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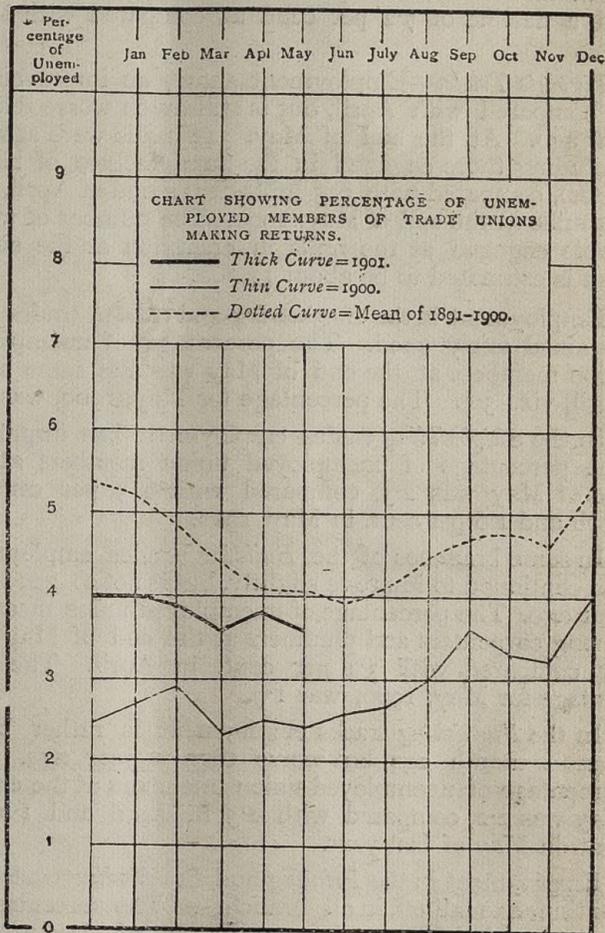
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CLASSIFIED CONTENTS TABLE.

Employment Chart, 1900-1901	PAGE
State of the Labour Market in May	165
Special Articles and Reports—	
THE PRICE OF BREAD	167
THE WAGES OF COAL MINERS	167
PRICES OF COAL AND IRON	170
EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION IN 1900	168
ANNUAL CO-OPERATIVE CONGRESS	168
WORKMEN'S INSURANCE IN AUSTRIA	169
RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES AND COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS	170
Employment in Certain Industries and Districts—	
REPORTS ON CERTAIN INDUSTRIES.	
COAL MINING	175
IRON MINING	176
PIG IRON MANUFACTURE	176
IRON AND STEEL WORKS	176
TINPLATE WORKS	177
AGRICULTURAL LABOUR	177
SEAMEN	177
LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR	179
WOMEN IN TEXTILE TRADES	180
DISTRICT REPORTS.	
LONDON	180
ENGLAND: Northern Counties	180
Lancashire	181
Yorkshire	182
Midland Counties	183
Eastern Counties	185
South-Western Counties	185
WALES	185
SCOTLAND	186
IRELAND	187
Labour in the Colonies and Abroad—	
COLONIES	172
FRANCE	173
GERMANY	173
BELGIUM	174
HOLLAND	174
AUSTRIA	174
SPAIN	174
UNITED STATES	174
Miscellaneous Reports for May—	
LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR	171
INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS	196
FOREIGN TRADE OF UNITED KINGDOM	194
MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES... ..	194
EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION IN MAY	187
Statistical Tables for May—	
TRADE DISPUTES	192
CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES	188
CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR	190
INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS	191
INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS	196
WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX	190
LABOUR BUREAUX... ..	195
PAUPERISM	195
DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS	173
Notes and Reviews—	
CONCILIATION ACT, 1896... ..	166
TRAVELLING FACILITIES FOR WORKMEN ON THE CONTINENT	167
FISHERY STATISTICS	190
EXAMINATION FOR MINING MANAGER'S CERTIFICATES	190

EMPLOYMENT CHART.



STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN MAY.

[Based on 2,607 returns, viz.: 1,811 from Employers, 639 from Trade Unions, and 157 from other sources.]

The general state of employment during May was worse than a year ago. Compared with April it showed little change. During the month there was a widespread fall in wages among coal miners and iron workers.

In the 143 Trade Unions making returns, with an aggregate membership of 544,460, 19,487 (or 3·6 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of May, compared with 3·8 per cent. in April, and with 2·4 per cent. in the 138 unions, with a membership of 531,608, from which returns were received for May, 1900.

Employment in Various Industries.—Coal Mining.—Employment in the four weeks ended May 25th showed a decline in the average number of days worked per week as compared with a year ago, but an increase in the number employed. No satisfactory comparison can be made with April, as the Easter holidays fell in that month. At collieries at which 469,013 workpeople were employed, the pits worked on an average 5·23 days per week during the four weeks ended May 25th, as compared with 5·63 days a year ago.

Iron Mining.—Employment shows a decline as compared with a year ago. The average number of days

worked by 126 iron mines and open works, at which 15,324 workpeople were employed, in the four weeks ended May 25th, was 5'65 per week, as compared with 5'79 days a year ago.

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment has improved as compared with a month ago, but is much worse than a year ago. At the works of 114 ironmasters 300 furnaces employing about 21,200 workpeople were in blast at the end of May, as compared with 291 at the end of April, and 380 a year ago.

Iron and Steel Manufacture.—Employment shows a slight improvement as compared with April, but is still worse than a year ago. At 204 works covered by the returns, employing 76,627 workpeople at the end of May, the total volume of employment (taking into account both the number employed and the number of shifts worked) shows an increase of 2'6 per cent. as compared with April, and a decline of 7'2 per cent. as compared with May, 1900.

Tinplate Trade.—Employment shows an improvement as compared with April, but is still much worse than a year ago. At the end of May, 344 mills were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of black-plates), compared with 335 mills at the end of April, and 412 mills at the end of May, 1900. The number of workpeople engaged at the mills in operation at the end of May is estimated to be about 17,200.

Employment in the *Engineering and Metal* trades has remained fairly good. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of May was the same as in April, viz., 3'4. The percentage for May, 1900, was 2'3.

In the *Shipbuilding* trades employment has improved. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of May was 2'3, compared with 4'5 per cent. in April and 1'6 per cent. in May, 1900.

In some branches of the *Building* trades employment has continued to improve slightly, but is not so good as a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members among carpenters and plumbers at the end of May was 3'1, compared with 3'4 per cent. in April. The percentage for May, 1900, was 1'9.

In the *Furnishing* trades employment is rather better than a month ago, but worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of May was 2'2, compared with 2'5 in April and 1'0 per cent. in May of last year.

Employment in the *Printing and Bookbinding* trades has continued to fall off in all branches. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of May was 5'2, compared with 4'1 per cent. in April. The percentage for May, 1900, was 4'4.

Employment in the *Paper* trades has improved. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of May was 3'2, compared with 3'7 per cent. in April, and 2'8 per cent. in May, 1900.

In the *Glass* trades the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of May was 11'4, compared with 10'1 per cent. in May, 1900.

Employment in the *Leather* trades has continued to improve, and is now good. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of May was 1'5, compared with 1'8 per cent. in April, and 1'6 per cent. in May of last year.

Employment in the *Boot and Shoe* trades, although still quiet on the whole, is good in some centres.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the *Tailoring* trade is good; in the ready-made branch it again shows an improvement, and is good.

Employment in the *Spinning* branch of the *Cotton* trade remains fairly good; in the *Weaving* branch it is quiet, again showing a decline.

Information respecting factories employing about 81,300 women and girls shows that 75 per cent. of those in spinning mills and 62 per cent. of those in weaving factories were working in factories giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 72

and 64 per cent. respectively in April, and with 87 and 93 per cent. respectively a year ago.

In the *Woollen* trade employment continues fair. In the *Worsted* trade it shows a slight improvement, but is still slack. In the *Hosiery* trade employment has improved, and is good in some branches.

Farm Labourers were generally busily employed during May. Fine weather prevailed during nearly the whole of the month, and there was practically no interruption of outdoor work.

Dock and Riverside Labour in London.—During the four weeks ended May 25th an average number of 15,981 labourers were employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves, as compared with averages of 16,267 in April, and 13,943 in the corresponding period a year ago.

Trade Disputes.—Sixty-four disputes began in May, 1901, involving 8,039 workpeople, of whom 6,340 were directly, and 1,699 indirectly affected. The corresponding number of disputes in April was 66, involving 35,322 workpeople, and in May, 1900, 44, involving 15,931. Of the 64 new disputes in May, 1901, 29 occurred in the building trades, 12 in the mining and quarrying industries, 3 in the metal, engineering and shipbuilding trades, 8 in the textile trades, and 12 in miscellaneous industries. Of the 43 new and old disputes, involving 9,089 workpeople, of which the termination is reported, 10, involving 1,316 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 10, involving 1,335 persons, in favour of the employers; and 21, involving 5,445 persons, were compromised. With regard to the remaining 2 disputes, involving 993 persons, certain points are still under consideration.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes in rates of wages reported during May affected 375,756 workpeople, and the net effect of all the changes was a decrease of 1s. 5d. weekly per head. Of the total number 15,785 received advances averaging 1s. 7½d. per week, and 359,971 sustained decreases averaging 1s. 6¼d. per week.

The net result of the changes reported in the previous month (April) was an average decrease of 2s. 8d. per head in the weekly wages of 54,874 workpeople, and during the corresponding month of last year (May, 1900), the net result was an average advance of 1s. 0½d. per head in the weekly wages of 181,200 workpeople.

The principal advances during May affected 6,000 engineers in London and 3,000 boilermakers in Liverpool and Birkenhead. The principal decreases were those affecting about 319,740 colliery workpeople in Northumberland, Durham, Forest of Dean, South Wales and Monmouthshire, and Scotland, and 28,950 ironworkers in the North of England, the Midlands and Scotland.

Changes affecting 186,830 workpeople were arranged by arbitration or conciliation (including one change affecting 130 workpeople settled by arbitration after strike), and changes affecting 160,191 workpeople took effect under sliding scales. Changes affecting 1,351 workpeople only were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work, and the remaining changes, affecting 27,514 workpeople, were arranged by direct negotiations between employers and workpeople or their representatives.

CONCILIATION ACT, 1896.

In consequence of numerous enquiries having been made with regard to the procedure adopted by the Board of Trade with reference to expenses connected with arbitrations, etc., under the Conciliation Act, it is considered desirable to state that it is the usual practice for the Board of Trade to pay the fees and travelling expenses of arbitrators and conciliators appointed by them, and that it is customary for the parties to the dispute to share the local expenses, such as those connected with the hire of a room for meetings and conferences, and the payment of a shorthand writer in cases in which they consider shorthand notes necessary.

THE PRICE OF BREAD.

IN continuation of the record of prices of bread published in the March issue of the LABOUR GAZETTE, the following Table has been prepared, summarising 323 returns received by the Department from the principal Co-operative Societies in Great Britain. The figures show the highest, lowest and mean prices of the 4-lb. loaf, of the quality mostly sold by each society, at 1st June, compared with the corresponding prices on 1st March, 1901, and on 1st June, 1900.

District.	Present Price. (1st June, 1901.)			Price last quarter. (1st Mar., 1901.)			Price a year ago. (1st June, 1900.)		
	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.
ENGLAND AND WALES.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
N. Counties and Yorkshire	6	4½	5½	6	4½	5½	6	4	5½
Lancs. & Cheshire	6	4	5	6	4	5½	6	4	4½
N. Mid. Counties...	5	4	4½	5	4	4½	5	4	4½
W. do. do. ...	5½	4½	5	5½	4½	5	5	4	4½
S. do. do. ...	5½	4	4½	5½	4	4½	5	4	4½
Eastern Counties...	5½	5	5½	5½	5	5½	5	4	4½
London ...	5½	5	5½	5½	5	5½	5½	4½	5
S.E. Counties ...	6	5	5½	6	5	5½	6	4½	5
S.W. Counties, (Wales & Mon.)	5½	4½	4½	5½	4½	5	5	4	4½
England and Wales ...	6	4	5	6	4	5½	6	4	4½
SCOTLAND.									
N. Counties ...	6	5	5½	6	5	5½	6	4½	5½
Eastern Counties*	5½	4½	5	6	4½	5½	5½	4	4½
Lanarkshire ...	5½	5	5½	5½	5	5½	5	5	5
Other Southern Counties ...	6	5	5½	6	5	5½	5½	5	5½
Scotland ...	6	4½	5½	6	4½	5½	6	4	5
Great Britain ...	6	4	5½	6	4	5½	6	4	4½

As compared with three months ago, it appears that while the mean price for Great Britain remains unchanged, a slight fall has occurred in certain of the English counties, sufficient to reduce the mean price for England and Wales by ½d. A fall of ½d. is also observable in the mean price for the eastern counties of Scotland, but its extent was too limited to affect the figure for that country as a whole.

Compared with a year ago, the mean price for Great Britain remains ½d. higher than at the corresponding period of last year, the rise in price since that date being from 4½d. to 5d. in the case of England and Wales, and from 5d. to 5½d. in that of Scotland.

The average declared values per cwt. of wheat and flour imports during May show a slight fall as compared with those of February last. The "Gazette" price of British wheat, however, has risen since that date.

Subjoined is a statement of the average "Gazette" price of British wheat, and the average declared value of imported wheat and flour:—

	1st June, 1901.		Week ending— 2nd Mar., 1901.		2nd June, 1900.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
British Wheat (per quarter) ...	27	7	25	11	25	5
Wheat Imports, per cwt. ...	6	9½	6	10½	6	7
Wheat Meal and Flour Imports, per cwt. ...	9	1¼	9	4½	8	11

Travelling Facilities for Workmen on the Continent.

Reports from H. M. Representatives abroad on special facilities for locomotion of workmen in Belgium, France and Germany have been issued by the Foreign Office (Cd. 595, Price 2d.). They contain information on the subject of the reduction in the ordinary expenses of locomotion allowed in those countries to workpeople living in the neighbourhood of the towns where they are employed, showing as far as possible as regards the railway and tram fares:—(a) The reduced mileage rate; (b) the hours during which the reductions are made; (c) how, if at all, the reductions are restricted to workpeople, and what is the definition, if any, of that class; and (d) whether, in the case of private railway or tramway companies, the reductions are made under statute or voluntarily; (e) whether taxes on bicycles and other similar means of locomotion are restricted or reduced in favour of workpeople.

* Kincardine, Forfar, Fife, Clackmannan, and the Lothians.

THE WAGES OF COAL MINERS.

WAGES in the coal mining industry rise or fall by means of percentage additions to, or deductions from, the rates prevailing in a given year, which is called the "Standard." In Northumberland, Durham and South Wales the standard year is 1879, while in Yorkshire, Lancashire, the Midland districts of England, North Wales and in Scotland it is 1888. Such percentage changes depend, as a rule, on variations in the selling price of coal.

In the following Table the percentage of wages above or below the standards is shown for the principal coal mining districts at the date of the Board of Trade Census of Wages (October, 1886) and at the end of each year (1886-1900)—the figures up to the 6th of June, 1901, being added:—

End of Year.	PERCENTAGE OF WAGES ABOVE "STANDARDS."					
	Northumber-land.	Durham.	Federated Districts.†	S. Wales and Mon.	Fife & Clack-mannan.	West Scotland.
1886 (Oct.)	At Standard	At Standard	At Standard	At Standard	At Standard	At Standard
1887 (Dec.)	33	32	32	7½	10	6½
1888	22½	20	20	5	2½	6½
1889	7½	10	10	5	7	8½
1890	25	25	25	5	37½	29
1891	31½	30	40	52½	50	50
1892	30	35	40	53½	50	50
1893	20	25	40	22½	25	25
1894	20	25	40	20	37½	50
1895	17½	25	30	21½	25	25
1896	15	15	30	12½	12½	12½
1897	3½	15	30	10	At Standard	12½
1898	6½	17½	30	11½	12½	12½
1899	18½	25	32½	20	42½	50
1900	25	33½	40	30	53½	56½
1901 (June 6th)	61½	65	50	72½	97½	100
	47½	52½	50	76½	60	62½

It will be seen from the Table that between 1888 and 1891 there was a rapid rise of wages; during the next five years there was, on the whole, a fall, but since the end of 1897 wages have risen very largely, especially in 1900.

In the following Table the changes in the rates of wages during the last eight years are summarised as regards their effect on the weekly wages of the miners (all classes) in the aggregate and per head of those affected:—

Year.	No. of workpeople (separate individuals) affected by changes.	Net effect on weekly wages.		Net amount of change per head in wages of those affected.	
		Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
1893	292,000	£ 14,850	£ ...	s. d. 1 0½	s. d. ...
1894	526,000	... 46,180	... 1 9	... 1 9	... 1 9
1895	314,000	... 31,720	... 2 0½	... 2 0½	... 2 0½
1896	203,000	... 5,660	... 0 6½	... 0 6½	... 0 6½
1897	246,000	6,560	... 1 8½	... 1 8½	... 1 8½
1898	660,000	56,600	... 1 6½	... 1 6½	... 1 6½
1899	653,000	51,150	... 4 10	... 4 10	... 4 10
1900	681,000	164,500	... 4 10	... 4 10	... 4 10

In each of the years 1898, 1899 and 1900, the great majority of coal miners in the United Kingdom received advances of wages, the total advance recorded in the three years being 8s. 1¼d. weekly per head of those affected.

At the beginning of 1901, an increase of 10 per cent. on the standard in the Federated districts of England and Wales took effect. In South Wales an advance of 5 per cent. in February and a decrease of 2½ per cent. on June 6th leave wages 76½ per cent. above the standard. Other changes in 1901 have all been decreases, viz., 13½ per cent. in Northumberland, 12½ per cent. in Durham, and 37½ per cent. in Scotland, on the standards for these districts. In Scotland a decrease of 25 per cent. (or 1s. per day) took effect on 6th March, and a further reduction of 12½ per cent. (or 6d. per day) was awarded by Lord James of Hereford on 4th June.

* At date of Census of Wages (October, 1886).
 † Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Nottingham, Leicester, Shropshire, part of Stafford, part of Worcester, Warwick, Bristol, and North Wales.
 ‡ Below Standard.
 § These statistics are not available before 1893.

The average weekly rates of wages for coal miners in the United Kingdom, as ascertained by the Board of Trade Census of Wages in October, 1886, were, for hewers, 24s. 5d., and for all classes of miners, 21s. 2d.

It is possible, by combining these rates with the percentage changes which have since taken place, to estimate approximately the weekly rates of wages at the end of each year, 1886-1900. This is done in the following Table:—

Years of Rising Wages.	Computed Average Weekly Wages of		Years of Falling Wages.	Computed Average Weekly Wages of	
	Hewers.	All Classes.		Hewers.	All Classes.
	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
...	...	...	End of 1886	24 4	21 1
...	...	...	" 1887	24 3	21 0
End of 1888	25 10	22 4	"	...	...
" 1889	30 0	26 0	"	...	...
" 1890	34 0	29 6	"	...	...
" 1891	34 3	29 8	"	...	...
" 1892	...	...	" 1892	31 10	27 8
" 1893	32 5	28 1	"	...	...
"	...	...	" 1894	30 6	26 6
"	...	...	" 1895	29 4	25 5
"	...	...	" 1896	29 1	25 3
" 1897	29 4	25 5	"	...	...
" 1898	31 5	27 3	"	...	...
" 1899	33 5	29 0	"	...	...
" 1900	39 2	33 11	"	...	...

The mean average wages of hewers for a full ordinary week's work for the whole fifteen years included in the Table was 30s. 7d. The actual earnings when the pits were working short time were of course correspondingly less.

As regards the estimated average weekly wages for all classes of workpeople employed in and about coal mines, it has been assumed in computing the figures that the average percentage increase in the wages of such persons has been equal to that of the hewers. This assumption is not strictly true—the percentage advances to surface workers being in some cases somewhat less than to the hewers. Thus in years of high wages some slight deduction should be made from the figures given in the Table on this account.

It will be seen from the Table that during the last fifteen years the estimated average weekly wages for all classes employed in and about coal mines taken together have fluctuated between 21s. 1d. and 33s. 11d. per week. The average wages for all classes during the years covered by the Table may be taken as about 26s. 6d. per week.

ANNUAL CO-OPERATIVE CONGRESS.

THE thirty-third annual congress of delegates from co-operative societies in the United Kingdom was held in the Town Hall at Middlesbro' on Whit-Monday, May 27th, and two following days. Mr. J. Warwick, of South Shields, presided, and 1,235 delegates were present.

The report to the congress of the Central Board of the Co-operative Union—under whose auspices the congress was held—stated that 1,108 co-operative societies were now members of the Union, comprising a total membership of 1,620,185.

Resolutions were adopted urging co-operative societies to employ their surplus capital in the provision of dwelling-houses for their members; in favour of the State provision of old-age pensions for all citizens; the compulsory early closing of shops; the nationalization of railways; the amendment of the Truck Acts; against the taxation of foods, and upon various matters relating to the internal machinery of co-operation.

It was reported that 87 societies were engaged in farming 7,497 acres during 1900, and that a profit of £2,407 had been realised.

An exhibition of goods produced by co-operative societies was opened on May 25th by the Bishop of Durham, and remained open to the public during the congress.

Representatives of the co-operative societies of Denmark, Germany and Switzerland were present at the congress.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION IN 1900.

In 1900 the passenger movement both to and from the United Kingdom was greater than in either of the two preceding years, the increase being apparent both in the movement between this country and Europe, and between this country and other countries outside Europe. The general effect of the entire passenger movement was a balance outwards greater than in the last few years, this balance, after some years steady decrease, having risen to 43,400 persons, as against 22,000 in 1899. This excess is the result of a net efflux on balance of about 72,000 natives, and a net influx on balance of about 29,000 foreigners. Among the latter are included some 15,000 sailors who come as passengers, but of whom no record is kept when they leave as members of the crews of outgoing ships. Making this deduction, therefore, the total addition during the year to the foreign population of the United Kingdom resulting from the total passenger movement inwards and outwards in 1900 may be estimated at about 14,000 persons.

As regards the movement to and from places out of Europe, there were 298,561 emigrants, of whom 168,825 were stated to be British or Irish (as compared with 240,696 emigrants, including 146,362 British and Irish, in 1899), and 175,747 immigrants, of whom 97,637 were stated to be British or Irish (as compared with 162,111 immigrants, including 100,246 British and Irish, in 1899).

The English formed 61 per cent. of the native emigration, the Scottish 12 per cent., and the Irish 27 per cent., as against 60, 11 and 29 per cent. respectively in 1899.

The chief features of the passenger movement between this country and countries out of Europe in 1900 were: (1) the practical resumption of normal traffic between this country and South Africa; (2) the very large increase amongst foreigners proceeding from this country to British North America; and (3) the unprecedented influx of visitors and others from the United States of America.

Of the total number of emigrants 33,549, or about 11 per cent., were children under 12 years, and of the adults 159,865 were males and 105,147 females. The low proportion of children and the high proportion of females among Irish emigrants continue to be noticeable, only 6.3 per cent. of the emigrants of Irish origin being children, and the females exceeding the males in number by 1,999.

The passenger traffic in both directions between this country and the continent was larger in 1900 than in 1899, and much larger than in 1898. The excess of passengers inwards over passengers outwards amounted to 79,433, being about 40 per cent. larger than in 1899, and between two and three times as large as in 1898. The information obtained does not include particulars as to the nationalities of the passengers; but it is on the assumption that the numbers of British passengers to and from the Continent roughly balance each other, so that the excess inwards represents the excess of foreigners who came from Europe over those who returned thither during the year, that the estimated increase of the foreign population of the United Kingdom already given is based.

The information contained in the "Alien Lists" gives with regard to the classes included in those lists particulars of the nationalities of the immigrants from European ports. With respect to immigrants not noted in the lists as being *en route* for other countries, the most noticeable increases arose under three heads, viz., Russians and Poles, Italians and Roumanians. The Roumanians numbered 3,216, as against 384 in 1899; there was an increase of 39 per cent. in the number of Italians, and of 25 per cent. in the number of Russians and Poles.

In London the number of cases in which relief was given by the Jewish Board of Guardians and the "Russo-Jewish, etc., Conjoint Committee" taken together rose from 4,877, including 17,195 individuals,

in 1899, to 6,079, including 19,535 individuals, in 1900. On the other hand the number of aliens who received relief from the Poor Law authorities in London fell from 2,895 (including 2,306 Russians and Poles) in 1899 to 2,015 (including 1,100 Russians and Poles) in 1900.

WORKMEN'S INSURANCE IN AUSTRIA.

I.—ACCIDENT INSURANCE.*

EXCLUDING the bulk of the mining and allied trades (in which the old provident funds known as *Bruderladen* have been retained) there were in Austria, at the end of 1898, 246,050 establishments with a mean number of 2,200,112 workpeople, subject to the Accident Insurance Laws, compared with 236,413 establishments and 2,077,473 workpeople the year before.

The total wages of the insured workpeople, according to the returns sent in by the employers for the purpose of the Accident Insurance Laws†, amounted to £44,760,000, as compared with £41,932,500 in 1897.

Out of a total of 75,146 accidents notified in 1898, 20,976 (27.9 per cent.) were accidents entailing compensation under the Accident Insurance Laws, while as to the remaining accidents, the large majority of the injured persons were excluded from the operation of those laws, because they recovered within 4 weeks (during which time they received medical relief and sick pay under the provisions of the Sickness Insurance Law).

The following Table classifies roughly, according to the gravity of their results, the 20,976 accidents reported in 1898, which entailed compensation, the corresponding figures for the years 1893-7 being given for comparison:—

Result of Accidents.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
Number of Accidents.						
Death	649	670	835	929	929	977
Permanent disablement	3,244	3,701	4,924	5,399	5,046	5,282
Temporary disablement (over 4 weeks)	7,008	8,181	10,636	12,216	13,686	14,717
Total accidents entailing compensation	10,901	12,552	16,395	18,544	19,661	20,976
Proportion of Accidents per 1,000,000 Days Worked.						
Death	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.3
Permanent disablement	11.5	12.5	13.5	14.0	12.6	12.6
Temporary disablement (over 4 weeks)	24.8	27.5	29.1	31.7	34.2	35.1

In comparing the figures for 1895-98 with those for earlier years, allowance has to be made for the additions to the list of trades subject to accident insurance made by the Law of July 20th, 1894. Most of the people affected by this extension of the Law were railway servants.

The number of persons, to whom annuities were granted in 1898 in respect of permanent disablement or for the loss of their bread-winners, was 6,918, viz., 5,058 for the former, and 1,860 for the latter reason; the average value of these annuities was £7 3s. 9d. (£7 11s. 11d. for annuities of the former, and £6 1s. 5d. for those of the latter class). At the end of 1898 there were 32,717 persons (compared with 26,252 the year before) in receipt of such annuities, the number and average value of each class of annuity being as shown in the following Table:—

Persons Drawing Annuities.	Class of Annuitants.	Number of Annuitants.	Amount of Annuities.	
			Total.	Average per Annuitant.
			£	£ s. d.
Widows	...	3,506	24,805	7 1 6
Children	...	5,850	26,916	4 12 0
Parents, &c.	...	489	2,455	5 0 5
Invalids	Partially disabled	1,448	32,839	22 13 7
	Partially disabled	21,424	140,562	6 11 3
Totals	...	32,717	227,577	6 19 1.

* Die Begebarung und die Ergebnisse der Unfallstatistik der im Grunde des Gesetzes vom 28. December, 1887 (R. G. Bl. Nr. 1 ex 1888), betreffend die Unfallversicherung der Arbeiter errichteten Arbeiter-Unfall-Versicherungsanstalten im Jahre 1898. Vienna, Government Printing Office, 1900.

† In these returns, the annual earnings of a workman are counted up to £100 only, any excess of annual earnings above that amount being omitted from the calculation. But this does not apply to railway servants, whose entire earnings have to be returned.

The total income of the accident insurance institutions in 1898 was £949,568, whilst the expenditure exceeded that sum by £55,839 (compared with £118,306 in 1897). The chief items of income in 1898 were £851,275, contributions of employers and workpeople,* and £91,354, interest on investments. The chief items of expenditure were £509,761 set aside as the capital value of annuities granted during the year, £399,416 actually disbursed during the year in paying compensation for accidents, and £84,075 costs of administration.

II.—SICKNESS INSURANCE.†

According to the latest official Report on the Sick Funds instituted under the Sickness Insurance Law the total number of these funds in 1898 (exclusive of 12 which sent no returns or incomplete returns) was 2,928 (compared with 2,927 in 1897); and their aggregate mean membership was 2,349,746 (compared with 2,285,233). (The miners' provident funds, *Bruderladen*, are not included in these or the following figures.)

The number of cases of sickness, in respect to which sick-money was paid in 1898, was 1,178,552 (compared with 1,158,388 in 1897), and the number of days of sickness, 20,477,265 (compared with 20,015,380). In 1898, as in previous years, the number of cases of sickness per 100 members was smaller among women than among men, when confinements are not counted, viz., 43.9 for the former and 49.3 for the latter. The average duration of an illness has, however, been greater for women than for men in each year (19.3 days for the former, and 16.4 days for the latter in 1898). As a result, the number of days of sickness per member has been greater among women than among men in each of the years 1890-1898, except 1896. In 1898 the average was, for men, 8.06, and for women, 8.50 days. By including confinements, the number of cases of sickness per 100 women members in 1898 is brought up to 53.5, and the number of days of sickness per woman member to 11.10.

The total income of the sick funds in 1898 amounted to £1,793,024 (compared with £1,688,795 in 1897), and included contributions from employers to the amount of £518,111 (£488,880 in 1897), and from workpeople to the amount of £1,160,933 (£1,088,860 in 1897). The total expenditure was £1,673,631 (£1,583,986 in 1897), and included £1,423,154 in sick, and £42,027 in funeral benefits (£1,354,532 and £40,927 respectively in 1897), and £131,094 (£122,796 in 1897) for administration. The excess of income over expenditure (*i.e.*, the amount paid into reserve funds) was £119,393 (£104,809 in 1897), the total value of the reserve funds at the end of the year being £1,372,169 (their value at the beginning of the year having been £1,252,776). The amounts added to reserve in 1898 were 7.11 per cent. (6.64 per cent. in 1897) of the total contributions of employers and employed, whereas, according to the Law, they should have amounted to at least 20 per cent. of those contributions.

The average amount of sick and funeral benefit granted per insured person in 1898 was 12s. 5½d. (12s. 2½d. in 1897), while the average sum contributed by each such person was 9s. 10½d. (9s. 6½d. in 1897).

Particulars of one of the classes of sick funds maintained by the Trade Guilds, viz., the funds for sick journeymen, are included in the foregoing. In addition, there were in 1898 337 special sick funds for apprentices employed by members of Trade Guilds. These had an aggregate mean membership of 58,301; receipts amounting to £14,359; an expenditure of £12,115; and reserve funds amounting at the end of the year to £18,724. There were 11,769 cases, and 170,366 days of sickness, for which benefits amounting in the aggregate to £10,107 (including £102 burial money) were paid.

* Speaking generally, these contributions were paid as to two-thirds by the employers, as to one-third by the workpeople.

† Die Begebarung und die Ergebnisse der Krankheitsstatistik der nach dem Gesetze vom 30. März 1888 (R. G. Bl. Nr. 33), betreffend die Krankensicherung der Arbeiter, eingerichteten Krankenkassen im Jahre 1898. Vienna, Government Printing Office, 1900.

RECENT CONCILIATION & ARBITRATION CASES & COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS.

(a) CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

Building Trade Labourers at Reading.

Mr. A. A. Hudson, the Arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade (see Gazette for May, p. 137), heard the parties on May 16th. The labourers desired that a standard rate of wages should be fixed, and that the rate should be 6d. per hour for labourers and 6½d. per hour for scaffolders. After Mr. Hudson had heard evidence the parties came to terms and the following agreement was signed in his presence.

"Rule 3 of the Working Rules for labourers in the Building Trades in Reading and District to read, instead of the present rule, as follows:—The general rate of wages for labourers to be from 5d. to 5½d. per hour."

Stonemasons at Leicester.

On May 1st, 180 stonemasons came out on strike at Leicester for an advance in wages of 1d. per hour (9d. to 10d.) and other alterations of working rules. A conference of representatives of the employers and workmen was held on May 21st, and, at the request of the parties, Sir W. Markby, K.C.I.E., acting under the Conciliation Act, presided at the conference. Certain suggestions were made by the Chairman for the settlement of the dispute, and, after consideration, the men returned to work on May 11th at an advance of ½d. per hour.

Building Trade Labourers at Cheltenham.

Mr. A. A. Hudson, the Arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade (see GAZETTE for May, p. 137), issued his award on May 22nd, and decided that the rate of wages for labourers should remain unaltered at 5d. per hour.

Painters in North Staffordshire.

Mr. T. Blashill, F.R.I.B.A., the Arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade (see GAZETTE for May, p. 137), issued his award on May 27th, and decided that the standard rate of wages should remain unchanged, viz., 7½d. per hour, and that Rule 5 of the working rules should be altered so as not to provide for the payment of wages on the job.

Builders' Labourers and Navvies at Leicester.

Sir W. Markby, K.C.I.E., the Arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade (see Gazette for May, p. 137) issued his award on May 29th.

Certain persons described as "navvies" were employed by a sub-contractor to do some concrete work. The builders' labourers claimed that this was work which belonged exclusively to them. The Arbitrator awards:—

"That upon the occasion in question the sub-contractor had a right to employ 'navvies' to do the concrete work," and that the builders' labourers "have not succeeded in establishing the exclusive right to do that work which they claim."

(b) OTHER CASES.

Coal Miners in South Derbyshire.

Differences having arisen between the coal owners and coal miners of South Derbyshire respecting increased payment for coal raised from places where safety lamps were necessary, the matter was referred to arbitration. The arbitrators differed and His Honour Judge Smyly, K.C., was appointed umpire. His Honour issued his award on May 1st, and decided that the coal miners are entitled to an increased payment of one penny per ton for each and every ton of coal raised from places where, after the first making-up day in January, 1901, it was and in future will be obligatory that safety lamps be used instead of naked lights in the raising of coal, such increased pay to take effect from the making-up day above mentioned.

Coal Miners in Scotland.

A meeting of the Scottish Coal Trade Conciliation Board was held on June 4th, under the presidency of Lord James of Hereford as neutral chairman, to consider the application by the coalowners for a reduction in the wages of hewers and other underground workers to the extent of 25 per cent. on the basis rates of 1888.

After a lengthy discussion the following question was submitted for the determination of Lord James:—

"Whether the 25 per cent. reduction on the 1888 basis claimed by the employers, or what reduction, if any, should be made in miners' wages, and on what date any reduction if awarded should take effect, the wages so fixed to apply up to July 31st next."

His decision, dated June 4th, was:—

"I, having heard the said parties, and having considered the facts and documents placed before me, do hereby decide and determine that the wages paid to the said miners shall after the date hereof be reduced to the extent of 12½ per cent. on the 1888 basis."

This award, which took place from June 6th, effects a reduction of 6d. per day in the wages of about 70,000 hewers and other underground workers.

In consequence of this award as to the wages of underground workers, the wages of surface workers (13,000) will, in accordance with the usual custom, fall 2d. per day. Further, by an agreement between the Lanarkshire Coal Masters' and the Engine Keepers' Associations, the wages of Lanarkshire enginemen, 700 in number, are regulated by the rise and fall in miners' wages, and consequently they will also sustain a decrease, in this case of 3d. per shift. Full particulars of these changes are tabulated on p. 189.

PRICES OF COAL AND IRON.

THE average selling prices of coal and iron in certain districts, as ascertained at the last audits, are shown in the following Table, in which are also included, for purposes of comparison, the results of the previous audits:—

Product and District.	Number of work-people.	Period over which prices were ascertained at last audit.	Date from which last audit affects wages.	Average ascertained selling price per ton.		
				According to last audit.	According to previous audit.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in price per ton.
Coal.				s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Northumberland:— (Average for all classes of coal at pit's mouth)	30,000	Dec., Jan., Feb.	—	9 9'63	11 2'62	- 1 4'99
South Wales and Monmouth:— (Average for certain classes of coal free on board)	125,000	Mar., Apr.	1st June	16 6'86 to 16 8'57	16 10'29 to 17 0'00	*
Pig Iron.				s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Cumberland ...	1,350	Jan., Feb., Mar.	1st Apr.	59 1'770	74 6'820	-15 5'050
Cleveland ...	5,500	Jan., Feb., Mar.	6th Apr.	50 10'49	67 7'90	-16 9'41
West of Scotland...	3,500	Feb., Mar., April	1st May	53 8'5	61 11'43	- 8 2'93
Manufact'd Iron.				s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
North of England:— (Rails, plates, bars and angles)	5,450	Mar., Apr.	27th May	141 7'08	150 9'53	- 9 2'45
Midlands:— (Bars, angles, tees, hoops, sheets, plates, and strips, &c.)	20,000	Mar., Apr.	3rd June	147 8'17	159 0'42	-11 4'25
West of Scotland:— (Rounds, squares, flats, angles, tees, hoops and rods)	3,500	Mar., Apr.	27th May	125 4'86	135 3'11	- 9 10'25

The above Table shows a further fall in the selling price of manufactured iron in the North of England, the Midlands and the West of Scotland.

As a result, under the sliding scales operative in these districts, the tonnage rates of the puddlers have been reduced by 6d. per ton and the wages of millmen by 5 per cent. In the West of Scotland a heavy fall is shown in the selling price of pig iron and the blast-furnacemen's wages have in consequence been reduced by 5 per cent. The ascertained price of coal in South Wales also shows a reduction which entails a decrease of 2½ per cent. under the sliding scale.

No ascertainties have been made since the last publication of the Table of the average price of coal in Northumberland or of Cumberland and Cleveland pig iron. The figures for these districts are therefore repeated unaltered.

* The exact amount of the difference cannot be stated.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

(1) Workmen's Compensation Act.

RECOVERY OF DAMAGES FROM STRANGER: CLAIM AGAINST EMPLOYER.

The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, provides that "where the injury for which compensation is payable under this Act was caused under circumstances creating a legal liability in some person other than the employer to pay damages in respect thereof, the workman may, at his option, proceed either at law against that person to recover damages, or against his employer for compensation under this Act, but not against both, and if compensation be paid under this Act, the employer shall be entitled to be indemnified by the said other person."

On March 12th, 1901, while a sawyer was having his dinner at the works of his employers, a horse and cart belonging to a contractor was backed against a stone near where this workman was, and a portion of stone fell on him, causing injuries of a serious character. On May 17th, 1901, a notice of the accident, as required by the Compensation Act, was served on the workman's employers. These employers continued paying the man his wages, and no further proceedings under that Act were taken, or claim for compensation made by him against them. He brought, however, an action against the contractor to recover damages for personal injuries sustained by him owing to the negligence of the contractor's servants, and the jury found a verdict for him for £225.

Counsel on behalf of the contractor then submitted that judgment ought to be entered for the contractor on the ground that the workman had taken proceedings against his employers under the Compensation Act, and was therefore prevented by the provisions of that Act cited above from recovering damages from the contractor in respect of the same injury, the contention being that the document notifying the injury, which was served on the man's employers, was at the same time a notice of accident and a claim for compensation.

The Compensation Act provides that "Proceedings for the recovery under this Act of compensation for an injury shall not be maintainable unless notice of the accident has been given as soon as practicable after the happening thereof, and before the workman has voluntarily left the employment in which he was injured, and unless the claim for compensation with respect to such accident has been made within six months from the occurrence of the accident causing the injury, or, in case of death, within six months from the time of death," and that "Notice in respect of an injury under this Act, shall give the name and address of the person injured, and shall state in ordinary language the cause of the injury and the date at which it was sustained, and shall be served on the employer, or, if there is more than one employer, upon one of such employers."

The document referred to in this case was in the terms required by the provision of the Compensation Act just stated. It did not contain any intimation that the injured man was about to claim compensation from his employers. The Court held that there had been no claim for compensation, and consequently no proceeding under the Compensation Act; and judgment was accordingly entered for the workman for the amount awarded by the jury.—*Perry v. Clements, King's Bench Division, May 18th.*

DEPENDANT "WHOLLY DEPENDENT."

The amount of compensation under the Act, where death results from the injury, is as follows:—(i) If the workman leaves any dependants wholly dependent upon his earnings at the time of his death, 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 these sums is the larger, but not exceeding in any case £300, provided that the amount of any weekly payments made under this Act shall be deducted from such sum, and if the period of the workman's employment by the said employer has been less than the said three years, then the amount of his earnings during the said three years shall be deemed to be 156 times his average weekly earnings during the period of his actual employment under the said employer; (ii) if the workman does not leave any such dependants, but leaves any dependants in part dependent upon his earnings at the time of his death, such sum, not exceeding in any case the amount payable under the foregoing provisions, as may be agreed upon, or in default of agreement, may be determined, on arbitration under this Act, to be reasonable and proportionate to the injury to the said dependants."

The widow and son of a quarryman, who had met with a fatal accident while at work, claimed £300 as compensation for his death. The Sheriff-Substitute awarded the widow £10 for herself and £5 for the boy, but declined to award more, holding that as the deceased contributed only £5 yearly to the woman's support, and as she earned money herself occasionally, and sometimes received contributions from relatives, she was not wholly, but only partly dependent on the deceased. The widow appealed to the Court of Session; and that Court held that in the circumstances stated by the Sheriff-Substitute the widow was wholly dependent on her husband, and that the fact that he did not contribute sufficiently towards her support did not take the case out of the ordinary run of cases in which the husband was bound to support the wife. The case was remitted to the Sheriff-Substitute, with the direction that the widow was wholly dependent on her husband at the date of his death, and that the son was partly dependent, and that the compensation should be fixed accordingly. The widow was found entitled to the expenses in the Court of Session, the expenses in the Court below

being left to the Sheriff-Substitute to decide on the footing of the larger compensation.—*Ann Connachan or Cunningham v. James M'Gregor & Co., Court of Session, May 14th.*

(2) Factory and Workshop Acts.

A Factory Inspector preferred an information against a firm of wholesale and retail beer dealers charging them with failing to have affixed at the entrance of their factory an abstract of the Factory Acts, as required by law in the case of all factories, within the meaning of those Acts. The premises, to which the charge related, were beer bottling works, and were used only for washing bottles and bottling beer. The question arose, whether these premises were a factory, within the meaning of the Factory Acts. By Section 93 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1878, the expression factory "means textile factory and non-textile factory or either of such descriptions of factories," and non-textile factory means, in addition to certain places mentioned in the Act (not including bottling works), "any premises wherein, or within the close or curtilage or precincts of which, any manual labour is exercised by way of trade or for purposes of gain in or incidental to the following purposes, or any of them; that is to say, (a) in or incidental to the making of any article or part of any article, or (b) in or incidental to the altering, repairing, ornamenting, or finishing of any article, or (c) in or incidental to the adapting for sale of any article, and wherein, or within the close or curtilage or precincts of which, steam, water, or other mechanical power is used in aid of the manufacturing process carried on there."

In the present instance the bottles, before being filled with beer (which was done by manual labour alone), were washed by manual labour with the assistance of mechanical power, being washed inside by a rotary brush driven by a gas engine while held in position by hand. Nothing was done to the beer itself to alter it for the purpose of adapting it for sale. Beyond the washing of bottles and bottling beer, no process, manufacturing or other, was carried on upon the premises. The Justices were of opinion that the premises were not a factory, within the meaning of the Act, and dismissed the information. The Inspector appealed; and the King's Bench Division dismissed the appeal, holding that the premises were not within (a) or (b), and could only be brought within (c) as works where an article was adapted for sale by straining the meaning of the words used in the Act, and that the mechanical means used in washing the bottles could not be said to be used in aid of the manufacturing process carried on at the works.—*King's Bench Division, May 4th.*

(3) Truck Acts.

The Truck Act, 1896, provides that "an employer shall not make any contract with any workman for the deduction from the sum contracted to be paid by the employer to the workman, or for any payment to the employer by the workman, for or in respect of any fine, unless . . . (b) the contract specifies the acts or omissions in respect of which the fine may be imposed . . . ; and (c) the fine imposed under the contract is in respect of some act or omission which causes or is likely to cause damage or loss to the employer, or interruption or hindrance to his business, and (d) the amount of the fine is fair and reasonable having regard to all the circumstances of the case."

A firm of corset manufacturers were charged by a Factory Inspector with having infringed this enactment by making a contract with one of their workwomen "for a deduction for or in respect of a fine from the sum contracted to be paid by them to her, which did not specify the acts or omissions in respect of which the said fine might be imposed, and which fine was not in respect of some act or omission which caused or was likely to cause damage or loss to these employers, or interruption or hindrance to their business." The firm had issued certain regulations, including a rule that "all workers shall observe good order and decorum while in the factory, and shall not do anything which may interfere with the proper and orderly conduct of the business thereof or of any department thereof . . . A fine of 6d. (or less at the discretion of the manager) shall be paid by each worker who shall be guilty of any infringement of this rule." The rule in question was to apply to the conduct of the workpeople during all the time when they were on the premises, including the dinner-hour (employees being allowed to have their dinner in the factory), and this was known to the employees. On a certain day, during the dinner-hour, a girl employed by the firm was discovered playing a small harp in a room in the factory used as a dining-room, while a number of other girls were dancing, singing to the music, and clapping their hands. This girl was fined 2d. by the manager. Upon the evidence before them the Magistrates found as a fact that good order and decorum were not observed by this girl, and that the dancing and disorder were likely to cause damage or loss to her employers, and injury to the discipline necessary to be enforced in the factory. They also found as a fact that the rule in question constituted a reasonable contract between the employers and their workpeople, and complied with the provisions of the Truck Act, 1896, cited above. On these grounds the Magistrates dismissed the information.

The Inspector appealed; and the King's Bench Division dismissed the appeal, with costs. The girls were granted the privilege of dining in the factory, and the employers were entitled to impose a rule as to good order and decorum during the dinner-hour. Moreover, it was found that the dancing might raise dust, which might be dangerous to the machinery and materials in the factory. The Court had been pressed to say that the acts were not sufficiently specified; but it would be going too far to say that a breach of "good order and decorum" was too general in its language. The Court was of opinion that the particular act of this work-girl was a part of the disorder which took place. Under all the circumstances the Court came to the conclusion that the decision of the Justices must be upheld.—*King's Bench Division, May 9th.*

(4) Employers and Workmen Act.

AGREEMENT ON A VOYAGE UNTIL RETURN TO UNITED KINGDOM: DISCHARGE AT FOREIGN PORT.

A seaman took out a summons under the Employers and Workmen Act, 1875, against his employer, claiming £10 for wages, being damage done to him by reason of his employer having, as alleged, broken his agreement by discharging him at a place outside the United Kingdom, and for failing to discharge him in the United Kingdom. The £10 was made up by 3s. a day, from November 14th, 1900, to January 4th, 1901, and £2 7s. general damages. The material part of the agreement, which was entered into between the master and the crew, was as follows:—"The several persons . . . are engaged as sailors, hereby agree to serve the said ship in the several capacities expressed against their respective names on a voyage from London to Cape Town and any port or places in Australia, New Zealand, India, China, Pacific, and (or) Atlantic Oceans, West Indies and (or) America, trading backwards and forwards as the master may require until the return of the vessel to a final port of discharge in the United Kingdom. Calling at a port for orders if required, voyage not to exceed one year."

After going to certain foreign countries, the ship arrived in November at a certain place abroad, and from there she was to sail for another port about three or four weeks' sail from the United Kingdom. At the first-named place this seaman demanded his discharge, which he obtained on November 14th, 1900. Upon the discharge an account of wages was delivered, which he signed, but he declined to sign a release from the articles, as he intended to claim wages until his arrival in the United Kingdom. On November 19th the ship left for the second-named port (up to which the seaman was offered, but declined, employment), arriving there on December 9th. The seaman was provided with a passage home, and arrived in the United Kingdom on January 4th, 1901. He made no effort to obtain employment on his way home, as he could not get another ship until he signed off the agreement. His employer refused to pay the amount of wages due unless the seaman signed clear of the ship, which he declined to do. It was contended on behalf of the seaman that under the agreement he was to be brought back in the ship to the United Kingdom within a year; while on behalf of the employer it was argued that the contract of service was terminable either on the return of the vessel to the United Kingdom or at the end of twelve months, and that no breach had been committed; and further, that, as the respondent had taken no steps to mitigate the loss, he could only recover the actual loss of wages, which should be reduced by the amount he might have earned. The Magistrate decided in favour of the seaman, and awarded £10. On appeal, the King's Bench Division dismissed the appeal, holding that this decision was right.—*Williams v. Lovett, King's Bench Division, May 6th.*

(5) Housing of Working Classes Act, 1890.

CLOSING INSANITARY PREMISES: UNINHABITED HOUSE.

By Section 32 of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890, it is made the duty of every Local Authority, if on the representation of the Medical Officer any dwelling-house appears to them to be in a state so dangerous to health as to be unfit for human habitation, to forthwith take proceedings against the owner or occupier for closing the dwelling-house under the enactments in this Act specified; and "any such proceedings may be taken for the express purpose of causing the dwelling-house to be closed, whether the same be occupied or not."

It was represented to a Local Authority by their Medical Officer that certain houses were so dangerous to health as to be unfit for human habitation, and they directed him to take proceedings to obtain a closing order. At the hearing it was proved that the houses had not been inhabited for five years and a half, and there was no evidence of any intention on the part of the owner to let them for human occupation again. Thereupon the Magistrate dismissed the summons, holding that the houses were not dwelling-houses within the meaning of the Act. On appeal to the King's Bench Division, that Court held that the definition above cited was not intended to exclude from the operation of the Act houses which were dwelling-houses in the ordinary sense, whether inhabited or not, and that the dismissal of the summons was wrong.—*King's Bench Division, April 23rd, reported May 4th.*

(6) Public Health (London) Act, 1891.

"HOUSE" LET IN LODGINGS: BLOCK BUILDINGS.

Section 94 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, provides that every Sanitary Authority shall make and enforce such bye-laws as are requisite for the regulation of houses "let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family." A Metropolitan Vestry preferred a complaint against the landlord of two blocks of artisans' dwellings, under bye-laws made by the Vestry pursuant to this Section, and which required the landlord of houses let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family to furnish to the Sanitary Authority certain information in respect to such premises, charging him with having failed to furnish that Authority after notice with particulars in respect to one of these blocks. The question arose whether the block referred to was or was not a "house" within the meaning of this Section. The block referred to in the summons (one of two blocks known together as "Artisans' Dwellings") is known as "No. 2 block," and is entered directly from the street by a single entrance. There is a front door to the entrance, but no means of fastening the same beyond a Norfolk latch. The figure 2 is affixed to the transom of the door frame. The entrance passage branches into two passages about the centre of the building, and there are two double-roomed tenements and one single-roomed tenement on each outer side of the passage, and one single-roomed tenement between

the two single branch passages. This is the arrangement on each of the four floors. Each of the two-roomed tenements and the single-roomed tenements is let to a separate family. At the back end of each passage on each of the floors there is a w.c., sink, water tap, and dust shoot opening. On the south side this convenience serves for the use in common of four tenements, and on the north side for the use in common of three tenements. The staircase and passages are used in common. The tenements are generally occupied by a class of people who are not cleanly in their habits. The landlord does not live on the premises. A caretaker lives on the ground floor, who attends to minor repairs. He has no power to let the premises, but he receives deposits from tenants, and, without the authority of the landlord, has let four tenements furnished at weekly rents. He also cleans the common passages and staircases and water-closets. The names of the occupiers of the various tenements in the building appear on the rate-book, and each of the tenements is rated separately, but the landlord compounds for the rates. The Magistrate dismissed the summons.

The matter was then brought on a case stated before the King's Bench Division, which held that this block was not a "house" let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family within the meaning of the Section cited above, and dismissed the appeal.—*King's Bench Division, May 13th.*

LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.

(Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 31, Broadway, Westminster, from official and other reports, newspapers, etc., mostly dated April and May last.)*

Canada.—A report from Toronto states that there is a demand for farm labourers, female servants, and mechanics. Reports from Calgary and Moosomin in the North-West state that the demand for farm labourers and female servants exceeds the supply. A report from St. John, New Brunswick, states that there is a good demand for farm labourers and female servants, an over supply of general labourers, and no demand for mechanics. A correspondent in Manitoba reports: "I cannot too strongly condemn the practice of sending out youths unaccustomed to labour, of immature age, say sixteen to eighteen. A great proportion of this season's immigration is utterly unfit for farm work. We want men who are old enough to know their own minds, and who are not afraid of work, tenant farmers or farm labourers preferred." A report from Northern Ontario states that there is a good demand for miners, farm labourers and female servants. A report from Winnipeg states that there is a demand for farm labourers and female servants, but not for general labourers or mechanics. In foundries, engine shops etc. in Canada there has been full employment, and in Montreal pattern makers have been very scarce.

New South Wales.—The dispute in the coal trade with respect to the employment of lumpers in sufficient numbers has been settled. A report from Sydney states that trade continues good, more especially for plumbers and builders, and that the engineering trade has perhaps never been so busy. The coal trade continues brisk, although prices have somewhat receded, but not in any way to affect the wage earners. Wharf labourers are kept very busy at full rates. In the country districts, matters are not so satisfactory, the excessive droughts in the back blocks causing the farming classes to gravitate towards the city. Plentiful rains, however, have just fallen, and the demand for labour should materially improve. There is plenty of opening for good artisans in the engineering and general building trades, as well as for general handy men.

Victoria.—The various Boards appointed under the Factories and Shops Acts have recently fixed the lowest prices to be paid to labourers in the pottery trade at 40s. per week of 48 hours; to bedding manufacturers at 11½d an hour or 46s. per week of 48 hours; to wood turners in a sawmill or workshop at 54s. per week of 48 hours; to cigar makers without moulds at 6s. per hundred; to wood mantel piece makers at 50s. to 52s. per week of 48 hours; and to hand-moulders in the brick trade at 10½d an hour. Splendid rains have recently fallen in the Colony, so that the demand for labour, especially in country districts, is likely to increase.

Queensland.—A report from Townsville in the north states that there is no demand for mechanics, but that female servants are wanted. In the colony generally the demand for labour has been seriously affected by the

* 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 May.*—The improvement already reported for agricultural and forest labour was maintained throughout May. The hide and skin working, textile, building (especially carpentry and joinery), coach-building, cabinet-making, lime-burning, brickmaking, pottery and glass trades were well employed. Employment declined in most of the clothing trades, especially in boot, shoe and hatmaking; also in the printing and bookbinding trades, chiefly in the neighbourhood of Paris. Metal smelting and manufacture and engineering appeared to be recovering their normal activity.

Of the 118,000 members of 790 trade unions which made returns as to the state of employment in May, 7,350, or 6.2 per cent., were reported as out of work, compared with 8.5 per cent. in April.

Coal Mining in April.—The average number of days worked per week by those employed underground in coal mines in April was 5.71, as compared with 5.92 in the previous month, and 5.93 in April, 1900. During the month full time (6 days and over per week) was worked by 2 per cent., and from 5 to 6 days by 96 per cent. of all employed in and about the mines. In the previous month the proportions were 94 and 2 respectively. The above particulars were supplied to the French Labour Department by the committee of coal owners, and relate to about 130,000 workpeople (over three-fourths of all employed in and about the mines).

Labour Disputes in April.—Forty-six fresh disputes, 45 of which involved 4,006 workpeople, were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in April. The number of disputes reported in March was 50, in 44 of which 6,437 workpeople took part, while in April, 1900, there were 84 disputes, in 78 of which 21,271 workpeople took part. Of the 46 disputes in April last, 11 occurred in the building trades, 4 in mining and quarrying, 6 in metal trades, 10 in textile trades, 7 in transport, 3 in woodworking trades, 2 in food preparation trades, and 3 in trades not falling within any of the foregoing groups. Of 45 disputes, of which the termination is reported, 14 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 15 in favour of the employers, and 16 were compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in April.—Five cases of application of the Conciliation and Arbitration Law were reported to the French Labour Department in April, the initiative being taken by the workpeople in 3 cases, and by the Justice of the Peace in one. As for the remaining case, it is not stated from which side the initiative came. Committees of conciliation were formed in four cases, resulting in the settlement of 3 disputes (involving 147 workpeople), no agreement being arrived at in one instance. In the case of the remaining dispute the proffered mediation was declined by the employers.

Strike of Navvies at Calais.—Mr. C. A. Payton, H.M. Consul at Calais, reporting to the Foreign Office under date of May 18th, 1901, states that in the previous week a strike, on a small scale, commenced among navvies employed in deepening a small local canal. The strikers were in receipt of hourly wages of 30 centimes (not quite 3d.), one or two gangers or special workmen being paid 35 centimes (about 3½d.). The men asked for 40 centimes (a little over 3½d.), or 50 centimes (4½d.) when working in water. This demand was refused by the contractor. Reference to the Justice of the Peace and to the Prefect of the Department, with a view to conciliation or arbitration, appears to have led to no definite result; and it was reported that the men had resumed work on the old conditions.

GERMANY.

Employment in April and May.—According to the summaries prepared by *Der Arbeitsmarkt* for April and May, and based on returns supplied to that journal by public labour registries in different parts of the Empire, employment became increasingly unfavourable in each of those months as compared with March, the average number of applicants per 100 situations offered having

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the French Labour Department. † *Bulletin de l'Office du Travail* (Journal of the French Labour Department).

long drought, but plentiful rains have recently fallen in parts, so that prospects may be expected to improve.

Western Australia.—According to the official labour return for the first quarter of 1901 there is no demand for miners anywhere, and at Coolgardie there are already more miners than are wanted. At Perth, Fremantle, and Katanning there is a demand for mechanics in the building and other trades, good men getting constant employment at Perth, but elsewhere the supply is either sufficient, or, as at Coolgardie, is in excess of the demand. At Jarrahdale there is a steady demand for saw-mill hands and fellers. In many parts of the south west, as at Toodyay, Perth, Katanning and Pinjarra, there is a scarcity of farm hands and of general labourers such as fencers and axemen. There is a good demand for female servants everywhere.

New Zealand.—The building and engineering trades continue busy almost everywhere, and at Invercargill good carpenters have been in demand. The clothing factories have been busy in many places, and at Auckland and Dunedin there has been a demand for workers. The boot trade has been fairly busy. Sawmillers, flaxmillers, and coalminers have been busy at Westport, and sawyers and bushmen have been in demand at Invercargill. Farm and general labourers have been well employed in most parts of the colony. In the district round Wellington there is a good demand for farm labourers, station hands, and female servants, a steady demand for mechanics, and "a great dearth of men for dairy work."

South Africa.—Persons are again warned against going to South Africa at the present time in search of work unless they have ample means to meet the high cost of living. The dispute in the building trade at Durban has been settled, the employers having granted the demand of the plasterers that their wages should be raised from 16s. to 17s. a day. Railway guards also are agitating in Natal for increased pay.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

(Compiled from returns supplied by the Home Office.)

The following Table shows the number of cases* of lead and phosphorus poisoning and of anthrax reported during May as having occurred in factories and workshops. Of the 78 cases of lead poisoning reported during the month, 8 occurred in white lead works and 11 (including 6 females) in the china and earthenware industry, the number of cases in those industries in May, 1900, being 40 and 14 respectively. The deaths of 5 men from lead poisoning and of 1 man from anthrax were reported during the month, as compared with the deaths of 7 men (all from lead poisoning) reported in May, 1900.

Disease and Industry.	May, 1901.				Total May 1900.
	Adults.		Young Persons.		
	M.†	F.†	M.†	F.†	
Lead Poisoning—					
White Lead Works	7	1	—	—	8
China and Earthenware	5	5	—	1	11
Litho-Transfer Works	3	—	—	—	3
Red and Yellow Lead Works, Glass Cutting, Enamelling of Iron Plates, Electrical Accumulator Works	9	—	1	—	10
Manufacture of Paints and Colours	4	—	—	—	4
Smelting of Metals, Tinning and Enamelling of Iron Hollow-ware	5	—	—	—	5
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping, Plumbing and Soldering, Printing, File Cutting	10	—	—	—	10
Coach Making, Shipbuilding, &c.	14	1	1	—	16
Other Industries	9	2	—	—	11
Total Lead Poisoning	66	9	2	1	78
Mercurial Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphorus Poisoning	1	—	—	—	1
Anthrax	5	—	—	—	5

In addition to the cases included above, 13 cases of lead poisoning (including 4 deaths) were reported among house painters and plumbers. The number of such cases reported in May, 1900, was 12 (including 4 deaths).

* Cases include all attacks, fatal or otherwise, reported during the month and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months. † Fatal cases include all deaths reported during the month, whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not. † M.=Males. F.=Females.

increased from 122.2 in March to 141.4 in April and 145.9 in May. The corresponding proportions for April and May last year were 93.4 and 106.6 respectively.

Labour disputes in May.—The number of disputes reported by *Der Arbeitsmarkt* as having begun in Germany during May was 48, as compared with 58 in April. Ten of these occurred in the building trades, 12 in metal and engineering trades, 3 in the textile trades, 3 in the clothing trades, 4 in woodworking trades, 6 in pottery, &c. trades, 3 in food preparation trades, and 7 in trades not coming within any of the foregoing groups.

Trades newly brought within Scope of Accident Insurance Law.—Under the Workmen's Accident Insurance Law of June 30th, 1900 (see *GAZETTE*, November, 1900, p. 324), which came into operation on October 1st, 1900, the obligation to insure is extended to a number of trades previously free from that obligation. The Journal of the Imperial Insurance Department for May 1st, 1901, contains a return of 87,503 establishments reporting themselves for the first time for insurance under the Law. The mean aggregate number of workpeople insurable under the Law, who were employed in those establishments, was 159,880, of whom 75,315 were employed in locksmiths' and blacksmiths' establishments, 44,903 in butchers' shops, 27,457 in warehouses, and 6,864 in breweries.

BELGIUM.*

Employment in April.—The output of the coal mines kept gradually decreasing in April, the places of many miners who had left for the brickmaking season remaining unfilled, and of parts of the Liège district it was reported that short time to the extent of one day per week was being worked. There was also much slackness in coke making. In metal smelting and manufacture, certain signs of improvement observable in the previous month became rather more marked, though evidence of a real and general improvement was still wanting. In the heavy engineering trades, employment was scarce in some, and plentiful in other branches, but on the whole unsatisfactory, the supply of labour exceeding the demand. The plate glass trades continued to improve. The season was in full swing for garment working. The spring revival also took place in the building trades, but in most of the towns in the Walloon district it started badly, so that many workers were unable to find employment. The situation in the woodworking trades fell short of what could be desired. As to the textile trades, there was great depression in cotton weaving. Short time was being worked in all districts, in spite of which the number of unemployed workpeople has increased, especially in Ghent and Renaix.

Labour Disputes in April.—Eleven disputes were reported to the Belgian Labour Department as having begun in April, 10 of them involving 1,005 workpeople. In addition, 4 disputes, begun before April 1st, including the strike of 8,000 glassworkers in the Charleroi district, which began in August last, continued throughout the month. Of the disputes which began in April, 2 occurred in the building trades, 4 in mining, 2 in metal working and shipbuilding, 2 in the glass, pottery, etc., trades, and 1 among hat makers. Of 12 disputes which terminated during April, 3 were decided in favour of the workpeople (60 persons were involved in 2 of these disputes), 7, involving 740 workpeople, ended in favour of the employers, and 2, involving 220 workpeople, were compromised.

HOLLAND.

Chambers of Labour.—Under date of May 14th, 1901, the Minister of Dykes, Commerce and Industry has issued his Annual Report on Chambers of Labour established in conformity with the Dutch Law of May 2nd, 1897 (see *GAZETTE*, August, 1897, p. 229). The Report shows the number of Chambers in operation at the end of 1900 to have been 76.

These Chambers are established on the recommendation of the Minister referred to, wherever their establishment appears necessary and practicable. Their objects are:—To collect information on questions affecting labour; to advise Government Departments

* *Revue du Travail* (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department).
† *Verlagen der Kamers van Arbeid over 1900*, The Hague, De Gebroeders van Ceeff, 1901.

or Local Authorities on subjects relating to the interests of labour; to give advice and frame agreements and regulations at the request of the parties interested; and to prevent and adjust disputes in regard to questions affecting labour, and, if necessity should arise, to bring about the reference of such disputes to arbitration between the parties. The Royal Decree establishing a Chamber fixes the number of its members, of whom one-half must be employers, elected by the employers concerned, and the other half workmen, elected by the workmen concerned. The members hold office for five years, and are eligible for re-election. Each Chamber has two chairmen, one an employer and one a workman.

AUSTRIA.*

Employment in March.—The returns of the Labour Registries (public and private) furnishing reports to the Austrian Labour Department show that the proportion of applications for work fell since the previous month from 144 to 142 per 100 situations offered. Taking the sexes separately, it is found that in March the average number of applications per 100 situations was 209 in the case of male, and 79 in the case of female workpeople (277 and 75 respectively in February).

Labour Disputes in March.—Twenty-two disputes were reported to the Austrian Labour Department as having begun in March, as compared with 26 in February. The number of workpeople involved in 14 of the March disputes was 548, as compared with 1,735 who took part in 25 disputes reported for the previous month. Two of the new disputes occurred in the building trades, 5 in the mining industry, 6 in the metal trades, 4 in the clothing trades, 2 in the glass, pottery, etc., trades, and 3 in trades not included within any of the foregoing groups.

SPAIN.

Information has been received at the Board of Trade in despatches from Sir M. Durand, H.M. Ambassador at Madrid, and Captain Talbot, H.M. Consul at Corunna, dated June 1st and 3rd respectively, that a general strike in all trades took place at Corunna on May 31st and ended on June 3rd. The trouble originated in a strike of the men of superior rank employed in collecting octroi dues, who demanded a rise in wages, and to the contractor procuring men from the south to replace the strikers.

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK CONSULAR DISTRICT.

National Joint Committee on Conciliation and Arbitration.—In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated May 9th, Sir Percy Sanderson, K.C.M.G., H.M. Consul-General at New York, reports that a meeting of representatives of capital and labour from the principal manufacturing cities of the United States had been held in New York on May 7th, under the auspices of the National Civic Federation. The Federation, which owes its origin to the Civic Federation of Chicago, has a number of standing committees; and, on the occasion under notice, the National Joint Committee on Conciliation and Arbitration met in the first instance to consider a report of the sub-committee on the means to be adopted for the relief and avoidance of labour troubles. This meeting was held behind closed doors, and was attended by representatives of capital and labour; it is stated that the business men present represented capital to the extent of £200,000,000. Later in the day an open meeting was held, at which the President of the American Federation of Labour acted as Chairman.

With respect to the method of operation, the "New York Times" of May 9th states that—

"The Committee will secure the fullest possible information as to methods and measures of arbitration in vogue throughout the world; it will put itself into communication with all representative bodies of workmen and employers, inform them as to its purpose, offer its services, and secure their co-operation and goodwill if possible, asking particularly of general organisations that, whenever any specific questions are arising, where there is no established method of joint consideration and settlement existing, the National Committee be informed, in order that it may use its influence before trouble occurs. This method to be extended to local organisations when the Committee may find itself sufficiently equipped to do so.

"The Committee will adopt such measures as may seem feasible to disseminate . . . the results of its investigations, together with its recommendations and suggestions."

* *Soziale Rundschau* (Journal of the Austrian Labour Department).

In despatches to the Foreign Office, under date of May 17th to 31st, Sir P. Sanderson reports as to a strike of men employed by the United Traction Company in Albany, Rennselaer, Watervliet, Troy and Cohoes, and as to a general strike of machinists (engineers) throughout the United States.

Strike of Traction Company's Employees.—The men employed by the United Traction Company at the places just named went out on strike on May 7th in consequence of the Company not complying with their demands, which were described as follows:—That the Company employ none but members of a branch of the Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employees of America, and that eight non-Union men employed be discharged or compelled to join the Union; that all "night-car" and "extra" men in receipt of 18½ cents (9½d.) per hour be paid 20 cents (10d.), or at the same rate as regular day men. On May 18th this dispute, in which about 1,000 strikers had taken part, was ended, a settlement having been arrived at between employers and employed. The agreement may be summed up as follows: The men obtain an increase of wages, the pay of all motormen, conductors, linemen and pitmen being fixed at 20 cents (10d.) per hour, and that of pitmen helpers at 17½ cents (8¾d.) per hour, and also secure for themselves protection from arbitrary suspension or discharge by superintendents, and the concession of a system regulating the journeys of inspectors and free travel for themselves. The company retains its right to employ non-Union, as well as Union, men, and it is agreed that hereafter no strike shall begin until six days after notice to the Company.

General Strike of Machinists.—A general strike of machinists (engineers) throughout the United States began on May 20th, it being estimated that, out of about 150,000 Union and non-Union men, between 40,000 and 50,000 left their work. In the New York district it was said that the number of strikers was from 3,000 to 4,000, out of a total of about 11,000. The strike is said to have arisen out of the proceedings at a conference between officials representing respectively the National Metal Trades Association and the National Association of Machinists, which was held at Chicago in May, 1900, to arbitrate differences which had caused strikes in Chicago, Columbia, Cleveland and other cities.

The demands of the men appear to have been for a day of nine hours, with the same rate of pay as was in force for a day of ten hours, the change dating from May 20th, 1901. The difference seems to be more on the question of pay than on that of hours, the National Metal Trades Association stating they could not adjust the scale of wages, which must be arranged locally. Reporting on May 23rd, H.M. Consul-General stated that several firms had conceded the demands, and that a proposal to submit the matter in dispute to the Arbitration Board (as agreed upon by the joint agreement of November 16th, 1900) had been thrown out on the previous day at a conference held in New York between representatives of the Metal Trades Association and of the New York District of the International Association of Machinists. A report from the same source, dated May 31st, described the situation as still unchanged.

Strike of Tunnel Construction Workmen.—Sir P. Sanderson reports to the Foreign Office, under date of May 25th, that a strike of men employed on the work of the Rapid Transit Tunnel in New York took place on May 24th. The number of men involved is given as 5,000, and their demands are said to comprise an increase of wages, and that payment of wages should be made every Saturday at a point near where the men are working. Eccentric engineers demand 3 dols. 50 cents (14s. 7d.) for a day of eight hours, instead of 3 dols. (12s. 6d.), rock drillers ask 2 dols. 75 cents (11s. 5½d.) and an eight hour day on outside contracts as well as on the work of the tunnel; and double drum hoisters ask 2 dols. 50 cents (10s. 5d.) a day instead of 2 dols. (8s. 4d.).

The contractor states that the men have been receiving Union rates of wages for an eight hour day, as has been prescribed by law for public work, and that they left their work without presenting any grievances of their own. The strike is attributed to the fact that some

of the sub-contractors for the tunnel employ men for other work, and compel them to work 10 hours a day, and the rock drillers more especially are said to have brought about the strike on the tunnel, as a means of exerting pressure on sub-contractors in respect of their other undertakings.

[According to newspaper reports this dispute had, by June 5th, been terminated by mutual concessions.]

Exclusion of Immigrants suffering from Tuberculosis.—Under the Immigration Laws of the United States all aliens "suffering from a loathsome or a dangerous contagious disease" are excluded from admission into that country. It has now been officially decided that tuberculosis of the lung is to be considered a contagious disease, within the meaning of the law (*U.S. Treasury Decisions*, Vol. 4, No. 29, May 9th, 1901).

REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

(a) COAL MINING IN MAY.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry shows a decline of two-fifths of a day per week in the average number of days worked by the collieries as compared with a year ago, but an increase in the number employed. The comparison with April is vitiated by the fact that in that month employment was interrupted by the Easter holidays.

The following Table relating to 1,343 pits, at which 469,013 workpeople were employed, gives the figures upon which the above statement is based:—

District.	No. employed in May, 1901, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the pits in four weeks ended		
		25th May, 1901.	26th May, 1900.	20th Apr.,* 1901.
England and Wales	427,740	Days. 5.22	Days. 5.65	Days. 4.89
Scotland	40,676	5.33	5.42	5.06
Ireland	597	5.13	5.42	5.10
United Kingdom	469,013	5.23	5.63	4.91

The number of workpeople employed at the pits from which returns have been received for both periods was about 6.0 per cent, greater than a year ago.

In the next Table the workpeople are grouped according to the number of days worked at the pits at which they were employed. It will be seen that 75.4 per cent. were employed at pits working 5 or more days per week in the four weeks ended May 25th, as compared with 92.6 per cent. a year ago.

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

Number of days on which Coal was hewn and wound in four weeks.	May, 1901.		Corresponding percentages in	
	No. of Workpeople employed.	Percentage proportion to total.	May, 1900.	April, 1901.*
24 days (full time)	76,078	16.2	33.5	1.1
20 and under 24 days	277,601	59.2	39.1	58.4
16 " " 20 " "	82,077	17.5	7.9	34.1
12 " " 16 " "	23,705	5.0	0.1	4.5
8 " " 12 " "	4,058	0.9	0.1	0.8
Under 8 days	5,494	1.2	0.0	1.1
Total	469,013	100.0	100.0	100.0

The next Table, which gives detailed particulars for different mining districts, shows that in every district the average number of days worked per week was less than in the corresponding period a year ago. In the Nottingham and Leicester, and Gloucester and Somerset districts the decrease amounted to more than four-fifths of a day per week; in Staffordshire and Derbyshire to nearly three-quarters of a day per week; and in the Cumberland, Yorkshire, and Shropshire, Worcester and Warwick districts to about half a day per week.

The highest averages during the month were worked in the Lothians (5.51 days), Durham (5.45 days) and Fife (5.41 days). The lowest averages were in the Nottingham and Leicester district (4.44 days), Staffordshire (4.83 days) and in Gloucester and Somerset (4.94 days). In no other district was the average less than 5 days per week.

* The Easter Holidays are included in this period.

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—COAL AND IRON MINING; PIG IRON; IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

COMPARISON OF THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED BY COLLIERIES IN MAY, 1901 AND 1900, AND IN APRIL, 1901.

District.	No. employed in May, 1901, 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 May, 1901, as compared with	
		25th May, 1901.	26th May, 1900.	20th April, 1901.*	A year ago.	A month ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.						
Northumberland ...	26,448	5'39	5'52	5'04	- '13	+ '35
Durham ...	90,665	5'45	5'64	5'02	- '19	+ '43
Cumberland... ..	7,062	5'29	5'83	5'09	- '54	+ '29
Yorkshire ...	70,450	5'33	5'87	4'90	- '54	+ '43
Lancashire and Cheshire...	49,814	5'06	5'47	4'94	- '41	+ '12
Derbyshire ...	38,540	5'14	5'87	4'88	- '73	+ '26
Nottingham and Leicester	26,782	4'44	5'25	4'30	- '81	+ '14
Staffordshire ...	26,216	4'83	5'54	4'71	- '71	+ '12
Salop, Worcester and Warwick ...	9,122	5'12	5'66	4'94	- '54	+ '18
Gloucester and Somerset...	8,735	4'94	5'81	5'14	- '87	+ '20
North Wales... ..	11,996	5'34	5'43	5'01	- '09	+ '13
South Wales and Mon. ...	61,910	5'36	5'78	4'83	- '42	+ '53
SCOTLAND.						
West Scotland ...	22,160	5'25	5'27	4'82	- '02	+ '43
The Lothians ...	4,055	5'51	5'70	5'44	- '19	+ '07
Fife ...	14,461	5'41	5'57	5'30	- '16	+ '11
IRELAND.						
...	597	5'13	5'42	5'10	- '29	+ '03
Grand Total & Averages	469,013	5'23	5'63	4'91	- '40	+ '32

The Exports of coal, coke, cinders, and patent fuel during May amounted to 4,280,950 tons, as compared with 3,652,923 tons in April, and 4,170,220 tons in May 1900.

(b) IRON MINING IN MAY.

EMPLOYMENT in May showed a decline as compared with a year ago.

Returns relating to 126 iron mines and open works show that the average number of days worked by these mines during the four weeks ended May 25th was 5'65, as compared with 5'79 days in the corresponding period a year ago and 5'37 days during April. In April, however, employment was interrupted by holidays. The number of workpeople at the mines covered by the returns was 15,324 (or 1,290 less than a year ago), of whom 79'8 per cent. were employed in mines working 22 or more days during the four weeks ended May 25th, compared with 85'2 per cent. a year ago.

The following Table summarises the Returns received:

District.	No. employed in May, 1901, at the Mines included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Mines in 4 weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in May, 1901, as compared with	
		25th May, 1901.	26th May, 1900.	20th April, 1901.*	A year ago.	A month ago.
ENGLAND—						
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	5,096	5'73	5'80	5'49	- '07	+ '24
Cleveland ...	6,259	5'66	5'74	5'35	- '08	+ '31
Lincolnshire and Leicestershire...	761	4'95	5'95	4'71	- '100	+ '24
Northamptonshire	626	5'77	5'97	5'30	- '20	+ '47
Staffordshire and Shropshire ...	1,247	5'63	5'70	4'94	- '07	+ '69
Other places in England... ..	60	5'86	5'51	5'40	+ '35	+ '46
SCOTLAND ...	1,180	5'59	6'00	5'66	- '41	- '07
IRELAND ...	95	5'91	5'85	5'90	+ '06	+ '01
Total and Averages	15,324	5'65	5'79	5'37	- '14	+ '28

(c) PIG-IRON INDUSTRY IN MAY.

EMPLOYMENT has improved as compared with a month ago, but is much worse than a year ago.

At the works of 114 ironmasters covered by the returns received, seven furnaces were re-lit in England and Wales, and three were damped down or blown out during the month; in Scotland five furnaces were re-lit. Thus at the end of May there were nine more furnaces in operation than at the end of April. As compared with May, 1900, a decrease is shown in every district, the net decrease in Great Britain being 80 furnaces.

* The Easter Holidays are included in this period.

The estimated number of workpeople employed at the 300 furnaces in blast at the end of May was 21,200.

The following Table shows the number of furnaces in blast in different districts at the three periods specified:—

Districts.	Present time compared with a year ago.			Present-time compared with a month ago.		
	May, 1901.	May, 1900.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in May, 1901.	May, 1901.	April, 1901.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in May, 1901.
ENGLAND & WALES—						
Cleveland ...	81	96	- 15	81	76	+ 5
Cumberland & Lancos. S. and S.W. Yorks....	40	51	- 11	40	39	+ 1
Lincolnshire ...	15	18	- 3	15	15	...
Midlandshire ...	9	16	- 7	9	9	...
Midlands ...	72	102	- 30	72	74	- 2
Glamorgan and Mon. Other districts ...	15	22	- 7	15	15	...
...	6	8	- 2	6	6	...
Total England and Wales...	238	313	- 75	238	234	+ 4
SCOTLAND ...	62	67	- 5	62	57	+ 5
Total furnaces included in returns	300	380	- 80	300	291	+ 9

(d) EMPLOYMENT AT IRON AND STEEL WORKS* IN MAY.

EMPLOYMENT in these industries shows a slight improvement in the average number of shifts worked as compared with a month ago, the number employed remaining practically the same. As compared with a year ago there is a slight decline in the average number of shifts worked and a considerable reduction in the number of workpeople employed.

Numbers Employed.

At 204 works covered by the returns 76,627 workpeople were employed in the week ended May 25th, as compared with 76,633 in the week ended April 27th, and 81,135 a year ago.

The following Table gives the changes in the numbers employed in England and Wales, and in Scotland:—

District.	Numbers employed in week ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in May, 1901, as compared with	
	May 25th, 1901.	May 26th, 1900.	Apr. 27th, 1901.	A year ago.	A month ago.
England and Wales ...	64,594	68,143	64,178	- 3,549	+ 416
Scotland ...	12,033	12,992	12,455	- 959	- 422
Total ...	76,627	81,135	76,633	- 4,508	- 6

Weekly Number of Shifts Worked.

Information as to the number of shifts worked has been received with respect to works employing about 88 per cent. of these workpeople, and the particulars are summarised in the Table below. The average number of shifts worked was 5'43 per man in the week ended May 25th, as compared with 5'29 in the week ended April 27th, and 5'52 in the corresponding week a year ago.

Number of Shifts worked.	Number employed in May, 1901, so far as returned.	Percentage proportion to Total.	Corresponding percentage in	
			May, 1900.	Apr., 1901.
Under 5 per week ...	6,334	9'4	7'6	15'3
5 per week ...	23,799	35'4	37'4	34'1
5½ per week ...	955	1'4	3'3	1'7
6 per week ...	35,302	52'4	56'7	48'1
Over 6 per week ...	940	1'4	1'0	0'8
Total ...	67,330	100'0	100'0	100'0

Assuming that the workpeople not included in this Table worked the same average number of shifts per man as those who are included, the total number of shifts worked

* Including iron puddling and rolling, and steel making and rolling.

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—TINPLATE WORKS; SEAMEN; AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

by all the workpeople included in the first Table may be estimated at 415,969 in the week ended May 25th, 405,608 in the week ended April 27th, and 448,079 in the corresponding week a year ago. Thus the volume of employment at the works included in the returns was 2'6 per cent. more than a month ago, and 7'2 per cent. less than a year ago.

(e) EMPLOYMENT AT TINPLATE WORKS* IN MAY.

EMPLOYMENT at the end of May showed an improvement as compared with April, but was still much worse than a year ago.

At the end of May 45 works with 218 mills had all their mills in operation, whilst 22 others had 126 mills at work out of a total of 170. Thus in all 344 mills were working, compared with 335 at the end of April and 412 mills a year ago. The number of workpeople employed at the mills in operation at the end of May is estimated to be about 17,200.

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 ...	45	218	...	218
Works giving partial employment ...	22	126	44	170
Total at end of May, 1901† ...	67	344	44	388
Corresponding Total for April, 1901† ...	67	385	53	388
Corresponding Total for May, 1900† ...	84	412	67	479

The Exports of tinplates and blackplates from the United Kingdom in the months covered by the above Table are summarised below:—

	Tinplates.			Blackplates.		
	May, 1901.	April, 1901.	May, 1900.	May, 1901.	April, 1901.	May, 1900.
To United States ...	4,886	3,676	4,979	—	49	5
„ Other Countries ...	14,250	19,446	23,067	4,547	4,169	6,892
Total ...	19,136	23,122	28,046	4,547	4,218	6,897

(f) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN MAY.

(Data supplied by the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.)

THE number of seamen shipped during May as the crews of foreign-going vessels, from certain selected ports (at which about 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared), was 37,098, or 2,310 more than during May, 1900. At most of the ports it is stated that the supply of seamen and firemen has been equal to or in excess of the demand, but at Middlesbrough and Southampton the demand is said to have exceeded the supply, and also at South Shields for A.B.'s (especially for sailing vessels).

During the five completed months of 1901, 168,921 men have been shipped, as compared with 155,843 in the corresponding period of 1900, the principal increase occurring at Liverpool.

Of the total number of seamen shipped in the five months, 26,596 (or 15'7 per cent.) were foreigners, as against 15'0 per cent. in the corresponding period of 1900. Lascars who are engaged in Asia are not included in these figures.

* The figures relate not only to the manufacture of tinplates, but also to the manufacture of blackplates.

† It will be understood that, at each of the dates to which the returns relate, a certain number of tinplate works were wholly idle in addition to the works returned as giving full or partial employment, but the figures quoted are believed to give approximately the total number of works and mills actually in operation.

‡ Revised figures.

Table showing the number* of men, &c., shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom in May, 1901 and 1900 respectively, together with the number† shipped in the five months ended May, in each of these years:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Men, &c., shipped in May, 1901.*			Total in May, 1900.*	Total number shipped in 5 months ended May.†	
	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in May, 1901.		1901.	1900.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
East Coast.						
Tyne Ports... ..	222	3,055	3,277	2,962	14,037	12,481
Sunderland ...	...	661	661	504	2,220	1,964
Middlesbrough ...	...	287	287	235	830	1,313
Hull ...	67	1,171	1,238	1,408	4,750	5,513
Grimsey ...	31	161	192	77	380	340
Bristol Channel.						
Bristol† ...	1	479	480	509	2,330	1,960
Newport, Mon. ...	55	618	673	794	3,725	3,989
Cardiff† ...	511	4,070	4,581	4,817	21,487	28,245
Swansea ...	108	449	557	606	2,905	2,785
Other Ports.						
Liverpool ...	298	11,537	11,835	10,860	55,688	45,262
London ...	396	6,170	6,566	6,445	31,798	30,725
Southampton ...	...	3,072	3,072	2,183	12,519	11,619
SCOTLAND.						
Leith, Kirkcaldy, Methil, and Grangemouth	56	550	606	621	2,650	2,717
Glasgow ...	62	2,713	2,775	2,495	11,653	10,992
IRELAND.						
Dublin ...	...	121	121	38	584	494
Belfast ...	...	177	177	294	1,525	1,514
Total, May, 1901 ...	1,807	35,291	37,098	...	168,921	...
Dicto, May, 1900 ...	1,577	33,211	...	34,788	...	155,843

(g) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN MAY.

THE Agricultural Correspondent to the Department, on the basis of 268 returns from various parts of the country, reports as follows:—Fine dry weather prevailed during nearly the whole of May, and there was practically no interruption of out-door work. Farm labourers were generally busily employed preparing the land for, and sowing root crops, hoeing, weeding etc. Although a certain number of employers complain of some scarcity of labour, particularly men to take charge of animals, and milkers, the greater number state that the supply of men was about equal to the demand, there being fewer men wanted than usual for hoeing and weeding, owing to the dry weather.

Northern Counties.—Reports from Northumberland and Durham state that employment was regular during the month, and that the weather was very fine and suitable for outdoor employment. Regularity of work is reported in Cumberland and Westmorland. A correspondent in the Carlisle Union writes that "the weather has been very favourable for sowing of mangold and preparing the land for the swede crops, but it has been much too dry for sowing." In both Cumberland and Westmorland men are said to have been scarce at the Whitsuntide half-yearly hirings. Reports from Lancashire state that the men were well employed throughout the month. Reports have been received from the Unions of Clitheroe, Fylde, Garstang, Lancaster, Prescot, Preston, and Ulverston.

In Yorkshire in the East Riding employment is stated to have been regular. A correspondent in the Patrington Union writes as follows:—"Extra labour is very scarce, the Irish labourers not having been in such numbers as in previous years." In the Bridlington Union a correspondent says: "The supply of labour was somewhat inadequate. Horsemen and men to milk were very hard to obtain." Regularity of work is also reported in the North Riding. On the whole the supply of labour appears to have been about equal to the demand, though some reports refer to a scarcity. A report from the Northallerton Union says that more men, mostly from towns, are seeking work. An employer in the Ripon Union writes: "Labourers are fully employed sowing or preparing for swede sowing, and hoeing and cleaning cereal crops, etc. The supply of labour is equal to the demand." An employer in the Easingwold Union writes: "Good labourers more plentiful." A large employer of labour in the Darlington Union writes: "Men are much easier to get than they were a year ago."

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

† Including Avonmouth and Portishead.

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

A report from the Guisborough Union says that the supply of labour is rather short, and a report from the Scarborough Union says that it is equal to the demand. In the West Riding agricultural labourers are said to be well employed, and generally speaking the supply of labour about equal to the demand. Reports have been received from the Unions of Doncaster, Knaresborough, Ouseburn, Selby, and Wetherby.

Midland Counties.—Reports from Derbyshire state that employment has been regular during the month, and men scarce. An employer in the Mansfield Union writes as follows:—"A great outcry for skilled labour, and none to be had. Sheep shearers especially wanted and wanted in vain, so recourse is being had to machinery." In Cheshire regularity of employment is reported. A correspondent in the Tarvin Union writes:—"If Irish labour had not arrived, the work of the farmer could not have been done. As old labourers die, casual men or Irishmen have to be employed. Our agricultural labourers' sons mostly go to town works, or to become joiners or builders." Agricultural labourers in Nottinghamshire are said to have been well employed, and men are stated to be scarce. A report from the Southwell Union says that, at the May hirings at Lincoln, young men and boys were difficult to engage owing to the high wages asked. Reports from Leicestershire, from the Unions of Blaby, Barrow-on-Soar, Loughborough, Lutterworth, Market Bosworth, and Melton Mowbray, state that agricultural labourers were fully employed. In Staffordshire and Shropshire employment is reported as regular and men generally scarce. In Warwickshire agricultural labourers are said to be well employed. Reports have been received from the Unions of Alcester, Atherstone, Coventry, Meriden, Stratford-on-Avon, and Warwick. The supply of labour is said to have generally been about equal to the demand. A large employer in the Alcester Union writes as follows: "I think that there has been decidedly more labour available in May this year than at this time last year. Crops have been backward and no mangolds have been fit to single, so that there has not been so much need of labour." Agricultural employment is said to be regular in Oxfordshire. A correspondent in the Thame Union writes: "May was a very dry month and afforded full employment upon arable land, hoeing, mangold planting, preparation for swedes, also timber felling."

In Northamptonshire agricultural labourers are said to have been well employed, and the supply about equal to the demand. A correspondent in the Kettering Union writes: "Labour is generally certainly more plentiful." A large employer of labour in the Wellingborough Union writes as follows: "The weather has been very good for farm work, and all labourers, including casual men, have been well employed hoeing, &c. The supply of men is rather more plentiful than last year, and is about equal to the demand, except that boys are still rather difficult to get." An employer in the Oundle Union says: "In consequence of fine weather, employment has been regular, and I should say that the work is well under control." In Buckinghamshire employment is reported as regular. Reports from the Buckingham, Henley, and Wycombe Unions say that the supply of labour is short. An employer of labour in the Aylesbury Union writes that it is rather more plentiful. In Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire agricultural labourers are said to have been well employed. A correspondent in the Hitchin Union (Herts.) writes that "the supply of labour has been rather more abundant and quite equal to present demand." A correspondent in the Luton Union (Beds.) says that: "The supply of labour is about equal to the demand," and a correspondent in the Bedford Union says that the supply is sufficient, except in the case of boys.

Eastern Counties.—Agricultural employment in Huntingdonshire is said to have been regular during the month. A report from the St. Neot's Union states that labour is still scarce and of inferior quality. Employment in Cambridgeshire is reported as generally regular. In the Newmarket Union a short supply of labour is referred to, but in the Unions of Chesterton, Linton, North Witchford, Royston, Whittlesey, Wisbech, and the Cambridgeshire portion of the Peterborough Union the supply is stated to have been about sufficient. A correspondent in the Peterborough Union writes: "We are having dry weather, mangolds and crops are growing slowly, so not so much labour is required." Agricultural labourers in Lincolnshire are said to have been fully employed with the exception of a few men in the Bourne Union. Reports have been received from the Unions of Brigg, Bourne, Caistor, Gainsborough, Grantham, Holbeach, Horncastle, Lincoln, Louth, Newark, Sleaford, and Spilsby. Most of the reports refer to a scarcity of labour. A correspondent in the Newark Union writes: "We have plenty of men to do the ordinary work of the

farm, but no extra men to be got for hoeing." A report from the Bourne Union states that the cold, long-continued east wind has much retarded growth of almost all crops, and the ravages of 'fly' have caused a good deal of work to be done over again, and at the same time has hindered other operations."

In Norfolk agricultural labourers have been, generally speaking, fully employed. The weather was fine during the greater part of the month, and farmers were able to find plenty of work in preparing the land for roots and sowing them, weeding corn, etc. Reports have been received from the Unions of Aylsham, Blonfield, Depwade, Docking, Erpingham, East and West Flegg, Forehoe, Freebridge Lynn, Guiltcross, Loddon and Clavering, St. Faith's, Smallburgh, Swaffham, Thetford, Walsingham, and Wayland. In most of the Unions the supply of labour is said to have been about sufficient. In the East and West Flegg, and Guiltcross Unions, however, some scarcity is reported.

Reports from Suffolk state that agricultural employment was generally regular during May, and in most districts the supply of labour was about equal to the demand. A correspondent in the Wangford Union states, however, that there is a "very short supply of good men, corn crops foul for want of hands to hoe and weed." Reports have been received from the following Poor Law Unions: Blything, Bosmere and Claydon, Cosford, Hartismere, Hoxne, Mutford and Lothingland, Plomesgate, Risbridge, Sudbury, Samford, Thingoe, and Wangford. A report from the Bosmere and Claydon Union states that "the fine weather of the month has much improved the appearance of almost everything, and farm work generally, though very unsatisfactory in the earlier part of the month, is now again recovered." A correspondent in the Risbridge Union writes, "The weather was favourable for hoeing corn, working fallows and preparing for roots."

Farm labourers in Essex are said to have been well employed, with very few exceptions. The supply of labour is generally reported as sufficient, and in the Tendring Union it is said that there has been less difficulty in obtaining odd hands for hoeing, etc., than in the two previous seasons. On the other hand a correspondent in the Ongar Union reports a "scarcity of irregular hands such as for wheat and root hoeing, thistle spudding, etc. Also lads willing to milk cows are scarce." Reports have been received from the Unions of Billericay, Braintree, Colchester, Dunmow, Halstead, Lexden and Winstree, Maldon, Ongar, Orsett, and Tendring. A correspondent in the Maldon Union writes, "A beautiful month and everybody busy killing the weeds. More men could have been employed."

Southern and South-Western Counties.—In Kent agricultural employment is said to have been generally quite regular during the month. Reports have been received from the Unions of Blean, Bridge, Elham, Eastry, Hoo, Faversham, Hollingbourne, Maidstone, Malling, Sevenoaks, Tenterden, Thanet, and West Ashford. In the following Unions the supply of men is said to have been equal to the demand: Eastry, Hollingbourne, Hoo, Sevenoaks, and Malling. In the following Unions a scarcity of men is referred to: Faversham, Blean, Bridge, Elham, Tenterden, and Thanet. A correspondent in the West Ashford Union writes: "The supply of men was about sufficient for the month's work, but not enough to clear up arrears of work from April." A correspondent in the Faversham Union writes: "No hands are ready or willing to tie up faggot wood, and it appears that in wood districts when felled it will have to lie. In consequence of dry weather weeds have not come up in the usual quantity, therefore there has not been so much hoeing." Regularity of employment is reported from Surrey. A scarcity of men is referred to in reports from the Unions of Dorking, Godstone, Farnham, and Hambledon.

In Sussex agricultural employment was regular during the month, and the supply of men though deficient in some districts was on the whole about equal to requirements. Reports have been received from the Unions of Battle, Chailey, Cuckfield, Hailsham, Horsham, Lewes, Newhaven, Petworth, Rye, Ticehurst, and Uckfield. In the Chailey Union a correspondent states that carters and milkers are most difficult to obtain. Agricultural labourers in Hampshire are said to have been well employed, and most reports state that the supply of men was about sufficient for the work during the month. A correspondent in the Hartley Wintney Union says that the supply of men is "about equal to the demand, seeing that there is but little hoeing as yet." A large employer of labour in the Stockbridge Union writes as follows: "May was a dry month, with north-east wind generally. Lent corn sowing was much hindered by the weather in March and April, and farm work generally has been backward, including preparation of land for and putting in roots. Consequently there was no hoeing

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—AGRICULTURAL LABOUR; DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR.

until the end of May, when mangold hoeing commenced. The supply of labour is quite equal to the demand." In the Basingstoke Union a correspondent says: "The weather has been so dry that there is not much mangold and turnip hoeing yet, but there is plenty for hands to do at present. There is a scarcity of men." In Berkshire agricultural labourers are said to have been regularly employed during the month. Reports have been received from the Unions of Bradfield, Faringdon, Hungerford and Ramsbury, Wallingford, and Wantage. Most reports refer to a scarcity of men. An employer in the Bradfield Union writes: "There is practically no, or very little, labour worth having to be got. The great difficulty is to get any one to go with horses." An employer in the Wantage Union writes: "The weather has been good, no time has been lost, and every man has been employed. There are not sufficient men to do the work, and weeding the corn is very much neglected."

In Wiltshire reports have been received from the Unions of Amesbury, Bradford-on-Avon, Chippenham, Cricklade and Wootton Bassett, Devizes, Highworth and Swindon, Marlborough, Mere, Pewsey, Tisbury, Warminster, and Westbury and Whorwellsdown. In the following Unions a scarcity of men is referred to: Bradford-on-Avon, Cricklade and Wootton Bassett, Chippenham, Pewsey, Tisbury, Warminster, and Westbury and Whorwellsdown. A report from the Devizes Union says: "About sufficient for requirements. I fancy that labour is beginning very slowly to drift back to the land." A correspondent in the Mere Union writes: "good labourers are difficult to get, but, owing to the dry month, work on farms is forward; the supply of milkers is generally short." In the Marlborough Union the supply of men is said to be adequate. Agricultural labourers in Dorsetshire are said to have been generally well employed during the month. A correspondent in the Sturminster Union writes on June 4th: "The dry weather has affected the root crops which have not come up yet, consequently there is not any demand for turnip and swede hoers yet."

Agricultural labourers in Somersetshire are said to have been, generally speaking, regularly employed during May. In the Chard Union, however, a few jobbing hands were in irregular work. Reports have been received from the Unions of Axbridge, Bridgwater, Chard, Clutton, Frome, Langport, Taunton, Wellington, Wells, Williton, and Yeovil. A correspondent in the Chard Union writes: "Season rather late and dry, potatoes and mangold were late, hoeing was scarce." Some of the reports refer to scarcity of labour. Employment in Herefordshire is reported to have been regular and labour scarce. Reports have been received from the Unions of Bromyard, Dore, Leominster, and Ross. A report from the Bromyard Union states that labourers are scarce, and that "casuals" are employed by the farmers. They live in the buildings attached to the farms, but seldom remain longer than three or four days.

Reports from Gloucestershire state that, generally speaking, employment has been regular, but a few odd men have been in irregular work. Reports have been received from the Unions of Barton Regis, Chipping Sodbury, Cirencester, Gloucester, Newent, Northleach, Stow-on-the-Wold, Thornbury, and Wheatenhurst. Scarcity of labour is reported in the Unions of Chipping Sodbury, Cirencester, Newent, and Northleach, and, for hoeing and weeding corn, in the Wheatenhurst Union. A correspondent in the Barton Regis Union states that owing to the dry weather the root and potato crops have been backward, and the demand for hoers has been small.

In Devonshire farm labourers, with very few exceptions, have been fully employed, and labour is reported as scarce. In the Torrington Union, however, a report states that the supply of labour was just equal to the demand, which has not been pressing, owing to the drought. Reports have been received from the Unions of Axminster, Holsworthy, Honiton, Kingsbridge, Newton Abbot, Tavistock, and Torrington. Agricultural labourers are stated to be fully employed in Cornwall. A report from the Liskard Union states that though there is a scarcity of labour it is not now so acute.

(h) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN MAY.

EMPLOYMENT at the docks and wharves shows a slight decline as compared with a month ago, but was much better than a year ago. The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and the principal wharves during the four weeks ended May 25th was 15,981, as compared with 16,267 in April, and 13,943 in the corresponding period of 1900.

(1) **Weekly Averages.**—The following Table shows the estimated average number of dock and wharf labourers employed daily in each week of the month:—

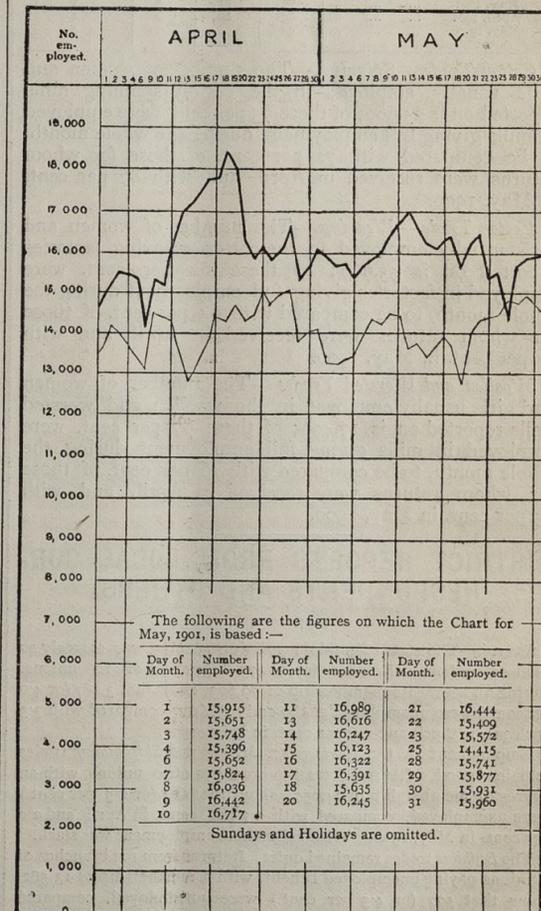
Period.	Labourers employed in Docks			Labourers employed at 15 Wharves making Returns.	Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended May 4	7,622	2,259	9,881	5,868	15,749
" " " 11	7,431	3,021	10,452	5,825	16,277
" " " 18	7,600	2,731	10,331	5,891	16,222
" " " 25	7,182	2,482	9,664	5,953	15,617
Average for 4 weeks ended May 25th, 1901	7,471	2,629	10,100	5,881	15,981
Average for May, 1900	6,061	2,350	8,411	5,632	13,943
Average for Apr., 1901	7,175	2,749	9,924	6,343	16,267

(2) **Daily Fluctuation.**—The daily fluctuation in the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed by all the docks and principal wharves is shown on the chart below. The numbers in May ranged from 16,989 on the 11th to 14,415 on the 25th.

During May, 1900, the total number of dock and wharf labourers employed varied from 12,750 on the 19th to 15,034 on the 25th.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 15 of the principal Wharves for each day during the months of March and April, 1901. The corresponding curve for March and April, 1900, is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1901, and the thin curve to 1900.]



Particulars respecting the employment of other classes of dock and riverside labourers will be found under "District Reports, London," on page 180.

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—WOMEN IN TEXTILE TRADES; LONDON; NORTHERN COUNTIES.

(i) EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN THE TEXTILE TRADES IN MAY.

ACCORDING to returns from women correspondents, employment for women in the spinning branch of the cotton trade showed a slight improvement, but in the weaving branch there was a further decline. There was a marked improvement in the worsted trade. Information has been received with regard to 558 cotton, woollen and worsted mills, employing about 98,810 women and girls, and is summarised in the following Table, which also gives for comparison the corresponding figures for the previous month and for a year ago:—

Trade and Month.	Percentage ordinarily employed in Mills which were			
	Working full Time throughout the Month.		Working Short Time during some part of the Month.	Closed during some part of the Month for repairs, bad trade, disputes, or other causes.
	With Full Employment.	With Partial Employment.		
Cotton Trade—Spinning—				
May, 1901	75	30	4	1
April, 1901	72	23	4	1
May, 1900	87	2	—	11
Cotton Trade—Weaving—				
May, 1901	62	25	10	3
April, 1901	64	27	7	2
May, 1900	93	2	—	3
Woollen and Worsted Trades—				
May, 1901	87	8	5	—
April, 1901	76	24	—	—
May, 1900	95	3	—	2
Total of above Trades—				
May, 1901	70	21	8	1
April, 1901	68	26	5	1
May, 1900	92	2	1	5

Cotton Trade.—Spinning.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the cotton spinning mills reported on is 25,660; of these 75 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 72 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in April, and with 87 per cent. in May, 1900.

Cotton Trade.—Weaving.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the cotton weaving factories reported on is 55,660; of these 62 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 64 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in April, and with 93 per cent. in May, 1900.

Woollen and Worsted Trades.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the woollen and worsted mills reported on is 17,490; of these 87 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 76 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in April, and with 95 per cent. in May, 1900.

DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

LONDON.

General.—The state of employment during May was scarcely so good as in April. Returns from 475 branches of 126 unions, having an aggregate membership of 79,862, show that 3,187 (or 4.0 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of May, compared with 3.3 per cent. in April and 2.6 per cent. in May, 1900.

Employment in the *Engineering*, *Metal*, and *Shipbuilding* trades remained good. Returns from 159 branches of 30 unions, with an aggregate membership of 24,057, show that 603 (or 2.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.7 per cent. in April and 2.0 per cent. in May, 1900. With sailmakers employment was slack.

The *Building* trades remained quiet. Returns from 192 branches of 8 unions paying unemployed benefit, with a membership of 13,561, show that 577 (or 4.3 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.3 per cent. in April and 1.4 per cent. in May, 1900. The painters and decorators describe employment as good; the glaziers and stonemasons as fair; the bricklayers as improving; the plumbers as moderate; the carpenters and joiners and stonemasons as dull; the plasterers as bad.

Employment in the *Furnishing* trades has remained fairly good. Returns from 39 branches of 15 unions, with a membership of 5,023, show that 143 (or 2.8 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.7 per cent. in April and 1.5 per cent. in May, 1900.

The *Woodworking* trades are still slack, though rather better employed. Returns from 7 branches of 3 unions having a membership of 905, show that 46 (or 5.1 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 6.4 per cent. in April. The percentage for May, 1900, was 1.5.

With *Coopers* employment remains rather quiet. Reports from 2 societies, with a membership of 1,076, show that 31 (or 2.9 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.1 per cent. in April. Less than 1.0 per cent. were unemployed in May, 1900.

Employment with *Coachbuilders* and *Wheelwrights* has continued to improve and is good. Reports from 12 branches of 7 unions, with a membership of 1,369, show that 10 (or 0.7 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.1 per cent. in April, and 1.2 per cent. in May of last year.

The *Printing* and *Bookbinding* trades have fallen off and are slack. Returns from 25 unions, with a membership of 24,942, show that 1,360 (or 5.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.8 per cent. in April and 3.6 per cent. in May, 1900.

Employment in most branches of the *Clothing* trades was fairly good. The West End bespoke tailors were well employed; the East End bespoke and stock trades fairly so; the contract trade quiet; the East End military and uniform tailors and tailoresses have only been partially employed. The hatters describe employment as depressed; the capmakers as quiet; the fur skin dressers as falling off.

Boot and Shoe Trades.—Employment with the West End hand-sewn boot and shoe makers was fair during the month, and good at the close; in the East End sewound trade it improved; with boot and shoe clickers it was moderate; with boot and shoe operatives quiet during the month and dull at the close.

Employment in the *Leather* trades has improved and is good. Returns from 8 unions with a membership of 1,886, show that 36 (or 1.9 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.3 per cent. in April, and 1.5 per cent. in May, 1900.

In the *Glass* and *Pottery* trades returns from 8 unions with a membership of 1,356, show that 94 (or 6.9 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 7.9 per cent. in April and 3.2 per cent. in May of last year.

Hair, Fibre and Cane Workers.—In these trades returns from 5 unions with a membership of 895, show that 6 (or 0.7 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.2 per cent. in April, and 1.1 per cent. in May, 1900.

Gold and Silver Workers are reported to be slack, short time being worked. Returns from 7 unions with a membership of 1,116, show that 15 (or 1.3 per cent.) were unemployed, the same percentage as in April. The percentage for May, 1900 was 2.9. Diamond workers report a slight improvement.

Employment in the *Tobacco* trades is slack. Returns from 4 unions with a membership of 2,343, show that 135 (or 5.8 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.7 per cent. in April and 9.6 per cent. in May, 1900.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—The average number of dock and wharf labourers employed daily at all the docks and the principal wharves was 15,981 in the four weeks ended May 25th, as compared with 16,267 in April, and 13,943 in the corresponding period a year ago. Employment in mid-stream has been fair; with deal porters, lumpers, and lightermen it has been good; with coal porters, winchmen, and stevedores fair; with corn porters dull on the south side, generally good on the north side. With fruit porters in Thames-street employment has been fairly good, the average daily number employed being 362, compared with 354 in April and 284 a year ago.

ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES.

Tyne and Wear District.

Coal Mining.—Northumberland.—Steam coal pits have averaged 5.43, and house coal pits 5.25 days per week for the four weeks ending May 25th, as compared with 5.45 and 5.50 days respectively a year ago. **Durham.**—Most of the pits have worked fairly steadily. The average number of days worked per week for the four weeks ending May 25th, at the gas, house, manufacturing and coking coal collieries was 5.39, 5.35, 5.52 and 5.53 respectively, as against 4.94, 4.36, 4.89 and 5.02 days in April, when employment was affected by the Easter holidays. Returns from 141 pits employing nearly 63,000 men and boys, show an average of 5.44 days per week

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—NORTHERN COUNTIES; LANCASHIRE.

worked, as compared with 5.61 days a year ago. Employment with cokeyard workers has improved.

Metal Mining.—Ironstone mines have worked a little less than full time; lead ore miners have averaged 5 days per week.

Quarrying.—Employment at Blyth and in the Gateshead district is good. Limestone quarries at Stanhope and Upper Weardale have worked 5.5 and 6 days per week respectively; at Haswell, Frosterley and Ferryhill quarries, generally, have been fully employed.

Iron and Steel Trades.—In the Consett, Spennymoor, and Newburn districts, steel plate mills have averaged 4 and 5 shifts per week. At Jarrow, one mill is idle, another has worked full time. Angle bar mills have worked half time. Steel smelters and forgemen report employment as fair; blast furnace men as better; finished iron and steel workers as steady.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—On the Tyne.—Employment in the ordnance works shows a slight falling off, although still good. Most of the marine engine shops are working overtime. Electrical plant makers continue busy. On the north side of the lower reaches of the river, repair work has been slack. Riveters are still in good demand. Caulkers have been rather slack. Employment in boiler shops remains good. Branches with a membership of 13,141 have 289 (or 2.2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 208, or 1.6 per cent. in April. **On the Wear.**—In engine shops employment is fairly good. Boiler platers and smiths are in better demand. Branches with 5,311 members, have 127 (or 2.4 per cent.) unemployed, as against 111, (or 2.1 per cent.) in April. Iron and steel moulders continue slack; patternmakers are not so fully employed. With brassfinishers employment is reported as fair. With drillers and hole cutters it has been good on new work, moderate on repairs. Sailmakers continue dull. Whitesmiths and heating engineers are busy.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Trimmers and teamers report employment as generally good; Tyne watermen as dull; steam tug boatmen as fairly good. Dock labourers on the north side of the Tyne have been badly employed. Coal porters and shippers have averaged five days per week. The demand for sailors and firemen has been somewhat below the supply.

Building Trades.—All branches except plasterers, plumbers and bricklayers, are busy.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers on the Tyne continue dull; at Sunderland employment is reported as improved. With bookbinders it remains good. Four paper mills have worked half time; five others have been fully employed.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Employment with the cabinet makers is bad; with coopers it has improved. Millsawyers on the Wear are dull; on the Tyne employment continues fair. Upholsterers are busy; lathrenders remain slack.

Chemical and Glass Trades.—The soda and bleaching departments in chemical factories have worked two and three days per week; caustic and sulphur workers have been fully employed. Red lead mixers and separators in lead works are busy. Employment in cement and copper factories is steady. Pressed glass makers have worked 3 and 4 shifts per week. Bottle makers are fully employed.

Fishing.—The herring boats have landed good catches. The supply of white fish has also been good, and obtained fair prices. J. Ratcliffe.

Middlesbrough, Stockton and District.

Ironstone Mining.—Cleveland miners report employment as moderate, some of the mines working short time. The average number of days worked by the 21 mines furnishing returns was 5.66 days per week during the 4 weeks ending May 25th, as compared with 5.74 per week in May, 1900. The number of workpeople employed at the mines was 6,259, the corresponding number a year ago being 6,754.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment generally is moderate at the steel and finished ironworks. It is fair at pipe and bridge works; moderate in general and chair foundries; quiet at metal expansion works; slack at the blastfurnaces.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment with the engineers is good at Bishop Auckland, fairly good at Stockton, fair at Hartlepool, moderate at Darlington, Middlesbrough and South Bank. Ironfounders report employment as good at Middlesbrough and Stockton, moderate at Darlington and Hartlepool; patternmakers as fair at Darlington, moderate at Middlesbrough and Stockton, declining at Hartlepool; smiths and strikers as moderate; enginemen and cranemen as fair. Branches of these trades, with

4,459 members, have 129 (or 2.9 per cent.) unemployed, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of April.

Building Trades.—Bricklayers report employment as fair at Darlington and Stockton, dull at Middlesbrough; plumbers as fair at Hartlepool and Stockton, moderate at Middlesbrough; painters generally as good, plasterers as fair; slaters as moderate.

Shipbuilding.—Employment continues brisk at Hartlepool; good at Middlesbrough and Stockton. Shipjoiners report employment as fair generally; shipwrights as good at Hartlepool and Middlesbrough, fair at Stockton; smiths and strikers as moderate.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Sailors and firemen report employment as moderate; dock and riverside labourers as moderate generally at Middlesbrough, as improving at Hartlepool.

Miscellaneous.—Concrete and cement workers, tailors, cabinet makers and pulpworkers report employment as good; mill-sawyers and woodworking machinists as fair; printers as fair at Middlesbrough and Stockton, moderate at Darlington, slack at Hartlepool.—A. Main.

Cumberland and Barrow District.

The following is a summary of the returns received as to the state of employment in the above district:—

Coal Mining.—The average number of days worked by the pits is lower than a year ago, but the number of workpeople employed is greater. During the four weeks ended May 25th, the average number of days worked at 21 pits covered by the returns was 5.29 per week, as compared with 5.83 days a year ago. The number employed at these pits in May, 1901, was 7,062, the corresponding number in May, 1900, being 6,435.

Iron Mining.—Employment at the Cumberland and North Lancashire iron mines is good. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended May 25th, at the 44 mines covered by the returns was 5.73 per week as compared with 5.80 days a year ago. The workpeople employed at these mines in May, 1901, and 1900 numbered 5,096 and 5,813 respectively.

Pig Iron Manufacture.—Employment at the Cumberland and Lancashire blast furnaces has improved slightly, but remains worse than a year ago. The number of furnaces in blast at the end of May was 40, as compared with 39 at the end of April, and 51 a year ago. The estimated number of workpeople employed at the 40 blast furnaces in May was about 3,300.

LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS.

Oldham and District.

Cotton Trade.—Spinning.—In Oldham and surrounding districts, operative cotton spinners, ring frame spinners, and cardroom workers report employment as good; twiners and winders as slack. Employment in the spinning branch is also reported as good in Mossley, Stockport and Ashton-under-Lyne, and as moderate in Rochdale. Ballwarpers and reelers report employment as moderate; twisters and drawers as fair. **Weaving.**—Employment is again reported as slack in calico and fustian weaving, and as moderate in velvet weaving.

Woollen and Silk Trades.—In Rochdale, Milnrow and Stockport districts employment in the woollen industry is reported as good. With silk dressers in Rochdale it is still bad.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers, patternmakers, tinplate workers, irongrinders and toolmakers report employment as moderate; the plate moulders and brassfounders as slack; ironfounders as fair; boilermakers as good.

Building Trades.—Employment is reported as moderate with bricklayers, plasterers and plumbers, and as fair with painters, carpenters and joiners.

Coal Mining.—In Oldham and Shaw districts the miners are working 5 days per week.—T. Ashton.

Bolton and District.

Cotton Trade.—Spinning.—Employment in Bolton and immediate vicinity shows a decline. In Chorley, Bury and Wigan, employment is reported as moderate. Cardroom operatives are only moderately employed throughout the district. **Weaving.**—No change is reported, several mills being still on short time.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—Employment with engineers and steam engine makers continues moderate; with spindle makers and roller turners it is irregular; with iron dressers, mill fitters and plate moulders it is slightly less active. In Wigan, Chorley and Bury iron and steel workers generally are reported as only moderately employed.

Building Trades.—Employment with masons, flaggers, paviors and painters is slightly better. Plumbers and slaters are affected by a dispute.

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—LANCASHIRE; YORKSHIRE.

Coal Mining.—Colliers are reported as less actively employed, only working on an average 4½ days per week. In Wigan, Walkden and Radcliffe miners report a decline.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is fairly good with carters, shoemakers and cloggers, and in the printing and tanning trades.—*R. Tootill.*

Blackburn, Burnley and District.

Cotton Trade.—Weaving.—Employment at Blackburn and Nelson shows a decline and is only moderate; it is fairly good at Burnley, slack in Accrington and Preston, not so good in Colne. In Darwen a number of looms are still stopped for want of warps. Employment with hard waste weavers and sheeting weavers is reported as slack; with twisters, drawers, warpers, warp dressers, winders and tape sizers it is moderate. *Spinning.*—Employment is reported as fair at Blackburn, as good at Darwen and Accrington. Ringspinners and card room workers remain fairly well employed. Branches of spinners, twisters and drawers, and warp dressers with 3,535 members have 84 (or 2·4 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 91 (or 2·6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Building Trades.—Employment with painters and decorators is good; with plasterers moderate; with other branches fair.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—Employment in the engineering trades is reported as fair. Machine makers continue slack.

Coal Mining and Quarrying.—Coal miners in the Burnley and Accrington districts report employment as fairly good. Quarrymen continue fully employed.

Miscellaneous.—Letterpress printers report a decline; calico printers and bleachers and woollen block printers report employment as slack; tailors as good; cabinet makers as steady; boot, shoe and slipper makers as bad; brick makers as moderate.—*W. H. Wilkinson.*

Manchester and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 24,403 members have 837 (or 3·4 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 929 (or 3·8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineers, smiths and strikers report employment as moderate; boiler-makers in Manchester as moderate, in Northwich as good; ironfounders, wire and steel drawers and brassworkers as moderate; brassfounders as quiet; steel metal workers as fair; machine workers and filesmiths as good. Wire drawers and wire weavers in Warrington report employment as moderate.

Textile Trades.—Cotton spinners report employment as moderate in Manchester. In Macclesfield spinners and weavers are on short time. Silk dressers report employment as moderate, silk finishers as dull, all other branches as bad; dyers at Macclesfield as moderate, and bleachers, dyers, and finishers in the Manchester district as bad.

Building Trades.—Bricklayers in Northwich are busy. In Warrington and Manchester employment is reported as moderate; in Stockport as bad. Bricklayers' labourers and concreters report employment as fair; plasterers and plumbers as slack; decorative painters and glass workers as good; stone masons as improving.

Printing and allied Trades.—Printers report employment as bad in Manchester, and as fair in Stockport, Macclesfield and Warrington; bookbinders and lithographic artists as moderate; lithographic printers and pattern-card makers as bad; stereotypers as fair.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Coachmakers on private work report employment as fair, in the railway shops as moderate. Cabinet makers and French polishers report employment as fair; coopers as improving; wheelwrights as moderate.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors in the bespoke and ready-made departments are fairly busy. Felt hat makers, cloth cap makers, and umbrella makers are quiet. Shirt and jacket cutters and boot and shoe operatives report a slight improvement.

Transport Trades.—Employment continues good.—*G. D. Kelley.*

Liverpool and District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Boiler-makers, shipwrights and ironfounders report employment as good; brassfounders, coppersmiths, drillers, iron and steel dressers, fitters and turners as fair; shipjoiner and ship painters as dull.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Coachmakers, packing case makers, millsawyers and woodworking machinists report employment as quiet; upholsterers as good; cabinet makers as fair; French polishers and coopers as dull.

Transport Trades.—Seamen and firemen report employment as good; dock labourers as dull; quay and railway carters and flatmen as quiet; coal and salt-heavers as dull.

Building Trades.—Employment continues dull in most branches. Painters report an improvement.

Clothing Trades.—Bespoke tailors report employment as good; ready-made tailoring operatives and boot and shoe makers as fair.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as not so good; lithographic printers as quiet; bookbinders as good.

Glass and Chemical Trades.—Employment is dull with glass decorators; good with bottle-makers and other branches of the glass trade; dull with chemical workers.

Mining and Quarrying.—Coal miners and quarrymen report employment as fair.—*C. Rous.*

A report from Winsford states that employment in the salt trade has slightly improved. Chemical workers at Middlewich report employment as fair; moulders at Winsford, brassworkers, boiler-smiths, shipwrights, fitters and joiners as good.

YORKSHIRE.

Hull and District.

Shipbuilding, Engineering and Metal Trades.—The brass founders and finishers, smiths and strikers, braziers and sheet-metal workers, and sailmakers at Hull report employment as moderate; other branches as bad. At Doncaster the boiler-makers report employment as good; the engineers and smiths as bad. At Grimsby employment is good with sailmakers, moderate with smiths and strikers and boiler-makers, bad with engineers. At Selby employment is moderate; at Beverley bad.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is moderate.

Transport Trades.—At Hull the timber workers and general railway workers report employment as moderate; the seamen and firemen, dock labourers and lightermen as bad. At Grimsby the dock labourers report employment as good; seamen and firemen as moderate. At Goole employment is moderate.

Fishing Industry.—The trawl fishermen and steam fishing vessel engineers and firemen report employment as moderate at Hull; at Grimsby as bad. The curing house workers and general labourers in the fishing trade at Hull and Grimsby find employment slack.

Seed Crushing, Oil Cake, Paint, and Colour Trades.—The seed crushing, oil, and cake workers report employment as bad; the paint and colour workers as good.

Printing and allied Trades.—The bookbinders and machine rulers report employment as good; the lithographic printers and letterpress printers as moderate.

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—The coopers report employment as fair; the cabinet makers as moderate; the mill-sawyers and wood cutting machinists as bad; the coachbuilders at Hull and Doncaster as good.

Miscellaneous.—The brushmakers, flour millers, leather workers, boot and shoe makers, tailors and bakers report employment as good; the engine and fire men as bad.—*W. G. Millington.*

Leeds and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 8,963 members have 329 (or 3·7 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 382 (or 4·3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment with engineers and steam engine makers is reported as moderate; with ironfounders and brassworkers as slack; with boiler-makers and steelworkers as fair; with patternmakers as quiet; with machine workers, wool-comb, hackle, and gill makers, spindle and flyer makers, and sheet metal workers as fairly good; with stove grate workers as dull, except in gas stove making. At Stanningley engineers and boiler-makers are moderately employed; ironfounders are slack.

Clothing Trades.—In the ready-made tailoring factories employment has been fair; Jewish operatives report it as moderate. Bespoke tailors are busy. In the boot and shoe trade in Leeds employment is quiet; at Heckmondwike it continues good.

Textile Trades.—The improvement in the Leeds mills has been maintained. Blanket raisers and linen workers report employment as dull; willeyers and fettlers and warp dressers and twisters as moderate.

Building Trades.—In Leeds employment with bricklayers and plasterers is slack; with joiners quiet; with plumbers moderate; with masons improving. At Castleford joiners are slack.

Mining.—In the Leeds district employment has fallen off at some of the coal pits; miners in ironstone pits are fully employed. At Castleford four and five days are being worked.

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—YORKSHIRE; MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Leather Trades.—Employment in all branches of the leather manufacturing trades is reported as fairly good. Saddlers and harness makers are busy.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment generally has been quiet.

Glass Trades.—Glass bottle makers at Leeds, Castleford, and Wakefield are well employed. Flint glass makers are quiet.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Brushmakers report employment as fair; coachmakers and cabinet makers as moderate; polishers as quiet; wheelwrights and smiths as good.

O. Connellan.

Bradford, Huddersfield and District.

Worsted Trade.—Employment in Bradford is still far from good. Woolsorters report employment as rather bad; woolcombers as fairly good. In Keighley and Halifax it is still bad. The improvement in Huddersfield has been maintained.

Woollen Trade.—Employment in the Huddersfield and Colne Valley districts is a little better and weavers have not quite so long to wait for warps. In the heavy woollen trade of Dewsbury and Batley it continues fair.

Other Textile Trades.—Employment in the silk trade is reported as slack at Manningham and Brighouse, as bad as Halifax. Dyers report employment as quiet at Bradford, as good at Huddersfield. With cotton spinners it is quiet at Huddersfield, slack at Brighouse. Employment in the rug and carpet trade is fair in the Spen Valley, not brisk at Halifax.

Metal Trades.—Engineers report employment as moderate at Bradford and Huddersfield, as quiet at Dewsbury, as bad at Halifax and Keighley; ironfounders report it as bad at Huddersfield and Halifax, as declining at Keighley, and as quiet at Dewsbury. Wire-drawers at Brighouse report a slight decline.

Building Trades.—In Bradford employment is still affected by a dispute; elsewhere it is quiet.

Miscellaneous.—Tailors report employment as good; miners are still affected by disputes. Employment is good with glass workers; quiet with printers and book-binders.—*A. Gee.*

Sheffield, Barnsley and Rotherham District.

General.—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with 17,050 members, have 300 (or 1·8 per cent.) unemployed, as against 355 (or 2·0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Iron and Steel Industries.—Branches with 7,143 members have 117 (or 1·6 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 144 (or 2·0 per cent.) of their membership at the end of April. All sections of engineers report employment as good; iron and steel foundries, machine-workers, enginemen, crane drivers, boiler-men and firemen as fairly good; boiler and girder makers, wire drawers, core makers, iron and steel dressers, and locomotive engine drivers and stokers as moderate; stove grate workers as slightly improved; Siemens steel smelters, and springsmiths as slack. At Barnsley engineers and ironfounders are busy. At Parkgate and Masbro' iron workers are slack. At Rotherham employment with bath makers is quiet; with stove grate workers slightly better; with tyre and axle makers slack; with steel workers fair.

Cutlery and Tool Trades.—Makers of razors and pen and pocket cutlery, file grinders and haft and scale pressers report employment as good; edge tool grinders, saw makers, and hand file forgers as moderate; machine file and handle and scale cutters as fair; table blade makers as quiet; saw handle makers, machine file forgers, hand file cutters and hardeners as slack. Makers of mining, agricultural and horticultural tools are busy.

Other Metal Trades.—Platers and gilders continue well employed; silver and electro-plate finishers are moderately so; stampers, hollow-ware buffers, silversmiths, britannia metal smiths, and brassworkers are slack; braziers and sheet metal workers are fairly busy. At Rotherham the brassworkers report a slight improvement although still quiet.

Coal Mining.—Returns from 78 of the principal collieries show an average of 5·49 days per week worked.

Building Trades.—All branches in Sheffield continue slack; at Barnsley and Normanton employment is fairly good.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as slack; lithographers as moderate; book-binders as fair.

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—Railway carriage and wagon builders are quiet; coach makers, cabinet makers, mill-sawyers and woodworking machinists report employment as fair. At Barnsley box and bobbin, and cabinet makers are busy.

Linen Trade.—Employment continues good.

Clothing Trades.—Workpeople in the bespoke and ready-made tailoring trade are busy; employment in the boot and shoe trade at Barnsley is slack.

Glass Trades.—Bottlemakers and flint glass workers are well employed.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is reported as good by saddlers, harness makers, bakers, paviors and gasworkers; as fair by upholsterers. At Barnsley paper-makers and quarry men are well employed; quilt makers are slack. At Rotherham potters are fairly busy. In the Normanton district quarry men, chemical workers and brickmakers are busy.—*S. Utley.*

ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Derbyshire District.

General.—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with 7,053 members have 70 (or 1·0 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 122 (or 1·8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Coal Mining.—Reports from 72 collieries employing upwards of 28,000 men and boys show an average of 5 days worked per week, against 4½ days in April, when employment was affected by the Easter Holidays.

Quarrying.—Employment with limestone and chert quarrymen continues slack.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineers report employment as bad at Burton-on-Trent, moderate elsewhere; brass moulders and finishers, iron and steel dressers as fair; farriers and cycle makers as moderate; iron foundries as bad in Derby, good elsewhere; boiler makers as good; stationary engine drivers and firemen, electrical wire and cable operatives as fair; lace machine builders in Long Eaton as moderate.

Clothing Trades.—Employment generally is good, except with boot and shoe operatives, who report employment as rather slack in Derby, fair in Chesterfield.

Coachbuilding and Woodworking Trades.—Employment is good with railway carriage and wagon builders. In most timber yards employment is better. Coopers at Burton-on-Trent report employment as improved.

Building Trades.—Employment generally has improved.

Textile Trades.—Cotton operatives report employment as fair; hosiery workers in Ilkeston as moderate, in Belper as bad; elastic web weavers and surgical bandage makers as slack; calico printers as quiet, engravers as good; lace workers in Ilkeston and Long Eaton as bad; hard and soft silk winders and weavers, doublers and throwers, cotton winders, gimp and trimming workers are fairly well employed.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as moderate; lithographic printers as fair; bookbinders and machine rulers as quiet.—*C. White-Deacon.*

Nottingham and District.

Lace Trade.—Employment in the lace trade generally is bad throughout the district.

Hosiery Trade.—Employment on the whole has improved.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Cycle workers are not so well employed. Lace-machine builders report employment as fair; hosiery machine builders report a slight decline. With general mechanics, fitters, ironfounders, boiler-makers, tool machinists, brassfounders, wheelwrights and blacksmiths employment is reported as bad; with bobbin and carriage makers as not so good; with carriage straighteners as fair. Employment is reported as quiet at Grantham, Retford and Beeston, fair at Mansfield and Newark; as moderate with blastfurnacemen at Bulwell. Branches with 2,988 members have 140 (or 4·7 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 98 (or 3·3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Building Trades.—Employment is reported as improved but not brisk with carpenters and joiners; as bad with plumbers; moderate with bricklayers and stonemasons; fair with painters, plasterers and slaters; good with brickmakers. In Grantham, Retford, Worksop, Mansfield, Newark and Beeston employment generally is reported as regular.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Employment is reported as dull with packing-case makers, woodsawyers and machinists, and cabinet makers; as good with coopers, upholsterers, basket makers and brush makers; as fair with French polishers. Coachmakers are busy at Worksop, Mansfield and Newark, quiet at Grantham.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as having declined; lithographic printers as moderate; bookbinders as quiet; lithographic artists as moderate.

Clothing Trades.—Employment is reported as good with bespoke tailors and ready-made tailoring operatives, mantle makers, and

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—DISTRICT REPORTS—MIDLAND COUNTIES.

blouse and skirt makers. Boot and shoe operatives report employment as bad.

Coal Mining.—Returns from 29 collieries employing 16,531 men show an average of slightly under 4½ days worked per week.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is reported as moderate with glass workers; as good with stationary engine drivers and engine and crane men; as quiet with colliery enginemen in the Leen Valley and Eastwood districts, fair in Mansfield and North Notts, and moderate at Pinxton. Bakers report employment as fair; silk dressers as good; female cigar makers as slack; saddlers and harness makers as busy. Employment with railway workers is reported as slack at Nottingham, quiet at Toton and Colwick, fair at Newark, Grantham, Retford, Mansfield, and Leen Valley.

W. L. Hardstaff.

Leicester and Northampton District.

Boot and Shoe Trades.—Employment has continued good at Leicester and Northampton. It is rather slack at Kettering, Finedon, Binkley and Wellingborough. It is regular with army boot makers, and has slightly improved with clickers and pressmen at Northampton.

Other Clothing Trades.—Ready-made tailoring operatives are now briskly engaged. Employment is also good with bespoke tailors, corset makers, milliners and dressmakers, and with most branches of the hatting trade.

Hosiery and Wool-spinning Trades.—Employment is good at Leicester and Northampton. It is rather slack at Kettering, Finedon, Binkley and Wellingborough. It is regular with army boot makers, and has slightly improved with clickers and pressmen at Northampton.

Elastic Web Trade.—Employment is good in the export shoe webbing branches. It has slightly improved in the cord, braid, and narrow web department.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Most branches report a further decline in employment. It is moderate with shoe machinery makers, pattern makers, ironfounders, smiths, fitters and boiler-makers; slack with turners, engine builders and needlemakers. Cycle makers and repairers continue well employed.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment has slackened at the South Leicestershire coal-pits. With stone quarrymen it continues good.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment is fairly good with letterpress printers at Leicester, Kettering, Loughborough and Northampton; quiet at Rugby. Lithographic printers are fully employed.

Building Trades.—Employment is reported as slack with bricklayers, builders' labourers, slaters, tilers, and carpenters; moderate with plumbers and stonemasons; good with painters.

Leather Trades.—Leather dressers and curriers continue well employed.

Woodworking and Coachmaking Trades.—Coachmakers, tram and road-car builders and wagon repairers are fully employed; cabinet makers, coach painters, French polishers, and wood-cutting machinists fairly so.

Miscellaneous.—Railway workers report employment as slack in most departments; basketmakers, bakers and farriers as fairly good; brushmakers, cigarmakers, gasfitters and stokers as quieter; lime and cement workers as good; brick and tile makers as bad.

T. Smith.

Potteries District.

Pottery Trades.—Employment in all branches is reported as bad.

Iron and Steel Trade.—Employment was quiet during the early part of the month, but improved towards the close.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment generally is good.

Mining and Quarrying.—Towards the end of the month an improvement was reported both by coal and ironstone miners. Owing to an explosion 600 men and boys are unemployed.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the silk trade has improved. At Congleton fustian cutting mills are running short time.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors are busy; boot and shoe makers at Stafford and Stone are busy, two-thirds working overtime.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is quiet.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment with letterpress printers in the Potteries has declined; at Stafford full time is being worked. Lithographic artists and printers, bookbinders and machine rulers are fairly busy.

Miscellaneous.—Railway servants in the Potteries are well employed. Brushmakers are fairly busy. Gasworkers report a decline.

I. S. Harvey.

Wolverhampton and District.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment generally shows an improvement. In South Shropshire employment in wire mills is dull.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Employment is quiet with moulders; good with engineers, machinists, electrical workers, boiler, bridge girder, tank and gasometer makers. It is good at Coalbrookdale and Madeley and with the malleable iron workers at Walsall. Cycle and motor makers report a decline.

Hardware Trades.—Employment is good with makers of electrical fittings, plantation hoes, malleable nails and protectors, cycle castings, builders' ironmongery, gunlocks, spectacle frames, fences, hurdles and agricultural implements, with stampers and piercers, jappers and galvanisers and with iron plate workers at Bilston and the Lye. It is moderate with makers of tips, cut nails, edge tools, Brazil hoes, stamped and light hollow-ware and black castings, and with hollow-ware tinnerns and turners, brassworkers, filesmiths, chain makers and strikers at Cradley Heath and anchor smiths at Cradley. At Wednesbury it is quiet with steel and iron forgers, and moderate with makers of axles, springs and carriage iron work, and at Dudley with the anvil and vice makers. It is quiet with makers of spring traps, locks, keys and latches and tubes and tinplate workers and with block chain makers at Cradley Heath, spike and rivet makers at Blackheath and wrought nail makers at Halesowen.

Coal Mining.—The average time worked on Cannock Chase is about 2 days per week; in Tamworth pits 3 days; in the Oldbury, Tipton, Dudley, Old Hill and Halesowen districts about 4½ days; in the Shropshire pits 5 days per week.

Building Trades.—Employment on the whole has improved.

Glass Trades.—Wordsley, Brettle Lane and Stourbridge report employment in the flint glass trades as quiet.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the carpet trade at Kidderminster is quiet; at Bridgnorth the mills continue busy. In the Tamworth tape mills employment is moderate.

Leather Trades.—At Walsall the female harness stitchers, the harness makers and new brown saddlers report employment as good; the gig saddlers as fairly good; the collar makers as unsettled; other branches as good.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the ready made and bespoke tailoring departments is good; in the boot and shoe trade it is fair.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment continues slack.

C. Anthony.

Birmingham and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 18,240 members, have 561 (or 3·1 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 581 (or 3·2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Two branches of engineers return employment as good, nine as moderate; smiths and strikers as good; toolmakers and machinists as moderate; pattern-makers and ironfounders as quiet. At Redditch and West Bromwich employment is reported as good; at Coventry as moderate. Electrical engineers report employment as fairly good; employment in the cycle industry throughout the district has been good. In the motor industry it is fair.

Brass and Copper Trades.—Employment in the metal rolling, wire and tube drawing and brass trades is reported as fair; in the fire brass and fender trades as quiet. At Dudley employment in the fender trade is reported as fair.

Jewellers, Silversmiths, and Electro-Platers.—Jewellers report employment as quiet on the best gold work; as fair on cheaper work; silversmiths and electro platers as moderate; britannia metal workers as improving.

Other Metal Trades.—Tin plate and iron plate workers, makers of edge tools, light steel toys, spades and shovels, report employment as good; bedstead makers as fairly good; odd side casters and makers of cut nails, machine-made rivets, wrought iron and steel hinges, water, gas, and steam tubes, and nuts and bolts as moderate; wire nail makers as quiet. At Redditch employment in the needle trade is reported as good; in the fish hook trade as bad generally. At West Bromwich the hollow-ware makers report employment as quiet; iron workers as bad.

Building Trades.—Employment continues quiet.

Glass Trades.—The flint glassmakers report employment as bad; flint glasscutters, and plate glass bevellers and silverers as quiet. At West Bromwich employment continues moderate.

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoemakers report employment as quiet; bespoke tailors as good. The Jewish tailors are busy.

Woodworking Trades.—Coachmakers report employment as good; coopers as fair; cabinet-makers, carvers, woodworking machinists

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—E. AND S.W. COUNTIES; WALES.

and millsawyers as quiet. In the railway and wagon shops employment is fair.

Miscellaneous.—Gasfitters, gasworkers, saddlers and harness makers, military gunmakers and ammunition makers report employment as good; letterpress printers as moderate; general labourers and builders' labourers as quiet; brickmakers as bad. At Coventry employment in the watch trade is fair; in the weaving trade quiet. At Redditch the fishing tackle makers are busy.

A. R. Jephcott.

ENGLAND: EASTERN COUNTIES.

Norfolk and Neighbouring District.

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoe workers are fairly well employed; tailoring factories are working full time; bespoke tailors, dress-makers, shirt and blouse makers and corset makers are busy.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is fair.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Electrical and general engineers, boiler makers, smiths and founders are fully employed; shipwrights and boat builders are busy at Lowestoft, Yarmouth and Gorleston.

Textile Trades.—Mat and matting weavers are fairly busy, silk and crape workers at Norwich and Yarmouth are on full time.

Fishing Industry.—Employment continues dull at Yarmouth and Lowestoft. Shell fishing on the north Norfolk coast is fair.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers are fairly busy; lithographic printers are fully employed. Bookbinders and machine rulers report employment as fair.

Miscellaneous.—Steam flour, oil-cake and saw mill workers, electric light workers, brush makers, organ builders and coopers are fairly busy. Brickmakers report a decline; horticultural builders are busy; mineral water factories are on full time; confectionery workers are quiet.—G. Cleverley.

Suffolk, Essex and District.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Trades.—Engineers report employment as good at Beccles and Chelmsford, as fair at Bury, as moderate at Ipswich, Colchester, Halstead and Earls Colne; boiler-makers as good; moulders as moderate; shipwrights as bad.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in wholesale tailoring has improved; it is moderate with boot and shoe operatives; good with milliners and dressmakers; fair generally with corset makers.

Textile Trades.—Employment with mat and matting weavers is reported as good at Sudbury, Long Melford, Hadleigh, and Lavenham, as fair at Glensford; it is good with horse-hair weavers at Long Melford; quiet with silk weavers at Braintree; good with factory operatives and moderate with hand-loom weavers at Sudbury, and bad at Halstead.

Building Trades.—Employment with bricklayers is good at Felixstowe and Colchester, improving at Ipswich, moderate at Chelmsford and Halstead, dull at Bury St. Edmunds; with carpenters it is good at Colchester, fair at Felixstowe, quiet at Ipswich and Chelmsford; with plasterers good at Ipswich, dull at Clacton; good with stonemasons at Ipswich, and with painters and plumbers.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as good; lithographers and bookbinders as fair.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with shipping and dock labour is reported as good at Harwich and Parkeston, as fair at Ipswich; it is good with brickmakers, farriers, horticultural builders, sawmill workers, and maltsters; with general and bricklayers' labourers it is good at Chelmsford, fair at Colchester, bad at Ipswich.

R. W. Mather.

ENGLAND: SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES.

Bristol and District.

General.—Branches of unions, exclusive of miners, with 10,796 members, report 384 (or 3·6 per cent.) out of work, as compared with 414 (or 3·8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Engineers report employment as moderate; brass workers as fair; ironfounders, pattern-makers and tinplate workers as good; shipwrights as bad; coachmakers as moderate at Swindon, good elsewhere; boiler-makers as moderate in Bristol, and good at Swindon.

Clothing Trades.—The boot and shoe operatives throughout the district report employment as dull, with a large percentage on short time; the hatters as fair, the glovemakers as moderate. Employment in the ready-made and bespoke branches of the tailoring trade continues good.

Printing and allied Trades.—The lithographic printers report employment as fair; the bookbinders as slack; the letterpress printers as slack at Gloucester, good elsewhere.

Building Trades.—The Bristol plasterers and bricklayers report employment as bad, plumbers as moderate, stonemasons as improving, carpenters and joiners as dull. Employment is good at Bath; fair at Gloucester and Cheltenham; moderate at Taunton and Bridgwater. Painters are busy.

Woodworking Trades.—Employment is dull with coopers and lathrenders, fair with box makers, moderate with cabinet makers and woodcutting machinists.

Textile and Lace Trades.—Cotton workers are busy. The cloth mills in the Stroud valley are reported as running full time. Lace workers are busy.

Coal Mining.—Employment generally shows a slight decline.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is dull with papermakers, brush-makers, bakers, and dock labourers; fair with cocoa and chocolate workers, saddle and harness makers and quarrymen; moderate with tobacco workers and potters; good with glass bottlemakers.

J. Curle.

Plymouth and South-Western District.

Mining, Quarrying and China Clay Industries.—Tin and copper miners continue well employed. In granite quarries in the eastern district the improvement in employment has been maintained; in the western quarries it is reported as good; in slate quarries as moderate; with limestone workers as having improved slightly; with china clay workers as fair.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Engineers and brass and tinplate workers report employment as moderate; boiler-makers, iron and steel shipbuilders, ironfounders, shipwrights, iron caulkers and pattern makers as good. Some overtime is being worked in the Government yards. Branches with 2,968 members have 11 unemployed as at the end of April.

Building Trades.—Stonemasons continue dull. Bricklayers report employment as moderate; plasterers as dull; plumbers and carpenters as bad. Painters are busy. Employment generally is quiet in Torquay, Bideford, Truro and Penzance; fair at Exeter, Tavistock and Newton. Branches with 3,869 members have 116 (or 3·0 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 136 (or 3·5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors continue busy in all branches. Boot and shoemakers are fairly well employed.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment is moderate with letterpress printers in Plymouth and Devonport; fair at Exeter; quiet elsewhere. Lithographers, bookbinders and paper rulers report employment as fair.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Millsawyers and wood-working machinists report employment as quiet; cabinet makers as moderate; upholsterers and French polishers as fair.

Dock and Quayside Work.—General work on the quays has been moderate; with fish packers and carters quiet. In the docks work has been quiet. At Penryn, Par, and Teignmouth quay work has been good on stone and clay.

Fishing Industry.—Trawlers and hookers have been fairly successful. Mackerel boats have had small catches generally. Prices have been good.

Miscellaneous.—Excavators, navvies, and brickyard labourers have been well employed. Coachbuilders and brushmakers report employment as good. In market and fruit gardens workers are busy.—W. Hedge.

WALES.

North Wales District.

Quarrying.—Employment is good at the slate quarries, brisk at the granite sett quarries, fair at the freestone, lime and roadstone quarries.

Building Trades.—The bricklayers and painters report employment as fair; the plasterers at Bangor as slack; the carpenters and joiners as moderately good at Colwyn Bay and slack elsewhere.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers report employment as fair at Oswestry and Sandycroft, as quiet at Ruabon; blast-furnacemen at Mostyn and railway wagon makers at Ruabon as slack; coachmakers at Oswestry as moderate; engine and boiler men in the Wrexham district as fair. The steelworkers have been fully employed.

Clothing and Textile Trades.—Employment in the Montgomeryshire flannel and tweed industries continues fair. The bespoke tailors at Bangor, Oswestry and Rhyl report employment as good.

Printing Trades.—Employment with printers at Carnarvon and Wrexham is reported as bad.

Brick and Terra Cotta Trades.—Employment has been fully maintained in the Wrexham and Buckley districts, but continues rather slack in the Ruabon district.—G. Rowley.

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—WALES; SCOTLAND.

South Wales District.

Coal Mining.—At Blaina Valley, Ebbw Vale, Cyfarthfa, Dowlais and Rhydney Valley collieries are working regularly; at Neath and the Western District in some instances employment is slack. The Blaenavon collieries are still closed.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Coal shipments have not been brisk. On iron ore shipments employment improved slightly during the last week; in the timber and pitwood trades it is quiet. Dock labourers and hoblors report employment as moderate; ship scalers and painters and boiler cleaners as good.

Iron and Steel Trades.—In Cyfarthfa, Ebbw Vale, and Dowlais mills and furnaces are working regularly. Employment in the other districts is quiet.

Ship Repairing and Engineering.—Employment has declined and is reported as moderate. In the engineering works and foundries in the inland districts employment is good. Branches of the engineers and iron founders with 3,317 members have 115 (or 3.5 per cent.) unemployed, as against 67 (or 2.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Building Trades.—Employment is moderate in the inland and colliery districts; bad in the seaport towns, except with painters. Branches of the carpenters and joiners, plumbers and painters, with 2,482 members have 189 (or 7.6 per cent.) unemployed, as against 150 (or 6.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Miscellaneous.—Metallurgical and chemical workers report employment as quiet; patent fuel workers as good at Swansea, quiet elsewhere; wagon builders and repairers as good; lithographers, letterpress printers and bookbinders as not so good.—*T. Davies.*

Tinplate Trade in South Wales, Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire.—Employment in this industry has improved as compared with last month, but is still much worse than a year ago. At the end of May 331 mills were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of black plates), as compared with 322 mills at the end of April and 399 a year ago. The number of workpeople employed at the 331 mills in operation at the end of May is estimated to be about 16,500.

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 13,288 members have 538 (or 4.0 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 590 (or 4.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Coal Mining.—Employment continues much the same as in March and April. In East and Mid Lothian about 80 per cent. of the miners have worked full time. In West Lothian the majority of the miners have obtained at least five days' work per week.

Shale Miners and Oil Workers.—Returns from 29 mines employing 3,105 workpeople show that 1,675 were employed in mines working full time, 546 in mines working 22 and under 24 days, and 729 in mines working 20 and under 22 days during the 4 weeks ended May 25th.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Branches with 2,157 members have 83 (or 3.8 per cent.) idle, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of April. Branches in Falkirk with 3,776 members have 211 (or 5.6 per cent.) idle, as against 250 (or 6.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Shipbuilding.—Branches with 600 members have 53 (or 8.8 per cent.) idle, as against 24 (or 4.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Textile Trades.—Employment continues good with all branches of the woollen industry in Selkirk and Galashiels, and is improving in Hawick. The hosiery workers continue busy in Selkirk and quiet in Hawick.

Building Trades.—The glaziers and painters report employment as good; the joiners as fair; the masons, bricklayers, plumbers and plasterers as quiet.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Branches with 1,145 members have 66 (or 5.8 per cent.) idle, as against 69 (or 6.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—The seamen, firemen, coal porters and dock labourers report employment as quiet.

Printing and allied Trades.—Branches with 2,397 members have 30 (or 1.3 per cent.) idle, as against 26 (or 1.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Miscellaneous.—The tailors, shoemakers, saddlers, curriers and settmakers report employment as good; the bakers, glassmakers and glasscutters as fair.—*J. Mallinson.*

Glasgow and West of Scotland.

Shipbuilding.—Employment has been fairly good during the month. Branches with 15,273 members return 427 (or 2.8 per cent.) as idle, as against 362 (or 2.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Tinplate workers report employment as dull; engineers, blacksmiths, ironmoulders, brassfinishers and moulders, iron, steel and brass dressers and engine and crane men as fair; patternmakers and iron drillers as good. Branches with 22,389 members return 880 (or 3.9 per cent.) as idle, as against 828 (or 3.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. Employment with iron and steel workers continues good.

Building Trades.—Employment is still dull, except with painters.

Mining.—In Dumbartonshire five days per week is being worked; in Stirlingshire miners are working 10 or 11 days per fortnight; in Lanarkshire work is fairly good; in Ayrshire coal miners are working full time. The ironstone miners except at two pits are working full time. In Renfrewshire coal miners are well employed, and the ironstone mining is fairly regular.

Clothing Trades.—Employment on bespoke and ready-made tailoring is good; with waterproof makers it is quiet. Boot and shoe operatives and slipper makers are still dull; knee shoe makers have been busy.

Textile Trades.—Employment is dull in some branches, fair in others. In New Mills it has declined in the lace trade and is dull in other branches; chenille and carpet workers are busy. In Kilbirnie, Greenock and Port Glasgow employment continues good. In Paisley thread works are still on short time.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers, electrotypers, stereotypers and lithographic artists report employment as fair; lithographic printers as still dull; bookbinders as not so good.

Glass Trades.—Bottle makers, decorative glass workers and flint glass makers are busy. Flint glass cutters report improvement.

Transport Trades.—Railway men, tramway men, carters and hackney carriage drivers are well employed. Sailors, firemen and dock labourers have been better employed.

Miscellaneous.—Rope spinners, basket makers, mattress makers, gilders, cork cutters, saddlers, pipe makers and finishers, paviors, sett makers, stoneware throwers, curriers, scale beam makers, spindle and flyer makers, cigarette makers, brush makers and French polishers are busy.—*A. J. Hunter.*

Dundee and District.

Textile Trades.—In the jute industry employment continues good on the whole. In the linen trade it is quiet.

Coal Mining.—Employment at the Fifeshire collieries has continued steady. Returns from pits employing 12,820 workpeople give an average of 5.4 days per week worked during the four weeks ending May 25th, as compared with 5.2 days per week in April.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Employment in the engineering trades is not so good on the whole; some branches remain fairly brisk, others show slackness. At the shipbuilding yards work is slacker. Societies with 2,174 members report 133 (or 6.1 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 114 (or 5.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Building and Furnishing Trades.—In several sections of the building trades dullness still prevails. In the furnishing trades employment remains good. Branches of societies with 1,793 members have 73 (or 4.1 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 77 (or 4.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Dock Labour.—Employment is slack.

Fishing Industry.—The white fishing has been prosecuted with regularity, but the takes have been light. The salmon fishing has been attended with fair success.

Miscellaneous.—Employment in the printing and allied trades is rather quiet. In the tailoring trade it continues brisk. Boot and shoe makers are but moderately employed. Bleachfield workers remain slack. Floorcloth and linoleum workers are in steady employment.—*P. Reid.*

Aberdeen and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 4,602 members have 179 (or 3.9 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 176 (or 3.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Quarrying.—The masons report employment as dull; granite polishers and settmakers as good.

Building Trades.—The plasterers report employment as bad; slaters as fair; carpenters and joiners as quiet; masons as dull; plumbers as moderate; painters as good.

Transport Trades.—The railway servants and dock labourers report employment as good.

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—IRELAND.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—The boiler makers and iron and steel shipbuilders, shipwrights, blacksmiths, brassfinishers, and patternmakers report employment as fair; engineers, tinplate workers and horseshoers as good; ironmoulders as dull. Branches of societies with 1,319 members have 44 (or 3.3 per cent.) idle, as against 37 (or 2.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Clothing and Textile Trades.—The tailors, boot and shoe makers, and mill and factory workers report employment as good; boot and shoe operatives as dull; carpet weavers as bad.

Printing and allied Trades.—The lithographic printers report employment as bad; letterpress printers and bookbinders as good.

Fishing.—At the port of Aberdeen in May, trawl and lineboats landed 112,103 cwt. valued at £53,888, which, compared with the previous month shows an increase in quantity, but a decrease in value.

Miscellaneous.—The upholsterers, sawmillers, hackney carriage drivers and cabinet makers report employment as good; saddlers, general labourers, and gas workers as fair; bakers and combmakers as bad; engine and firemen as dull.—*W. Johnston.*

IRELAND.

Dublin and District.

Building Trades.—The painters, plasterers, slaters, and whiteners report employment as good; carpenters and mill sawyers as fair; bricklayers as moderate; stonecutters as dull; lathsplitters and paviors as bad.

Metal Trades.—Employment is good with boiler makers and steam engine makers; fair with smiths and tinsmiths; improving with ironfounders; moderate with brassfounders and engineers; slack with plumbers. Branches with 1,026 members have 70 (or 6.8 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 88 (or 8.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Woodworking Trades.—Cabinet makers, cooper, brushmakers and saddlers report employment as good; coachmakers, cart and wagon builders and carpet planners as fair; upholsterers as improving.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as quiet; stereotypers as fair; bookbinders as dull. Lithographic printers, machine minders and newspaper workers are busy.

Clothing Trades.—Employment with tailors and bootmakers is reported as good.

Miscellaneous.—The bakers, butchers and confectioners report employment as fair; mineral water operatives as good. Bottle-makers are busy. Employment is regular with railway workers; good with stationary engine drivers; fair with hairdressers. Labourers (except builders' labourers) report employment as bad.—*E. L. Richardson.*

Belfast and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering Trades.—Branches of societies with 8,633 members have 124 (or 1.4 per cent.) unemployed, as against 153 (or 1.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The general labourers and platers' helpers report employment as quiet; ironfounders as moderate; patternmakers as steady; blacksmiths, blacksmiths' strikers and helpers, sheet metal workers, carpenters and joiners, brassfounders, furnishing trades, machine workers, engine men, crane men and firemen as fair; boiler makers and iron shipbuilders, engineers, steam engine makers, hole cutters and drillers, and shipwrights as good.

Linen Trades.—Societies with a membership of 4,026 have 145 (or 3.6 per cent.) out of employment, as against 125 (or 3.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The power loom tenters, yarddressers and women workers report employment as bad; flax dressers, flax roughers and linen lappers as dull; beetling enginemakers as quiet; the hackle and gill makers as good.

Building Trades.—The builders' labourers, mill sawyers, plumbers and plasterers report employment as dull; the bricklayers and carpenters and joiners as quiet; the painters as fair.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Branches of societies with 896 members have 23 (or 2.6 per cent.) unemployed, as against 27 (or 3.0 per cent. of their membership), at the end of April. The packing case makers report employment as moderate; the cabinet makers and cooper as fair; the French polishers, upholsterers, brushmakers and coach builders as good.

Printing and allied Trades.—Branches of societies with 902 members have 45 (or 5.0 per cent.) unemployed, as against 48 (or 5.3 per cent. of their membership), at the end of April. The lithographic printers report employment as bad; the letterpress printers, bookbinders and lithographic artists, as fair.

Clothing Trades.—The tailors are still reported as busy, and the boot and shoe operatives as quiet.

Miscellaneous.—Branches of societies with 1,929 members have 51 (or 2.6 per cent.) unemployed, as against 52 (or 2.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The butchers report

employment as quiet; the bakers, carters, and municipal employees as fair; the locomotive engine drivers, railway servants, paviors, stone cutters, and sett makers as good.—*R. Sheldon.*

Cork and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Boiler makers, iron ship builders, and all branches of the engineering trade in Cork, Haulbowline and Passage West report employment as steady; engineers in Wexford, Waterford and Limerick, and shipwrights and riggers throughout the district as fair.

Building Trades.—Employment shows a slight improvement, but is still dull.

Woodworking Trades.—Millsawyers and woodworking machinists, cabinet makers and packing case makers report employment as fair in Limerick and Cork; dull in Waterford, Wexford, and Tralee.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers, bookbinders and rulers report employment as fair in Cork, Limerick and Waterford, as bad in Wexford.

Textile and Clothing Trades.—Flax and tweed operatives and general millworkers in Cork, Douglas, Millfield and Blarney, and ready made tailoring operatives in Limerick and Cork, report employment as fair; bespoke tailors as dull in Cork, Waterford, and Wexford, fair in Limerick; boot and shoe operatives as fair.

Fishing.—The mackerel fishery round the south-west coast has been successful during the month.

Miscellaneous.—Bakers and confectioners, beef and pork butchers, tram and corporation employees report employment as fair; quay labourers, coal porters and gas workers as dull.—*P. O'Shea.*

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION IN MAY.

(See also Article on p. 168.)

Total Emigration.—The number of passengers that left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during May was 32,960, or 657 less than in May, 1900. Comparing the five completed months of 1901 with the corresponding period of last year, there is an increase of 7,674, viz., from 103,922 in 1900 to 111,596 in 1901.

British and Irish.—Of the 32,960 passengers in May, 18,080 were of British or Irish origin, a decrease of 193 as compared with a year ago. For the first five months of 1901 the number of British and Irish passengers was 60,367, as against 58,190 in the corresponding period of 1900, an increase of 2,177.

The following Table gives the figures for the different periods:—

Destination.	May, 1901.	May, 1900.	Total for five months ended—	
			May, 1901.	May, 1900.
United States	12,744	14,145	39,823	39,366
British North America	2,283	1,970	4,398	5,786
Australasia	829	622	5,266	4,002
South Africa	1,443	984	6,281	5,078
Other places	781	552	4,599	3,958
Total	18,080	18,273	60,367	58,190

Foreign.—The remainder of the 32,960 passengers in May, viz., 14,880, were foreigners or persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being a decrease of 464 as compared with May, 1900. For the five months ended May, their number was 51,229, as against 45,732 in the corresponding period of 1900, the difference being chiefly due to an increase in the numbers proceeding to the United States.

Alien Immigration.—The number of aliens that arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent during May was 18,112. Of these 10,929 were stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, compared with 10,557 so stated in May, 1900. Those not stated to be on their way to America or other places out of the United Kingdom numbered 7,183 (including 1,439 sailors), the corresponding figures for May, 1900, being 8,929 (including 1,556 sailors). The figures for May, 1901 and 1900, and also for the five months ended May in each year, are as follows:—

	May, 1901.	May, 1900.	Total for five months ended—	
			May, 1901.	May, 1900.
Aliens not stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom	7,183*	8,929*	27,303*	28,992*
Aliens en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom	10,929	10,557	37,718	31,974
Total	18,112*	19,486*	65,021*	60,966*

* These figures are inclusive of sailors to the number of 1,439 in May, 1901, 1,556 in May, 1900; and 6,659 and 6,831 respectively for the five months ended May in each year.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN MAY, 1901.

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

Summary.—The changes in rates of wages reported during May affected 375,756 workpeople, and the net effect of all the changes was a decrease of 1s. 5d. weekly per head. Of this number 15,785 received advances averaging 1s. 7½d. per week, and 359,971 sustained decreases averaging 1s. 6¾d. per week.

The net result of the changes reported in the previous month (April) was an average decrease of 2s. 8d. per head on the weekly wages of 54,874 workpeople, and during the corresponding month of last year (May, 1900) the net result was an average advance of 1s. 0¾d. per head in the weekly wages of 181,200 workpeople.

The principal advances during May affected 6,000 engineers in London, and 3,000 platers, riveters, &c., in Liverpool and Birkenhead. The principal decreases were those affecting about 319,740 colliery workpeople in Northumberland, Durham, Forest of Dean, South Wales and Scotland, and 28,950 ironworkers in the North of England, the Midlands and Scotland.

Methods of Arrangement.—Changes affecting 186,830 workpeople were arranged by arbitration or conciliation (including one change affecting 130 workpeople, settled by arbitration after strike), and changes affecting 160,191 workpeople took effect under sliding scales. Changes, affecting 1,351 workpeople only, were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work, and the remaining changes, affecting 27,514 workpeople, were arranged by direct negotiations between employers and workpeople or their representatives.

Summary for First Five Months of 1901.—During the five months, January to May, 1901, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) known to have received advances or sustained decreases is 841,535 (as compared with 950,500 for the corresponding period of 1900). Of these, 509,040 obtained a net average increase of 1s. 7d. weekly per head, and 332,495 sustained a net average decrease of 4s. 1¼d. weekly per head. The net effect of all the changes was a decrease of 8d. weekly per head, as compared with an increase of 2s. 2d. weekly per head in the corresponding period of 1900.

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

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which Change takes effect in 1901, Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week. Includes sections for BUILDING TRADES and MINING AND QUARRYING.

* Exclusive of overtime. † Where the winter and summer hours are known to differ in any trade, the weekly rate given in the Table is, in the absence of exact figures, the result of averaging the wages for five summer and two winter weeks. When a change in wages is accompanied by a change in hours of labour, the weekly wages before and after change are computed on the basis of the old and new hours respectively. ‡ See also under Changes in Hours of Labour. § Workmen now provide their own brushes.

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

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which Change takes effect in 1901, Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week. Includes sections for MINING AND QUARRYING, IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES, and MISCELLANEOUS TRADES.

* Exclusive of overtime. † See also under Changes in Hours of Labour. ‡ At four Collieries the percentage is stated to be 35 per cent. above standard of 1888. § In Fife, Kinross and Clackmannan the percentage above standard is 2½ per cent. less, viz., 60 per cent.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN MAY (continued).

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which Change takes effect in 1901, Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week.

4 Increases—522 Workpeople.

EMPLOYEES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

Decreases—Nil.

Table showing employee statistics for local authorities in various locations like Liverpool, Rochdale, Derby, Glasgow.

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

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN MAY, 1901.

THE changes in hours of labour reported in May affected 1,540 workpeople, of whom 60 had their working hours increased 0.36 hours per week, and 1,480 had their working hours reduced on the average by 5.88 hours per week.

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which change takes effect in 1901, Approximate number of Workpeople affected, Hours of labour in a full week, Extent of Decrease or Increase per week.

DECREASES.

INCREASE.

Fishery Statistics.—The total value of the fish (including shell fish) landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom during May was £789,045, an increase of £9,917 as compared with May 1900.

EXAMINATION FOR MINING MANAGER'S CERTIFICATES.

South-West Mining District.—An examination for Certificates of Competency as manager or under-manager of a mine will be held in Bristol for this district on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th days of September for managers, and for under-managers on the 10th, 11th and 12th days of September.

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

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN MAY.

DURING May 610 fresh applications for work were registered by eight bureaux (see LABOUR GAZETTE, February, 1899, p. 36) furnishing returns, and 892 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 209 persons, of whom 133 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps).

The Returns for the London Girls' Friendly Society business agency, and the Manchester, Liverpool and Edinburgh Bureaux are for the present grouped together in the following Table, which shows the work done by the eight Bureaux during May.

WORK DONE IN MAY.

Table with columns: No. of Fresh Situations offered by Employers, No. of Fresh Applications of Workpeople seeking Situations, No. of Workpeople engaged by Employers, Summary by Bureaux, Summary by Occupations.

The number of fresh applications for domestic servants rose from 601 to 612, while the number of servants applying fell from 394 to 351, the number permanently engaged rising from 89 to 93. The demand for dress-makers, milliners, etc., showed a further increase, the number of fresh applications from employers rising from 135 to 157; the number requiring such situations fell from 48 to 30; the number engaged through the Bureaux was 31, compared with 38 in April.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN MAY.

(Based on information furnished by the Home Office and the Board of Trade.) The total number of workpeople reported as killed by accidents during May was 377, or 65 more than in April, and 63 less than in May, 1900.

In the first group of industries shown in the following summary Table, including railways, mines, quarries, shipping, and factories, and employing 5,481,361 persons (according to the latest available figures), 343 were reported killed and 7,670 injured by accidents, as compared with 414 reported killed and 8,344 injured in May, 1900. These figures give one death in May, 1901, for every 15,981 persons employed in those industries. During the five completed months of 1901, 1,921 persons were reported killed and 38,598 injured, as against 2,160 reported killed and 37,625 injured in the corresponding period of 1900.

In the remaining occupations included in the Tables, 34 persons were reported killed, and 976 injured in May, as compared with 26 killed and 1,030 injured in May, 1900.

SUMMARY TABLE.

Table with columns: Industry, Killed (May 1901, May 1900), Injured (May 1901, May 1900), Number Employed according to latest Returns.

DETAILED TABLES.

Table with columns: Industry, Killed, Injured, Total, subdivided by accident types like Railway Service, Mines, Factories, Workshops, etc.

Table with columns: Killed, Injured, Total, subdivided by Shipping (Trading Vessels, Fishing Vessels).

Table with columns: Males, Females, Total, subdivided by Factories (Accidents reportable by Certifying Surgeons, Other Accidents).

Table with columns: Males, Females, Total, subdivided by Workshops (Adults, Young Persons, Children).

Table with columns: Males, Females, Total, subdivided by Factories & Workshops (classified by trades like Textiles, Non-Textiles).

Table with columns: Males, Females, Total, subdivided by Under Factory Act, 1895, Ss. 22, 23 (Docks, Wharves and Quays, etc.).

Table with columns: Construction or Repair, Use or Working, Total, subdivided by Under the Notice of Accidents Act, 1894 (Bridges, Canals, etc.).

* The figures relate to seamen who have been reported during the month to have been killed or injured by accidents at sea, or in rivers and harbours, whilst they were members of the crews of sea-going vessels (except yachts) registered in the British Islands under Part I. of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894.

TRADE DISPUTES.

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

Number and Magnitude.—Sixty-four disputes were reported as having begun in May 1901, compared with 66 in April, and 44 in May, 1900. In these 64 disputes, 6,340 workpeople were directly, and 1,699 indirectly, affected, a total of 8,039, which compares with 35,322 in April, and 15,931 in May 1900.

Trades Affected.—In the building trades 29 disputes took place, involving 3,498 workpeople; in the mining and quarrying industries 12 disputes, involving 1,822 workpeople; in the metal, engineering and shipbuilding trades 3 disputes, involving 718 workpeople; in the textile trades 8 disputes, involving 1,152 workpeople; and in miscellaneous trades 12 disputes, involving 849 workpeople.

Causes.—Of the 64 disputes, 34 arose on demands or advances, and 12 on objections to reductions in rates of wages. Six disputes arose on other wages questions, 6 on questions of working arrangements, and 6 from other causes.

Results.—Thirty new disputes, involving 3,989 workpeople, and 13 old disputes, involving 5,100 workpeople, were reported as having terminated. Of the 43 new and old disputes terminated, 10, involving 1,316 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 10, involving 1,335 persons, in favour of the employers; and 21, involving 5,445 persons, resulted in compromise. With regard to the remaining 2 disputes, involving 993 persons, certain points are still under consideration. At the end of May, 35 old disputes were reported to be still unsettled, involving altogether about 9,500 workpeople.

Duration of Disputes in Working Days.—The aggregate duration in May of all the disputes, new and old, was about 390,000 days, compared with 605,000 in April last, and 780,000 in May 1900.

Summary for the First Five Months of 1901.—For the five completed months of 1901 the aggregate number of workpeople involved in the 277 disputes which commenced in these months was 92,801, as compared with 79,904 in the 225 disputes reported in the corresponding period of 1900. The total aggregate duration in working days was about 1,939,000, as compared with 1,340,000 in the corresponding period of 1900.

Locality.	Occupation.*	Number of Workpeople Affected.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
		Di-rectly.	Indi-rectly.*				

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN MAY, 1901.

		29 Disputes.		BUILDING TRADES.		3,498 Workpeople affected.	
Durham	Painters, Glaziers and Paperhangers	50	17	May 1	17	For advance in wages from 7d. to 8d. per hour, and a code of working rules	Immediate advance of 1d. per hour granted, with further advance of 1d. on 1st August.
East and West Hartlepool	Bricklayers	57	15	15	15	For advance in wages from 9d. to 10d. per hour	No settlement reported.
River Tees and The Hartlepoons	Carpenters and Joiners	420	13	13	13	For advance in wages from 9d. to 9½d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	Advance granted, and working rules mutually arranged.
Barnsley	Plasterers	20	3	1	3	Against proposed reduction in wages from 9d. to 9d. per hour and other alterations in working rules	No settlement reported.
	Stonemasons	460	1	1	1	Against proposed reduction in wages from 9d. to 8½d. per hour and other alterations in working rules	No settlement reported.
Bradford	Carpenters and Joiners	315	1	1	1	For advance in wages of 1d. per hour	No settlement reported.
Castleford	Builders' Labourers	152	1	1	1	For advance in wages of 1d. per hour, as generally granted in the district	Work resumed; the two men reported by union to have paid up their arrears.
Sheffield	Bricklayers	20	7	1	7	Dispute arising out of employer's refusal to compel two men to pay their arrears of contributions to the trade union	No settlement reported.
	Carpenters and Joiners	65	1	1	1	Against proposed reduction in wages from 9d. to 8d. per hour and alteration in working rules, and for advance from 9d. to 10d. per hour	No settlement reported.
Shipley	Stonemasons and Labourers	57	34	1	34	Against proposed reduction in wages from 8½d. to 8d. per hour and alteration in working rules, and for advance from 8½d. to 9½d. per hour	Dispute referred to Arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade.
Wakefield	Painters	53	10	1	10	For advance in wages from 7½d. to 8d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	Notice of alteration withdrawn.
York	Bricklayers & Labourers	90	3	50	3	For advance in wages from 9d. to 10d. per hour, and a code of working rules	No settlement reported.
Bolton	Plumbers	200	6	6	6	For advance in wages from 9d. to 9½d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	No settlement reported.
Leigh	Plasterers	18	1	1	1	For advance in wages from 9d. to 10d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	No settlement reported.
	Painters	65	1	1	1	For advance in wages from 8d. to 8½d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	No settlement reported.
Prestwich	Carpenters and Joiners	50	5	1	5	For advance in wages from 9d. to 9½d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	Immediate advance of 1d. per hour granted, with further advance of 1d. on 1st August.
Leicester	Stonemasons	180	1	1	1	For advance in wages of 1d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	No settlement reported.
Nuneaton	Carpenters and Joiners	51	1	1	1	Against proposed reduction in wages from 8d. to 7½d. per hour, and for advance to 8½d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	Alterations made in working rules, but no advance in wages granted.
Newark	Bricklayers	70	5	1	5	For advance in wages from 8d. to 8½d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	Demand for advance in wages withdrawn, but a code of working rules agreed to.
	Builders' Labourers and Bricklayers	120	27	50	27	For advance in wages from 5d. to 5½d. per hour, and a code of working rules	Advance granted.
Stone	Painters	15	4	1	4	For advance in wages from 7d. to 7½d. per hour	Advance of 1d. per hour granted.
Tamworth	Carpenters and Joiners	39	19	1	19	For advance in wages from 8d. to 8½d. per hour	No settlement reported.
Weston-super-Mare	Carpenters and Joiners	40	1	1	1	For advance in wages from 7½d. to 8d. per hour	No settlement reported.
Merthyr Tydfil and Dowlais	Stonemasons and Labourers	95	16	30	16	For advance in wages from 8d. to 8½d. per hour, and a revised code of working rules	Advance of 1d. per hour granted, and working rules mutually arranged.
	Painters	240	2	1	2	For advance in wages from 7½d. to 8d. per hour	Advance granted.
Swansea	Builders' Labourers, Stonemasons and Carpenters & Joiners	200	75	1	75	For advance in wages of 1d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	No settlement reported.
Limerick	Carpenters and Joiners	70	1	1	1	For advance in wages from 3s. to 3s. per week, and other alterations in working rules	No settlement reported.

* The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly affected," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the dispute occurred, but not themselves on strike or locked out. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.
 † A return received too late for inclusion in the statistical computations for this Table states that the men resumed work on 11th June at an advance of 1d. per hour

TRADE DISPUTES—(continued).

Locality.	Occupation.*	Number of Workpeople Affected.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
		Di-rectly.	Indi-rectly.*				

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN MAY, 1901—(continued).

		12 Disputes.		MINING AND QUARRYING.		1,822 Workpeople affected.	
Whitehaven	Pony Drivers	30	8½	May 15	8½	Alleged insufficient number of ponies	Drivers summoned and fined for leaving work without notice.
Burton-on-Trent	Daymen and Boys and Other Underground and Surface Workers	160	350	20	3	For advance in wages	Work resumed without advance.
Hayfield (Derbyshire)	Quarrymen	22	13	13	13	For advance in wages	No settlement reported.
Suton-in-Ashfield	Pit Lads and Other Colliery Workpeople	40	120	13	5	Boys demanded a quarter's pay when pit was not working on Saturdays, extra time being worked during week to provide for it	Demand granted, but some of the lads were summoned and fined for leaving work without notice.
Stanton-in-Peak	Quarrymen, Labourers, &c.	192	27	27	27	For advance in wages	No settlement reported.
Garw Valley	Coal Miners	250	20	20	20	Against proposed reduction in wages of 15 per cent.	No settlement reported.
Llansamlet	Coal Miners	380	25	25	25	Against proposed reduction in wages	No settlement reported.
Maesteg	Putters, Trammers, Daymen and Carters	96	11	11	7	Dispute as to percentage by which men's wages should be reduced	Work resumed at a reduction of 15 per cent. for a period of three months.
Pontypridd	Coal Cutters, Banksmen, Enginemen, &c.	47	7	6	6	Failure to agree upon a price list on change from day to piece rates	A price list mutually arranged.
Ynysybwl	Coal Hewers	20	1	1	1	Refusal of employers to pay certain allowances while men restricted their output	No settlement reported.
Glasgow (near)	Coal Miners	80	1	1	1	Dispute arising out of proposed change to day-to-day contracts and other matters	No settlement reported.
	Coal Miners	28	21	21	3	Dispute as to filling "dirty" coal	Men promised to fill saleable coal only.

		3 Disputes.		METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES.		718 Workpeople affected.	
Grimsby	Fitters	36	14	14	14	Refusal of three men to complete work on which apprentice had been employed overtime. Other men ceased work in their support.	No settlement reported.
Ripley (Derbyshire)	Furnacemen, Labourers, and Other Workpeople	48	6	17	6	Against proposed reduction in wages of 5 per cent.	No settlement reported.
Motherwell	Enginemen, Firemen, and Steel Workers	28	600	13	3	Against proposed reduction in wages of 5 per cent.	Proposed reduction withdrawn.

		8 Disputes.		TEXTILE TRADES.		1,152 Workpeople affected.	
Burnley	Cotton Weavers	230	7	7	5	Alleged grievances as to the cleaning of machinery	Work resumed pending an inquiry, at which conditions as to the cleaning of machinery were mutually arranged.
Nelson (near)	Cotton Weavers	14	9	9	1	For payment of full list prices, and against stoppage of a weaver for spoilt cloth	Full list prices to be paid, and weaver reinstated.
Padiham	Cotton Weavers	80	6	6	3	Alleged grievances as to management	Amicable understanding arrived at between management and workpeople.
Rishton	Cotton Weavers	200	13	13	3	Alleged bad material	Material to be examined.
	Winders, Warpers, &c.	114	29	29	8	Because of dismissal of a weaver	Work resumed without reinstatement of weaver.
Dundee	Jute Spinners, Preparers, Reelers, Warpers, Winders, &c.	49	290	6	6	Dispute as to regulation of engine speed	Work resumed unconditionally.
Hawick	Woolen Weavers, Winders, Menders, &c.	80	75	17	8	Against proposal to shorten working time by one hour on five days rather than by all day off on Saturdays	Work resumed on employers' terms.
	Woolen Weavers, Winders, Menders, &c.	80	17	17	8	Objection of weavers to extension of existing statement of prices to finer costume cloths	Three months' trial to be made of new costume cloths at old statement prices.

		12 Disputes.		MISCELLANEOUS TRADES.		849 Workpeople affected.	
Liverpool	Upholsterers	96	1	1	1	For advance in wages from 36s. to 38s. per week, reduction in hours of labour from 51 to 43 per week, and other alterations in working rules	No settlement reported.
Warrington	Cabinet Makers	25	4	4	4	Against proposed reduction in out-working allowances	No settlement reported.
Birmingham	Horse Collar Makers	35	13	13	13	For advance in piece rates	No settlement reported.
Northampton	Carriers	28	20	20	20	For advance in wages of 1d. per hour	No settlement reported.
Walsall	Horse Collar Makers	85	13	13	13	For advance in piece rates	No settlement reported.
Wolverhampton	Navvies (Tramway construction)	150	29	29	1	Dispute as to rate of wages to be paid	Rate fixed at 5½d. per hour.
Taunton	Labourers (Tramway construction)	40	31	31	2	For advance in wages from 4½d. to 6d. per hour	Advance of 1d. per hour granted.
Brechin	Carters	25	21	21	21	For advance to a minimum rate of 20s. per week	No settlement reported.
Greenock	Carters	150	2	2	4	For advance in wages of 1s. per week	Advance granted.
Kilmarnock	Bakers	21	27	27	27	Against change in hour for commencing work	No settlement reported.
Belfast	Upholsterers	64	9	9	9	For reduction in hours of labour from 54 to 50 per week	No settlement reported.
Cork	Gas Stokers, Labourers and Mechanics	118	12	16	16	Dispute arising out of dismissal of four men for refusing to put a heavier charge in the retorts	No settlement reported.

II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE MAY, 1901, AND TERMINATED IN THAT MONTH.

		5 Disputes.		BUILDING TRADES.		403 Workpeople affected.	
Stockton-on-Tees	Plumbers	20	30 April	30 April	3	Strike against employment of a man who refused to pay fine to union, followed by lock-out at other firms	Work resumed: a conference afterwards deciding that man was not to be employed until his fine was paid.
Lancaster	Stonemasons	32	18 Mar.	18 Mar.	42	Against alleged infringement of worked-stone rule	Amicable settlement effected.
Newmarket	Bricklayers	10	23 April	23 April	—	Against employment of tilers on work claimed by bricklayers	Work carried on by tilers; job blocked to union bricklayers.
Great Yarmouth	Bricklayers and Labourers	112	1 April	1 April	46	For advance in wages from 7d. to 8d. per hour and other alterations in working rules	Advance of 1d. per hour granted; other alterations in rules mutually arranged.
	Carpenters and Joiners	122	1 April	1 April	46	For advance in wages from 7d. to 8½d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	Advance of 1d. per hour granted; other alterations in working rules mutually arranged.
Egremont	Iron Ore Miners, Labourers, Mechanics, &c.	44	4	29 April	12	Refusal of employer to supplement the wages of certain contract men	Work resumed on old conditions.
Clydach Vale	Colliery Workpeople, Coal Trimmers and Pitwood Men	3,000	30	8 Jan.	78	Men came out without giving notice, alleging grievances as to supply of timber	Work resumed on terms arranged at a joint conference. (See May LABOUR GAZETTE, p. 127).
Maesteg (near)	Coal Hewers, Hauliers and Labourers	170	2	March	59	Failure to agree upon list of prices	Work resumed on employers' terms.
Fauldhouse	Miners	220	29 April	29 April	5	Against proposed reductions in prices consequent on a reorganisation of working conditions	Work resumed at modified reductions.

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

TRADE DISPUTES—(continued).

Locality.	Occupation.*	Number of Workpeople Affected.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
		Di-rectly.*	Indi-rectly.*				
II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE MAY, 1901, AND TERMINATED IN THAT MONTH—(continued).							
MISCELLANEOUS TRADES. 1,229 Workpeople affected.							
Birkenhead ...	Paviors (Local Authority)	15	...	22 April	18	Against employment of labourers to lay wood blocks in streets	Paviors undertook to supply sufficient men to carry out all wood block laying without having recourse to labourers.
Birmingham	Rubber Workers:—Lappers, Tube Strippers, Tube Makers, Cutters, &c.	88	120	26 April	8	Against revised price list stated to involve a reduction in earnings	A price list mutually arranged.
Burslem (Jet & Rockingham Ware Trade)	Jiggers, Turners, Handlers, Pressers, Ovenmen, Decorators, Warehousemen, &c.	270	670	25 Mar.	46	For advance in wages ...	Work resumed on old conditions; a Board of Conciliation to be formed to consider matters in dispute.
Wednesbury ...	Machinists, Fitters, and Labourers	66	...	22 April	—	Because of attitude of foreman as to number of machines to be worked per man and employment of boys	Work resumed on old conditions.

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

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Cotton Statistics.—The following Table shows the number of bales of cotton imported, forwarded from ports to inland towns and exported during the month of May, and also during the five completed months of 1901, with comparative figures for 1900:—

	Month of May,		Five Months ended May—	
	1901.	1900.	1901.	1900.
Imported ...	Bales. 265,964	Bales. 173,997	Bales. 1,617,374	Bales. 1,587,646
Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns	247,839	269,606	1,339,774	1,459,122
Exported ...	24,706	43,502	131,267	168,557

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 21 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the five weeks ended June 8th amounted to £8,818,897, a decrease of £35,923 (or 0.4 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1900. The receipts from passenger traffic were £4,296,262, an increase of £177,754, and those from goods and mineral traffic £4,522,635, a decrease of £213,677.

Bankruptcies.—The bankruptcies gazetted during May, numbered 368, being 4 less than in May, 1900, 57 more than in May, 1899, and 17 less than in May, 1898.

FOREIGN TRADE OF UNITED KINGDOM.

The following statement has been communicated to the LABOUR GAZETTE by the Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

Summary for May.

The trade returns for May, 1901, show a decrease as compared with the corresponding period of 1900 in the value both of the imports from foreign countries and British possessions, and in the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures, but an increase in the exports of foreign and colonial merchandise.

The imports for May, 1901, were valued at £42,426,759, as compared with £43,876,427 for May, 1900, a decrease of £1,449,668, or 3.3 per cent., and the total exports amounted in value to £29,612,941, as against £30,110,392 in May, 1900—a net decrease of £497,451. The exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures alone, however, were valued at £23,556,712 in May, 1901, and £24,715,930 in May, 1900—a decrease of £1,159,218, or 4.7 per cent. On the other hand, the value of foreign and colonial merchandise exported in May, 1901, shows an increase as compared with May, 1900, of £661,767, or 12.3 per cent.

Imports.—The following Table shows the value of the imports for May, 1901, as compared with May, 1900, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

	Month ended 31st May.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1900.	1901.		
Food, Drink, and Tobacco ...	£ 17,649,054	£ 17,197,862	—	£ 451,192
Metals ...	2,835,636	2,419,187	—	416,449
Chemicals, Dyestuffs, and Tanning Substances ...	496,625	524,246	27,621	—
Oils ...	849,070	913,142	64,072	—
Raw Materials for Manufactures	11,923,408	11,817,501	—	105,907
Manufactured and Miscellaneous Articles ...	10,122,634	9,554,821	—	567,813
Total ...	£ 43,876,427	£ 42,426,759	—	1,449,668

The imports of wheat in May, 1901, show a decrease of 1,822,500 cwts. in quantity, and £548,345 in value, as compared with May, 1900. Oats have increased 253,450 cwts., and £100,498, and wheat meal and flour has increased 6,803 cwts., and £24,357. On the other hand the imports of maize or Indian corn show a decrease of 1,120,400 cwts. and £213,352, and of maize meal or Indian meal 130,562 cwts. and £37,616.

The imports of raw cotton have increased 213,892 cwts. in quantity and £474,311 in value, and alpaca, vicuna, llama, and mohair also show increases in quantity and value. Flax has decreased 1,416 tons in quantity, though it shows an increase of £6,109 in value. Hemp has decreased in both quantity and value, and sheep or lambs' wool, which has increased 7,694,478 lbs. in quantity has decreased £457,594 in value.

Exports.—The following Table shows the value of the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures for the month ended 31st May, 1901, as compared with the like period of 1900, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

	Month ended 31st May.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1900.	1901.		
Animals, living ...	£ 74,789	£ 60,498	—	£ 14,291
Articles of Food and Drink ...	956,465	1,001,354	44,889	—
Raw Materials ...	3,659,421	3,272,526	—	386,895
Articles Manufactured and Partly Manufactured, viz.—				
Yarns and Textile Fabrics ...	8,276,053	8,064,750	—	211,303
Metals, and Articles Manufactured therefrom (except Machinery and Ships) ...	4,506,390	3,475,413	—	1,030,977
Machinery and Millwork ...	1,706,977	1,637,804	—	69,173
Ships, new (not registered as British) ...	493,119	481,427	—	11,692
Miscellaneous ...	5,642,716	5,562,940	—	79,776
Total ...	£ 24,715,930	£ 23,556,712	—	1,159,218

The exports of coal, coke, and fuel in May, 1901, show an increase of 110,730 tons in quantity, but a decrease of £390,508 in value as compared with May, 1900; and the exports of sheep and lambs' wool show an increase in quantity of 229,000 lbs., but a decrease in value of £11,202. The exports of cotton yarn have decreased 880,100 lbs. in quantity and £67,590 in value, and the exports of cotton piece-goods have decreased 8,666,400 yards in quantity but show an increase of £98,548 in value. Jute yarn has shown a decrease in quantity and value, but jute piece-goods have increased in quantity 10,672,100 yards, and in value £76,198. Linen yarn and piece-goods, silk thrown twist and yarn, worsted yarn, woollen and worsted tissues, and most other manufactures of wool have decreased in both quantity and value. The exports of worsted yarn have decreased as much as 956,800 lbs. in quantity and £95,486 in value.

Tonnage of Shipping Entered and Cleared with Cargoes.—The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during May, 1901, amounted to 3,035,345 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,960,885 tons, as against 3,010,324 tons entered and 3,997,990 tons cleared in May, 1900. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during May, 1901, amounted to 2,627,174 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,568,727 tons, as against 2,668,526 tons entered, and 2,689,083 tons cleared in May, 1900.

PAUPERISM IN MAY.

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

The number of paupers relieved in 35 selected Urban Districts of the United Kingdom on one day in the second week of May was 327,869, corresponding to a rate of 200 per 10,000 of the estimated population of those districts in 1901.

Compared with April, 1901, there is a decrease of 8,005 in the number relieved, and of 5 in the rate per 10,000 of the population. Decreases are shown in 29 districts, the most marked falling off being in the Central London district (21 per 10,000), East London and Aberdeen districts (10 each), and Manchester (9). Increases are shown in 3 districts, notably Stockton and Tees district (12 per 10,000). In the remaining 3 districts the rate is unchanged.

Compared with May, 1900, the number of persons relieved has increased by 10,953, and the rate per 10,000 of the population by 4. Twenty-five of the 35 districts show increases, the greatest increases being in the Dublin district (25 per 10,000), Cork, Waterford and Limerick district (18), Stockton and Tees (17), Manchester (16), and Birmingham (13). In 9 districts the rate has decreased, the most marked falling off occurring in the Galway district (21 per 10,000), Wigan (9), and Coatbridge and Airdrie (9). In the remaining district the rate shows no change.

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of May, 1901.			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.
ENGLAND & WALES.*						
Metropolises.						
West District ...	10,420	2,707	13,127	161	- 7 + 4	
North District ...	13,918	8,045	21,963	202	- 7 + 1	
Central District ...	6,562	2,881	9,443	430	- 21 + 3	
East District ...	12,498	4,540	17,038	234	- 10 + 5	
South District ...	20,674	18,418	39,092	222	- 7 + 4	
Total Metropolises ...	64,072	36,591	100,663	218	- 9 + 3	
West Ham ...	2,510	7,956	10,466	217	- 7 + 2	
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District ...	1,572	4,045	5,617	142	- 1 + 1	
Stockton & Tees District ...	1,002	4,134	5,136	229	+ 12 + 17	
Bolton, Oldham, &c. ...	3,330	7,600	10,930	144	- 2 + 4	
Raw Materials ...	1,767	6,341	8,108	198	- 2 + 9	
Manchester District ...	8,307	8,207	16,514	185	- 9 + 16	
Liverpool District ...	9,488	7,398	16,886	181	- 6 + 6	
Bradford District ...	1,326	2,907	4,233	115	... + 7	
Hull District ...	1,021	3,560	4,581	120	- 1 + 6	
Leeds District ...	1,876	5,553	7,429	166	- 4 + 12	
Barnsley District ...	537	2,943	3,480	161	+ 1 - 1	
Sheffield District ...	2,505	3,055	5,560	143	... + 7	
Hull District ...	1,235	5,253	6,488	200	- 3 + 12	
North Staffordshire ...	1,747	6,095	7,842	225	- 4 - 3	
Nottingham District ...	1,691	5,101	6,792	176	- 5 - 1	
Leicester District ...	1,118	2,774	3,892	183	- 3 + 8	
Wolverhampton District ...	3,186	12,517	15,703	277	- 2 + 2	
Birmingham District ...	4,397	2,953	7,350	133	- 1 + 13	
Bristol District ...	2,510	6,709	9,219	255	- 6 - 1	
Cardiff & Swansea ...	1,641	7,260	8,901	238	+ 1 + 5	
Total "Other Districts" ...	50,256	104,405	154,661	183	- 2 + 6	
SCOTLAND.*						
Glasgow District ...	3,678	15,545	19,223	219	- 7 + 1	
Paisley & Greenock District ...	541	2,449	2,990	188	- 7 - 3	
Edinburgh & Leith District ...	1,405	5,458	6,863	186	- 3 + 3	
Dundee & Dunfermline ...	929	2,848	3,777	187	... + 5	
Aberdeen ...	490	2,636	3,126	223	- 10 - 1	
Coatbridge & Airdrie ...	290	1,269	1,559	170	- 8 - 9	
Total for the above Scottish Districts ...	7,333	30,205	37,538	204	- 6 + 1	
IRELAND.†						
Dublin District ...	6,532	4,749	11,281	319	- 2 + 25	
Belfast District ...	3,084	257	3,341	98	- 5 - 8	
Cork, Waterford & Limerick District ...	4,316	4,944	9,260	405	- 2 + 18	
Galway District ...	343	316	659	192	- 5 - 21	
Total for the above Irish Districts ...	14,275	10,266	24,541	256	- 3 + 9	
Total for above 35 Districts in May, 1901	138,446	183,423	327,869	200	- 5 + 4	

* 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 MAY.

DURING May the 8 Bureaux furnishing returns registered 1,866 fresh applications for work, as compared with 1,552 in May, 1900, an increase of 314. Work was found by these Bureaux for 1,146 persons, of whom 904 (685 males and 219 females) were engaged by private employers, 4 by Local Authorities, and 238 by the Salvation Army. The number engaged by private employers in May, 1900, was 648.

The number remaining on the registers at the end of May was 930, as against 767 a year ago.

(I.) Work done in May.

Name of Labour Bureau.	No. of Fresh Applications by Workpeople during		No. of Situations offered by Employers during		No. of Workpeople found Work by Bureaux.	
	May, 1901.	May, 1900.	May, 1901.	May, 1900.	Engaged by Private Employers.	Engaged by Local Authorities.
London.						
St. Pancras ...	148	153	151	198	126	102
Battersea ...	127	84	44	18	44	39
Westminster ...	252	190	178	224	105	106
Salvation Army ...	481	308	20	28	246	19
Provincial.						
Ipswich ...	20	37	43	43	17	22
Plymouth ...	244	156	156	128	148	112
Liverpool ...	166	199	3	3	1	...
Glasgow ...	428	425	565	213	217	248
Total of 8 Bureaux	1,866	1,552	1,160	855	1,142	934

(II.) Employments found for Workpeople during May, 1901.

	No. permanently engaged.		No. temporarily engaged.		Total.
	Men.	Women and Girls.	Men.	Women and Girls.	
Engaged by Private Employers.					
Men:—					
Building Trades ...	45	31	76		
Carmen, Stablemen, Horsemen, &c. ...	38	7	45		
Porters and Messengers ...	69	55	124		
Bill Distributors, &c. ...	...	231	231		
Other Occupations ...	70	42	112		
Lads and Boys ...	69	28	97		
Total Males ...	291	394	685		
Women and Girls:—					
Dressmaking ...	...	3	3		
Domestic Servants ...	97	17	114		
Charwomen, daily work, &c. ...	21	72	91		
Other Occupations ...	7	2	9		
Total Females ...	125	94	219		
Total engaged by Private Employers ...	416	488	904		
Engaged by Local Authorities.					
Men, Lads and Boys ...	3	1	4		
Women and Girls ...	...	...	...
Total engaged by Local Authorities ...	3	1	4		
Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities.					
Men ...	...	238	238		
Total for 8 Bureaux ...	419	727	1,146		

(III.) Usual Occupations of Workpeople on Registers at end of Month.

Occupation.	No. on Register at end of	
	May, 1901.	May, 1900.
Men:—		
Building, Engineering and Metal Trades ...	111	36
Carmen, Stablemen, Horsemen, &c. ...	97	72
Clerks and Warehousemen ...	45	38
Porters and Messengers ...	125	73
General Labourers ...	164	147
Other Occupations ...	75	73
Total Men ...	617	439
Lads and Boys ...		
...	90	92
Women and Girls:—		
Charwomen, Daily Work, &c. ...	121	149
Servants ...	69	25
Others ...	33	62
Total Women and Girls ...	223	236
Grand Total for 8 Bureaux ...	930	767

* Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities.

INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN MAY.

I.—Under Factory and Workshop Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Cases.	Con- victions.	Amount of Penalties.		Amount of Costs.	
			£	s. d.	£	s. d.
By Owners, Managers, &c.:						
Neglecting to Limewash...	8	8	12	14 6	2	10 0
Neglecting to maintain instantaneous communication between rooms in which work is carried on and engine room or boiler house (Tenement Factories)...	2	2	4	10 0	0	17 0
Neglecting to Fence Machinery...	17	16	34	10 0	8	16 2
Employing Young Persons without necessary Certificates	28	28	19	18 6	11	15 6
Illegal Hours or Times of Employment—						
Before or after the legal hour	100	100	70	16 3	41	2 7
During meal times, or without proper intervals for meals	46	46	19	8 0	21	2 0
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day substituted	27	27	10	19 9	8	3 7
On Sundays or holidays, or children on successive Saturdays	36	36	12	1 0	9	10 6
At night	19	19	15	10 0	10	1 2
Employing Children full time, otherwise than in morning and afternoon sets, &c.	2	2	0	19 6	1	0 6
Neglecting Rules as to Registers, Abstracts, Notices, &c.—						
Not keeping Registers...	24	23	12	3 0	10	6 0
Not affixing or properly filling up Notices and Abstracts...	10	10	7	13 0	4	9 6
Not sending Notices required by Act	10	8	6	1 6	4	4 10
Not supplying sufficient or correct particulars	4	4	1	10 0	2	12 0
Prosecutions under Cotton Cloth Factories Act, 1889	2	1	5	0 0	1	8 0
Prosecutions under Truck Acts	3	2	1	0 0	0	18 0
Other offences	5	5	5	0 0	3	15 0
By Workmen—						
Prosecutions for Breach of Special Rules	1	1	0	5 0	0	1 6
Personation of Young Person	1	1	—	—	0	11 0
By Parents—						
Allowing Children to be illegally employed...	1	1	0	12 6	0	7 6
Total for May, 1901	346	340	240	12 6	143	12 4
Total for May, 1900	329	320	283	4 2	122	12 4

II.—Under the Mines and Quarries Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Con- victions.	Cases with- drawn.	Cases dis- missed.	Amount of Fines and Costs.	
					£	s. d.
UNDER THE MINES ACTS.						
By Owners, Managers, &c.:						
Registers, Notices, Returns, Plans, &c.	1	1	—	—	1	2 0
Fencing	2	2	—	—	3	11 0
Ventilation	2	2	—	—	9	8 0
Miscellaneous	1	1	—	—	10	0 0
By Workmen:						
Shot-firing and Explosives	2	2	—	—	2	1 6
Timbering	5	5	—	—	5	17 0
Lucifer Matches, Smoking, &c.	12	12	—	—	10	11 0
Riding on Trams	10	10	—	—	12	9 6
Miscellaneous	31	31*	—	—	35	10 6
Total for May, 1901	66	66	—	—	90	10 6
Total for May, 1900	53	50	—	3	50	5 6
UNDER THE QUARRIES ACT.						
By Owners, Managers, &c.:						
Registers, Notices, Returns, &c.	14	11	1	2	20	12 0
Fencing	4	4	—	—	6	5 0
Other Special Rules	1	1	—	—	2	15 0
Total for May, 1901	19	16	1	2	29	12 0
Total for May, 1900	25	25	—	—	24	2 0

III.—Under the Merchant Shipping Acts.

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

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Convic- tions.	Total Penalties.		Total Costs.	
			£	s. d.	£	s. d.
By Owners or Masters of Ships:						
Excessive deck cargo	2	2	12	0 0	5	9 2
Submersion of disc	1	1	100	0 0	5	5 0
By Seamen:						
False statement of last ship	1	1	2	0 0	—	—
Serving as 2nd hand without certificate	1	1	1	0 0	1	6 0
By Boarding House Keepers:						
Illegal Boarding	1	1	2	0 0	4	4 8
Total for May, 1901	6	6	117	0 0	16	4 10
Total for May, 1900	3	3	80	12 6	5	5 0

* Two offenders were bound over to keep the peace for three months in the sum of £5.

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS

REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN MAY.

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

FROM the following summary of the changes in the Register of Industrial Organisations in May it will be seen that 6 Trade Unions, 3 Co-operative Associations for Distribution, 4 Co-operative Associations for Production, 4 Miscellaneous Industrial and Provident Societies, 49 Friendly Societies, 48 branches of existing Friendly Societies, and 9 Building Societies were added to the Register of the United Kingdom during the month. One Trade Union, 1 Co-operative Society, 40 Friendly Societies (including 19 branches), and 14 Building Societies, are reported as having ceased to exist, or as notifying the commencement or termination of dissolution, while 2 Trade Unions and 1 Industrial and Provident Society are reported as having amalgamated, and 1 Industrial and Provident Society as having been converted into a company.

ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

Trade Unions.—*England and Wales.*—Monmouthshire and South Wales Colliery Enginemn, Stokers, and Surface Craftsmen's Gen. Assoc., "Glove and Shears" Hotel, St. John's-square, Cardiff; Halifax and District Carters, Draymen's and Horsemen's Assoc., Friendly and Trades Club, Weymouth-street, Halifax; Canal, River and Dock Watchmen's Soc., "Vulcan" Tavern, Salmon-lane, Limehouse, E; Aberdare Timbermen, Rippers and Assistants' Soc., "Royal Exchange" Inn, Aberdare; Co-operative Smiths' Soc., 9, Prospect-terrace, Grange-road West, Jarrow-on-Tyne; Liverpool Jewish Tailors' Machinists and Pressers' Trade Union, 32, Russell-street, Liverpool. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—(A) *Associations for Distribution.*—*England and Wales.*—Heaton Park Constitutional Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 28A, Rooden-lane, Heaton Park, Prestwich, Lancs. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Drogheda Fruit Soc., Ltd., Drogheda; Dunboe Co-op. Poultry Soc., Ltd., Articlave, Castlerock. (B) *Associations for Production.*—*England and Wales.*—London Clothiers, Ltd., 124 Grafton-street, E.; Newark Dairy, Ltd., 24, Castle Gate, Newark. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Town of Monaghan Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Monaghan; Leckpatrick Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Leckpatrick. (C) *Miscellaneous.*—*England and Wales.*—Breaston Mutual Land Soc., Ltd., Breaston, Derby; N. Lambeth Liberal and Radical Club, Ltd., 108, Westminster Bridge-road, S.E.; Sandiacre Freehold Land Soc., Ltd., Milton House, Stapleford, Nottingham; Smithies Working Men's Club and Institute Soc., Ltd., Smithies, near Barnsley. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Friendly Societies.—(A) *New Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—Ordinary Friendly, 10; Dividing, 7; Female, 1; Juvenile, 1; Medical, 1; Orders, 5; Collecting, 2; Specially Authorised, 6; Working Men's Clubs, 12. *Scotland.*—Ordinary Friendly, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 1. *Ireland.*—Specially Authorised, 2. (B) *New Branches of Existing Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—40. *Scotland.*—8. *Ireland.*—None.

Building Societies.—*England and Wales.*—7. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—2.

ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

Trade Unions.—*England and Wales.*—Notice of Dissolution.—Union Soc. of the Miners of Rhosllanerchrugog and Neighbourhood, Public Hall, Hall-street, Rhos, Ruabon. *Amalgamations.*—National Soc. of Drillers and Hole Cutters, 90, Addison-road, Heaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Amalg. Soc. of Tin and Iron Workers and Gas Meter Makers (London), "White Swan" Inn, Temple, E.C. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—*England and Wales.*—Converted into Company.—Sleaford Dist. Produce Supply Assoc., Ltd. *Amalgamated.*—Farmers' Depot, Grantham-road, Sleaford; British Agric. Organisation Soc., Ltd., 24, Castle Gate, Newark. *Liquidator's final account received.*—Horsham Co-op. Industrial and Provident Soc., Ltd., 58, East-street, Horsham. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Friendly Societies.—*England and Wales.*—By instrument of dissolution.—Ordinary Friendly, 11; Dividing, 1; Female, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 1; Branches, 3. *Registration cancelled.*—Ordinary Friendly, 2; Dividing, 3; Working Men's Clubs, 1. *Dissolved otherwise.*—Juvenile, 1; Branches, 16. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Building Societies.—*England and Wales.*—By instrument of dissolution, 4; Notice of commencement of dissolution, 5; Notice of termination of dissolution, 5. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

NOTICE.

Communications respecting the contents of the GAZETTE should be addressed to:—

THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR,
43, Parliament Street, London, S.W.