Huddersfield; Wrexham Conservative Working Men's Tontine Benefit Soc., Wrexham. *Ireland.*—2, viz., Butlers, Footmen, Coachmen and Motormen's Benefit Soc., Dublin; Shelagh Credit Soc., Dundalk.

## (2) DISSOLVED.

The total number of Industrial Unions and Societies reported as dissolved, or as wound up, or as having had registration cancelled, or as amalgamated with a previously existing society, in October, was as follows:— Under the Trade Union Acts, 4; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 14; under the Friendly Societies Act, 31 (including 12 branches of Societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 21; in all 70.

NOTE.—In the above statement a Co-operative Society is entered under the heading (distribution, production, &c.) which appears from the information in the possession of the Board of Trade to represent its principal object.

## OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING OCTOBER.

## UNITED KINGDOM.

*Reports of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, 1904, Part A. Workmen's Compensation Schemes, Industrial and Provident Societies and Trade Unions.* [H.C. 41: pp. 153: price 1s. 3d.]

*Mines and Quarries, 1904. Part III. Output.* General Report and Statistics relating to the Output and Value of the Minerals raised in the United Kingdom, the Amount and Value of the Metals produced, and the Exports and Imports of Minerals. [Cd. 2745: pp. 154: price 1s. 6d.]

*Iron and Steel, 1904.* Memorandum and Statistical Tables showing the Production and Consumption of Iron Ore and Pig Iron, and the Production of Steel in the United Kingdom and the Principal Foreign Countries in recent years, and the Imports and Exports of certain classes of Iron and Steel Manufactures. [H.C. 296: pp. 29: price 3d.]

*Government Departments (Contracts).* Return of all Contracts made in the United Kingdom for Manufactured Articles by the several Government Departments in year ending March 31st, 1905, either with Contractors outside the United Kingdom or with Contractors or Agents who obtain the Articles from Abroad. [H.C. 315: pp. 5: price 1d.]

*List of Religious and Charitable Institutions in which Laundries are carried on.* Second issue, September, 1905. Home Office Circular as to Inspection. List of (i) Institutions which have accepted Inspection in response to that Circular. (ii) Institutions which have not accepted. [Cd. 2741: pp. 13: price 2d.]

*Reformatory and Industrial Schools of Great Britain. Forty eighth Report for 1904. Part II.* General Report and Appendices III. to XI. Includes Table showing classes of employment to which boys and girls leaving the Institutions proceeded during the years 1901-1903. [Cd. 2731: pp. 218: price 11d.]

*Royal Commission on London Traffic. Vol. VII.* Report to the Commission by the Advisory Board of Engineers. [Cd. 2743: pp. 160, with maps and plans: price 16s.] *Volume VIII.* Appendix to the Report by the Advisory Board of Engineers. [Cd. 2744: pp. xx. + 678, with diagrams and plans: price 23s. 6d.]

*Statistical Abstract for the Principal and other Foreign Countries in each year from 1893 to 1902-03. 31st Number.* Among the new Tables in this issue is one dealing with the European Sugar Industry, 1893-1903. [Cd. 2566: pp. 359: price 1s. 6d.]

*Agricultural Statistics of Ireland, with detailed report for the year 1904.* Contains table showing agricultural labourers' wages in Ireland in 1904, by Constabulary districts. [Cd. 2722: pp. xxxviii. + 165: price 1s.]

*Sea and Inland Fisheries of Ireland. Report for 1904.* Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland. *Part I. General Report.* Number of boats employed in the fisheries, number of people employed, casualties, &c. [Cd. 2733: pp. xxx. + 235: price 1s. 8d.]

*Irish Land Commission.* Return of Proceedings under Land Law Acts, Labourers (Ireland) Acts, and the Land Purchase Acts during July, 1905. [Cd. 2730: pp. 15: price 2d.]; August, 1905 [Cd. 2732: pp. 15: price 2d.]

*Irish Land Act, 1903.* Report of the Estates Commissioners for the period 1st November, 1903, to 31st March, 1905. Labourers' dwellings schemes, &c. [Cd. 2742: pp. 52: price 6d.]

## BRITISH INDIA AND BRITISH COLONIES.

*Review of the Trade of India in 1904-5.* Number of spindles and looms at work in textile factories on March 31st, 1905, &c., &c. [Cd. 2750: pp. 49: price 5½d.]

*Cyprus. Report by Professor Wyndham Dunstan on the Agricultural Resources of Cyprus with special reference to Cotton Cultivation.* [Cd. 2717: pp. v. + 29: price 5d.]

*Straits Settlements. Colonial Office Annual Report for 1904.* Agricultural industries, Chinese immigration, &c. [Cd. 2684-4: pp. 47: price 2½d.]

*British Solomon Islands. Colonial Office Annual Report for 1903-4 and 1904-5.* Statistics of labour recruited for Queensland, cotton growing, &c. [Cd. 2684-7: pp. 35: price 2½d.]

*Southern Nigeria. Colonial Office Annual Report for 1904.* Cotton growing experiments and prospects, &c. [Cd. 2684-5: pp. 67: price 4½d.]

(All the above-mentioned Reports may be obtained direct from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C., or through any bookseller.)

*Canada.—Fourth Census of Canada, 1901. Volume III. Manufactures.* Tables showing the number of establishments, persons engaged in the various industries, wages earned, value of products, &c. [Ottawa: S. E. Dawson, Government Printer: pp. lxxxviii. + 357.]

*New Zealand.—Official Year-Book, 1905. Advance Sheets. Sections XII. to XVII.* Average prices of produce, live stock, provisions, in each Provincial District during 1904, average wages in various industries, labour laws, &c. [Wellington: John Mackay, Government Printer: pp. 74.]

*Western Australia. Blue Book for 1904. A list of the officers of the Administrative, Legislative and Civil Establishments.* Includes the newly-established Department of Labour, which is charged with the administration of the following Acts of the Colony:—Friendly Societies, Benefit Building Societies, Co-operative and Provident Societies, Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration, Trade Unions, Worker's Compensation, Factories, Early Closing, Seats for Shop Assistants, Truck, Workmen's Wages, Conspiracy and Protection of Property, Employment Brokers, and Masters and Apprentices. [Perth: A. Curtis, Government Printer: pp. xxx. + 112.]

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES:

## United States.

*Nineteenth Annual Report of the Commissioner of Labour to the Department of Commerce and Labour, 1904. Wages and Hours of Labour.* Wages and hours of labour, 1890 to 1903, by occupations, industries, geographical divisions, &c. [Washington (D.C.), Government Printing Office: pp. 976.]

*Bulletin of the Bureau of Labour. No. 59. July, 1905.* Wages and Hours of Labour, 1890-1904. Retail Prices of Food, 1890-1904.

*Labour Bulletin of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. No. 37. September, 1905.* Earnings of cotton mill operatives; old age pensions, &c.

*Eighteenth Annual Report of the Commissioner of Industrial Statistics of Rhode Island.* Statistics of textile manufactures, 1901-1903; number of establishments and persons employed; review and record of strikes, 1904; causes of death among working men, 1899-1902, &c. [Providence, R.I.; E. L. Freeman & Sons, State Printers: pp. 285.]

## France.

*Report on Poor Relief Institutions in France in 1903.* Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Posts and Telegraphs. [Paris: Imprimerie Nationale, 1905: pp. vi. + 103.]

## Germany.

*Statistics of Munich for 1904.* Includes prices, wages of municipal employees, poor relief, &c. [J. Lindauersche Buchhandlung: pp. xii. + 109: price 2s.]

*Report on Strikes and Lock-outs in Germany in 1904.* Imperial Statistical Office. [Berlin: Puttkammer und Mühlbrecht, 1905: pp. 119 + 61 + 269: price 2s.]

*Reports of Factory and Industrial Inspectors in each State of the German Empire for 1904.* [Berlin: R. von Decker's Verlag, 1905, 3 vols.]

## Austria-Hungary.

*Report of Census of Hungary, Vols. IV. and VI.* Central Statistical Office of Hungary. Vol. 4 contains detailed statistics of occupations. Vol. 6 deals with wages and hours of labour. [Budapest, 1905.]

## Denmark.

*Miscellaneous Statistics of Denmark, Series IV., Vol. 18.* Government Statistical Bureau. Contains statistics of poor relief in Denmark. [Copenhagen: Gyldendalske Boghandel, 1905: pp. 140 + 133.]

## Sweden.

*Report on Factory Inspection in Sweden in 1904.* [Stockholm, 1905: pp. 341.]

*Consular Reports. Annual Series. No. 3506. Trade of Germany for the first half of the year 1905.* Labour market and wages; wages in Berlin, in the building and mining industries; hours and wages of female workers; budgets of the working classes; labour unions; workmen's consulting boards, &c. [Cd. 2682-31: pp. 64: price 3d.]

*No. 3510. Trade of France for the year 1904 and first eight months of 1905.* Number of vessels and persons employed in the French cod and herring fisheries, &c. [Cd. 2682-35: pp. 19: price 1½d.]

*No. 3511. Trade and Agriculture of Wurtemberg, 1904.* Statistics of persons employed in industries; savings banks; labour bureaux; disputes, &c. [Cd. 2682-36: pp. 11: price 1d.]

(The Consular Reports may be obtained direct from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C., or through any Bookseller.)

NOTE.—In addition to the above-mentioned publications, copies have been received of the official journals issued by the Labour Departments of Canada, New Zealand, the State of New York, France, Germany, Austria, Belgium, Italy and Spain.

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