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STATE OF EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER.*

I.-GENERAL SUMMARY.

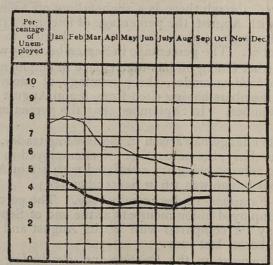
THE returns for September show very little change in the general state of employment compared with August, though judging from the trade union returns the percentage of unemployed has slightly risen. Employment continues to be considerably better than a year

In the 110 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 433,276, making returns, 15,535 (or 3.6 per cent.) are reported as unemployed at the end of September, compared with 3.4 per cent. in August, and with 4.9 per cent. in the 87 unions, with a membership of 393,920, from which returns were received for September 1895.

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

Chart showing the percentage of unemployed members of the trade unions making returns at the close of each month of 1895, and of each completed month of 1896.

[The thick line applies to 1896, the thin line to 1895]



The proportions of unemployed in the 110 unions making returns may be classified as follows:-

		Unions.	Members
Under 3 per cent		71	284,673
3 and under 5 per cent.		18	65,176
5 and under 7 per cent.	•••	10	34,830
7 and under 10 per cent.	•••	3	2,170
10 per cent. and upwards	•••	8	46,427

Employment in Various Industries.—Coal Mining.— Employment in this industry in September was slightly better than in 1895 at the same period of the year. At pits employing 380,663 persons an average of 4.89 days per week was worked in September, compared with 5.00 in August, and 4.80 in September 1895. Unemployed miners in trade unions in Northumberland and Durham amounted to 1.2 per cent. of the membership at the end of September, as compared with 1.3 per cent. at the end of August, and 2.3 per cent. at the end of September,

^{*} The reports on the State of Employment refer strictly to the month of September, and do not cover any changes which may have occurred between September 30th and October 15th.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER-GENERAL SUMMARY.

Iron Mining.—Employment in this industry was good in September, and showed a slight improvement both as compared with the previous month, and a year ago. The number of workpeople employed in the mines making returns was nearly 5 pcr cent. more than in September 1895. Returns from 125 iron mines and open works, employing 16,310 workpeople, show that the average number of days worked by these mines during September was 5.78 days per week, compared with 5.58 days per week in September 1895.

In the Pig Iron Industry employment at the end of the month showed a slight improvement compared with the previous month, and was considerably better than a year ago. At the end of September the ironmasters making returns had 346 furnaces in blast, employing 22,240 workpeople, or 29 more furnaces and 1,641 more men than a year ago, and 2 furnaces and 188 men more than at the end of August.

Employment at Steelworks at the end of September was better than the previous month, and considerably better than a year ago. At 125 works making returns, 35,278 persons were employed, as compared with 34,667 persons at the end of August, and 29,556 persons at the end of September 1895.

Employment at Puddling Furnaces and Rolling Mills has fallen off slightly. The number employed at 90 works was 17,781 at the end of the month, or 280 less than at the end of August. The number, however, was greater by 385 than a year ago.

In the *Tinplate* trade employment has fallen off somewhat. At the 88 works covered by the returns received, only 45 were giving full employment. Altogether, 306 mills were reported as working at the end of September, as compared with 311 at the end of August.

The Engineering and kindred trades remain well employed, though there is a slight falling off when compared with August, the percentage of unemployed union members having risen from 24 in August to 28 in September. The percentage in September 1895 was 5'2.

A further falling off has taken place in employment in the *Shipbuilding* trades, the percentage of unemployed union members having risen from 8·2 in August to 9·5 in September. In September 1895 the percentage was

Little change has arisen in the *Building* trades, which continue busy, the percentage of unemployed in unions making returns being 1.3 compared with 1.1 in August. The percentage was 1.6 in September 1895.

The Furnishing trades remain busy. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of September was only 1.2 compared with 2.1 in August and also in September of last year.

Employment in the *Printing* and *Bookbinding* trades has improved on the whole, though compositors in London and in Scotland are less busy. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of September was 5°0, compared with 5°6 in August, and 5°7 in September 1895.

Employment in the *Paper* trade has still further improved, the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of September being 2.8 compared with 4.8 in August.

In the Glass trade employment continues dull, and the percentage of unemployed has risen from 13.5 in August, to 13.8 in September.

Employment in the *Leather* trades is scarcely so good, the percentage of unemployed union members having risen from 3.7 at the end of August to 3.9 in September. The percentage for September 1895 was 2.6.

Employment has improved in both the wholesale and bespoke branches of the *Boot* and *Shoe* trade, although still slack in some centres.

In the ready-made Clothing trade employment varies tember for places out of Europe was considerably in the different districts, but is good at pared with 24,607 in September 1895.

some of the principal centres; in the bespoke branch employment remains dull.

Employment in the spinning branch of the Cotton trade is moderate, but in the weaving branch shows a decline.

Employment in the Woollen trade has slightly improved; in the Worsted trade it is unchanged.

In the Hosiery trade employment has declined.

As regards the employment of women in the Textile trades, information respecting 479 mills employing about 82,700 women and girls, shows that 79 per cent. were in mills giving full employment during the month, compared with 84 per cent. among those for whom returns were received for August; 18 per cent. in mills giving only partial employment or running short time; while mills employing 3 per cent. were closed during the whole or part of the month. The decline took place in the cotton trade.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—In London the average daily number of labourers employed during September at the docks and principal wharves was 13,909, as compared with 14,095 during August.

The state of Agricultural employment during September was, on the whole, satisfactory, considering the unfavourable weather which prevailed during the greater part of the month. There was, however, some irregularity of work in various parts of the country, due to the weather, more particularly in the case of odd men.

Trade Disputes.—The number of fresh disputes occurring in September was 51, involving about 9,000 workpeople, as compared with 90 disputes, involving about 13,000 workpeople in August, and 66 involving about 10,000 persons, in September 1895. Fifteen disputes took place in the engineering and shipbuilding trades, 11 in the building trades, 8 in the textile trades, 5 in the clothing trades, 3 each in the mining and quarrying and in the miscellaneous metal trades, 1 in connection with dock labour, and 5 in the miscellaneous group of trades. Of the 48 new and old disputes, involving about 7,000 persons, of which the settlement has been reported, 22, involving 4,046 persons, terminated in favour of the workpeople; 11, involving 1,329 persons, in favour of the employers; and 7, involving 372, in a compromise; the results of the remaining 8 disputes, involving about 1,000 workpeople, cannot at present be definitely classified.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—During September changes in rates of wages affecting 134,000 workpeople were reported, nearly 26,000 receiving increases and 108,000 sustaining decreases. The estimated effect of all the changes was, however, an average advance of 1½d. per week in the wages of the total number affected. Over 4,000 building operatives and 18,000 workpeople engaged in the engineering and shipbuilding industries received increases. The decreases included 100,000 coalminers and 7,000 blast-furnacemen, but the amount of reduction in these cases was very small. Changes affecting about 2,500 workpeople were preceded or accompanied by strikes; six changes, involving 108,000 workpeople, were determined under sliding scales and wages boards; the remainder, affecting about 23,500 workpeople, being arranged after negotiation between the parties or otherwise.

Pauperism.—In 35 selected urban districts 318,713 persons were relieved on one day in the second week of September. These figures correspond to a rate of 206 per 10,000, as against rates of 205 in August and 211 in September 1895.

Emigration.—The number of British and Irish passengers who left the United Kingdom during September for places out of Europe was 21,053, as compared with 24,607 in September 1895.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER-SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

II.—REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

October 1896.

(a) COAL MINING IN SEPTEMBER.

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

Summary.—Employment in this industry in September was slightly better than at the same time in 1894 and 1895, but not quite so good as in August. At steam-coal pits employment was hardly so good as in the previous month, but at pits producing coking, gas, house and manufacturing coal it improved.

Returns received respecting 1,257 pits, employing 380,663 persons, show that during the four weeks ended September 26th an average of 4.89 days per week was worked, as compared with 5.00 in August, 4.80 in September 1895, and 4.88 in September 1894. The following table gives the average number of days worked in each division of the United Kingdom:—

District.	No. employed in Sept. 1896 at the	Days w	orked per w r weeks endi	eek in ng
Evaluation of	Collieries included in the Table.	26th Sept. 1896	28th Sept. 1895	22nd Aug 1896
England and Wales Scotland Ireland	 33,540	4.86 5.20 4.72	4.75 5.23 5.43	4'95 5'54 4'54
United Kingdom	 380,663	4.89	4.80	5.00

The following table gives the average number of days worked at pits in which each class of coal was chiefly raised. It will be seen that at steam coal pits there was a falling off of about one-third of a day.

Description of Coal.					Number of d per w	ays worked	Increase(+)
					September.	August.	(-) in Sept.
Coking Coal Gas ,, House ,, Manufacturing Steam Mixed	 Coal				5'45 5'23 4'52 5'10 5'03 4'74	5°28 5°07 4'46 5°06 5°35 4'87	+'17 +'16 +'06 +'04 -'32 -'13
All Classes of					 4.89	5.00	11

If the workpeople be classified according to the number of days worked by the pits at which they were employed, it will be seen that the proportion employed at pits working over 5 days per week (viz. 56 oper cent.) was lower than in August, but greater than in September, 1895, at which periods the proportions were 63:3 and 51:3 respectively.

Classification of the Workpeople according to the Number of Days Worked in four weeks by the Collieries.

Number of days* on	Septeml	per 1896.	Corresponding percentages in—		
which Coal was hewn and wound in four weeks.	No. of Workpeople employed.	Percentage proportion to total.	September 1895.	August 1896.	
24 days (full time) 20 and under 24 days 16 , , , 20 , 12 , , 16 , 8 , , 12 , Under 8 days	22,69 t 190,301 112,513 31,066 20,123 3,969	6.0 50.0 29.5 8.2 5.3 1.0	6·6 44·7 28·4 14·3 4·7 1·3	6:9 56:4 24:0 7:7 3:7 1:3	
Total	380,663	100.0	100.0	100.0	

The number of workpeople now employed at the pits covered by the returns is greater by 5,500 in England and Wales, and 8 in Ireland, than a year ago. In Scotland the number has decreased by 2,654.

Comparison by Districts.—The greatest improvement in the time worked as compared with a year ago

is in the Staffordshire district, where it amounted to nearly half a day per week. In four other districts there was an improvement of over a quarter of a day. There was a falling off in seven districts, amounting, however, in no case, except in the small Irish district, to more than a quarter of a day.

a quarter of a day.

In five districts an average of over five days per week was worked in September, viz., The Lothians (5.69), South Wales and Monmouth (5.30), Durham (5.29), West Scotland (5.25), and Cumberland (5.12). In four districts less than 4½ days were worked, viz., Notts and Leicester (3.74), North Wales (4.32), Derbyshire (4.40), Gloucester and Somerset (4.42). In Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Staffordshire and Salop, Warwick and Worcester, the house coal pits gave employment for rather more than one day less per week than the pits producing steam or manufacturing coal.

Comparison of the Average Number of Days Worked by Collibries in September 1896 and 1895, and in August 1896.

District.*	No. employed in Sept. 1896	Days work	red per Weel reeks ending	k in four
	Collieries included in the Table.	26th Sept. 1896.	28th Sept. 1895.	22nd Aug 1896.
(a) Districts in which Se	ptember 18	396 exceeds	Septembe	r 1895.
Staffordshire	22,875	4.70	4'22	4'18
Salop, Warwick and Worcester	7,919	4.83	4'49	4.65
Lancashire and Cheshire	42,136	4.71	4'43	4.84 5.64
The Lothians	2,999	5.69	5'42 4'86	4.08
Cumberland Derbyshire	5,970	5'12 4'40	4'20	4'33
Y71 - 1 -1	23,113 36,444	4 40	4.22	5'01
West Castland	18,677	5'25	5'22	5'49
Gloucester and Somerset	7,449	4.42	4.41	4'05
Total and averages for group	167,582	4.75	4.22	4.76
(b) Districts in which Septe	mber 1896	is less tha	n Septem	ber 1895
Fife	11,864	4'99	5.06	5'59
Northumberland	30,557	4.77	4.87	5'31
Durham	78,747	5'29	5'40	5'12
South Wales and Monmouth	59,864	5'30	5.2	5'50
Notts and Leicester	21,569	3'74	3'97	4.08
North Wales	9,866	4'32	4.57	4.20
Ireland	614	4.72	5*43	4.21
Total and averages for group	213,081	5'00	5'20	5.51
Grand Total and Averages	380,663	4.89	4.80	5.00

The percentage of unemployed miners in trade unions in Northumberland and Durham has again fallen, being 1.2 at the end of September, as against 1.3 at the end of August. At the end of September 1895 it was 2.3 per cent.

Exports of Goal.—The quantity of coal, coke, cinders and patent fuel exported during September was 2.914,758 tons, as compared with 3,284,360 tons in August and 2,981,367 tons in September 1895.

(b) IRON MINING INDUSTRY IN SEPTEMBER.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry was good in September, and showed a slight improvement both as compared with the previous month and a year ago. Nearly 5 per cent. more workpeople were employed last month than in September 1895.

The average number of days worked during the four

The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended 26th September, at the 125 iron mines and open works included in the returns, was 5.78 days per week, compared with 5.62 days in the previous month and 5.58 days in September of last year. In four districts (viz., Cumberland and Lancashire, Cleveland, Scotland and Ireland) an average of over 5½ days per week was worked, and in the other districts it was not far short of that time. The number employed at the 125 mines was 16,310, or 719 more than a year ago. The proportion of these workpeople employed at mines working 22 or more days in the four weeks was 85.8 per cent., as against 75.4 per cent. in August and 79.3 per cent. in September 1895.

^{*} Allowance is made in all the calculations for short days.

^{*} The coal districts are arranged according to the differences in the number of days worked in September 1896 and September 1895.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER-SPECIAL INDUSTRIES (continued .

The tables below summarise the returns received:-(I) Days worked per week by the mines in each district.

District.	No. of mines from which returns	Total No. of work- people employed	Average number of days worked per week by the mines in 4 weeks ended			
od) groce st. Ja	were received.	at 26th September.	26th Sept. 1896.	28th Sept. 1895.	22nd Aug 1896.	
ENGLAND-	100000	No. of Street, or other	TO SERVE	195117 95	E III	
Cumberland & Lanc	46	6,081	5'92	5'73	5.92	
Cleveland	19	6,272	5.80	5.66	5.56	
Lincolnshire and Leicestershire	13	721	5.48	5.57	4.97	
Northamptonshire	12	584	5'49	6.00	5.55	
Staffordshire and Shropshire	14	1,223	5'37	4.41	4.82	
Other places in England	7	176	5'40	5'94	5.05	
SCOTLAND	6	973	5.68	5'53	5.64	
IRELAND	8	280	5.81	5.21	5.97	
Total	125	16,310	5'78	5'58*	5 62	

(2) Percentage proportion of workpeople, included in the returns, who were employed at mines working the undermentioned number of days in four weeks.

Number of days worked by mines.		Sept. 1896.	Sept. 1895.	Aug. 1896.	
24 days (full time) 22 and under 24 days			Per cent. 51'0 34'8	Per cent. 48'9* 30'4* 9'8*	Per cent. 41'3 34'1
20 " 22 " Under 20 days "			3*3	10.0 _*	34°I 16°2 8 4
Total			100.0	100,0	100'0

(c) PIG IRON INDUSTRY IN SEPTEMBER. EMPLOYMENT has slightly recovered since last month It is considerably better than a year ago.

According to returns received from 106 ironmasters owning 93 per cent. of the furnaces in blast in the United Kingdom, they had 346 furnaces in blast at the end of September, being 25 more in England and Wales and 4 more in Scotland than at the end of September 1895. The number of workpeople employed at these furnaces was 22,240, as compared with 20,599 at the corresponding period last year, the number employed having increased by 1,486 and 155 in England and Wales and in Scotland respectively.

As compared with August the number of furnaces in blast has increased by two in England and Wales, three having been relit and one blown out. In Scotland the number remains unchanged. The number of workpeople employed has increased by 188.

The subjoined table gives:—

Comparison of the number of furnaces in blast at end of September 1896 with the number in blast at end of September 1895, and at end of August 1896, so far as included in the returns made to the Department by 106 ironwasters owning 93 per cent. of all

1 000 108,004		ARTICIA S		18.00	MOI :	9635466	
About	Pres	with a 3	e compared ear ago.	Present time compared with a month ago.			
Districts.	Sept. 1896.	Sept. 1895.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Sept. 1896.	Sept. 1896.	Aug. 1896.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Sept. 1896.	
ENGLAND & WALES—	C CANA	ASTITUTE OF	The state of the s	1000	341		
Cleveland	97	90	+7	97	95	+2	
Cumberland & Lancs.	42	39	+ 3	42	41	+1	
S. and S.W. Yorks	16	9	+ 7	16	16	12 3	
Lincolnshire	13	14 80	- I	13	13 88		
Midlands	87		+7	87		-1	
Glamorgan and Mon. Other districts	20	17	+ 3	20 8	20	OW. III	
other districts	0	9	- 1	0	0		
Total England and Wales	283	258	+25	283	281	+2	
SCOTLAND	63	59	+ 4	63	63	Karaling R	
Total furnaces included in returns	346	317	+29	346	344	+2	

The following particulars respecting the pig iron industry of Cleveland are taken from the monthly circular issued by the Cleveland Ironmasters' Associa-

Production.—The make of pig iron in September amounted to 261,619 tons, or 1,719 tons more than in August, and 26,898 tons more than in September 1805.

* Amended figures.

Stocks.—On September 30th these amounted to 294,326 tons, being 46,383 tons less than on August 31st, and 15,200 tons more than on September 30th 1895.

Shipments.—During September 133,442 tons were shipped from Middlesbrough and Skinningrove coastwise and foreign, an increase of 14,681 tons on August, and of 33,665 tons on September 1895.

The shipments of pig iron to foreign countries and British possessions from all ports of the United Kingdom amounted during September to 123,950 tons, as compared with 87,758 tons in September 1895, and 80,751 tons in September 1894.

(d) SHIPBUILDING.

Tonnage under Construction.*

The gross tonnage of vessels (excluding warships) under construction on September 30th is given by Lloyd's Register as 659,641 tons. This is less than at the end of the previous quarter by 114,371 tons, and than at the corresponding period of 1895 by 56,934 tons. The tonnage under construction is in fact less than at the end of any quarter since March 1895. The tonnage of warships under construction at the end of September in Government and private yards was 268,030 tons displacement, or 41,405 tons less than at the end of the preceding quarter, and 6,445 tons more than at the corresponding period of 1895.

The following table summarises the above figures:-

Date of Ret	urn.	97	Merchant Vessels.	War Vessels.
At 30th September 1896			Tons gross. 659,641	Tons displacement.
At 30th June 1896		 	774,012	309,435
At 30th September 1895		 	716,575	61,585

Of the 355 vessels other than warships included in the above returns, 313, with a gross tonnage of 633,232 tons, were steamers, and 42, with a gross tonnage of 26,409 tons, were sailing vessels. The tonnages are respectively 55,767 tons and 1,167 tons less than those under construction a year ago.

The gross tonnage of vessels (exclusive of warships) under construction at the principal centres on 30th September 1896 and 1895 respectively is shown in the table below, which includes about 94 per cent. of the total tonnage under construction. It will be seen that in two districts only has the tonnage increased as compared with last year.

District.		30th Sept. 1896.	30th Sept. 1895.	Increase in 1896.	Decrease in 1896.
		Tons gross.	Tons gross.	Tons gr'ss	Tons gr'ss
Clyde		213,224	230,030	- 150	16,806
Tyne		113,626	108,788	4,838	-
Wear		81,639	119,895	-	38,256
Middlesbrough and Stockton		45,594	51,815		6,221
Hartlepool and Whitby		30,000	51,480	_	21,390
Barrow, Maryport and Workin	gton	11,490	14,100	190-2191	2,610
Belfast		124,851	98,488	26,363	-
				11111111111111111111111111111111111111	

(e) EMPLOYMENT AT STEEL AND TINPLATE WORKS, PUDDLING FURNACES AND ROLLING MILLS IN SEPTEMBER.

According to returns received from 234 employers in the above industries, employment as a whole has again improved. As compared with a year ago the improvement is very marked, the number of workpeople employed having increased by 5.7 per cent. The total number of persons employed at all the works covered by the returns was 77,949 at the end of September, 77,621 at the end of August, and 73,743 at the end of September 1805.

1895.
Of these 77,949 persons, 35,278 were employed at 125.
Steelworks, or 611 more than last month, and 5,722, or 19.4 per cent., more than a year ago.

The number employed at 90 Iron Puddling Furnaces and Rolling Mills was 17,781 at the end of September, or 280 less than at the end of August, but 385 more than a year ago.

* By "tonnage under construction" is meant the gross tonnage of the vessels-when completed. As at any given time the ships are in various stages of completion, the "tonnage under construction" is not an exact measure of the amount of work remaining to be done.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER-SPECIAL INDUSTRIES (continued).

Table showing the number of persons employed* in the undermentioned occupations at the end of September 1896 and 1895 and August 1896 respectively, by 234 employers making returns:—

October 1806.

ni botava show to unsulnyons in.	Nun	ber Empl	oyed.
Occupation	Sept. 1896.	Sept. 1895.	Aug. 1896.
Steel Making, Casting, Melting, Rolling and Forging.	Abria	suinets.	eamer
England and Wales	29,989	25,210	29,410
Scotland	5,289	4,346	5,248
Total	35,278	29,556	34,667
fron Puddling and Rolling.	1 2 2 2 2 2 3	DOLL BUS	25707
England and Wales	13,886	13,345	13,928
Scotland	3,895	4,051	4,133
Total	17,781	17.396	18,061
Finplate Manufacture.			
England and Wales	11,708	14,180	11,668
Other Werkpeople who cannot be separately	(1 moss)	aW bud	daswal
classified as above.* England and Wales	D. MITSE	and a state of	TOP THE
Cantland	12,142	11,622	12,184
Scotiand	1 040	989	1,041
Total	13,182	12,611	13,225
Grand Totals	77,949	73,743	77,621

Returns relating to 88 **Tinplate Works** in South Wales, Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire show that at the end of September 45 were giving full employment, 17 partial employment, the remaining 26 being dle, as compared with 48 giving full employment, 15 partial employment and 25 no employment at the end of August. The number of actual mills at work at the end of September was 306, as compared with 311 at the end of August. The following table summarises the

Table showing number of tinplate works and mills in South Wales, Monmouth and Gloucestershire fully or partially employed, or wholly idle, at the end of September, so far as stated in the returns

	No of	N	No of Mills	orroda minne
clausey ed of banapa at mo	Works.	Working.	Not Working.	Total.
Works giving full employment Works giving partial employment Works idle	45 17 26	232 74 —	32 144	232 106 144
Total for September	88	306	176	482
Corresponding Total for August	88	311	171	482

Returns received from the owners of 55 tinplate works show that they had 11,708 persons employed at the end of the month, or 40 more than at the end of August, but 2,472 (or 17.4 per cent.) less than at the end

of September 1895.

The exports of tinplates and sheets from the United Kingdom during September amounted to 18,368 tons, as compared with 20,726 tons in August, and 28,888 tons in September 1895. Of these quantities the United States took 7,167 in September, 8,814 tons in August, and 17,507 tons in September 1895.

(f) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN SEPTEMBER.

Employment for dock labourers again fell off in September. At the wharves on both sides of the river it was practically the same as during the preceding month. As compared with a year ago there has been noticeably less employment for dock labourers.

The average daily number of labourers employed at all the docks and at 114 of the principal wharves during the four weeks ended September 26th is estimated at 13,909, as compared with an average of 14,095 for the preceding five weeks. The falling off occurred at the docks, the number employed at the wharves being practically identical for the two periods. The estimated daily number at work varied from 13,107 on the 1st to 14,414 on the 23rd.

Detailed Figures.—(1) The following table shows the estimated daily average number of dock and wharf labourers employed in each week of the month:

	Labourers	employed in	Docks.	Labourers	Total Dock
Period.	By Dock Companies or through Contractors	By Ship- owners, &c.	Total.	employed at 114 Wharves making Returns.	and Wharf
1st week of September 2nd " " 3rd " 4th "	6,150 5,991 6,478 6,784	1,850 2,374 1,908 1,681	8,000 -8,365 8,386 8,465	5,372 5,637 5,672 5,738	13,372 14,002 14 058 14,203
Average for 4 weeks ending Sept. 26th	} 6,351	1,953	8,304	5,605	13,909
Average for 5 weeks ending August 29th	} 6,760	1,739	8,499	5,596	14,095

(2) The daily fluctuation in the number of dock labourers employed by the London and India Docks Joint Committee during August and September is shown on the chart below. The numbers in September ranged from 3,240 on the 8th to 4,857 on the 30th.

Chart showing the total number of Dock Labourers' employed by the Joint Committee at the London, St. Katharine, East and West India, Victoria and Albert Docks, and the Town Warehouses, for each day during the months of August and September 1896. The corresponding curve for August and September 1895 is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1896, and the thin curve to 1895.]

7,000	1456781011121	J G U S		Landsvill Fi	PTEN	
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700 600 5.500						
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5,000 900 800 700	100	10 60		1		1
4,500 400 300	\ \	~		/	A	
4,000 900	MM	A	VY	-1		M
800 700 600	NY		1	~	1-1	
3,500 400 300 200 100			100000	V	M	
3,000 900 533	The follo	wing are the 6	gur, s on an	nich the Chart	5-5-1	
2,500 400 300	Day of Month,	Number employed.	Day of Month.	Number	Day of	Number
200 100 2,000		3 600	III	employed.	Month.	employed.
800	2	3 642	12	3,540	22 23	4,334 4,507
600	3 4	3,655 3,446	14	3,426	24	4,528 4,487
1,500	5	3,389 3,328	16	3,605	25	4,455
200	7 8	3,240	17	3,912 4,170	28 29	4,742 4,699
100	9 10	3,25t 3, 178	19	4,394	30	4,857
900 800 701 603 500 400 300	Taking the	Sunda September 1895 in 3,868 on the a London and sember 1806 va	the total the total 17th to 5,172 St. Kathar ried from 8	idays are omitt number of Doc on the 30th. ne Docks only, 33 on the 7th to	the number	er employed

The average daily number of labourers employed by the dock companies continues less than at the corresponding period last year, as will be seen by the following table:-

Period.				Cabour di	ers employe rectly or thr	d by Dock Co ough Contrac	ompanies tors	
					1896	1895.	Increase.	Decrease.
	week o	f Septer	nber		6,150	7,648	Transport	1,498
2nd	11 -	"			5.991	7,287	-	1,296
3rd	**	",			6,478	7,044	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	566
4th	"	"	al.	351	6,784	7,599	du sidit o	815
	Averag	ge for 4	weeks		6,351	7,395	PACE OFFICE OF	1,044

* Dock Labourers employed by Shipowners direct, Stevedores, and Coal

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER-SPECIAL INDUSTRIES (continued).

Work in mid-stream has been fairly good, with a slight improvement towards the end of the month. Deal porters have been busy, corn porters slack, lightermen and coal porters moderately employed, stevedores fairly so. Lumpers were busy during the first half of the month, but in the latter portion employ-ment declined. The fruit porters in Thames Street have not had so good employment as during August. The average number employed was 301, as compared with 368 in August. For the first three weeks the average was 335, and for the fourth week 200.

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(g) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN SEPTEMBER.

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

REPORTS received from certain selected ports at which over 80 per cent. of the total tonnage of vessels engaged in the foreign trade is entered and cleared show that 34,124 men were shipped from those ports during September as the crews of foreign-going vessels. This number is 1,277 more than in September 1895. During the nine months of this year the numbers shipped have exceeded those for the corresponding period of 1895 by 10,349. The supply of seamen and firemen at most ports was equal to or in excess of the demand; but the supply of seamen at Bristol, and of firemen at Middlesbrough, fell short of the demand. Seamen for sailing vessels were scarce at Barry, Glasgow and Dublin, and at Middlesbrough there was no supply.

Particulars of changes in the rates of wages of

seamen and firemen will be found in the Table of Changes in Rates of Wages on page 319.

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 September 1896 and 1895 respectively, together with the number* shipped in the nine months ended onth September in each of these years:

		of Men, &c september		Total in	Total number shipped in 9 months ended September.		
Principal Ports.	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in Sept. 1896.	Sept. 1895.	1896.	1895.	
ENGLAND.	1300		la V	Nell	043		
East Coast.	40		3,117	2.954	28,181	27,673	
Tyne Ports	The state of the s	3 039	487	851	5,619	6,043	
Middlesbrough	13	404	417	572	4,822	5,248	
Hull		1,156	1,194	1,230	10,808	9,668	
Grimsby	27	109	136	273	1,010	1,000	
Bristol Channel.	-0	0	346	216	2,112	1,793	
Bristol Newport, Mon	The state of the s	328 905	954	849	10,164	9,919	
Cardiff†		4,124	4,629	4,953	48,071	45,585	
Swansea		710	769	583	5,703	5,636	
ther Ports.			1	UX CONTRACT	1 1 1 1		
Liverpool	. 239	10,409	10,648	10.187	81,962	86,866	
London	. 312	6,021	6,833	5,614	54,140	49,853	
Southampton		1.372	1,372	1,873	11,587	13,003	
SCOTLAND.	Sales Figh	the backs	19 4 10 10 10 10	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	Street T	100 - 10	
Leith, Kirkcaldy	, 5	638	643	582	6,763	6,405	
Methil and	1000					108	
Grangemouth Glasgow	162	2,640	2,802	2,421	20,616	18,854	
Glasgow	. 102	2,040	2,002	2,721	20,010	10,004	
IRELAND.	Se for the Sort	Salesian 2	de base multa	3 200 50000		19	
Dublin	-	60	60 217	18	620	339	
Belfast	61	156	217	171	1,649	1,190	
Total Sept. 1896 .	. 1,571	32,553	34,124		299,800		
Ditto, Sept. 1895 .	. 2.254	30,593		32,847		289,45	

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

† Including Barry and Penarth.

(h) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN SEPTEMBER.

THE Agricultural Correspondent of the Department, on the basis of 200 returns from correspondents in various parts of the country, reports that, generally speaking, the state of employment was satisfactory in the month of September, but that in a good many counties there was some slight irregularity of work, chiefly among odd men, owing to the unfavourable weather. In some of the Northern and North-Midland counties, where the harvest was greatly interfered with by the continuous wet weather, odd men were in irregular work on that account. Although there was some loss of time in the Eastern | Wintney, and Kingsclere. Favourable reports come from Dorsetshire.

counties owing to the state of the weather, the reports from the counties of Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridge, and Lincoln are generally of a satisfactory nature. In the Home counties slight irregularity of work existed in certain unions in Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, and Hertfordshire, and in the Southern and South-western counties in Dorsetshire, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Somersetshire, and Cornwall.

Seasonal changes of wages of 11s. to 10s. a week took place in four Poor-Law Unions in the Northern part of Norfolk.

Northern Counties .- Reports from Northumberland and Durham state that employment was generally regular in the month of September, but in Cumberland, Westmorland, Lancashire and Yorkshire some irregularity of work is reported among day labourers, chiefly owing to the unfavourable weather.

Midland Counties .- In Cheshire favourable reports come from the Unions of Nantwich and Tarvin, and in Nottingham from the Newark and Worksop Unions; but in the Southwell Union there was some irregularity of work. Also in the Mansfield Union a number of odd men were in irregular work owing to harves operations being delayed by the rain. In Shropshire employment was generally regular in the Market Drayton and Tenbury Unions. Favourable reports come from Warwickshire from the Unions of Atherstone, Coventry, Foleshill, Meriden and Stratford-on-Avon, but in the Alcester Union some irregularity of work is reported. In Staffordshire employment is said to be generally regular in the Unions of Lichfield and Tamworth, but a report from the Burton-on-Trent Union (South Derbyshire portion) states that there have been men out of work during the wet weather. In Leicestershire favourable reports come from the Unions of Billesdon, Blaby, Barrow-on-Soar, Melton Mowbray, and Lutterworth; from the Oakham Union of Rutland, and the Evesham Union of Worcestershire. Employment is said to be generally regular in Oxfordshire in the Unions of Banbury and Thame; but there was some slight irregularity in a district in the Witney Union. In Huntingdonshire regularity of work is said to generally exist in the Unions of Huntingdon and St. Ives, but in the St. Neot's Union there is some irregularity. Favourable reports come from Northamptonshire from the Unions of Brixworth, Brackley, Potterspury and Peterborough, and from Bedfordshire from the Union of Luton; but some irregularity is reported in the Unions of Bedford and Leighton Buzzard, owing to

Eastern Counties.—In Essex work is reported to be generally regular in the Unions of Billericay, Colchester, Dunmow, Halstead, Maldon, and Tendring. In the Braintree Union a few were in irregular work. Reports from Suffolk state that employment is, on the whole, fairly satisfactory in the Unions of Blything, Bosmere and Claydon, Cosford, Hartismere, Mildenhall, Mutford and Lothingland, Plomesgate, Risbridge, Thingoe, Samford, and Sudbury; in the Hoxne Union there was some irregularity. Also in Norfolk, with few exceptions, work is said to be regular in the Unions of Aylsham, Downham, Depwade, Docking, Erpingham, East and West Flegg, Forehoe, Freebridge Lynn, Guiltcross, Henstead, Loddon and Clavering, Mitford and Launditch, St. Faith's, Swaffham, and Walsingham. In certain parts of the Smallburgh and Thetford Unions there was some irregularity of employment after harvest. In Cambridgeshire work is said to be generally regular in the Unions of Chesterton, Linton, North Witchford, Whittlesea, and Wisbech; and in Lincolnshire in the Unions of Boston, Brigg, Louth, Lincoln, and Spilsby. In the Sleaford Union employment was generally satisfactory, except in one large village towards the end of the month.

Home Counties.—A favourable report comes from Berkshire from the Union of Wallingford, but in a number of parishes in the Wantage Union irregularity of work is reported, owing, to some extent, to the wet weather. In Buckinghamshire in the Buckingham Union there is some irregularity of work, owing to wet weather, but there is said to be plenty of employment in the Aylesbury Union. In Hertfordshire work is generally regular in the unions of Buntingford, Hatfield, Hertford, Hitchin, and Royston, but in the Hemel Hempstead Union there is some irregularity owing to wet weather. Favourable reports come from Survey, from the Farnham and Godstone Unions, and from Kent, from the Unions of Bridge, Hoo, Faversham, Hollingbourne and Milton.

Southern and Western Counties.-In Sussex reports state that work is generally regular in the Unions of Battle, Cuckfield, Horsham, and Rye; and in Hampshire, in the Unions of Hartley

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER-DISTRICT REPORTS .- LONDON.

from the Unions of Blandford, Bridport, and Wimborne, but an unfavourable one comes from the Dorchester Union. In Wiltshire irregularity of work is reported from the Unions of Devizes, Pewsey, and Warminster, chiefly among odd men. In the Unions of Wilton, and Westbury and Whorwellsdown employment is said to be generally regular. Some irregularity of work is reported from Gloucestershire, from the Unions of Cirencester and Barton Regis, but in the Gloucester Union employment is generally regular. In Herefordshire reports state that there was generally sufficient employment in the Unions of Bromyard and Ledbury; in Somersetshire, in the Unions of Frome, Langport, Taunton, and Wells, but some irregularity is reported in the Wincanton Union, due to wet weather. Favourable reports come from Devonshire, from the Unions of Barnstaple, Crediton, Tavistock, and Torrington. In Cornwall there was some slight irregularity of work in the Unions of Bodmin, Redruth, and Truro.

October 1896.

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

According to returns from women correspondents, employment for women in the cotton trade during September again showed a decline. In the woollen and worsted trade there seems to have been a slight improvement.

Information has been received with regard to the employment of women and girls in 479 cotton, woollen, worsted, and silk mills, which is summarised as

State of Employment.	Number	Approximand	nate Number d Girls emplo	of Women yed.
	Mills.	Number.	Percentage for Sept.	Percentage for Aug.
Full time Ditto, but partial employment Short time Closed (mainly for repairs)	400 48 18 13	65,289 11,698 2,968 2,807	79 14 4 3	84 12 3 1
Total	479	82,702	100	100

Cotton Trade.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the cotton mills reported on is 67,221. Of these 82 per cent. were employed in mills working full time (compared with 86 per cent. in August); 13 per cent in mills running full time but giving only partial employment; I per cent. in mills running short time; while mills employing 4 per cent. were closed during the whole or part of the month.

Woollen and Worsted Trade.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the woollen and worsted mills reported on is 14,044. Of these 66 per cent. were employed in mills working full time (compared with 64 per cent. in August); 18 per cent. in mills running full time but giving only partial employment; 15 per cent. in mills running short time; while mills employing I per cent. were closed during the whole or part of the month.

III.—DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

Employment in various Industries.—Employment shows, on the whole, no change but still continues good. Returns from 397 branches of 103 unions, with an aggregate membership of 69,683, show that 2,519 (or 3 6 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of September, compared with the same percentage for August, and 4.5 per cent. for September 1895.

The Engineering, Metal, and Shipbuilding trades, though scarcely so busy as in August, are still well employed. Reports from 114 branches of 24 unions, with 21,833 members, show that 745 (or 3.4 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of September, compared with 2.9 in August and 6.2 per cent. in September of last year.

The Building trades remain busy. Reports from 183 branches of 8 unions paying unemployed benefit, and having a membership of 11,252, show that 131 (or 1.2 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of September, compared with rather less than I per cent. both in August and in September 1895. The bricklayers, stonemasons, stone carvers and millsawyers describe employment as good; the carpenters, and joiners and plasterers as fair; and the plumbers and painters as moderate.

Employment in the Furnishing trades continues brisk. Reports from 32 branches of 8 unions with a membership of 5,077, show that 23 (or 0.5 per cent.) were unemployed, as against 1.3 per cent. last month and 1.4 in September 1895.

The Coopers have still further improved. Two societies with a membership of 960 report 0.7 per cent. unemployed, compared with 1.7 in August, and 1.3 per cent. in September of last year.

The Coachbuilding trades remain busy. Reports from 12 branches of 9 unions, with a membership of 1,239, show that 19 (or 1.5 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of September, compared with 0.7 last month, and 2.4 in September, 1895.

The Printing and Bookbinding trades, on the whole, are better employed, though the compositors are slack. Reports from 19 unions with a membership of 20,407, show that 960 (or 4.7 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 5.1 in August, and 5.3 in September of

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the wholesale clothing trade has been dull; in the East-end and West-end bespoke trades also dull; in the hat trade exceptionally bad; in the cap trade busy; with the fur skin dressers slack; with the furriers good.

Boot and Shoe Trades .- In the machine branch employment has continued very slack, with a slight improvement towards the close of the month; the high-class bespoke trade has been fairly good; slipper makers are very busy, and the best class of slipper workers are in demand.

The Leather trades continue fairly well employed. Returns from 5 unions, with a membership of 1,338, show that 31 (or 2.3 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.4 last month, and 1.8 per cent. in September 1895.

Glass and Pottery Trades.—Employment in these trades is fair, the latter being busy. Returns from 7 unions, with a membership of 1,533 show that 70 (or 4.6 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.4 in August and 6.9 per cent. in September of last year.

Workers in Fibre, Hair, &c .- Employment in these trades has slightly improved. Returns from 6 unions, with a membership of 970, show that 45 (or 4.6 per cent.) were unemployed compared with 5.8 last month, and 5.0 per cent. in September 1895.

The Gold and Silver trades are busy. Returns from 6 unions with a membership of 1,133, show that 9 (or 0.8 per cent) were unemployed, compared with 1.4 last month and 2.3 per cent. in September, 1895.

The Tobacco trades have improved. Returns from 3 unions, with a membership of 2,107, show that 120 (or 5.7 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 70 per cent. in August and 40 per cent. in September of last year.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Employment at the docks was not so good; at the wharves it was practically the same as in August. An average daily number of 13,909 were employed at the docks and at 114 of the principal wharves during the four weeks ended September 26th, as against 14,005 during the five preceding weeks. Work in mid-stream was fairly good, improving towards the end of the month. Deal porters have been busy, corn porters slack, lightermen and coal porters moderately employed, stevedores fairly so. Lumpers were busy during the first half, less so during the latter half of the month. Employment with the fruit porters in Thames Street declined. For further details see page 293.

Disputes and Trade Movements.—Five fresh strikes have been reported during the month—two in the building, one in the engineering, one in the furnishing, and one in the clothing trade—in which about 100 persons are involved. These are in addition to the dispute in the cab trade arising from the objection of the cabdrivers to the "privilege" system in force at the chief railway stations (see p. 317).

Labour Bureaux.—The five London bureaux which furnished returns for both September 1896 and 1895 registered 1,014 fresh applications for work during September, being 810 less than in September last year, when the number was 1.824. Work was found during September for 978 persons through these bureaux (859 being engaged by private employers and 119 by local authorities), as compared with 1,670 (1,532 by private employers and 138 by local authorities) in September 1895.

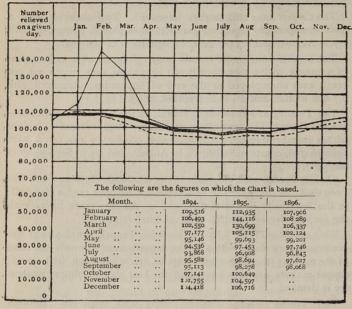
Pauperism.—The number of persons relieved on the last day of the second week of September was 98,068. This is an increase of 441 on the number relieved on the corresponding day of August. As compared with September 1895, there was a decrease of 210, the increases in the Western and Southern districts being more than balanced by the decreases in the Central, East and North.

The following chart shows the seasonal variations in the volume:

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER-DISTRICT REPORTS (continued) .- NORTHERN COUNTIES AND LANCASHIRE.

of pauperism in London at the middle of each month for the years 1894, 1895 and 1896:—

[The thick curve represents 1896; the thin curve 1895; and the dotted curve 1894.]



The number of vagrants in London on one day in the second week in September was 1,064, as compared with 1,027 in September 1895.

In West Ham the number of paymers on one day in the second

In West Ham the number of paupers on one day in the second week was 8,459 in September, 8,539 in August, and 8,760 in September 1895.

ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES.

Tyne and Wear District.

Coal Mining.—Durham.—At a number of pits hewing several classes of coal full time has been worked. A few collieries, however, getting coking coal have been idle several days. Employment at gas and house coal pits is improving. Returns from 65 pits, employing about 44,700 men and boys, show an average of 5.09 working days per week. The number of miners idle owing to bad trade is 936, or 1.61 per cent., as against 1.96 per cent. at the end of August. In addition 2,435 miners are idle owing to other causes. Northumberland.—The steam coal pits have only averaged 4.58 working days per week, as against 5.38 days in August. House coal collieries continue well employed, averaging 5.20 days per week. Of the 20,244 union miners only 6 are idle, as against 34 in August.

Quarrying.—Quarrymen at Gateshead and district have worked full time. At Stanhope two limestone quarries continue on short time. At Blyth the stone quarries are busy.

Engineering and Shipbuilding .- On the Tyne .- Branches with 10,669 members have 537 (or 50 per cent.) unemployed, as against 678 (or 6.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. In most engine building shops work continues good. At the Elswick ordnance factory employment is brisk. Electrical engineers and locomotive builders are busy. At one or two boiler shops overtime is being worked. In the shipyards there is a slight falling off in employment, mostly in repairing and merchant shipbuilding. At Blyth work is slack. Sailmakers report an improvement. The number of unemployed joiners (house and ship) s the same as last month. On the Wear. - Branches with 4,143 members have 594 (or 14.3 per cent.) unemployed, as against 516 (or 126 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. A few men have been paid off at two engine shops; the others, however, are moderately busy. Employment in the shipyards, with three exceptions, is quiet. The shipwrights are dull, having nearly 200 men unemployed. Pattern-makers on both rivers have less than I per cent. idle. Local steel smelting, plate and angle mills continue to work full time; iron mills are working 5 shifts per week.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—Coal porters and shippers report employment in the gas coal trade as fairly brisk. On the Tyne, in the shipment of steam coal, employment is bad. Trimmers and teemers report little change. The Tyne watermen have been better employed. Quayside labourers have had much work.

Building and Woodworking Trades.—Bricklayers are fully employed on the Tyne. At Sunderland masons are not so brisk. Millsawyers are busy in merchant mills, but quiet in the shipyards. Coopers are working short time in chemical factories; in breweries employment is more regular.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress printers on the Tyne are slack, 11.8 per cent. being unemployed. At Sunderland employment is much better. The bookbinders and machine-rulers have 4 per cent. of their members idle. At five paper mills 138 shifts have been worked out of a possible 240; two other mills have worked full time, and one four days per week for three weeks.

October 1896

Glass and Chemical Trades.—Pressed glass makers report two new furnaces in operation at Gateshead and Sunderland. Glass bottle makers are fully employed on the Wear and at Seaham. At one or two chemical factories short time is being worked. Cement, white lead, and copper works are fairly well employed.—7. Ratcliffe.

Middlesbrough, Stockton, and District.

Iron Mining.—Employment has been good at the Cleveland mines during the month.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment has been fair at the finished iron works. Under the sliding scale of the North of England Conciliation and Arbitration Board wages remain unchanged for the next two months. The steelworks continue fairly well employed throughout the district. Employment has been good at the blast furnaces, foundries and bridge works.

Engineering.—Employment has improved during the month, both at Hartlepool and Middlesbrough. At Stockton it continues moderate. One large works has continued slack during the month; a number of the men who were stopped have, however, obtained employment elsewhere. The pattern-makers report employment as fair; the moulders as good at Middlesbrough, improving slightly at Hartlepool, slack at Stockton at one works, good at the others. Branches of engineers and ironfounders, with 2,994 members, report 130 (or 43 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 153 (or 51 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Shipbuilding.—The percentage of unemployed in the district is high. Of nine yards at Middlesbrough, Stockton, Thornaby and Hartlepool, 2 are busy, 4 fairly or moderately so, and 3 slacker than last month. At Whitby there is very little doing. The ship-joiners report employment as good at Middlesbrough, moderate at Hartlepool, quiet at Stockton; the smiths and strikers as only moderate.

Building Trades.—All branches report employment as good.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—The sailors and firemen report employment as moderate at the Hartlepools; dock labour is quiet; riverside labour good.

Miscellaneous.—Printers have had good employment at Middlesbrough and Stockton, moderate at Hartlepool; the tailors have been slack; saltworkers are well employed.—A. Main.

LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS.

Oldham and District.

Cotton Trade.—The operative cotton spinners report employment as moderate in Oldham, Rochdale, Stalybridge and Stockport; as good in Mossley; and as slack in Ashton-under-Lyne. Out of 9,210 union members, 312 (or 3.4 per cent.) are on unemployed benefit, as against 287 (or 3.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The card-room operatives in Oldham, with a membership of 10,978, have 570 (or 5.4 per cent.) on unemployed benefit, as compared with 306 (or 2.8 per cent.) on unemployed benefit, as compared with 306 (or 2.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. In Mossley, out of 850 members, only two are idle. Employment is moderate in Oldham, and good in Mossley. The power loom overlookers and weavers report employment as slack; the beam warpers and winders are fairly employed; reelers indifferently so; in twining and ring frame spinning employment is fair.

Woollen Trade.—In Stockport short time is being worked. Employment is fair in the Milnrow and Rochdale districts.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Branches of engineers with a membership of 2,171 have 51 (or 2.6 per cent.) on unemployed benefit, as against 30 (or 1.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. Employment continues good with brassfounders, tinplate-workers, gasmeter makers, and iron grinders, and is fair with boiler-makers, ironfounders, machine makers, and spindle and

Building Trades.—Branches of the painters, plumbers, carpenters and joiners, bricklayers and plasterers, with 841 union members, have none out of employment. The labourers are well employed.

Coal Mining.—In Oldham, Royton, Shaw, and Ashton the miners are mostly working five days per week, four days per week being the exception.—T. Ashton.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER-DISTRICT REPORTS (continued) .- LANCASHIRE (continued) AND YORKSHIRE

Bolton and District.

Cotton Trade.—The spinning branch continues fairly busy in Bolton, is moderately active in Bury, and is reported as better in Chorley. Few spindles are idle in any part of the district. Card and blowing-room operatives are reported as fairly well employed in Bolton. Employment in the weaving department remains normal in Bolton, with few unemployed; in Chorley it is reported as very bad, at some sheds as many as 500 looms out of 800 being idle, besides much waiting for warps at other sheds. In Bury no change is reported in the weaving and card-room branches.

Engineering and Iron Trades. — In Bolton the engineers report employment as exceptionally active; out of 1,800 members none are unemployed. Machine-making firms are also busy in most departments, overtime being still necessary. Steel smelting is reported as improved. Smiths and strikers, brassfounders and finishers, steelworkers, ironfounders and labourers in ironworks are fairly well employed. In Wigan engineers and steelsmelters are well employed. Iron and steel rolling mills are not so brisk.

Coal Mining. — Employment in and around Bolton continues moderate. The best pits are working 6 days per week, others 4 days, and a few average 2½ to 3 days per week. In Radcliffe, Little Hulton, Darcy Lever, Little Lever, and Walkden a little more activity is reported at most collieries. In Wigan no change is reported. The best collieries employing most men are working on an average 4 to 5 days per week.

Building Trades.—In Bolton employment is fair on the whole; in Chorley it is reported as inactive; in Bury as fairly good; in Wigan as moderate.

Miscellaneous.—Employment in the minor trades is good on the whole.—R. Tootill.

Blackburn, Burnley, and District.

Cotton Trade.—Weaving.—During the month employment in the weaving industry has shown a considerable decline. In most of the weaving centres numbers of looms are being allowed to stop through scarcity of warps. Employment in the coloured goods trade is also worse, many of those engaged therein being only partially employed. Employment in the sateen trade is slightly better, and in the hardwaste trade has further improved; but taking the cotton weaving trade as a whole there is some curtailment of production, which is having a serious effect on the earnings of weavers, winders and warpers. Spinning.—Employment in this branch shows very little change from the previous month; in Preston, Blackburn, Darwen and Accrington 30 members are on the out-of-work fund. Cardroom workers continue moderately well employed.

Building Trades.—Employment in the several branches of these and allied trades continues good. Three branches of joiners, with 430 members, have had no unemployed for the past four months.

Engineering and Iron Trades.— Employment in these trades remains good, overtime being worked in several departments.

Coal Mining.—Little change is reported in this industry. In the Burnley and Accrington districts the men are working on an average 5 days per week; in the Townley district the average is 4 days per week.

Miscellaneous.—Stone quarrymen are fully employed, all the time possible being put in. Letterpress printers are better employed. Calico printers and dyers are fully engaged. Cabinet-makers are busy. Tailoring is slack.—W. H. Wilkinson.

Manchester and District.

General.—Branches with 22,555 members have 416 (or 19 per cent.) unemployed, as against 441 (or 2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers in Manchester, Stockport, Warrington, Northwich and Macclesfield report employment as mcderate; the ironfounders and boilermakers as busy; the brassfounders and finishers, sheet metal workers, general machine workers and smiths and strikers as good; the wiredrawers as not so busy; the wire weavers as good; the files miths as moderate. Branches with 8,995 members have 136 (or 15 per cent.) unemployed, as against 147 (or 17 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Textile Trades.—Employment with cotton spinners in Manchester and district continues good, all mills running full time. Cotton workers in Manchester and Macclesfield are fairly well employed. Both hand and power loom weavers during the month have been slack. Other departments of the silk trade have been better employed. Bleachers and dyers report employment as moderate;

dressers, dyers and finishers as slack amongst velvet workers, and good on printed cloths.

Clothing Trades.—The bespoke tailors and boot and shoe makers report employment as moderate; the hatters as moderate generally, but good on ladies' felt hats. Employment with ready-made clothing operatives and cap makers is moderate; with ready-made mantle-makers good. Waterproof garment makers and umbrellamakers are busy; shirtmakers in Manchester, Stockport and Macclesfield are fairly busy.

Building Trades.—In Manchester employment generally is moderate; in Stockport busy. In Macclesfield some branches are slack. Branches with 5,837 members return 40 (or 0.7 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 18 (or 0.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Letterpress printers in Manchester and Stockport report no change. The lithographic printers and bookbinders report employment as moderate; the pattern card makers as good.

Furnishing and Coachbuilding Trades.—Cabinet-makers report employment as good, with fewer unemployed; the French polishers and upholsterers as moderate; coachmakers in both railway shops and private firms as good. In Warrington and Stockport coachmakers, cabinet-makers, and coopers are well employed.

Salt and Chemical Works.—Employment is reported as most unsatisfactory in the salt trade, and as bad in the chemical trades.

G. D. Kellev.

Liverpool and District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—The boiler-makers report employment as moderate; the engineers and pattern-makers as unchanged; the shipwrights as slightly falling off; the shipjoiners as good in Birkenhead, quiet in Liverpool; the iron and steel dressers as not quite so good; the brassfounders, ironfounders, and whitesmiths as good; the ship-painters as moderate.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—The upholsterers and French polishers report a slight falling-off in employment; the cabinet-makers are well employed. Employment continues fair with the coachmakers, coopers, millsawyers, and woodworking machinists and wheelwrights.

Clothing Trades.—Employment is reported as dull in the bespoke tailoring trade, fairly good in the ready-made trade. Boot and shoe makers are moderately employed.

Building Trades.—The carpenters and joiners report a slight decline; painters are slack; plumbers are moderately employed.

All other branches are fully employed.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Branches of the letterpress printers, lithographers and bookbinders, with 1,232 members, return 47 (or 3.8 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 109 (or 9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Employment with sailors and firemen continues moderate; employment with dock labourers and flatmen is dull; with salt heavers slack.

Mining and Quarrying.—The coalminers in Skelmersdale district report a slight improvement, with an average of 4 days per week. In St. Helens district an average of 4% days per week is reported. Building stone quarrying continues fair.

Glass and Chemical Trades.—Glass bottle makers report employment as good; sheet glass makers as fair; chemical workers as dull.

C. Rouse.

A report from Winsford states that employment in the salt trade has been depressed, except in the bay-salt branch. Several pans have been put out, and in several instances less than half time is being worked. The chemical workers at Middlewich report employment as normal; one set of works is being reconstructed. The moulders at Winsford report employment as depressed, but none are unemployed. Employment in the building trades is reported as rather slack at Winsford, but brisk at Middlewich, as far as the weather permits. The fustian-cutters report work as slack.

YORKSHIRE.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Employment in the marine and general engineering and boiler shops continues to be reported as good, but the prolonged dispute between one large marine engine firm and the engineers is causing a number of the members of other trades to be unemployed. Employment at the railway plant works at Doncaster is still reported as moderate and unsettled. Employment in the shipbuilding yards is good generally, and moderate on

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER-DISTRICT REPORTS (continued) .- YORKSHIRE.

repair work. Over 400 members of unions in these trades are idle on account of the dispute. The sailmakers report employment

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Building Trades.—Branches of bricklayers, masons, joiners, plumbers, millsawyers, plasterers, and labourers at Hull, with 2,284 members, have 20 (or 0.0 per cent.) unemployed, as against 46 (or 2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The painters report employment as moderate. At Grimsby employment is reported as bad, and at Selby as good.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Employment for sailors and marine firemen in the Baltic and home trades continues to be reported as good, and in the foreign trade as moderate. Dock labour is reported as fair generally, and good in the timber department.

Fishing Industry.—Trawl fishermen report employment as moderate; steam trawling and long line fishing engineers and firemen as good; the fish curers in Grimsby as moderate. Branches of societies with 1,440 members report 66 (or 4.6 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 118 (or 8.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Seed Crushing, Paint, Oil and Colour Works .- Employment in the seed-crushing mills is reported as moderate, with more machinery running at the end than at the beginning of the month. Employment in the paint and colour trades is reported as fairly good.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Branches of societies with 397 members return 23 (or 58 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 30 (or 7.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Miscellaneous.—The coachbuilders in Hull and Doncaster report employment as good; the coopers in Hull as good, with fewer unemployed; the cabinet-makers as moderate; the brushmakers as bad -W. G. Millington.

Leeds and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 7,126 members have 283 (or 4 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 329 (or 4.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineering continues brisk, particularly in the locomotive, tank engine, hydraulic and electrical machinery departments; steelworkers are well employed. Ironfounders in Leeds and Stanningley are busy; wrought iron workers at the latter place are rather duller. Pattern-makers, machineworkers, brassworkers, and whitesmiths are well employed. Branches with 3,425 members return 113 (or 3.3 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 119 (or 3.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Clothing Trades.—The boot and shoe trade has greatly improved, and is now busier than at any time this year; all factories are running full time, and many working overtime. Employment is reported as satisfactory in the ready-made clothing factories and workshops; as slack in the bespoke branch.

Textile Trades.-Woollen spinners and blanket raisers are fairly busy; flaxworkers at Hunslet are well employed. Employment in the mills at Yeadon is only moderate; at Stanningley, bad; and a

Building Trades.—The settlement of the bricklayers' and labourers' dispute has caused an immediate improvement in employment; there is difficulty in obtaining sufficient bricklayers, and consequently some labourers are still idle. Branches of joiners, plumbers and bricklavers with 1,200 members have 12 (or 0.0 per cent.) unemployed, as against 38 (or 3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The painters, plasterers and masons report employment as slack. Employment is good at Wakefield and Harrogate.

Mining.—In the Leeds district some house-coal pits are only working 3 days per week; some steam pits are on full time. Ironstone miners are fully employed.

Leather Trades.—Employment has been rather better in the tanyards; the curriers and leather shavers report a slight improvement, but still have a number unemployed.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Letterpress printers and lithographers report employment as moderate, bookbinders and machine-rulers as exceptionally bad. Branches with 909 members have 52 (or 5.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 61 (or 6.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Glass Trade.—At Hunslet, in the glass bottle branch, employment is fair at Wakefield only moderate -O. Connellan

Bradford and Huddersfield District.

Worsted Trade.—Employment in the Bradford district shows no improvement, and in some sections is rather worse, more especially in the sorting and combing departments. The sorters report 150

unemployed out of 500 members, with a number on short time, and none working overtime. In Keighley employment is about the same as in August, and only one firm shows any improvement in the Worth Valley. In Huddersfield and Halifax a slight improvement is again reported.

Woollen Trade.-Employment in and around Huddersfield has improved, and overtime is being resorted to by a few more firms. There are, however, a number of firms where the operatives are on short time, and at others the weavers have to wait for work. Employment in the heavy woollen trade is better, and there are fewer out of work. Blanket-makers are busier; carpet-makers are slack.

Silk Trade.—Employment at Manningham mills continues rather dull, and at Brighouse is moderate.

Metal Trades.—Employment in the metal trades is fairly good throughout the district. The engineers in Halifax, Bradford, Huddersfield and Dewsbury, with 1,802 members, return 62 (or 3.4 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 70 (or 4.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The ironfounders in Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, Keighley and Dewsbury, with 716 members, return 20 (or 2.8 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 16 (or 3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The disputes at Shipley and Keighley still continue at one or two firms in each district.

Building Trades.-Employment seems fair in all centres, and in Keighley is reported as exceptionally good; in Huddersfield

Miscellaneous.—Employment is good with wire-drawers and stone quarrymen. The tailors and the printers are slack.—A. Gee.

Sheffield, Barnsley and Rotherham District.

General.—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with 14,096 members have 165 (or 1.2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 152 (or 1'1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Blast furnacemen, merchant iron rollers, steel-smelters, forgemen, patent shot and shell and sword and bayonet makers, iron and steel dressers, makers of cycle parts and small castings, coremakers, and stove-grate workers are well employed. Workmen in the tyre, axle, and spring departments are making better time. Employment is quieter with armour-plate pressers, planers, slotters and drillers. The engineers and ironfounders are well employed. Employment in the boiler and girder and wire trades is very fair, and is good on steel squares and billets. Makers of crucible, tool, and other best steel, and men at the forges and rolling mills generally, are well employed. At Barnsley engineers and ironfounders are a little quieter. At Penistone the tyre and axle makers are busy, and makers of steel forgings fairly so. Railrollers and Bessemer steel makers are slack. At Parkgate steelworkers are busy, but ironworkers are quiet. At Rotherham makers of steel forgings, tyres, axles, springs and billets, stovegrates, and baths are well employed. In these industries, sections with 4,057 members have 54 (or 1.3 per cent.) unemployed, as against 36 (or 0.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of

Cutlery and Tools.—Toolmakers, filemakers, and table and butcher knife makers are well employed; pen and pocket knife cutlers moderately so. Razor-grinders and forgers are better employed. Sawmakers are moderately employed. Societies having 6,427 members have 53 (or o.8 per cent.) out of employment, the same percentage as at the end of August.

Other Metal Trades.—Silver and brass workers are well employed. Branches with 843 members have 6 unemployed, as against 7 at the

Coal Mining .- In the Barnsley district, out of 20 collieries reported on, 4 are standing, 2 are working about three days per week, 4 four days, and 10 five and six days per week. In the Sheffield district three to five days are being worked; at Rotherham four days; in Mexborough and district the thick seams are working five and six turns per week. The slight improvement in the Kiveton district has been maintained; at Hollinsend and Hovland there is not much change. About 200 men have ceased work in the Sheffield district, owing to the closing of one of the old pits, but a number are being found places in other pits.

Building Trades.—Employment at Sheffield is fair; at Penistone and Parkgate moderate; at Barnsley good; at Rotherham and

Linen Trade.—Employment at Barnsley in this industry is slack. Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress and lithographic printers report employment as bad; bookbinders are well employed.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER-DISTRICT REPORTS (continued) .- MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Glass Trade.—At Rotherham, Mexborough and Swinton employment has improved. At Barnsley the glass bottle and jar makers are on short time, but flint glass makers are fairly busy.

Clothing Trades.—The bespoke tailoring trade is quiet throughout the district. In the ready-made trade at Barnsley employment is fair; in the boot and shoe trade it is improving.

Miscellaneous.—Railway carriage and wagon builders at Sheffield, Rotherham and Holmes are busy; coachmakers are fairly well employed; potters are better employed; boxmakers are busy.

S. Uttley.

ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Derbyshire District.

General.—Branches of societies (exclusive of coalminers) with 5,591 members have 77 (or 1.4 per cent.) unemployed, as against 66 (or 1.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Engineering and kindred Trades.—Branches with 2,299 members have 43 (or 1.9 per cent.) unemployed, as against 45 (or 2.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. Employment is good at the locomotive works at Derby, with continued overtime in some departments. In the bridge, girder and boiler yards employment is regular. Stove-grate workers in Langley Mill, Derby, and Belper are fairly well employed. Ironfounders in Derby are slack. In Long Eaton the cycle trade continues fair.

Coal Mining.—Returns from 18 collieries give an average of nearly four days per week, a slight decrease on August. At one colliery 120 men and boys have been discharged. Employment in the coking trade is reported as good.

Quarrying.—At limestone quarries employment has been fair.

Building Trades.—Branches of brickmakers, bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, plumbers and painters, with 1,296 members, have 8 unemployed, as against 12 at the end of August; employployment remains good except with painters.

Textile Trades.—Employment with cotton-spinners and weavers in Glossop, Belper and Borrowash is reported as moderate. Elastic web weavers report employment as slack; surgical bandage makers as good; calico-printers and engravers in Dinting and Hayfield as good, with none unemployed.

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—The coopers at Burton-on-Trent report employment as good. The railway carriage and wagon builders in Derby are working 5 days per week. Carriage-builders in private shops are fairly well employed.

Clothing Trades .- Boot and shoe operatives, tailors and dress and mantle makers are fairly well employed.

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

Nottingham and District.

Lace Trade.—The plain net branch continues well employed, and the levers and curtain branches have improved. Employment in all other branches is slack. Societies with 4,935 members report 195 (or 4 per cent.) as on unemployed benefit, as against 286 (or 5.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The dyers, bleachers and finishers report employment as moderate.

Hosiery Trade.—On combination dresses operatives are well employed, but in shirt and pant branches there has been a marked decline; in power rotary and hand frame branches many operatives are only partially employed; elastic bandage makers are busy. Employment is reported as moderate at Mansfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Arnold, Carlton, and Ruddington.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment generally is fair in Nottingham and Mansfield; good at Beeston and Netherfield; moderate at Newark. Branches with 2,617 members return 53 (or 2 per cent) as unemployed, as against 57 (or 2.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Building Trades .- All branches are well employed except the plumbers, who are out through a dispute, and the painters, who report 30 per cent. unemployed. Other branches, with 2,776 members, return 16 (or 0.6 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 13 (or 0.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Clothing Trades.-The tailors report employment as quiet, and there has been a marked decline in the boot and shoe branches.

Mining.—Returns from 31 collieries show a mean average of a little over 31 days a week.

Railways.—Employment is good at Worksop, Mansfield, Newark, and Retford, fair at Toton and Nottingham, busy at Colwick.

Miscellaneous. - Branches of the minor trades, with 897 members, return 16 (or 1.8 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 18 (or 2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August .- W. L. Hardstaff.

Leicester and Northampton District.

Boot and Shoe Trades.—The slight improvement in the shoe trade has been generally maintained, and employment is more regular, especially in the clicking and machining branches. Most curriers and leather-dressers are still working short time.

Other Clothing Trades.—Employment in the wholesale tailoring trade is rather slacker; it is reported as bad in the bespoke branch at Leicester, but improving at Northampton. Dressmakers and milliners are busier. Work is good with mantle-makers and corsetmakers; quiet with silk hatters, and good with cap-makers.

Hosiery, Yarn and Wool-spinning Trades.—In the hosiery trade, both at Leicester and Loughborough, in most branches a considerable number of the operatives are working short time. Work is not so full in the woolspinning mills, but continues fairly regular with dvers, trimmers and woolsorters.

Elastic Web Trade.—The operatives in the cord, braid, and garter branches are fairly employed. Those engaged in the shoe-webbing branch are slack.

Engineering and Cycle Trades.—Employment is reported as good with locomotive and hosiery machine builders, moulders, ironfounders, smiths, winders, turners and pattern-makers, many of the latter being on overtime; moderate with boiler-makers at Leicester, but good at Loughborough. It is improving with shoe machinery makers, and slack with needle-makers. Workmen in the cycle trade are not quite so busy.

Mining and Quarrying.—There is scarcely any change in the condition of employment among the coal miners of South Leicestershire, the men having worked a mean average of 31 days per week. Ironstone workers are fully employed, and stone-quarry men are generally in full work.

Printing and Bookbinding Trades.-Letterpress printers are in full work at Northampton, and there is a slight improvement at Leicester. Employment is quiet in the bookbinding trade.

Building Trades.—Employment generally continues fairly good. Painters are slack, with about 10 per cent. unemployed.

Furnishing and Coachmaking Trades.—Work is not so regular in the cabinet and upholstering trades. It is moderately good with coachmakers, but continues rather slack with tram and road car builders, car painters and sawmill workers.

Miscellaneous .- Employment is good with brick and tilemakers, basket-makers and cigar-makers. Railway men are also in full work. The demand for labour is not so good in the boxmaking trade.-T. Smith.

Potteries District.

Pottery Trades.—Six societies, with a membership of 3,836, report 100 (or 2.6 per cent.) on unemployed benefit—the same number as at the end of August. Hollow-ware pressers report a further decline, but sanitary pressers are working better. The printers and transferrers at a number of factories are totally unemployed. Flatpressers are averaging less than 3 days per week. designers, and women decorators report no improvement, but the men artists are better employed. Throwers and turners in the open trade are slack, but in the electric and china furniture departments they are working full time. Encaustic tile makers are well employed. Stilt and spur makers are busy, and thimble makers are in request. Ovenmen are averaging about 3½ days per week.

Iron and Steel Trades.—The improvement in all branches continues, there being no ironworkers out of work. Anchor chain makers at Ford Green are well employed.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers at Crewe, Stafford and the Potteries, with 2,276 members, report none out of work, as against 7 at the end of August. At Longport the brassmoulders are not so busy; but finishers are better employed. Copper workers at Froghall and Oakamoor are busy. Agricultural engineers at Uttoxeter are working full time, and at Rugeley there is a further improvement.

Mining.—The North Staffordshire miners report a further improvement, both at the steam coal and ironstone pits. At Cheadle and Rugeley miners are better employed, averaging 42 days per week at the former place. Five pits in the district are working full time; the others are working 4 days and less per week.

Textile Trades .- At Leek silk weavers are not so busy; dyers report no change; hard silk workers are slack. At Congleton trimming weavers and silk throwsters are slack; silk dressers are moderately employed; fustian-cutters are slack, and all mills in the

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER-DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.) .- MID. (contd.) AND E. & S.-W. COUNTIES.

town are standing on account of a dispute. At Cheadle and Tean silk and tape workers are busy.

Clothing Trades.—The tailors report short time as general throughout the district. At Stafford and Stone shoemakers report employment as slack, but slightly improved. Corset-makers at Uttoxeter are well employed.

Building Trades.—In the Potteries bricklayers and joiners are well employed; bricklayers' labourers, painters and plumbers are slack. At Leek and Crewe all branches are well employed. At Stafford employment is slack.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Employment in these trades continues slack.

Miscellaneous — Stone quarrymen at Alton and Hollington are busy; tanners at Rugeley are working five days per week; colour-makers are busy; gasworkers in all towns report a further improvement.—I. S. Harvey.

Birmingham and District.

Engineering.—Throughout the district employment is reported as good, many working overtime.

Brass and Copper Working.—Employment is good in all branches of these trades, and overtime is being worked in several departments. Employment is moderate on bedstead and fender mounts and clockcase work. The brass trades are busy in the Wolverhampton district.

fewellers, Silversmiths and Electro-platers.—Employment is satisfactory amongst the jewellers. Silversmiths and electro-platers are nearly all in full work; and employment on Britannia metal-work is also fairly brisk.

Other Metal Trades.—Ironfounders report employment as good. In the Wolverhampton district employment in pig iron manufacture is brisk, although some furnaces of obsolete construction are being demolished; enamelled iron and nut and bolt work are busy. The accountants' bi-monthly report to the Midland Iron and Steel Wages Board leaves wages untouched. In Birmingham bedstead work has a little fallen off, some men working short time. The improvement among filesmiths has been maintained. Wireworkers, japanners, oil lamp and stovemakers and ironplate workers are all fairly busy.

Building Trades.—All branches report employment as good, except plumbers. There is great activity in the building trade in Coventry.

Glass Trade.—The improvement reported in the flint glass trade has been well maintained. Employment is also fairly good in plate and stained glass work.

Woodworking Trades.—Coopers are fairly well employed, and railway wagon workers are busy. Cabinet-makers are well employed.

Miscellaneous.—In Birmingham employment in the boot and shoe trade is indifferent, and in the tailoring trade bad. The printers report employment as moderate. The sporting gun trade is busier. Gasworkers are busier, and other labourers are well employed. In Coventry the ribbon trade remains slack; the improvement in watchmaking has been maintained. In the cycle industry employment is exceptionally good. In Redditch the needle industry is quiet, but the new cycle trade is growing rapidly.—W. J. Davis.

ENGLAND: EASTERN COUNTIES.

Norfolk and neighbouring District.

General.—Branches with 2,197 members return 44 (or 2 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 23 (or 1.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Building Trades.—The carpenters and joiners and bricklayers are well employed throughout the district, and employment in other branches is fair.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—At Norwich the engineers are not busy in any department; at Yarmouth, Lynn, Melton Constable, and Thetford full time is being worked. Shipwrights at Yarmouth are slack, and several are unemployed; at Lowestoft they are all on full time. Sailmakers are busier.

Clothing Trades.—Riveters and finishers at Norwich are still slack, hundreds of men working only a few hours per week. The sew-round men are fairly busy. At Cambridge employment improving in the boot trade. The clothing factories are on full time. Tailors throughout the district are slack.

Textile Trades.—At Yarmouth and Norwich the silk and crapet factories are working full time.

Fishing.—At Lowestoft the trawl fishing has been fair. At Yarmouth large quantities of herrings have been landed, but prices have been low.

Miscellaneous.—The chocolate and mineral water works at Norwich are fairly busy, and overtime has been worked in some departments. Maltsters are getting busy.—G. Cleverley.

Suffolk, Essex, and District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—The engineers report employment as fair at Ipswich, and as good generally in the rest of the district. At Ipswich employment with the shipwrights is reported as fair; with the boiler-makers as moderate.

Clothing Trades.—The boot and shoe operatives at Ipswich and Braintree report employment as generally good; at Colchester as busy with some firms, slow in others. Employment is good at Ipswich and Colchester in all branches of the wholesale clothing trade. The corset-makers at Ipswich and Sudbury report employment as fair.

Textile Trades.—The mat-weavers at Sudbury, Long Melford, and Lavenham report employment as good; at Braintree as slack; at Glemsford and Hadleigh as moderate; the horse-hair weavers at Lavenham and Long Melford as good. Employment in the silk trade is good at Halstead and Earl's Colne; good with the handloom weavers, but slack in other branches at Braintree; moderate, with the weavers at Sudbury.

Building Trades.—Employment is generally good at Ipswich, Bury St. Edmunds, Hadleigh, Chelmsford, Bocking, and Braintree; moderate at Colchester and Sudbury; fair at Halstead.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Employment with the letterpress printers has been moderate at Ipswich and Colchester; fair at Bury St. Edmunds; good at Beccles. The bookbinders at Ipswich report employment as good.

Miscellaneous.—Employment at Ipswich is reported as good with horticultural workers, and as improved with dock labourers.

R. W. Mather.

ENGLAND: SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES.

Bristol, Somerset, and Gloucestershire District.

Building Trades.—The plasterers, lathrenders, carpenters and joiners, and bricklayers report employment as good; the masons as improving; the plumbers and painters as moderate.

Coal Mining and Quarrying.—Employment with house coal miners in the Forest of Dean is reported as improving; with steam coal miners and stone quarrymen as good. In the Bristol district less time is being worked at some collieries.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment is reported as good at Swindon, Bath, Stroud, and Gloucester, and as moderate at Bristol. Cycle-workers continue busy. Branches of engineers, boiler-makers, ironfounders, coachbuilders, smiths and strikers, brassfounders, and toolmakers, with 2,547 members, report 22 (or 0.9 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 14 (or 0.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Employment with sea-going men is reported as brisk; with dock labourers at Bridgwater as good; with deal runners at Gloucester and grain and timber handlers at Bristol as fair.

Clothing Trades.—The silk hatters report employment as quiet; the bespoke tailors as slightly improved; the wholesale garment makers as dull; the glovemakers at Yeovil as fair.

Boot and Shoe Trades.—A slight all-round improvement is reported in Bristol. In the Kingswood district the operatives are now fairly busy.

Textile Trades.—In the Trowbridge district the worsted operatives report a slight improvement, but employment in other branches is said to be irregular. Cotton operatives in Bristol are busy.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Out of 672 members of these trades only 7 (or 1 per cent.) are returned as unemployed, as against 33 (or 5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—The coopers, cabinet-makers and upholsterers and brushmakers describe employment as good; the sawyers, machinists and turners as fair; the boxmakers as slack.

Miscellaneous.—The brickmakers report employment as good; the shipwrights as slack; the curriers and saddle and harness makers as quiet; the gasworkers as busy.—J. Curle.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER-DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.) .- WALES & SCOTLAND.

Plymouth and South-Western District.

October 1896.

Mining, Quarrying and Clay Industries.—One mine, employing 100 hands, has been closed. Employment with clayworkers and quarrymen continues good.

Engineering and allied Trades.—The engineers, ironfounders and boilermakers, with 1,383 members, again report employment as good, with only one member unemployed. The brassfounders and finishers, smiths and wheelwrights, are reported as well employed.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the ready-made department of the tailoring trade has been fair. The bespoke branch has been slack. Employment with the boot and shoe operatives has improved, those on short time having resumed full time. The bespoke branch remains quiet.

Building Trades — Branches of joiners, bricklayers, masons, plasterers, plumbers and painters, with 2,387 members, have 20 (or 0.8 per cent.) unemployed, as against 9 (or 0.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Employment with dock and quayside labourers has shown a slight improvement; with seamen it remains unchanged. The river service has now closed.

Printing Trades.—The letterpress and lithographic printers report employment as fairly good during the month.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—The upholsterers, polishers and cabinet-makers report employment as fairly good; the coach-builders as still good.

Miscellaneous.—No improvement in the fishing industry is reported. Employment with general labourers has declined.—J. Welland.

WALES.

North Wales District.

Coal Mining.—Employment at the various collieries in the Ruabon district has been good during the month. Of 25 mines in Flintshire and Denbighshire 3 worked six days per week, 12 worked from five to six days, 4 from four to five days, and 4 less than four days, whilst 2 were not working. A colliery near Chirk has recommenced working after a temporary stoppage for repairs. Employment continues good at the lead mines of Flintshire.

Slate Quarrying.—Employment in the slate quarrying industry of North Wales continues good, except at the Penrhyn quarries, where work has been suspended owing to a dispute. It is fair in the freestone, granite and limestone quarries.

Iron and Steel and Engineering Trades.—Employment in the steel works at Brymbo, and in the iron works at Mostyn continues good. The tinplate works at Mold are again in full work. Employment at the railway wagon works at Johnstown, Ruabon, is good. The railway coachbuilders at Oswestry report employment as good. The ergineers at Ruabon continue fully employed.

Building Trades.—At Wrexham the bricklayers report employment as moderate, the plasterers as declining. The carpenters and joiners at Oswestry report employment as good. Employment in all branches in Ruabon is brisk.

Woollen and Tweed Trades.—Operatives have been fully employed during the month

Brick and Terra-cotta Works.—Employment continues good in all branches of this industry in the Ruabon, Rhos and Penybont districts. In the Buckley district the men are now fully employed.

Chemical Trades.—The chemical workers at Ruabon are working full time. At the Flint works employment is slack.—G. Rowley.

South Wales District.

Coal Mining.—The Ebbw Vale collieries are still averaging about four days a week. The Tredegar collieries are working short time, and a large number of collieries in the Rhondda valley have been working irregularly. A number of colliers in the Rhondda Fach have not made more than half time, and few collieries in the Garw valley and the western district are working full time. As the result of the bi-monthly audit the wages of the miners have been reduced 14 per cent. under sliding scale, from October 1st.

Building Trades.—Branches of carpenters and joiners with 1,196 members have 37 (or 3 1 per cent.) unemployed, as against 31 (or 2 6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The masons, plasterers and plumbers report employment as dull; the bricklayers as moderate. Painters and decorators have a number out of work. Lathrenders are slack, and steam sawyers busy.

Ship-repairing and Engineering.—Ship-repairing yards have been exceedingly slack throughout the month, with several on short time. Branches of the engineers with 2,533 members have 156 (or 6.2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 141 (or 5.5 per cent. of heir membership) at the end of August. The boiler-makers state

that 60 per cent. of their members are unemployed at Cardiff, Newport and Swansea; 20 per cent. at Barry; they are well employed in other parts of the district. The shipwrights in Cardiff, Barry and Swansea have 67.7 per cent. unemployed. Employment has been bad with fitters' helpers, boiler-makers' helpers, and general labourers; moderate with moulders at the seaports, and good in the inland districts.

Iron and Steel Trades.—In Ebbw Vale, Blaenavon, Briton Ferry, Neath, Morriston, Cyfarthfa and Dowlais the furnaces and mills are working regularly. The Cardiff works are working irregularly. A number of hands have been discharged from steel tube works through slackness. The audit for the Joint Sliding Scale Committee of the South Wales and Monmouthshire Iron and Steel Workers' Association leaves their wages unchanged for the next three months.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—The shipping of crews has been fairly brisk. Coal shipping has been dull. General cargo shipments have been fairly good. Employment in the iron ore trade is moderate; in the timber and pitwood trade good. The corn porters have had a rather dull month.

Miscellaneous.—Copper works, patent fuel works, and chemical works are going steadily. The letterpress printers report employment as moderate. Wagon builders and lifters are fairly busy.

T. Davies.

The Tinplate Trade in South Wales and Monmouth.—Employment has fallen off during the month. At 88 works, respecting which returns have been received, 306 mills were at work at the end of the month, or 5 less than at the end of the previous month. Forty-five of these works with 232 mills were giving full employment, and 26 with 144 mills were idle. The remaining 17 works were giving partial employment, 74 mills being at work and 32 idle. At the meeting of the council of the trade union at Swansea on September 19th it was decided to hand in notices at the beginning of October for the recovery of the 1874 list. Round robins, signed by the men at the various works, have been accordingly forwarded to the managers.

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh and District.

General.—Branches of societies (not including coal mining) with 14,352 members have 393 (or 2.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 275 (or 1.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Coal Mining.—Employment in the Lothians continues to improve. In Mid and East Lothian the miners, with the exception of about 5 per cent., are fully employed. In West Lothian full time is obtained generally.

Mineral Oil Trades.—These trades continue busy, and all sections of workers are fully employed. Of the workpeople employed at 28 shale mines in Mid and West Lothian, 78.2 per cent. were employed at mines which worked full time during the four weeks ended September 26th. The number of men at work in these mines was 3,796, as against 3,711 in September 1895.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Branches of these trades in Edinburgh, Leith and Falkirk, with 3,687 members, have 48 (or 1.3 per cent.) idle, as against 43 (or 1.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Shipbuilding.—Employment continues bad. Returns from three branches of boiler-makers and shipwrights, with 587 members, show 188 (or 32 per cent.) idle, as against 136 (or 22.4 per cent.) at the end of August.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the linen industry in Dunfermline remains unchanged. The woollen industry in Hawick shows a slight improvement. In Galashiels weavers are quiet, but spinners are fairly busy; in Selkirk both weavers and spinners are fairly well employed. The hosiery trade in Selkirk is good; in Hawick it is good except in the hand-made departments. In Midlothian the carpet-weavers are well employed.

Building Trades.—Branches of these trades with 4,791 members have 64 (or 1.3 per cent.) idle, as against 15 (or 0.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Branches of these trades with 986 members have 5 (or 0.5 per cent.) idle, as against 8 (or 0.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—The sailors and firemen report employment as good. The dock labourers and coal porters continue well employed.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Returns from seven branches of these trades, with 2,163 members, show 63 (or 2.9 per cent.) idle, as against 46 (or 2.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER-DISTRICT REPORTS .- SCOTLAND (continued) AND IRELAND.

Miscellaneous.—The settmakers, glassmakers and glasscutters report employment as good; the saddlers, shoemakers, tailors and bakers as quiet; and the stoneware throwers as bad.—J. Mallinson.

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Glasgow and West of Scotland.

Shipbuilding.—Reports from Govan, Dumbarton, Greenock and other places on the Clyde show that employment is still good. Branches with 7,470 members return 252 (or 3.3 per cent.) idle.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—In all branches of these trades work has been plentiful in the Glasgow and Clyde, Paisley, Kilmarnock and Motherwell districts. Branches with 21,106 members return 432 (or 2.0 per cent.) idle.

Mining.—In Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire, Ayrshire and Stirlingshire employment in the collieries continues good, full time, five to six days per week, being almost universal. A restrictive policy was begun by the men in some cases, but afterwards abandoned.

Building Trades.—Employment continues good throughout the district. Branches with 11,154 members return 192 (or 1.7 per cent.)

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Employment continues busy. Branches with 3,419 members return 27 (or 0.8 per cent.) as idle.

Textile Trades.—In Glasgow employment is fair with cotton weavers; dull with woollen and mixed fabric weavers; bad with silk weavers. In Newmilns and other towns in Ayrshire and in Port Glasgow employment is good. In Greenock the woollen mills are working three-quarter time. The merino mills are fully employed. In Paisley the thread mills are working short time. Carpet weaving is good both in Glasgow and Paisley.

Clothing Trades.— The tailors report employment as dull but improving; the clothiers' operatives and the boot and shoe operatives as fair; the knee shoemakers as quiet but improving.

Dock Labour.—The dock labourers report employment as fair.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress printers report employment as good; the lithographic printers as fair; the bookbinders as dull.

Miscellaneous.—The potters and settmakers report employment as good. The brushmakers report the dispute as now settled, and those not on strike as fairly well employed during the month. The tobacco pipemakers and bottle-makers report employment as dull; the flint glass makers as improved, but not busy; the carters as dull; the bakers have several unemployed.—A. J. Hunter.

Dundee and District.

General.—Societies (not including textile workers) with 4,186 members return 177 (or 4.2 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 98 (or 2.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Textile Trades.—Employment in these trades shows little change. In the jute industry it continues good; in the linen trade it is still quiet, and more machinery has been withdrawn from

Coal Mining.—At most pits the men have had steady work, although in some cases the working time has been somewhat restricted. Returns from 32 collieries, employing some 10,900 workpeople, show a weekly average of 4.93 days worked during the four weeks ended 26th September.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—In most branches of engineering employment remains good, overtime in some cases being still worked. The boiler-makers and iron and steel shipbuilders report employment as dull. Eight branches of these trades, with 2,067 members, report 154 (or 7.5 per cent.) as unemployed, as compared with 78 (or 3.9 per cent. of the membership) at the end of August.

Building and Woodworking Trades.—Employment in the building trades remains fairly good on the whole; the slaters and the painters are slack. All branches of the cabinet and furnishing trades continue busy. Ten societies, with 1,405 members, report 22 (or 1.6 per cent.) as idle, as against 19 (or 1.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Dock and General Labour.—Employment at the docks and jetties continues slack, but general labourers throughout the city are fairly

Fishing Industry.—Stormy weather has interfered to some extent with the operations of the haddock fishing fleet; but, on the whole, they have been successful.

Miscellaneous.—The letterpress printers continue fully employed; lithographers and bookbinders moderately so; the tailors and boot and shoemakers report employment as improving; floorcloth and linoleum makers are still busy.—P. Reid.

Aberdeen and District.

General.—Societies with 4,130 members have 134 (or 3.2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 98 (or 2.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Quarrying.—The monumental masons report employment as moderate, the quarrymen as brisk, the sett-makers as good, and the granite-polishers as fair.

Building Trades.—Branches of joiners, plumbers, plasterers, and sawmillers with 1,054 members have 15 (or 1'4 per cent.) unemployed, as against 29 (or 2'7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The masons report employment as good, the slaters as moderate, the painters as bad.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—The boiler-makers report employment as bad; the shipwrights and the pattern-makers as moderate; the blacksmiths, ironmoulders, brassfounders and finishers, tinplate workers, engineers and horse-shoers as good. Societies with 1,056 members report 101 (or 9.6 per cent.) as idle, as against 55 (or 5.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

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

Clothing and Textile Trades.—The tailors report employment as bad; the boot and shoe makers (hand-sewn) as good; the riveters and finishers as moderate; the flax, jute and cotton operatives as good; the carpet weavers as bad.

Fishing.—In September the trawl boats landed 33,731 cwts., realising £24,450, and the line boats 15,213 cwts., realising £8,465, an increase in quantity and value as compared with August.

 $\it Miscellaneous.-$ Employment has been fair with cabinet-makers, moderate with upholsterers, good with combmakers. Dcck labourers have been fairly employed.- $\it W$. Fohnston.

IRELAND.

Dublin and District.

Building Trades.—Work has been brisk in nearly all branches, but outdoor operations have been interfered with by the heavy rain. Employment has been fair with the slaters, whiteners, painters, and lathsplitters; dull with the plumbers, painters, sawyers, glasscutters, and paviors. Of the 3,659 members in this group, III (or 3.0 per cent.) are unemployed, as against 261 (or 7.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Woodworking Trades.—The cabinet-makers report employment as dull. Other woodworkers have been fairly wel employed.

Metal Trades.—Employment continues good with the smiths, brassfinishers, and boiler-makers. The whitesmiths return employment as fair, the engineers and tinsmiths as dull. Branches with 774 members return 32 (or 4.1 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 20 (or 2.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Printing and kindred Trades.— Employment in the letterpress printing trade is bad. The lithographers, stereotypers, machineminders, paper-cutters and despatch assistants report employment as fair; the bookbinders as dull; the bookfolders as fair. Branches with 1,289 members return 119 (or 9.2 per cent.) as unemployed, the same number as at the end of August.

Clothing Trades.—The tailors and boot and shoe makers report employment as bad.

Miscellaneous.—The general labourers report a large number unemployed. The bottle-makers report employment as fair. The sailors and firemen, tram-men, stationary engine drivers, railway servants and dock labourers have been fairly busy.—J. P. Nannetti.

Belfast and District.

General.—Societies with 19,864 members have 1,337 (or 6.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 686 (or 3.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. There are, in addition, about 1,000 boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders out through a dispute, to which the increase in the number of unemployed in other trades is also mainly due.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Societies with a membership of 8,939 report 998 (or 11'2 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 319 (or 3'6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders and the general labourers and platers' helpers report employment as unsettled, chiefly owing to the dispute of the holders-up; the brassfounders and engineers as fair; the blacksmiths, strikers, carpenters and joiners, furnishing trades, ironfounders, machine-workers, pattern-makers, shipwrights, enginemen and firemen as good.

Linen Trades.—Societies with 4,148 members report 126 (or 3 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 177 (or 4'3 per cent. of their

membership) at the end of August. The power-loom tenters and power-loom yarndressers report employment as bad; the flax-dressers, flax-roughers, and women workers as fair; the linen-lappers as moderate; the beetling enginemen, yarn-bundlers, spindle and flyer makers, and hackle and gill makers as good.

Building Trades.—Societies with a membership of 2,808 report 58 (or 2'1 per cent.) as out of work, the same percentage as at the end of August. The plumbers report employment as middling; the carpenters and joiners, house furnishers, millsawyers, and house painters as fair; and the bricklayers and hodmen as good.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Societies with 628 members report 28 (or 4.5 per cent.) as out of work, as against 22 (or 3.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The packing-case makers report employment as dull; the cabinet-makers and coachbuilders as fair; the French polishers, upholsterers, and coopers as good.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Societies with 849 members return 56 (or 66 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 50 (or 5'9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The letterpress printers report employment as bad; the bookbinders and machine rulers and the lithographic printers as fair, and the lithographic artists and designers as good.

Clothing Trades.—Societies with 844 members state that none are totally unemployed. The boot and shoe operatives report employment as good, and the tailors as dull.

Miscellaneous.—Societies with 1,565 members report 71 (or 4.5 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 59 (or 3.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The sailmakers report employment as bad; the carters and tinplate workers as fair; the railway servants as brisk; the bakers, locomotive engine drivers and paviors as good.

Cork and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—The boiler makers report employment as fair in Cork, Passage West and Limerick, with none unemployed. The several branches of the engineering trade are dull. Shipwrights and shipjoiners in Passage West send in a fair report. The moulders are well employed.

Building Trades.—Stonecutters, masons, painters and plasterers are fairly employed. Carpenters in Cork are unsettled in consequence of the dispute.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors and boot and shoe operatives report employment as dull; tweed, flax and feather operatives as good.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Letterpress machinemen and com positors report employment as good; stereotypers, lithographic printers and bookbinders as fair.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades. — Cabinet-makers and upholsterers report employment as moderate; coachmakers, coachpainters and trimmers and millsawyers as fair; coopers as bad.

Fishing Industry.—Since the late gales the fishing around the coast has been successful.

Miscellaneous.—Locomotive and stationary engine drivers, railway porters, corporation employees, brewery workmen and farriers report employment as good; marine firemen, sailors, and quay labourers as bad.—P. O'Shea.

NEW WORKING RULES FOR LONDON STONEMASONS.

A NEW code of working rules has been agreed to between the Central Association of Master Builders and the Operative Stonemasons' Society. The agreement provides for an increase of ½d. per hour to be paid from October 3rd, a slight modification in the hours of labour, and for six months' notice—to expire at any time—to terminate or alter the rules.

The Conciliation clause reads as follows:—

"That in the event of a dispute arising on any job or works, the London Lodges Committee of the Operative Stonemasons' Society shall send written notice to the Central Association of Master Builders of London, who shall inform them whether the employer is a member of that body. In the event of a settlement not being arrived at (in accordance with these Rules) between the employer and the representatives of the workmen, no strike shall be sanctioned until six clear working days have expired, during which time the matter shall be referred to the Board of Conciliation, whose decision shall be final,"

It is estimated that nearly 3,000 workmen are affected.

GERMAN INDUSTRIAL CENSUS.

THE German Census of Occupations, taken on June 14th 1895, shows an increase in the total population, as compared with the figures of the 1882 Census, of 14.5 per cent. (from 45,222,113 to 51,770,284), the details being as under:—

Classes of Population.	No. of	Persons.	Percentage of Total Population		
Classes of Formation.	1895	1882	1895	1882	
I. Persons regularly engaged in some trade, profession or calling	20,771,090	17,632,008	40.13	38.99	
II. Domestic servants (residing with Class I. or IV)	1,339,318	1,324,924	2.59	2.93	
III. Relatives residing with, and dependent on, Class I. or IV.	27,517,275	24,910,695	53.12	55.08	
IV. Persons without occupa- tion	2,142,601	1,354,486	4.14	3,00	
Total	51,770,284	45,222,113	100,00	100.00	

The increased proportion of persons classified as without occupation (4.14, as against 3 per cent.) is stated to be in part attributable to the fact that in the 1895 Census a large number of persons possessing fixed incomes (e.g. annuities), but residing with relatives, were classed as without occupation, while such persons were in the 1882 Census treated as dependents (Class III.), and in part to the increased numbers of soldiers and public servants in the enjoyment of pensions, owing to the extension of the civil and military services.

The Table which follows shows the numbers engaged in the principal groups of occupations, and those of their resident domestics and dependents.

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	Groups of Occupations.	Occupied in C		Total number of persons maintained by occupations stated in col. 1 (including resident domestics and dependents).		
		1895.	1882.	1895.	1882.	
1	(I)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
	Agriculture { No { Per cent.	8,292,6 9 2 36·19	8,236,496 43·38	18,501,307 35.74	19,225,455 42.51	
	Industry { No { Per cent.	8,281,230 36·14	6,396,465 33.69	20,253,241 39·12	16,058,080 35.51	
-	Commerce and Trans- { No Per cent.		1,570,318	5,966,845 11.52	4,531,080 10:02	
	Domestic (non- No	432,491	397,582	886,807	938,294	
	Casual Work Per cent.	1.89	2.10	1.71	2.07	
	Public Services (including Army and Navy,	1,426,169	1,031,147	2,835,222	2,222,982	
	Church and Liberal Profes- sions) Per cent.	6.22	5.43	5 ·4 8	4.92	
	No Occupation { No Per cent.		1,354,486	3,326,862 6*43	2,246,222 4·97	
-	Total Per cent	700.00	18,986,494	51,770,284 100.00	45,222,113 100°00	

It will be observed that the totals given in columns 4 and 5 include domestics (employed by and residing with the persons referred to in columns 2 and 3), and relatives residing with and dependent upon these persons.

While the proportion of the total population maintained by agriculture has fallen from 42.51 per cent. in 1882 to 35.74 per cent. in 1895 (there being an absolute decrease of 724,148 persons so maintained as between 1895 and 1882), there has been an absolute increase of 56,196 in the number of persons actually occupied in agriculture; this increase is stated to be entirely due to the larger number of females thus occupied; for while the number of males engaged in agriculture has fallen from 5,701,587 in 1882 to 5,539,538 in 1895, that of females has gone up from 2,534,909 to 2,753,154 in the same period.

2,753,154 in the same period.

The group from which the largest section of the population draws its support is the Industrial, the numbers being 20,253,241 (or 39.12 per cent.) in 1895, as against 16,058,080 (or 35.51 per cent.) in 1882. Here,

the total number of occupied persons has risen from 6,396,465 in 1882 to 8,281,230 in 1895, the females increasing from 1,126,976 to 1,521,133, and the males

from 5,269,489 to 6,760,097.

In Commerce and Transport, with an increase in the total number of occupied persons from 1,570,318 in 1882 to 2,338,508 in 1895, females have increased from 298,110 to 579,608, and males from 1,272,208 to

1,758,900.

The decrease, both relative and absolute, in the number of persons returned as occupied in the group comprising Non-resident Domestic Work and Casual Work is stated to be partly due to a change in the method of enumeration, many persons who in 1882 would have been included in this group, being in 1895 classed in one of the three categories which precede it.

It will be seen that, in 1895, 44,721,393 (or 86.4 per cent. of the total population) derived their maintenance from occupations comprised in the three groups which include Agriculture, Industry and Commerce (as against 39,814,615, or 88 per cent., in 1882). The details of the distribution of those persons among 16 occupation subclasses included in these three groups are as under:-

[Note.—The percentages are based upon the totals of the Occupation classes

Occupation.	Occupi in	ed as sta Col. 1.	ted	aber of persons d by occupation, col. 1 (including domestics and lendents).			
Sub-classes.	1895.		1882.	1895	giwo i	1882.	
Sepagne sedan	Number.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Number.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	
Agriculture	8,156,045	43'13	50'12	18,068,663	40'40	47'32	
Forestry and Fishing	136,647	0.72	0.72	432,644	0.07	0.97	
Mining, Smelting, &c. Working of Stones	567,774	3,00	2.72	1,847,307	4.13	3,39	
and Earth	501,315	2.65	2'05	1,316,641	2'94	2'25	
Metalworking	862,035	4.20	3'26	2,152,789	4.81	3'37	
Engineering, &c	385,223	2'04	1.76	1,041,127	2'33	2.01	
Textile Industry Woodwork and	945,191	5.00	5'25	1,899,904	4.25	4.65	
Foods, Tobacco and	647,019	3'42	3.55	1,688,592	3.48	3'45	
Drinks	878,163	4.64	4.00	2.078,607	4.65	4'29	
Clothing and Cleaning	1.513,124	8.00	8.23	2,973,700	665	6.86	
Building Printing and Cognate	1,353,447	7.16	5'84	3,705.773	8.29	6.98	
Mercantile Trades	119,291	0.63	0.43	251,503	.26	0.32	
Occupations Transport and	1,205,133	6.37	5'20	2,939,619	6.22	5.73	
Conveyance Hotels, Bars and	615,331	3.25	2.70	2,002,706	4.48	3.66	
Eating-houses	492,660	2.61	1'72	954,856	2'13	1.00	
Other Occupations	534,032	2.82	2.69	1,366,962	3.06	2.80	
Total of Agriculture, Industry, Commerce and Transport	18,912,430	100,00	100,00	44,721,393	100.00	100,00	

It will be seen that out of 16 occupation sub-classes dealt with in the foregoing table, 12 (mining, smelting, &c., working of stones and earth, metal-working, engineering, &c., wood-work and carving, foods, tobacco and drinks, building, printing and cognate trades, mercantile occupations, transport and conveyance, hotels, bars and eating-houses, and "other occupations" support a larger, and 3 (agriculture, textile industry and clothing and cleaning) support a smaller proportion of the total number of persons maintained by agriculture, industry and commerce and transport in 1895 than in

The relative proportion between employers and employed among persons occupied in agriculture, industry and commerce is as follows:—

ed (their bound and as boundminin os sed as boto in absolute	Among eve Indus	try and Comi	s occupied in nerce and Tr were :—	Agriculture ansport		
Occupation Goups.	business of	carrying on on their own ount.	Employees	mployees of all kinds		
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1895.	1882.	1895.	1882.		
(a) Agriculture, &c (b) Industry (c) Commerce and Transport	31'07 24'90 36'07	27'78 34'41 44'67	68.93 75.10 63.93	72°22 65°59 55°33		
For all three Groups together	28'99	32'03	71.01	67.97		

Thus, while in agriculture there has been a considerable increase in the proportion of persons classed as employers, both in industry and in commerce and transport the movement is in the opposite direction, the proportion classed as employees having, as between 1882 and 1895, materially increased.

Whenever, in the foregoing tables, figures are given representing a number of persons as "occupied" in a particular group of callings, the figure only includes those whose primary source of income is derived from the occupation-group referred to (Erwerbsthätige im Hauptberuf). The number of persons engaged in occupations with the object of supplementing an income derived from some other source, as ascertained by the 1895 census, was 3,273,456, as compared with 3,140,509 in 1882. As some people engage in this way in two or more occupations, a second figure is obtained, showing the number of cases in which secondary occupations were engaged in. The total number of such cases was 4,949,702 in 1895, and 4,258,292 in 1882, agriculture being in the great majority of cases (73.73 per cent. in 1895, and 74.91 per cent. in 1882) the subsidiary

IRISH MIGRATORY AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS IN 1896.

THE number of migratory labourers who left the province of Connaught by rail and sea in the season 1896, ending August 31st, was less by 1,606 than in the season of 1895. The decrease from stations on the Midland Great Western system in the county of Mayo amounted to 1,106; from other stations in the province of Connaught, in the counties of Galway, Sligo, Roscommon, and Leitrim, to 621; and from stations on the same system in other provinces to 59.

Of the total number (22,800) booked by rail and

steamer in 1896, 76.9 per cent. came from the county of Mayo, or nearly a third of the male population of 20 years of age and upwards in that county.

A number of the migratory labourers from the province of Connaught start for England and Scotland in the spring and remain until late in the autumn, taking part in the ordinary work on farms, as well as doing harvest work; the bulk of them, however, do not start until the month of June. When engaged upon ordinary farm work, such as thinning turnips and potato lifting, they are frequently employed at piecework, and in parts of Warwickshire, Lincolnshire, and North Cambridgeshire they also undertake harvest at piecework. But in the northern counties at harvest they are usually paid by the week or the month. In most cases, in addition to their cash earnings, they are found sleeping accommodation in a barn, but find their own food. They are, however, not infrequently given fuel, milk and porridge. In some cases the employers find them all their food. A number of men commence by working at harvest in the earlier districts, and then go further north to get other harvest work in the later ones. Many work on the same farms year after year, and in the north of England some employers communicate with one of their old hands before harvest and indicate the number of men they will require. There are instances where the employer sends the money for the fares, which is subsequently deducted from the wages.

The men from Connaught chiefly go to the northern and midland counties in England, namely, Lancashire, Yorkshire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, and Warwickshire, while some also go to Scotland, Northumberland, Lincolnshire, and North Cambridgeshire. The women from Connaught go to Scotland, and generally go by steamer to Glasgow. A number are employed in the potato districts, where it is frequently the custom for merchants to buy the potatoes when in the ground, and

to undertake the lifting and carting.

Of the other migratory labourers from Ireland, nearly all come from the province of Ulster, and most of these come from Donegal. They generally go to Scotland and Northumberland, starting from northern ports. The following table, showing the number of migratory labourers who left the province of Connaught for England and Scotland in 1894, 1895 and 1896 up to the end of August, has been compiled from information kindly supplied to the Department by the Midland Great Western Railway Company and by the Glasgow, Dublin and Londonderry Steam Packet Company.

October 1896.

Place of Booking.	1894.	1895.	1896.
By Rail	Leism	i soo'i	siit n
From other stations in Connaught on the Midland	17,914	17,750	16,644
Great Western Railway in the Counties of Galway, Sligo, Roscommon and Leitrim	5,576	5,835	5,214
From stations on the Midland Great Western Railway in other Provinces	123	119	60
Total booked on the Midland Great Western Railway	23,613	23,704	21,918
Ry Sea.		STATE OF THE PARTY	
By steamer from Westport (Mayo) to Glasgow and Liverpool* By steamer from Ballina (Mayo) to Glasgow*	500 50	603 99	702 180†
Grand Total	24,163	24,406	22,800

FACTORY INSPECTION IN BELGIUM.‡

PART I. of the first Annual Report on Factories and Mines Inspection recently issued by the Belgian Office du Travail possesses special interest, owing to its being the first published official record of the experiences obtained in the working of the law of December 13th, 1889, restricting the employment of children and young persons under 16, and young women from 16 to 21 years of age.

The report states that, with the object of enforcing this law, 5,791 factories and workshops employing 218,826 workpeople were visited by the Factory Inspectors, between October 1894 and the end of December 1895. Of the above 218,826 workpeople, 45,415 (20.75 per cent) belonged to the protected classes, consisting of 17,177 boys and 10,308 girls from 12 to 16 years of age, and 17,930 young women between the ages of 16 and 21.

The clause prohibiting the employment of children under 12 in industrial establishments has been rigidly enforced, the number found to have been illegally employed in this respect in the above 5,791 establishments being 81, of whom 49 were engaged in brickmaking by hand.

In cotton, flax, hemp and jute mills, where the working day is fixed at 6 hours for children between the ages of 12 and 13, manufacturers are said to be reluctant to employ them. The number employed in the factories of this kind visited was 328, but of these 147 were working in excess of the legal limits.

The employment of protected persons above the age of 13 in these mills is restricted to 111 hours a day, a provision which is said to be well observed in the spinning, but not in the weaving branch, where 23 per cent. of those employed were working more than the 11½ hours permitted by the law.

The hours prescribed for the protected classes in the woollen industry (111 per day) are said to be well observed, chiefly, it appears, owing to many of the largest woollen mills working day and night with two relays. As regards the woollen and other industries liable to pressure at certain seasons the Report deprecates the stringency of the law, which makes no provision for the granting of permits to work overtime at such seasons.

The details given with regard to the inspection of non-textile trades (exclusive of mines, quarries, and smelting works) show that in many of the establishments visited a considerable proportion of the protected classes were being employed in excess of the legal

The Report considers the restrictions prescribed for a number of these trades as too severe, an observa-

*The numbers booked by steamer are approximate, as no distinction is made between migratory labourers and ordinary passengers. The Steam Packet Company consider that the proportion of the former to the latter is mine-tenths, and the above figures are calculated on that basis. The number booked from Sligo is not given, as the Company state that it is impossible to distinguish them from other passengers. It is probable that some of those starting from Ballina come from Sligo.

† Of these 27 went to Liverpool and the rest to Glasgow.
† Rapports Annuels de l'Inspection du Travail, 1re Annúe (1895. [Issued by the Office du Travail.] Brussels, 1896.

tion which applies to tanning works, the preparation of fibres for brushes, tilemaking, and the manufacture of fire-bricks, pottery and earthenware. An extension of the maximum working day is recommended in the case of rag-sorting establishments.

The establishments visited by the mines inspectors are, mines, quarries, blastfurnaces and other smelting works, the number visited during 1895 being 539, employing 121,248 workpeople, of whom 13,323 (11 per cent.) belonged to the protected classes, and included 10,323 such persons employed in or about coal mines. These 10,323 persons consisted of 1,749 boys from 12 to 14 years of age, 3,940 youths between 14 and 16, 1,242 girls between 12 and 16 and 3,392 girls and young women from 16 to 21 years of age. coal mines visited numbered 110, and employed 69 per cent. of all the workpeople engaged in coalmining in Belgium (117,103 in 121 mines). The manner in which the law was being observed in coal mines is stated to be satisfactory. Among the establishments subject to the mines inspectors, non-observance of the law regulating the employment of children and young women is said to be most frequent in quarries.

HOURS OF LABOUR OF RAILWAY SERVANTS.

In the Report by the Board of Trade respecting the proceedings of that Board under the Railway Regulation Act, 1893, during the year ending July 27th 1896,* the particulars are stated of 131 cases in which proceedings have been taken under that statute, 44 of these being cases dealt with in the last Report, upon which further proceedings were taken during the twelve months under review, and 87 cases which arose during the year. The 87 new cases of 1895-6 related to 97 complaints, the persons affected comprising signalmen in 33 cases, drivers and firemen in 12, station staff in 20, guards and brakesmen in 14, shunters in 9, gatekeepers in 3, wagon examiners in 5, and platelayers in one. With respect to the action taken by the companies in response to the demands made upon them by the Board of Trade, "although in the larger number of cases reasonable concessions have been made, there is a residuum in which companies distinctly decline to reduce the hours complained of. In none of these cases are the hours of such undue length as to cause, in the opinion of the Inspecting Officers of the Department, a danger to the travelling public. The companies deal promptly and satisfactorily with complaints of that description. The cases in which the Department is met with a decided refusal are generally those in which representations have been made by or on behalf of certain servants." In such cases the Board must either allow the matter to drop (a course not adopted without testing to some extent the wishes of the complainants), or must refer the matter to the Railway and Canal Commissioners for adjudication—a course which could not be taken without serious consideration. Should such action be taken, the evidence in support of the complaint could not be complete without the testimony of those servants whose hours are alleged to be excessive, or some of them, but this may not be forthcoming, owing to the reluctance of the persons affected to appear as witnesses against their employers. "During the year a disposition has been evinced by two classes of railway servants, namely shunters and signalmen, to give evidence before the Railway Commissioners on the subject of specified complaints of overwork. Where adequate evidence is forthcoming the Department will refer the matter of the complaint to the Commissioners, and render the men such assistance as is in their power to ensure that the facts are fully brought to the attention of the Court." It is, however, pointed out that, while "the Board of Trade in dealing with the companies have managed, with some success, to keep the question of reasonable hours of labour un-

^{*} Report by the Board of Trade respecting the proceedings of the Board of Trade under the Railway Regulation Act, 1893, 56 & 57 Vict., c. 29, during the year ended 27th July 1896. P.P. 372 of 1896. Price 22d.

touched by that of wages," if an Order is made by the Commissioners "which will compel the reduction of the hours of a large body of servants, it will not be surprising to find that the company or companies affected would endeavour to put in force a proportionate reduc-

It is observed that "drivers and firemen still seem opposed to drastic action being taken on their behalf," one reason being that they do not wish to lose the over-time pay earned for working beyond the booked hours.

PRICES OF COAL AND IRON.

THE results of the last audits of the selling prices of coal and iron in certain districts are shown in the following table, in comparison with those for previous audits. The prices stated are averages determined over a given period, and they are mainly used to deter-

mine future rates of wages.

As the result of the last audit, the wages of the Northumberland miners remain unchanged, but in South Wales and Monmouthshire a decrease of 11 per cent. has taken place. The blastfurnacemen in both districts for which particulars are given have sustained decreases (for full particulars see the Table of Changes in Rates of Wages, p. 318), but wages in the manufactured iron industries remain unchanged.

selt guilbeage	Num-	Period over which	Dates from		ascertaine rice per to	
Product and District.	ber of work- people.	prices were ascer- tained at last audit.	which last audit affects wages.	According to last audit.	According to previous audit.	Increase (+) or Decrease(-) in price per ton.
Coal. Northumberland:— (Average for all classes of coal at pit's mouth) South Wales and	30,000	1896. June, July, Aug.	1896. Oct. 1	s. d. 5 1'32	s. d. 5 017	s. d. +0 1'15
Monmouth:— (Average for certain classes of coal, f.o.b.)	100,000	July, Aug.	Oct. 1	9 0 to 9 13	9 13 to 9 31	
Pig Iron. Cumberland and N. Lancashire Cleveland	OF OR	July, Aug., Sept. July, Aug.,	Oct. 1	46 II 37 2'49	47 7 37 8·26	- o 8 - o 5:77
Manufactrd. Iron. North of England:— (Rails, plates, bars and angles) Midlands:—	6,000	Sept. July, Aug.	Oct. 1	97 1'18	96 6.17	+ 0 7'01
(Bars, hoops, sheets, plates, and strips)	20,000	July, Aug.	Oct. 3	115 5'07	113 8.30	+ 1 8.12

It may be useful to give, for comparison with the above table, a summary showing the yearly mean ascertained selling price per ton of coal or iron for 1880 to 1895, so far as the particulars are in possession of the Department. It will be understood that the figures given below are the mean of the realised prices as

124.57	Co	oal.	Pig Iron.	Manufactured	Iron and Steel.
Year.	Northum- berland (Average for all classes of Coal at Pit's Mouth.)	for certain	Cleveland (Average per Ton of No. 3 Cleveland Pig Iron).	North of England (Average Selling Price of Rails, Plates, Bars, and Angles).	Midlands, South Yorkshire, and South Lanca- shire (Average Selling Price of Bars, Hoops, Sheets, Plates, and Strips).
1880 1881 1882 1883 1884 1885 1886 1887 1888 1899 1891 1892 1893 1894 1895	s. d. 5 0'15 4 9'81 4 11'22 5 0'11 5 1'63 4 10'56 4 7'23 	8 551 8 11'04 9 5532 9 8 36 9 10'47 9 3'37 8 4'77 8 0'25 8 4'22 10 5 38 12 0'30 11 6'84 10 9'335 10 9'335 10 9'335 10 9'335 11 6'84 10 9'335 11 6'84 12 9'335 12 9'335	s. d. 41 7'42 38 4'31 42 7'74 39 10'67 36 4'86 33 6'69 30 8'92 33 0'15 32 5 66 38 2'85 47 8'28 40 5'32 34 6'23 35 3'08 35 2'95	£ s. d. 6 6 5 25 6 0 4 75 6 6 8 75 6 2 8 42 17 4 17 4 17 4 12 8 31 4 14 11 143 5 10 4 59 6 6 6 18 5 13 6 52 5 7 10 24 4 17 11 182 4 17 601 4 15 4 78	£ s. d.

^{*} Cannot be stated exactly.

FLUCTUATIONS IN EMPLOYMENT IN COAL MINING.

Reports have been published month by month in the GAZETTE showing the average number of days per week worked during the previous four weeks by a large number of collieries. In the table below the returns for the two years, August 1894 to July 1896, are brought together, and the average number of days per week during which coal was hewn and wound is shown for each of the more important districts, and for the United Kingdom for each month during that period. It will be seen that for the United Kingdom generally the mean number of days worked was 4.72 in the year 1894-95 and 4.85 in the year 1895-96. The highest average number of days worked was in the month of November 1895, when it reached 5.08. This average is calculated on the basis of the numbers employed at the various collieries and the number of days worked by those collieries, without of course implying that all the men employed actually worked the whole number of days.

The district that worked the greatest average number of days in both years was South Wales and Monmouth, with an average of 5.26 days for the first year and 5.28 for the second. The smallest average was in both years worked in the Midlands, the average being 4.17 days in the first year and 4.35 in the second. In all the districts except Northumberland, and Fife and Clackmannan, the average worked was greater in the year 1895-96 than

in the year 1894-95.

The number of collieries covered by the figures has varied somewhat, a larger number making returns, having been gradually increased. Thus the returns for August, 1894, with which the table below begins, cover collieries employing about 230,000 persons, while the returns for July 1896 apply to collieries employing 362,000. It has, however, been ascertained that the gradual extension of the basis of the statistics has not substantially affected the comparison of the average days worked

Statement showing for all the Collieries in the United Kingdom from which returns have been received, and also for such Collieries in the more important Districts, the average number of days per week on which coal was hewn and wound during each of the months, August 1894 to July 1896.

(Compiled from Returns furnished by owners of Collieries.)

Principal Coal Districts

									Contract of the contract of th
Month.	United Kingdom	York- shire.	Lan- cashire and Cheshire	*Mid- lands.	South Wales and Mon- mouth.	Dur- ham.	North- umber- land,	West of Scot- land,	Fife and Clacke man- nan.
A WEB A	e taou e	2003			Year 18	394-5.			
1894. August September Ootober November December 1895.	4·63 4·88 4·97 4·80 4·97	4'20 4'77 4'83 4'51 4'79	4'43 4'82 4'99 4'75 4'95	3.84 4.26 4.49 4.08 4.49	5°53 5°56 5°41 5°14 5°42	5'34 5'59 5'50 5'32 5'41	5°34 5°57 5°19 5°25 4°84	5.58† 3.09† 4.64 5.35 4.99	5.68† 5.86† 3.65 5.64 5.60
January February March April May June July	4-70 5-00 4-93 4-46 4-57 4-23 4-53	4 64 4 88 4 59 4 17 4 21 3 65 4 38	4'64 5'10 4'99 4'38 4'42 3'95 4'22	4.47 4.82 4.38 3.88 4.04 3.30 3.96	5°29 5°30 5°55 4°60 4°90 5°20 5°18	4.80 4.90 4.98 4.98 4.94 4.94 5.09	4.38 4.48 4.60 4.49 5.08 4.26 4.73	4'34 5'05 5'23 5'07 5'04 5'02 4'66	4'53 5'43 4'87 5'21 5'04 4'72 4'46
Mean for Year	4.72	4.47	4.64	4'17	5.26	5.12	4.85	4.84	5.06
il our.			evilan	74	Year 18	95-6.	SECON	1 500. 08 th	202
1895. August September October November December 1896. January February March April April June June July	4·71 4·80 5·03 5·08 4·88 4·94 4·91 4·69 4·88 4·58 4·58	4'37 4'55 4'93 4'92 4'69 4'97 4'73 4'64 4'31 4'67 4'14 4'75	4'24 4'43 4'89 5'13 5'15 4'68 5'01 5'17 4'65 4'85 4'85	4'13 4'19 4'81 4'85 4'56 4'75 4'52 4'405 4'05 3'62 4'20	5'35 5'52 5'50 5'60 4'93 5'55 5'49 5'23 5'20 5'42 5'23 5'21	5'28 5'40 5'41 5'44 5'24 5'19 5'46 5'13 5'05 5'15 5'02 5'10	4.65 4.87 5.10 5.11 4.55 4.18 4.30 4.41 4.66 5.24 5.03 5.07	5'22 5'22 5'22 5'36 5'32 4'71 5'13 5'04 5'21 5'21 4'79	5'52 5'06 5'14 5'48 5'24 4'22 4'21 4'25 5'17 5'32 5'11 4'73
Mean for Year	4.85	4.64	4.79	4'35	5.58	5'24	4.76	5'14	4'95

CO-OPERATION IN 1895.

THE following table, showing the progress in 1895 of the Workmen's Co-operative Societies in the United Kingdom, is based upon returns sent direct to the Labour Department, with the exception of the first line (Retail Stores),

which is based upon returns published in the recently issued Annual Report of the Co-operative Union.

In addition to the work of the productive societies shown in the table, returns supplied direct to the Department by 494 retail stores show that during the year 1895 they produced in their own productive departments goods amounting in value to £2,374,275. If this amount is added to the £1,570,598, shown in the table as the sales of the productive departments of the English and Scottish wholesale societies, it will be seen that the total value of their own productions sold by societies established primarily for distribution amounted to 63,944,873. The total amount shown in the table as the sales of the 181 societies established primarily for

production was £2,576,054. The total sales of the 1,623 societies dealt with in the table amount to £51,955,993, an increase of 6.6 per cent. over the amount shown by 1,617 societies in 1894. The term "profit" as used in this table means, in the case of the distributive societies, the net profit after paying interest on the whole of their capital. This also applies to the productive departments of the two wholesale societies which regard all the capital employed by them n production as loan capital, and debit the departments with the interest thereon as an expense. In a few of the retail societies the profit is shown before paying interest on shares, but it has been found impossible to separate these, and the cases are too few to affect appreciably the total figures. In the case of the productive societies, the profit shown is the amount after paying interest on loan but not on share capital.

The membership of the societies dealt with in the table at the end of 1895 was 1,334,942, compared with

1,273,159 in the previous year, a rise of 4.9 per cent.

October 1896.

The societies for distribution show an increase over 1894, in membership of 4.7 per cent.; in total share, loan and reserve capital of 8.8 per cent; in sales of 5.6 per cent.

In production, the increase in membership is 10.9 per cent.; in total share, loan, and reserve capital 15.7

The number of persons directly employed by various classes of co-operative societies has been fully obtained for the year 1895 for the first time. The number employed by retail societies established primarily for distribution was 34,814, and by the distributive departments of the wholesale societies 1891; societies established primarily per cent.; in sales 19.5 per cent. for production employed 8,039 persons, the productive departments of the wholesale societies 6,268, making a total for productive societies of 14,307, compared with 12,187 in 1894. Altogether 51,012 persons were employed by co-operative societies of all classes

	Number of Societies to	Number of S	hareholders.	Cap	ital.	Amount of	Net Profit	Number of persons directly
The state of the s	which the following particulars relate.	Individuals.	Other Societies.	Share and Loan.	Reserve and Insurance Funds.	Sales during 1895.	Introductory Note above).	employed by the Societies.
Distribution: Retail Stores	I	1,302,723	1,035 281 30	£ 15,798,574 1.155,998 779,736 1,994	626,040 365,967 78,931	£ 34,140,768 10,141,917 3,449,462 77,194	*4,879,289 *192,766 *132,374 *67	34,814 1,200 679 12
Total Distributive Societies in 1895 Corresponding Totals in 1894		1,302,927	1,346 1,312	17,736,302 16,336,837	1,070,938 955,541	47,809,841 45,283,575	*5,204,496 *4,741,180	36,705 Not known.
Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1895	10	+ 58,525	+34	+1,399,465	+115,397	+2,525,766	+463,316	ME TOSA
Bread Baking Societies Corn Milling , Irish Dairying , English Wholesale Society	111 23 9 38	15,347 7,832 6,622 2,214	2,601 95 410 9 —	647,540 161,371 449,103 26,473 571,613 275,603	40,897 6,829 17,627 3,514	1,148,721 278,076 957,906 191,351 963,808 606,790	†51,072 †39,420 †33,378 †3,111 †29,028 †24,043	6,786 653 404 196 3,933 2,335
Total Productive Societies in 1895	181	32,015 28,757	3,115 2,934	2,131,703 1,843,328	68,867 58,830	4,146,652 3,468,581	†180,052 †162,212	14,307 12,187
Increase in 1805	16	3,258	181	288,375	10,037	678,071	17,840	2,120
Grand Total for 1895	1,623 1,617	1,334,942 1,273,159	4,461 4,246	‡ 19,868,005 18,180,165	1,139,805 1,014,371	51,955,993 48 752,156	5,384,548 4,903,392	51,012 Not known
tonial a wall well discale accom		61,783	215				to be to the	Commence of the
Increase in 1895 Percentage Increase	6	6	5r,998 4'9	1,687,840	125 434	3,203,837 6.6	381,156 9°0	n = A

^{*} After allowing for interest on share and loan capital.

+ After allowing for interest on loans but not on share capital.

DIVIDENDS ON PURCHASES PAID BY CO-OPERATIVE DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES.

RETURNS showing the rates of dividends paid to members on purchases for the second quarter of 1896 have been received from 779 co-operative distributive societies in the United Kingdom, with a total membership of 1,087,897, as compared with 1,036,992 in the 782 societies making returns in the first quarter of 1895. The rates of dividend shown are those paid upon he main volume of trade. In a few cases higher or lower dividends were paid upon purchases from minor

departments, such as butchery, drapery, &c.

The figures given in the table show an average dividend of 2s. 849d. in the £ on purchases, as compared with 2s. 8.33d. in the fourth quarter of 1895.

Rates of D	Rates of Dividend per £1 of			umber		Membersh Societies returns for quarter	Corre- sponding percen- tage for	
P	irchases.	10.00	Eng- land and Wales.	Scot- land and Ireland	Total United King- dom.		Per- centage	first quarter of 1896.
No Dividend 6d. and unde Over 6d. but "1s. 6d. "1s. 6d. "2s. 6d. "3s. 6d. "3s. 6d. "3s. 6d. "4s. 6d. "4s. 6d. "5s. od. "5s. 6d. "5s. 6d. "5s. 6d. "5s. 6d. "6d. "6d. "6d. "6d. "6d. "6d. "6d.	not exceeding	g Is. od. 1s. 6d. 2s. od. 2s. 6d. 3s. od. 4s. od. 4s. od.	56 91 95 136 113 51	1 2 1 5 25 55 57 22 10 2 1 181	8 5 27 57 96 120 191 170 73 25 5 2	1,959 939 8,120 32,650 105,105 203,045 400,010 225,340 97,331 9,681 2,232 1,485	0'2 0'1 0'7 3'0 9'7 18'7 36'8 20'7 8'9 0'9 0'3	0·2 0·1 1·0 3·3 10·9 16·6 37·4 19·8 9·5 0·9 0·3

[†] One ascertainment only. § July to December only.

Average for 10 months only, the result of the audit for May and June was not

^{*}Stanordshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Worcestershire, S Derbyshire and Warwickshire. + Most of the collieries were idle at this time owing to wages displaying figures given, collieries at which no coal was hewn and wound during

Of this amount £6,529,459 was reinvested in other concerns

RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES, AND COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS. 16 members, representing equally the Association and the Union. A joint board is to be elected to

Springmakers' Dispute at West Bromwich.

A dispute among springmakers, affecting 131 men, at West Bromwich, began on June 18th (see Labour Gazette for July 1896, page 219). The men, who belonged to the Gasworkers' and General Labourers' Union, asked for a rise of 12½ per cent. in wages, which the firm refused. The firm declined to deal with the Union, and after a time the places of many of the strikers were filled. On September 25th the Union applied to the Board of Trade to take action under the Conciliation Act, 1896, Section 2, for the settlement of the dispute. On September 29th a representative of the Department visited West Bromwich and had interviews with the firm and the men affected. An arrangement was arrived at for the return of the men to work on the old terms, so far as places could be found for them, the first batch to resume work on October 1st.

Nottingham Plumbers' Dispute.

A dispute of plumbers at Nottingham, which at one time threatened to involve the building trades of the town in a general lock out, has been settled by the mediation of Mr. Robert Evans, J.P. The plumbers gave six months' notice early in the year for an advance in wages from 8½d. to 9½d. per hour, a reduction in hours from 54 to 50, and a revised code of working rules. On the expiry of the notice (July 27th) they came out on strike, the masters having refused these demands. Subsequently a number of workpeople in other branches of the building trade ceased work at shops where the plumbers had been replaced by nonunionists, the men who thus came out being paid full wages by the plumbers' society. In consequence of this action the Master Builders' Association decided to lock all sections of the building trades out at the beginning of October, unless the men returned to work.

On September 11th and 16th conferences were held between the Master Plumbers' Association and the operatives' union, with the Mayor of Nottingham in the chair, but were not at the time successful in effecting a settlement. On September 30th, however, Mr. Robert Evans, an architect, succeeded in inducing the Master Builders' Association to postpone the lock-out for a week, pending negotiations. Meanwhile he had several interviews with the parties to the plumbers' dispute and put before them suggestions for a settlement. ally a meeting was arranged on October 8th between representatives of the masters and operatives under the presidency of Mr. Evans, at which terms of settlement were agreed to, the men to receive an advance of 1/2d. per hour, the working hours to remain as before, and the men not insisting on the dismissal of the nonunionists. It was agreed to resume work on October 12th.

Northampton Boot and Shoe Trade Piece-work Statement.

A new edition has been published of the piece-work statement for lasting and finishing in the Northampton district. It is dated September 1st, 1896, and cancels the old statement dated January, 1890. It embodies the various alterations made from time to time by the Board of Arbitration for the local boot and shoe trade since the previous edition. The number of "extras" added to the old statement amounts to 50.

Agreement in the East London Tailoring Trade.

An agreement was arrived at on September 20th, by representatives of the Tailors' Improvement Association, the International Tailors' Machinists' and Pressers' Union, and the Amalgamated Mantle Makers' Union, and approved at a general meeting of the members on September 30th. The following is the substance of the principal provisions of the agreement:—All members of the Tailors' Improvement Association are to employ, where possible, members of the Laternational Tailors', Machinists' and Pressers' Union, and all members of the union are to work, where possible, for tailors belonging to the Association. All disputes are to be discussed by a joint board of

16 members, representing equally the Association and the Union. A joint board is to be elected to discuss when advances shall be asked for from the wholesale and bespoke houses. The working hours of the tailoring trade are fixed at from 8 a m. to 8 p.m., with one hour off for dinner, and half-an-hour for tea.

One month's notice is to be given for the reconsideration of these rules, and six months' notice for the termination of the agreement.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

The following is a comparative table showing particulars of total membership, income, expenditure, and accumulated funds of 10 of the largest Friendly societies in the United Kingdom, for the years 1885 and 1895, and is compiled from information specially supplied by the societies. The figures in the table relate to male adults in those branches established in the United Kingdom only, and have no reference to female or juvenile members, or to branches established in the Colonies and foreign countries.

The table shows that in the decennial period the membership of these ten societies has risen from 1,672,325 to 2,210,476, an increase of 32.2 per cent., while the total income has risen from £2,541,918 to £3,534,079, an increase of 39 per cent.

| Member | Total | Rocalized | Societies | Member | Ship. | Total | Rocalized | Rocalized

Wages in Government Contracts.—In accordance with the Resolution of the House of Commons of 14th May last, a Select Committee was appointed to consider the working of the Fair Wages Resolution of February 1891, and its administration by the various Government Departments. From the Reports which has just been published, it appears that the Committee has held seven meetings, and examined witnesses representing the principal Departments responsible for Government contracts. As, however, the season was far advanced, it was determined to report the Departmental evidence already taken, and to recommend that a Committee on the same subject be appointed at the beginning of the next Session of Parliament.

United Ancient Order of Druids { 1885 | 26,763 | 35,267 | 24,418 | 123,417 | 175,930 | 39,732 | 51,639 | 39,564 | 175,930

... ... 1,672,326 2,541,918 1,618,457 11,015.618 ... 2,210,476 3,534,079 2,482,743 16,712,972

Totals for the above—
10 Societies in 1885 .
Ditto 1895 .

Information for intending Emigrants.—The free quarterly circulars of the Emigrants' Information Office were issued on October 1st, and contain information useful to intending emigrants as to the demand for labour, the rates of wages, and cost of living in the various British Colonies. Particulars are also given as to the cost of reaching the various colonies and the arrangements in force for the reception of emigrants. The circulars can be obtained free on application to the Chief Clerk, Emigrants' Information Office, 31 Broadway, Westminster, S.W.

* Medical aid benefits not included. † Includes Juveniles.

‡ Particulars not available. § Pending revision.

Total for 9 Societies only.

¶ Government Contracts (Fair Wages Resolution). Report, with Proceedings Minutes of Evidence, Appendix and Index. [P.P. 277 of 1896.] Price 1s. 5d.

LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.

October 1896.

(Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 31 Broadway, Westminster, S.W., from official and other reports, and newspapers, mostly dated August and September last.)

Canada.—At this season of the year there is no demand for more labour in Canada, and it is unadvisable for emigrants without capital to go there, except that female domestic servants can now, as at other times, readily obtain situations.

New South Wales .- At Robertson there is a fair demand for farm labourers at 12s. a week with board and lodging, but none for mechanics or miners. At Sydney the report of the Labour Bureau states that the number of unemployed persons is still considerable; many have been sent to work on the railways or the Botany Sewage Farm, and old persons with families have also been assisted with regular rations. The report adds "Want of determination and effort is the chief cause of distress with many of the single men.' The coal industry at Newcastle is becoming active again, and there is reported to be some demand for skilled miners, owing to so many men having left for Western Australia during the late strike. The selection of land by small settlers is proceeding very satisfactorily throughout the Colony, and the demand for men skilled in shearing, fencing, clearing, or saw-milling has in consequence greatly improved. The development of the mining industry in all parts of the Colony, and the erection of large smelting works at Illawarra and Newcastle also helps to relieve the labour market. The Bega Labour Settlement-which completely failed under the co-operative principles with which it started-has, under new rules and after considerable expense, become almost self-supporting, and its success is considered to be now

Yictoria.—From Lilydale, which is situated 24 miles from Melbourne, in a good dairying and fruit-growing district, it is reported that the labour market is amply supplied locally, and that several labourers and mechanics can find little or nothing to do at present. The supply of labour at Melbourne and other towns in the Colony is also quite sufficient.

South Australia.—There is a good local supply of all kinds of labour, but owing to the continued dryness of the season the demand for men in the country has not been so good as is generally the case at this time of the year.

Queensland.—According to the report of the Queensland Labour Bureau for the past year there was a marked decrease in the number of men seeking work, and in the amount of relief expenditure, as compared with the preceding year. This improvement continues, but it is too soon at present for many emigrants to go to the Colony on the chance of work.

Western Australia.—There has been throughout this year a marked scarcity of farm labour; the wages of farm hands have advanced during the past two years in some districts as much as 50 per cent., and for some time to come there is likely to be a good opening for this class of labour. The carpenters at Coolgardie have been on strike for higher wages; the dispute has now been settled, and the wages of good carpenters are henceforth to be £4 ros. per week of 48 hours, as against the old wages of £4. There is plenty of work for skilled miners at the gold fields, and for other labourers on the various public works which are now being constructed in various parts of the Colony.

Tasmania.—There is a demand for labourers on the West Coast, the current Government wage being 5s. a day. Full time employment has been resumed in the Government railway workshops. The prospects of the Colony generally are good, and the mines are proving a strong factor in relieving it from the depression which has so long been present; a certain number of men, however, are still employed by the Government on relief meals.

New Zealand.—During the last three years passages to the Colony at a reduced rate have been given to 1,110 persons, who have fulfilled the conditions of taking out with them a small capital; these passages are still being offered to similar settlers. The gold-mining districts in the North Island continue active, and at Thames the

demand for skilled miners is now very great; but the export of gold in the first six months of this year was less than that in the corresponding period of 1895. In Auckland, New Plymouth, Wellington, Invercargill, and many smaller towns the building trades have been busy. The engineering trade has not been so busy as the building trades. Unskilled labourers have been able to obtain a fair amount of work in mining, bush-felling, road and railway work, rabbit-poisoning, or other employment, but in several districts the supply of men has been greater than the demand.

Cape Colony.—A report from East London states that there is a good demand for bricklayers and for bakers. A correspondent at Graaff-Reinet states "As the railway extension from Graaff-Reinet to Middelburg has been started a strong demand for labour has set in, more especially for stonemasons for bridge and culvert work, and wages are bound to rise." A correspondent at Burghersdorp—north of Queenstown—writes: "Immigrants would find the railway the most likely sphere of labour; in these small up-country towns and districts there is little demand for outside labour, but a good man who could turn his hand to several trades would get on." In East Griqualand there is no opening for skilled mechanics, for miners, or for farm labourers.

Natal.—A report from Richmond states:—"There is no demand for mechanics; the very few mechanics in this place are enough for all ordinary demands, and their work is regular; but emigrants now would not get regular work, it would usually be impossible for a labourer, carter, ploughman, &c., to find even temporary work, natives being better for the climate." The Dronk Vlei lands in the west of the Colony have been thrown open for selection by European settlers on conditions of residence, cultivation, and payment of the purchase-money by 20 annual instalments. A report from Pietermaritzburg states that the demand for mechanics is small. Coal miners in the north of the Colony are busy.

LABOUR ABROAD. FRANCE.*

Employment in September.—Four-hundred-and-twenty trade unions with 115,000 members reported a little over 7 per cent. unemployed on September 15th, the proportion so reported on the 15th of August being a little over 6 per cent.

In the Textile trades (silk excepted), and in the Iron and Steel trades, employment continues plentiful. The Sugar season has begun under unpromising conditions. Printers are still in their slack season, and work is less plentiful than in August. Leather Working has slightly improved. The Ready-made Clothing trade has emerged from its slack season. The Woodworking trades are well employed. In the Building trades, works are approaching completion, the working day has been reduced by an hour in most places, but no falling off is reported, as compared with August, in the number who have work. A considerable improvement is reported in the Glassworking trades.

Coalmining in August.—The average number of days per week on which coal was hewn and wound in August was 5.65 as compared with 5.70 in July. In August 95 per cent. of the workers were employed for 5 or under 6 days per week, and 2 per cent. worked full time (6 days or over). In July full time was worked by 49 per cent., while 48 per cent. were employed for 5 or under 6 days per week. The pits making the returns on which these figures are based, employ over 100,000, or three-fourths of the coal-miners in France

Labour Disputes in September.—Twenty-five strikes were reported to the Office an Travail in September, as compared with 26 in the preceding month and 36 in September, 1895. Besides these, 13 strikes begun before September, were still in progress at the beginning of that month. Twenty-four of the new strikes are known to have involved 2,440 workpeople. Nine of these strikes were in the weaving industry, 6 in the metal trades, 3 each in the mining and building

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the French Office du Travail,

trades, and the rest in unclassified trades. None of the September strikes affected more than 500 workpeople, this figure being reached in one case only, that of the miners of Sainte-Florine (Haute-Loire), whose unsuccessful strike for increased wages was begun on September 21st and terminated on October 3rd. Nine out of 18 strikes terminated in September were unsuccessful, 5 were successful and 4 partially so.

Conciliation and Arbitration in September.—During September there were 5 cases of recourse to the law on conciliation and arbitration, the initiative being taken in three cases by the juges de paix and in two by the workpeople. Conciliation proceedings took place in

GERMANY.

Labour Disputes in September.—Of 39 disputes, of which accounts appeared in September in the Deutscher Reichs-Anzeiger and the Correspondenzblatt der Generalkon mission der Gewerkschaften Deutschlands, 32 were reported on for the first time, and consisted of 7 in the building trades; 4 each in the clothing, metal-working and book-binding trades; 3 each in the printing and textile trades, and 7 in unclassified trades. About 5,600 workpeople were said to be involved in 13 disputes (old and new) for which figures were given. As regards the numbers involved, the two most serious of the newly reported disputes, for which particulars on this point are given, were strikes of cotton operatives in Cologne and of timberrafters on the river Netz, in the province of Posen, each of which affected about 1,200 workpeople. The cotton spinners in Cologne are demanding wages of £2 10s. to £2 14s. for 14 days' work, said to be provided under the existing scale. The employers (a single firm) have rejected conciliation proffered by the Industrial Court on behalf of the workpeople. The strike of timber-rafters originated in the dismissal of 3 members of their lately-formed union, and has terminated on conditions regarded by the men as fairly satisfactory.

A strike of from 400 to 500 dockers employed in unloading grain cargoes began in Hamburg on September 28th, the men demanding an increase in the rate per ton from 5.4d. to 6d. On the following evening the men decided to accept the old rate for unloading grain cargoes then in the docks, provided they received a uniform rate of 6d. per ton, for all future cargoes, whether mixed or simple. This arrangement was accepted by the master-stevedores with the exception of one, upon whom a "block" was then declared. In the same town 500 stone-setters have struck owing to a disagreement on the question of wages.

The shipyard in Flensburg still remains closed, owing to the strike referred to in the August and September numbers of the GAZETTE.

Two-loom Weaving.—A movement is in progress in the Aix-la-Chapelle, Burtscheid and Eupen districts, against the proposal to introduce weaving on the two-loom system. The operatives at two factories in Eupen, who struck for this reason in September, have been declared dismissed by their employers.

Conciliation in the Berlin Tailoring Trade.—It will be'remembered that under the conditions on which the great strike of tailors in Berlin was terminated before the Industrial Court in February last (see March Gazette, p. 81), that body was to arrange a detailed list of minimum prices for men's and boys' clothing, either by conciliation or arbitration. The list was duly fixed by an award pronounced on July 18th, but appears to have met with approval from neither of the parties concerned in the dispute. It was rejected at a meeting of representatives of wholesale firms, on August 31st, on the grounds that (1) their relations with he workpeople were then, on the whole, very satisfactory; (2) the wages actually being paid were in all cases higher than those in the new scale, aud (3) that it is unfair to bind the manufacurer to the payment of fixed rates, while the workpeople are free to underbid each other. At a meeting of the workpeople on August 31st, the scale was declared inadequate. (Deutscher Reichs-Anzeiger and Fachzeitung für Schneider.

Würtemburg Municipal Labour Registries in August,—The 10 municipal labour registries in Würtemburg found situations for 1,717 persons (1,304 men, and 413 women) in August. The situations applied for by workpeople numbered 3,906, and those offered by employers, 3,561.*

SWITZERLAND.

Labour Disputes.—The only new dispute reported in Der Grütlianer in September, took place at an iron foundry and engineering works at Altstetten (Zürich) upon which a "block" has been pronounced by the Federation of Metalworkers of Switzerland, on the grounds of failure of the firm to adhere to the terms of an agreement made with its operatives in June last.

The first step towards the termination of the Beer Boycott (see GAZETTE August, p. 244 and September, p. 277), was taken on September 18th, at Zürich, by a resolution passed at a meeting of delegates of the Zürich Workmen's Unions.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The formal withdrawal of the boycott was subsequently announced in St. Gall and Winterthur, on the sole condition that the locked-out brewery workers be reinstated. The boycott which has thus failed was undertaken with the object of compelling the employers to use no employment registries but those controlled by their workpeople.

BELGIUM.

Employment in September.*—Employment is still plentiful in the Metal and Engineering trades. Coal miners are working full time everywhere, some mines working on Sundays as well. The Clothing and cognate trades are somewhat busier owing to the approach of winter, but a large proportion of the workpeople remain un employed. The Arms industry is slack in certain branches and busy in others. A slight improvement is discernible in the Building trades, notwithstanding the slack season. Temporary activity prevails in the Cotton spinning trade, but Flax and Jute spinning mills are slack. Cotton weavers in Ghent and Wool weavers in Verviers are well employed.

Labour Disputes in September.*—Twelve strikes were in progress in September, 10 of them affecting some 2,800 workpeople belonging to 89 establishments. Four out of six strikes terminating in September were successful, one was unsuccessful and one terminated owing to the clearing up of a misunderstanding which had arisen between the management and the operatives. The most noteworthy of the strikes was that of the carpenters in Brussels, of which some particulars are given below.

Employment of Children and Young Women in Brickfields and Tile Works.—Sir F. R. Plunkett, H.M. Minister at Brussels, reporting to the Foreign Office under date of October 4th, has sent a copy of a Royal Decree of September 22nd, which provides that the working day of children and young persons under 16, and women under 21, employed in brickfields and tile works not using motive power, may not exceed 12 hours, divided by rests amounting together to at least one hour and a half. One of these rests must last at least an hour, and occur about the middle of the working day. If less than eight hours a day be worked, the rests must amount to at least one hour; but whatever the length of the working day, a rest of a quarter of an hour must succeed every four hours of work.

The General Strike of Carpenters in Brussels begun on August 3rd, and reported in the GAZETTE for August (p. 245) has not yet been terminated. The following particulars relating to this dispute are based on a report prepared by Mr. Fraser, second Secretary of Legation at Brussels, and dated September 28th:

The claim of the workmen was for "fivepence an hour in a ten hours' day to be paid to every carpenter who could satisfactorily make a window and a door." July, just before the strike, the rate, which had been $3\frac{3}{4}$ d. to $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour, was raised by the master carpenters so as to amount to 4d. to $4\frac{3}{4}$ d. The men's claim practically amounted to a demand for a "minimum of fivepence an hour. The masters maintained that, however possible it might be to raise prices in Brussels, such a concession would inevitably ruin the Belgium export trade in carpentry. On the work-men's side, a Committee of Conciliation was proposed to the Burgomaster of Brussels at the commencement of the strike, but was rejected by the employers as not in accordance with their Arbitration was later on suggested by a member of the Belgian Parliament, but was also declined by the Masters' Syndicate, who considered they had made their utmost concession in granting the 1d. an hour already mentioned. The strike has involved some 80 different workshops, employing at least 1,500 men.

After a few days of strike the employers replied by a general lock-out, and during the sixth week of the strike ordered the removal of all workmen's tools from their

sheds, or the unconditional return of the men. Very few workmen returned, and the tools were accordingly removed.

Some of the smaller employers gave way after a few weeks to the demand for 5d., but granted this chiefly to fresh workmen from the provinces. Such small employers are, it is said, being adversely affected by so protracted a strike, and are at a disadvantage as compared with the large employers, who have written contracts containing a strike clause.

The authorities have at present only intervened in attempting to arrange Arbitration or Conciliation Boards, and in issuing notices warning the workmen that any overt act of intimidation will be severely punished.

Strike pay has been provided for the strikers by means of subscriptions.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Strike of Coalminers in North-Western Bohemia.—Sir E. Monson, H.M. Ambassador at Vienna, in a report to the Foreign Office, dated October 2nd, stated that a very serious strike had suddenly broken out in the coal-mining district in the north of Bohemia, involving at least six thousand workpeople, who demanded a seven hours shift, no night work, and a wage of 2½ florins (4s. 2d.) per shift for experienced miners, besides allowance of coal, &c. It was considered necessary to send a large military force into the district, and collisions took place between the strikers and the soldiers.

According to a further report from the same source dated October 9th, the strike had practically terminated, nearly all the men having resumed work unconditionally.

Strike of Railway Workshop Operatives.—Reference is made in the above despatches to a strike in the workshops of the State Railway at Prague which, on October 9th, had ended by most of the men returning to work. Difficulties which had meanwhile arisen in Vienna with the workshop operatives of the same railway were at that date still in course of settlement.

Other Labour Disputes in September.—Accounts of 32 disputes, in addition to the above, appeared in the principal labour papers* during September, some 6,000 workpeople taking part in 18 of these disputes, for which figures are given. Of 26 disputes reported for the first time, 5 were among metal-workers, 4 in the glass and earthenware trades, 3 each in the textile and clothing trades, 2 each in the furnishing, printing and coal-mining trades, and 5 in unclassified trades. At Karwin, in Silesia, an unsuccessful strike of colliers occurred during the first week in September, owing to the extension of the shifts from 8 to 10 hours. Of 2,340 workpeople, 2,240 are said to have struck. The employers state that the shifts were extended in the interests, and at the desire of the men.

Disputes were also reported in September among the tailors (over 400) in Buda-Pesth, the boot and shoe workers of Vienna, and the porcelain workers (420 at one factory) in Dallwitz, near Carlsbad.

PORTUGAL.

Strike of Lisbon Gasworkers.—Mr. C. Conway Thornton, H.M. Secretary of Legation at Lisbon, in a report to the Foreign Office, dated September 19th, states that in consequence of a strike of gasworkers that city was deprived of gaslight for over a week. The strike, which began on July 31st, was ostensibly due to the transfer of a Portuguese sub-manager of long standing from the central works to a suburban station and his replacement by a Frenchman. To the demand for the restoration of this official, with which the movement began, the strikers subsequently added one for the dismissal of the French head-manager, as well as a claim for increased wages.

Work was resumed on August 12th, the men being conceded an immediate advance of wages and waiving their other demands. An addition of about £2,500 per annum to the expenses of the company is said to have been incurred through the increase granted in wages.

RUSSIA.

Operations of the Peasants' Land Bank.—Prior to November 27th, 1895, the functions of the Peasants' Land Bank were strictly

* Arbeiter-Zeitung, Die Gewerkschaft, &c.

confined to the advance of money to rural communes, or to peasants, individually or in groups, to assist them in acquiring land. By Imperial Ukaz of that date, however, the functions of the bank have been extended to the purchase of land in the open market for re-sale to the peasantry.

re-sale to the peasantry. The latest statistics of the operations of the bank, which is a State institution under the supervision of the Minister of Finance, relate to the year 1894. In that year the bank advanced £622,253 out of a total sum of £956,437, wherewith 517,559 acres of land were acquired by the peasantry. In the 12 years during which the bank had been in existence at the end of 1894, it had advanced £8,243,226 out of a total sum of £10,664,874, with which 319,011 families, or 1,024,124 persons acquired the ownership of 6,374,116 acres of land.

Extension of Factory Inspection.—The law of June 3rd, 1886, relating to factory inspection, hitherto applicable to 18 of the 61 Provinces of European Russia (exclusive of Caucasia and Finland) has, by a law promulgated on June 26th of this year, been extended to 8 further Provinces, viz:—Vilna, Vitebsk, Kalouga, Kovno, Orel, Tambov, Toula and Smolensk.—"Bulletin Russe de Statistique, &c., July-August, 1896.

UNITED STATES.

CHICAGO CONSULAR DISTRICT.

The following is based on information supplied by Mr. A. G. Vansittart, H.M. Consul at Chicago, under date of September 23rd:—

Strike of Silver-miners in Colorado.—A strike of some 3,000 silver-miners in Leadville, Colorado, begun three months ago, is still in progress. It appears that the union rate of wages in Leadville was 12s. 4½d. a day for all classes of work, but that in 1893, when the price of silver fell below 2s. 5½d. an ounce, an agreement was made that 10s. 4d. should be accepted for some classes of work. The miners afterwards repudiated the agreement and struck for the original scale, delaring that many of the mines paid large dividends. Serious rioting, resulting in several deaths, occurred in connection with this dispute on September 21st, and the whole of the military force of the State has been sent to the scene of disturbance.

Other Disputes.—Some strikes of hod-carriers employed on small contracts took place in Chicago in August, the object being to enforce a new scale of wages under which plasterers' labourers were to receive 1s. 3d., and bricklayers' labourers 1s. an hour. Settlements have, in some cases, been made.

Amendment of the New York Factory Inspection Law.—The Act passed last Session by the New York Legislature, amending the Act of 1886, and the subsequent Acts amending the same, provides in the case of children employed between the age of fourteen and sixteen years that there must be a certificate filed in the office—for inspection if demanded—from the board or department of health in the town where the child resides, giving the date of birth, description of child, and other particulars, and stating that it is physically capable of performing the work in question. The board or department of health before issuing the certificate must also obtain an affidavit from the parent or guardian, stating the age of the child and other particulars, and they must further be satisfied that it has received a certain course of instruction in certain subjects.

It is further provided that no room in any tenement or dwellinghouse shall be used, except by the immediate members of the family living therein, for the manufacture of certain specified articles; and a permission from the factory inspector must be obtained, stating the maximum number of persons allowed to be employed, where workpeople are hired to work in any room or buildings at the rear of a tenement or dwelling-house for the purpose of manufacturing certain specified articles. A register of the names and addresses of the persons to whom such work is given out shall be kept for inspection by the contractors or employers. Provision is made for the branding by the inspectors of any articles made under unclean or unhealthy conditions. Another section provides that owners or lessees who permit the manufacture of the specified articles in dwelling houses or tenements after notice are subject to punishment for misdemeanour. It is further provided that tenants can be ejected by the landlord from the premises for making use of rooms in dwelling houses for the purposes named. The Act further enlarges the penalties prescribed under former Acts. The Act became law on May 29th, 1896.

^{*} The figures for July (not received in time for publication in last month's GAZETTE), are as follows — Number of situations found, 1,956; number applied for, 4,305; number offered, 4,008

^{*} Supplied through the courtesy of the Office du Travail.

[†] Foreign Office Report, 1896, Annual Series, No. 1801 [C. 8277-19].

FOREIGN TRADE FOR SEPTEMBER.

Imports.—The total declared value of the imports during September was £33,111,156, an increase of £2,492,302 (or 8·1 per cent.) over the total for September 1895. For the nine completed months of this year the substantial increase of £12,432,757 is shown, the figures being for 1896, £316,368,471, and for the first nine months of 1895, £303,935,714.

nine months of 1895, £303,935,714.

The following table gives the declared values of the imports grouped in large classes for September 1896 and 1895:—

. Class of Goods.	Sept. 1896.	Sept. 1895.	Increase.	Decrease
Constant to distantial of the	£	£	£	£
Food, Drink, and Tobacco	14,826,219	14,197,760	628,459	_
Metals	1,614,576	1,444,864	169,714	NO GETTE
Oils, Chemicals, Dyeing and Tanning Substances	1,126,667	1,016,544	110,123	SAVET.
Raw Materials for Manufacture	7,128,127	6,343,104	785,023	Bertinalen
Manufactured Articles	7,062,867	6,406,544	656,323	- W
Miscellaneous	1,352,698	1,210,038	142,660	-
Totals	33,111,156	30,618,854	2,492,302	
				1207831

Among food stuffs, wheat again shows a decrease amounting to £496,608 in the value imported, while butter has increased by £316,934, and tea by over $6\frac{1}{4}$ million lbs. in the quantity and £283,631 in the value imported. In the metal group copper shows an increase of £140,932. The imports of raw cotton were £742,892 in excess of the value (£361,484) for September 1895, but sheep and lambs' wool shows a decline of £154,453. Wood again shows an increase, amounting in September to £308,809.

British and Irish Exports.—The exports during September were £335,140, or 1'7 per cent. more in declared value than in September 1895. The increase for the first nine months of the year, however, amounts to no less than £13,815,716 (or 8'3 per cent.), the figures being for 1896, £180,436,153, and for 1895, £166,620,437.

The total declared value of the exports for September 1896 and 1895, grouped in large classes, are shown in the following table:—

Class of Goods.	Sept. 1896.	Sept. 1895.	Increase.	Decrease.
Articles of Food and Drink Raw Materials Yarns and Textile Fabrics Metals and Articles manufactured therefrom (except machinery)	£ 1,139,596 1,461,989 8,522,890 2,780,378	£ 1,165,050 1,632,281 8,541,531 2,480,097	£ _ _ 	£ 25.454 170,292 18,6+1
Machinery and Mill Work Miscellaneous	1,362,463 4,529,764	1,224,261 4,418,720	138,202	
Totals	19,797,080	19,461,940	335,140	WIL I

There is again a notable increase in the exports of cotton piece goods, amounting to $32\frac{1}{2}$ million yards in quantity and £469,346 in value, while woollen and worsted tissues continue to show a falling-off, the value of these exported in September being £444,361 less than in September 1895. In the class of metals the only decrease shown is one of £86,871 (or 32.5 per cent.) in the value (£180,318 in September 1896) of exports of unwrought and wrought copper, which is coupled with an increase of more than cent. per cent. in the value (amounting to £255,684 in September last) of the imports of unwrought and part wrought copper. Iron and steel have increased by £269,407 (though under this head tinplates show a decline of nearly £125,000). The exports of coal and patent fuel were less than those of September 1895 by 66,609 tons in quantity, and by £100,164 in value.

Re-Exports of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.—The amount of these for September was £3,301,511, as compared with £3,907,836 in September of last year, the decrease during the completed nine months of the year amounting to £3,404,567 or 7.5 per cent.

Tomage of vessels entered and cleared.—During September the total tonnage of vessels entered at all ports of the United Kingdom from Foreign Countries and British Possessions was 2,770,931 tons, being 279 tons less than in September 1895. The tonnage cleared was 3,185,196 tons, or 52,260 more than during the corresponding month of last year. Of vessels entered Coastwise the tonnage was 2,613,047 tons and of vessels cleared 2,581,337 tons, as compared with 2,689,240 and 2,549,820 tons respectively in September 1895.

EXAMINATIONS FOR MINING MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.

The following examinations will be held for certificates of competency for the position of Manager or Under Manager of a Mine. Intending candidates should apply to the respective Secretaries of the Examination Boards:—

Midland District, 29th, 30th, and 31st October. Secretary, Mr. William Saunders, Wilson-street, Derby. (Applications to be sent in on or before 28th October.)

West Scotland District, 27th and 28th November. Secretary, Mr. Stuart Foulis, 140 Hope-street, Glasgow. (Applications to be sent in on or before 20th November.)

RECENT PROGRESS IN CO-OPERATION.

England and Wales.—One new distributive society has been registered during the month, one existing society has opened a new department, and a Boot and Shoe Productive Society at Wellingboro', and a Tanners' Society at Canterbury have commenced business. Two distributive societies at Goytrey and Fairford are reported as dissolved.

Four distributive societies report reductions in the working hours of their employees.

Scotland.—No new societies were registered during the month, but five existing distributive societies opened ten new branches and departments.

At the half-yearly Convention of Scotch Co-operative Societies held at Edinburgh a series of recommendations were adopted to the effect that in connection with all co-operative societies some portion of the profits should be set apart for the benefit of the workers by either (1) increasing their remuneration, (2) enabling them to become shareholders, (3) providing superannuation or pensions in old age under such conditions as the society concerned may fix.

Ireland.—One new agricultural and dairying society has been registered during the month, and a new department has been opened by the Irish Co-operative Agency to enable the members of the various co-operative agricultural societies to combine in marketing their barley, &c.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—During September 31,715 passengers left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe, as compared with 37,139 in September 1895.

British and Irish.—Of the 31,715 passengers, 21,053 were of British and Irish origin, being 3,554 less than the number which left a year ago. This decrease was in the number of passengers leaving for the United States and British North America. For the nine months ended 30th September the number of British and Irish passengers was 129,444, a decrease of 19,682 (or 13'2 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

Below are the figures for September 1896 and 1895 :-

	Destination	September 1896.	September 1895.			
United States British North	 America	***	20 30 30 and	000	13.333	17,575
Australasia South Africa	139				1,378 3,086	1,067
Other places	tine leade		leas be		1,439	1,224
	Totals		elledi		21,053	24,607

Foreign.—The remainder of the 31,715 passengers, viz., 10,662, were foreigners and others whose nationality was not distinguished, being 1,870 less than for September 1895.

Alien Immigration.—During September the number of aliens who arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent was 7,746. Of these, 3,754 were stated to be en route to America, as compared with 6,085 in September of last year. Those not stated to be en route to America numbered 3,992 (including 795 sailors), the number in September 1895 being 4,608 (including 1,136 sailors).

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Cotton Statistics.—The imports of raw cotton during September were nearly 2½ times as great as in September 1895, and nearly double those of September 1894. This great increase is entirely due to American cotton, the number of bales of that class imported in the three periods being 99,469, 27,785 and 31,122 respectively. The quantity of raw cotton forwarded from ports to inland towns during the month was, however, less than in September 1895 or 1894. For the nine months ended 30th September the quantity imported was less by 590,009 bales (or 23:1 per cent.) than in the corresponding period of 1895, the falling off in American cotton being over 620,000 bales. The following are the figures for the different periods:—

of bise er						rarded from P	Exports.
ranted in				Bales.		Bales.	Bales.
September	1896		DUE.	115,246		202,919	 13,66
"	1895			47,414		221,480	 35,901
"	1894			59,000		246,262	 38,905
Nine mont	hs end	ling					
Septemb	er 189	6		1,970,660	4	2,223,826	 273,310
,,	189	5	•••	2,561,066		2,334,636	 329,307
	180	14	225000	2.351.071	16 S. Carl	2.372.305	363.662

Bankruptcies.—The number of bankruptcies gazetted during September was 271, being 20 less than in September 1895, 28 less than in September 1894, and 130 less than in September 1893.

October 1896.

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 21 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended 26th September were £6,454,509, an increase of £63,170 (or 1 per cent.) over the figures for the corresponding four weeks of 1895. From passenger traffic the receipts were £3,110,885, a decrease of £29,116 (or 9 per cent.), while from goods and mineral traffic they amounted to £3,343,624, an increase of £92,286 (or 2 8 per cent).

Fishery Statistics.—During September fish and shell-fish to the value of £614,941 were landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom. This represents an increase of £4,110 on the value for September, 1895, the value of the fish landed having increased in England and Wales by £19,525, and in Ireland by £11,861, while it has decreased in Scotland by £27,276.

LABOUR CASES IN SEPTEMBER.

THE following are among the more interesting legal cases of the month specially affecting labour of which the Department has received information. The accounts are based principally upon reports appearing in local newspapers. A general statistical account of prosecutions under the Factory and Workshop Acts, the Mines Acts, and the Merchant Shipping Acts will be found in the next column.

(1) EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACT.

Meaning of "Workman" under the Act.—Plaintiffs, the widow and daughter of a foreman engineer who was killed by an explosion, sued his employers for damages. Deceased had risen in defendants' service to the position of foreman engineer, and at the time of his death, was earning a salary of $\pounds 2$ 15s. a week. In cross-examination it was admitted that the deceased did not work with his own hands, but that his duty was to superintend. The judge non-suited the plaintiffs on the ground that there was no evidence to show that deceased was a workman.—City of London Court, September 18th.

(2) MINES REGULATION ACT.

Use of improperly fitted lamps.—A lamp man and a colliery deputy were both fined 40s. and costs, the former for neglecting to see that a lamp given to a trammer was perfectly put together when given out, and the latter for failing to examine the lamp. The trammer, to whom the lamp was given, was fined 5s. and costs for using it,—Barnsley Police Court, September 23rd.

Smoking in a coal mine.—Three miners were fined 20s. and costs each for smoking in a coal mine. It was stated that there was no gas in the mine, but that coal dust was present in such quantities that an explosion was probable.—Lanchester Police Court, October 1st.

(3) FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT.

Jewish Employer.—Workshop open for traffic on Sunday.—A tailor, a Jew, was summoned for permitting his workshop to be open for traffic on a Sunday, contrary to Section 51 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1878. The defendant, being a Jew, was employing Jews on a Sunday, but was not entitled to keep his workshop open for traffic, which in this case did not constitute buying and selling, but only the coming and going of Jewish outworkers for the purpose of giving up goods or taking away materials. The case was stated to be a test one. Plaintiff was fined is.—Thames Police Court, September 30th.

(4) MISCELLANEOUS.

Publication of a poster requesting men not to work for a firm of employers.—Plaintiffs, a firm of painters and decorators, moved for an interim injunction to restrain the five defendants, four of whom had been painters in the employ of the plaintiff firm, from publishing a poster or placard in the following terms:—"Strike of painters.—In consequence of the employment by this firm of labourers at labourers' wages, for doing the work of painters, and after due notice to remedy the same without effect, the Painters' Union, together with the non-union painters employed by this firm, resolved to strike the shop. Painters are respectfully requested not to apply for work at the above firm until after the settlement of this dispute." The plaintiffs denied the allegation contained in the placard that they employed labourers at labourers' wages to do the work of painters. It appeared, however, that the plaintiffs employed certain handy men at a lower rate of wages, according, as they alleged, to the custom of the trade, to do preparation work, such as cleaning paint, rubbing down and stripping off paint work, repairing walls, &c., which the defendants said was the proper work of painters. The judge refused the motion on the grounds that the case came within the decision of Bonnard v. Perryman, which laid down that an injunction ought not to be granted except in the clearest cases, which are defined to be those in which, if a jury do not find the matter complained of as libellous, the Court will set aside the verdict as unreasonable. In the present case the judge stated that though the publication of the placard was prima facie a libel, the defendants were prepared to justify it, and he had no alternative but to refuse to make an order. Costs to be costs in the action.—Chancery Division, September 17th.

INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN SEPTEMBER.

I.—Under Factory and Workshop Acts. (Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Informations laid.	Con- victions		of altie	100		of osts.	
By Owners, Managers, &c.:-		peop	£	s.	d.	f	s.	d.
Neglecting to Limewash	I	I	I	0	0	0	10	6
Neglecting to provide sufficient, suitable or separate sanitary conveniences	I	I	1	0	0	I	I	(
Neglecting to Fence Machinery	5	4		0		I	I	
Employing Young Persons without necessary Certificates	51	50	23	10		19	14	T.
Employing Children under the legal age Illegal Hours or Times of Employment—	I	I	0	5	0		9	1
Before or after the legal hour	41	41	18	I	0	18		
During meal times, or without proper intervals for meals	17	17	2	15	0	7	10	1
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day substituted	35	23	4	7	6	15	12	
On Sundays or holidays, or children on successive Saturdays	2	2			0		10	
At night	4	4	0	70	0	2	7	
Employing children full time, otherwise than in morning and afternoon sets, &c.	13	13	8	0	0	6	17	
Illegal employment by Jew of Jewish persons Neglecting Rules as to Registers, Abstracts, Notices, &c.—	7	4	2	0	0	I	3	
Not keeping Registers	22	22	IO	14	6	7	9	
Not affixing or properly filling up Notices and Abstracts	13	12	1950	3	6	5	10	
Not sending Notices required by Act	6	6	4	5	0	3	I	
Prosecutions for Breach of (or not affixing) Special Rules	2	2	I	0	0	1	4	
By Workmen:— Allowing children to clean machinery in motion, &c. By Parents:—	2	2	0	12	6	1	3	
Not causing Children to attend School	I	1	0	1	0	0	4	
Total for Sept. 1896	224	206	98	12	6	93	11	100
Total for Sept. 1895	154*	169*	13	2 0	11	65	19	

* The number of convictions in this month was greater than the number o informations laid, the practice in Scotland being to lay one information agains one person, however many offences he is charged with

II.—Under the Mines Acts.

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu-	Con- victions.	Cases with- drawn.	Cases dis- missed.	Amount of Fines and Costs.
By Owners, Managers, &c.—	1	[81 S]	192		£. s. d.
Fencing	I	I	-		£ s. d. 5 0 0
Ventilation	_	-	-	-	I de grante de
Shafts and Manholes	12	-		-	-
Miscellaneous	4	2	-	2	7 1 0
By Workmen-		SER SE			Lazor
Safety Lamps	12	II	-	I	12 11 6
Shot-firing and Explosives Timbering	10	7	STOTA ON	go sitto	5 16 0
- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	The state of the s	9		1	2 12 6
Riding on Trams	3	3			6 0 0
Miscellaneous	17	17	-	-	16 2 I
Total for Sept. 1896	57	53		4	61 9 1
Total for Sept. 1895	33	32	100000	1	38 3 0

III.—Under the Quarries Act. (Supplied by the Home Office.)

* In September 1895 there was one prosecution and conviction

IV.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts.

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

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu-	Convic-	Penalties.	Total Costs.
By Owners or Masters of Ships:—	E 1	No.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Carrying passengers in excess of certificate	2	2	37 7 0	0 14 0
Non-entry in official log	I	I	2 0 0	4 8 6
By Seamen :-	881	283	508	asdmud ka
Frauds in connection with dis- charge note	namo W	I,	100	0 8 6*
By Boarding-house Keepers:-		3	1 10 0	1 5 of
Illegal supply	3	3	1 10 0	1 5 01
Total for Sept. 1896	7, 7,000	7	41 17 0	6 16 0
Total for Sept. 1895	14	14	91 19 0	20 15 6

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

(Supplied by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies

Nature of Offence.	Prosecutions.	Fines and Costs.
Under the Friendly Societies Acts— Failing to send Annual Returns " Quinquennial Valuations	26	£ s. d.
Under the Industrial and Provident Societies	3 1 2	A 100 CHO 100 CHO
Failing to send Annual Return	2	2 2 0 -
Total	30	19 17 0

* Court Fees.

WORK OF LABOUR BUREAUX IN SEPTEMBER.

During September, 2,373 applications for work were registered by the 13 bureaux making returns. Private employers engaged 1,164 persons, and local authorities 328. Of these 1,492 persons engaged, 809 are stated to have obtained work of a temporary character only. Of the 2,913 workpeople on the registers at the end of the month, 2,013 were men, 813 women and girls, and 87 lads and boys.

Taking the figures of the 9 bureaux which also furnished returns for September 1895, it will be seen that the number of fresh applicants for work decreased by 37.8 per cent., the total for September being 1,377, and for September 1895, 2,215.

	20.		-	
(I.)	Work	Dona	in	September

Name and	No. of Fresh Applica- tions by		No. of Situa- tions offered by Employers		No. of Workpeople found Work by Bureaux.				
Address of	Work	people ring	during		Pri	ged by vate loyers.	Engaged by Local Authorities.		
Labour Bureau.	Sept.	Sept.	Sept.	Sept.		1 3 3 3 3 3 3			
	1896.	1895.	1896.	1895.	Sept. 1896.	Sept. 1895.	Sept. 1896.	Sept. 1895.	
London. St. Pancras (College St.)	118	219	67	97	50	97	temp. {	temp. 54 perm.	
Battersea (Lavender Hill)	185	298	43	46	43	46		-	
Islington	253	281	218	248	122	126	89	81	
(Barnsbury St.) St. Martin (Town Hall)	89	83	79	40	35	22	temp.	-	
Hackney (Old Town Hall)	161		59	18	temp.	temp.	200		
Salvation Army* (Whitechapel Rd.)	369	943	46	+ {	579 perm. 30	1,199 perm.	} -	-	
Y.W.C.A.		E150			10000	100000000000000000000000000000000000000			
(George St., (1) Hanover Sq.)	83	+	61	40	30	20			
Provincial. (2)	357	+	462	+	85	83		-	
Salford (Town Hall)	43	42	15	7	6	4	5	27	
Ipswich (Tower St.)	66	69	50	65	27	37	-	-	
Plymouth (East St.)	96	70	138		67	40	_	-	
Liverpool (Municipal Bgs.)	158	210	5	3	I		3	I	
Glasgow (158 George St.)	395		89		42		I		
Total	2,373		1,332		1,164		328		

(II.) Workpeople	on	Register	s at end	of Sent.	class	sified	by Occ	upations.
		and the same			No. of Concession, Name of Street, or other Persons, Name of Street, or other Persons, Name of Street, Name of		1/	THE REAL PROPERTY.

	Men.									
Name of Labour Bureau.	Build- ing, En- gineer- ing and Metal Trades.	Carmen Stable- men, Horse- men, &c.	Clerks and Ware- house- men.	Porters and Messen- gers.	General Labour- ers.	Other Occu- pations.	Total Men.			
London.			SHO!	-0	-		339			
St. Pancras Battersea	41 8	24	23	78	97 86	76	112			
Islington	80	53	3 16	89	53	3 5	296			
St. Martin-in-the-	5	7	4	27	5	11	59			
Fields and Strand					A COURT OF STREET		200			
Hackney Salvation Army	67	28	12	36	12I 26	71 60	335 191			
Provincial.	12	40	24	20	20	00	101			
Salford	32	22	15	5	75	29	178			
Ipswich	1	24	3	5 16	26	28	98			
Plymouth	20	24	12	8	37	33	184			
Liverpool	10	8	12	3	24	16	73			
Glasgow	26	16	24	24	36	72	198			
Total Number	305	253	148	317	586	404	2,013			

Total Number	305	253	1	48 3:	17 5	86 4	04	2,013	
			Wol	men and	i Girls.	Protest and	Grand Total.		
Name of Labour Bureau.	Lads and Boys.	women,	Ser- vants.	Dress- makers and Semp- stresses	Others.	Total Women and Girls.	Macyce	Sept. 1895.	
London.	Ross		amela	restrect a	00/00/07	moveda	Szentsk	100	
St. Pancras	17	39 6	19	7	13	78	434	358	
Battersea	1	61	-	-	-	6 61	119	158 456	
Islington St. Martin-in-the-	14	II	14	3	14	42	111	106	
Fields and Strand		13555	14	ady.	14	Training to	***	700	
Hackneyt	_	t	‡	İ	1	1	335		
Salvation Army*	*	*	*	*	*	*	191	697	
Y.W.C.A {(1)	-	_	-	71	65	136	136		
(2)	-	30	191	-	160	381	381	•••	
Provincial.				- esoki	keldalae	5	183	292	
Salford Ipswich	5	-	-	200	5	11	114	125	
Dlama outh +	5	7	4	t	t	BUCT	139	151	
Liverpool	12	7	a la	P. C STAR	nes - brok	† 7	92	165	
Glasgow	23	30	27	-	29	86	307		
Total Number	87	191	255	81	286	813	2,913		

PAUPERISM IN SEPTEMBER.

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

THE number of persons relieved in 35 selected urban districts of the United Kingdom on one day in the second week of September was 318,713. This corresponds to a rate of 206 per 10,000 of the estimated population of these districts in 1896.

Compared with August there is an increase of 1,000 in the number relieved, and of 1 in the rate per 10,000. In twenty-one districts the rate increased slightly; in the East London, Newcastle and North Staffordshire districts it was unchanged; and in the eleven remaining districts it decreased, the largest decrease being 10 per 10,000 in the Wolverhampton district.

Compared with September 1895 the number relieved is less by 4,237 and the rate per 10,000 by 5. The decrease was almost entirely confined to outdoor pauperism. In eight districts the rate has increased, viz., in Dublin (9), Bristol and Dundee and Dunfermline (6 each), Leicester, Edinburgh and Leith, and Coatbridge and Airdrie (3 each), Belfast (2), and West London (1). In Leeds the rate remained the same. The greatest decreases took place in Stockton and Tees (33), Barnsley (31), Cork, Waterford and Limerick (21), Galway (19), Sheffield (17), Wolverhampton (16), West Ham and Nottingham (13 each), Halifax and Huddersfield, and Hull (11 each).

woods all Almales, making as was but tropped to decide			ne day in stember 1		Paupers spondi in previo	on corre- ng date ous year.
Selected Urban Districts.	In- door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.	Rate per 10,000 of esti- mated Popula- tion.	Total Number.	Rate per 10,000 of estimated Population.
ENGLAND & WALES.*	SA WAS	ADD	11 300	4		
Metropolis. West District	9,995	2,463	12,458	160	12,217 21,784 10,295	159
North District	13,377	8,136	21,513	207 427	21,784	211 435
Central District East District	6,652	3,325	9,977	229	16.686	234
South District	19,200	18,535	37,735	230	16,686 37,346	231
Total Metropolis	61,560	36,508	98,068	222	98,278	225
West Ham	1,693	6,766	8,459	200	8,760	213
Other Districts.	1	Spins 1	ROSS (SEE	a mark		107
Newcastle District	1,479	4,371	5,850	161	5,949 5,843	167 293
Stockton & Tees District Bolton, Oldham, &c	969 3,025	4,339 7,850	5,308	260 181	11,000	154
Wigan District	1,641	7,197	8,838	233	8 996	241
Manchester District	7,534	6,566	14,100	167	14,160 17,755 4,388	169 200
Liverpool District	9,197	8,179	17,376	194 123	4 388	125
Bradford District Halifax & Huddersfield	978	3,343	4,970	135	5,338	146
Leeds District	1,690	6,042	7,732	186	7,657	186
Barnsley District	640	2,925	3,565	178	4,115 6,156	209
	2,130	3,489 5,634	5,519	154 289	6,844	300
North Staffordshire	1,750	6,398	8,148	247	8.156	250
Nottingham District	1,503	5,335	6,838	190	7,177	203
Leicester District	973	2,981	3,954	204 802	7,177 3,815 17,218	201 318
Wolverhampton District Birmingham District	3,618	13,602	16,473 5,866	111	6.173	1:8
Birmingham District Bristol District	2,338	8,927	11,265	328	6,173 10,950	322
Cardiff & Swansea	1,606	5,755	7,361	222	7,312	227
Total "Other Districts"	46,020	109,173	155,193	195	159,002	202
SCOTLAND.*	3,176	13,815	16,991	206	16.888	207
aisley & Greenock Dist.	569	2,434	3,003	194	16,888 3,110 6,215	202
dinburgh & Leith Dist.	1,270	5,115	6,385	182	6,215	179
Dundee & Dunfermline	930	2,872	3,802	196 222	3,665 2,924	. 190 225
berdeen oatbridge & Airdrie	473 285	2,448	2,921 1,406	165	1,361	162
otal for the above Scottish Districts	6,703	27,805	34,508	198	34,163	198
IRELAND.	5,802	0.070	0	248	8,401	239
ublin District elfast District	3,246	2,913	8,715 3,583	114	3,469	112
ork, Waterford &	4,185	5,375	9,560	398	10,170	419
Limerick District 5	344	283	627	172	707	191
otal for the above Irish Districts	13,577	8,908	22,485	238	22,747	242
etal for above 35 dis- tricts in September	129,553	189,160	318,713	206	322,950	211
otal for previous month	128,536	189,177	317,713	205	323,837	211

* Exclusive of Vagrants; of Patients in the Fever and Small-pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Board; 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.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN SEPTEMBER.

THE numbers of workpeople of the undermentioned classes killed or injured by accidents reported in September 1896 and 1895 respectively were as follows:-

ASULE BEEVACUUM ASURUMAN C	Kill	led.	Injured.		
Occupations.	Sept. 1896.	Sept. 1895.	Sept. 1896.	Sept. 1895.	
Railway Servants	42	36	1,164	520*	
Seamen	109	129	145	520* + 567	
Miners	72	2	43I 55	37	
Factory and Workshop Operatives	40	34	{ 1,196 1,649	1,035	
Others (so far as reported)	3	6	112	111	
Totals	274	288	4,752		

* See note to Table I. below. + No returns.

The particulars are given in greater detail in the following Tables :-

I. Railway Servants.

(Supplied by the Railway Department of the Board of Trade.)

Table showing the number of railway servants reported as killed or injured by accidents in which the movement of railway vehicles was concerned during the month of September 1896.

[The number of Servants employed by the Railway Companies of the United Kingdom was 465,112 on 31st December 1895,]

		Number of Persons injured, distinguishing Class of Accident.								
Class of Service.	Killed	Caus- ing Ampu- tations.		Contu- sions and Bruises	Cuts, Sprains, Burns, &c.	Unspeci- fied and Miscel- laneous Injuries.	Total of In- juries.			
Brakesmen and Goods Guards	2		8	24	16	21	69			
Engine Drivers	·		6	16	II	II	44 62			
iremen			3	14	19	26	62			
Guards (Passenger) Permanent Way Men (not	I		I	3	2	1	7			
including Labourers)	9	I	I	5	2	7	16			
Porters	9,8		8	27	5 9	9	49			
Shunters	4		2	23	9	13	47			
tractors' Servants)	13	2	10	31	14	26	83			
Total for Sept. 1896	37	3	39	143	78	114	377			
Total for Sept. 1895	31	7		105		93	205			

Note.—In addition to the above the companies have reported 5 servants killed and 787 injured by accidents occurring on the companies' premises, but in which the movement of vehicles was not concerned, during September. These figures have been reported in accordance with a new order recently issued by the Board of Trade, and are scarcely comparable with those for September 1895.

II. Seamen (Fatal and Non-fatal Accidents).

(Supplied by the Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen.)

Table showing the number of persons forming the crews of registered vessels of the undermentioned classes, belonging to the British Islands, reported during the month of September 1896 as having been killed or injured by accidents at sea, or in rivers or

[The returns of non-fatal injuries are probably far from complete, the

tabula	tion being	ng first	made in	Februa	iry last	.]	
J. A. P. A. P. A. F.	nuiselles	Numb	er repor	ted as K	illed or	Injured.	507 1009
300.20	necke H	In Sep	T-1-1-6	C			
Cause and Class of Accident.	On Tr		On Fi Vess	shing sels.	Total in Sep.	Total for 3 months July 1896 to	
	Sailing.	Steam.	Sailing.	Steam.	1896.	Sep. 1896	
IBy Wreck or	With the	Springer	Name of the last	The same			Blast of
Casualty- Killed	26		3		29	110	175
Fractures and Dislocations	I				1	6)	No
Other or unspeci- fied Injuries	1	3			4	25	returns.
IIBy other Acci-	abstate	Cart Hall	bac this	28			1
dents— Killed Fractures and	24	46	8	2	80	198	235
Dislocations		18	77.00	I	26	114	No
Other or unspeci- fied Injuries		78	8	2	114	410)	returns.
Total Killed Total Injured	50	46 99	11 8	2 3	109	308 555	410 No returns.

III. Miners and Quarrymen.*

Table showing the number of persons reported as killed or injured in and about mines and quarries, during the month of September 1896. [The number of persons employed in and about mines was returned as 733,657, and in and about quarries as 104,625 in 1895.]

Mines.			Quarries.						
Cause of		ber of sons	Cause of Accident.	Num Pers	ber of sons				
Accident.	Killed.	Injured.	Accident.	Killed.	Injured.				
Underground:— Explosions of Firedamp Falls of ground Miscellaneous	3 36 4 17	15 178 11 163	Explosives or Blasting Falls of ground During Ascent or Descent	3	5 16				
Total Surface:— Miscellaneous	60	367 64	Miscellaneous	5	34				
Total for Sept. 1896	72	431	Total for Sept. 1896	8	55				
Total for Sept. 1895	81	567	Total for Sept. 1895	2	37				

* Supplied by the Home Office.

IV. Factory and Workshop Operatives.*

Table showing the number of persons reported to H.M. Chief Inspector by Certifying Surgeons as killed or injured during the month of September 1896.

[The classes of accidents reported are those specified in Section 18 of the Factory and Workshop Act of 1895.]

Constitution and the same	A' 11	Num	ber of I	Persons In Class of	njured, d Acciden	listinguis t.	hing					
ods. Physical sprace of an array of the sprace of the spra	Killed	Causing Amputa- tions.	Fractures.	Injuries to Head or Face.	Loss of Sight of one or both Eyes.	Lacera- tions, Con- tusions, and other Injuries.	Total persons Injured.					
7100			1	Males			2.00000					
Adults (over 18) Young Persons Boys	33 5 2	100 65 3	48 30 I	45 16 	4	430 238 11	627 349 15					
Total Males	40	168	79	61	4	679	991					
	3 100	Females.										
Adults (over 18) Young Persons Glrls		29 17 1	7 6	8 1		75 58 3	119 82 4					
Total Females		47	13	9		136	205					
Total Males and Fe- males for Sep. 1896	40	215	92	70	4	815	1,196					
Total for Sep. 1895	34	-		1,035			1,035					

* Supplied by the Home Office. † There were also 1,649 other non-fatal ceidents only required to be reported to H.M. Inspectors. Y. Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894.

(Supplied by the Railway Department of the Board of Trade.)

Table showing the number of persons killed and injured in accidents reported to the Board of Trade under the Notice of Accidents et. 1804, during the month of September 1896.

their some us down	Cor	astruction	or Rep	air.	Use or Working. Number of Persons.						
	N	umber o	f Person	s.							
Nature of Works,		i ioni	Injured.	The same		Injured.					
&o.	Killed	Fractures and Dislocations.	Other In- juries.	Total.	Killed	Fractures and Dislocations.	Other In- juries.	Total.			
The same of the sa	State 8	1		10000	HER LA	dell se	soma Cer	ALC: N			
Bridge		•••	2	2		•••					
Canal	01	nic the	I	I	•••	***	3	3			
Railway*	2	4	41	45	***	•••	0				
Tramroad		THE PARTY OF			•••		4	4			
Tramway	***		2	25	***						
Tunnel	·	2	23	29	***	•••	I	I			
Other Works†		does not		29							
Traction engine‡	ACI	does not	appry.	***			A CONTRACTOR	-			
Total for Sept. 1896	3	10	94	104			8	8			
Total for Sept. 1895	6	11	65	76		3	32	35			

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

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

(Based on Home Office Return.)

DURING September 87 cases of lead poisoning in factories and workshops were reported, as compared with 76 cases in August. Of those affected 50 were men, 29 women, and 8 young persons (five lads and three girls). Three cases of anthrax (men) were also reported.

TRADE DISPUTES IN SEPTEMBER.

(Based on information obtained from Local Correspondents, returns from Employers and Trade Unions, and newspaper reports. Application for particulars is made to the Employers and Trade Unions affected in each dispute, and the information so obtained up to the time of going to press is used.) Number and Magnitude.—Fifty-one disputes occurred in September 1896, compared with 90 in August, and

66 in September 1895. In 47 of the disputes 8,181 workpeople were affected.

Trades Affected .- In the building trades II disputes occurred, 10 involving II5 workpeople; mining and quarrying, 3 disputes, 1 involving 2,800 workpeople; engineering and shipbuilding, 15 disputes, involving 1,925 workpeople; miscellaneous metal trades, 3 disputes, involving 520 workpeople; textile trades, 8 disputes, 7 involving 2,582 workpeople; clothing trades, 5 disputes, involving 56 workpeople; dock &c., labour, 1 dispute, involving 31 workpeople; and in the miscellaneous group of trades, 5 disputes, involving 152 workpeople.

Causes.—Of the 51 new disputes, 26 arose chiefly upon wages questions, 12 upon matters connected with working arrangements and quality of material supplied; 5 were on the question of the employment of non-unionists; 5 arose in defence of fellow-workmen; 2 through sympathy with workmen on strike; and the remaining dispute was caused by the employment of a joiner on pattern-making.

Results.—Thirteen old disputes, involving 3,778 workpeople, and 35 new disputes (32 involving 2,712 workpeople) have been reported as settled. In 22 of these disputes, involving 4,046 persons, the workpeople were successful; in 11, involving 1,629 persons, unsuccessful; in 7, involving 372 persons, partially successful; and in 8 disputes (5 involving 443 persons) the results cannot at present be definitely stated.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN SEPTEMBER 1896.

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Est list mer	neonle		nation	
Building Trades. Plasterers & Labourers	Nottingham	Aggingt the good		- Constitution	Sept.	Oct.	proper and war on the same states
Ditto	The same of the sale	plumber in place of one on strike	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1 19000	9	8	Work resumed on termination of plumbers' dispute.
Deighlange	. Ditto		I	12 dir. & indir	9	Sept.	Ditto.
Bricklayers		struck work on July 27th for advance in wa	ges		17	28	Work resumed on termination of labourers' dispute.
Joiners	Devonport	Three joiners struck work in consequence employer refusing to conform to the recogni hours of labour in the district and discharg	e of I	3	3		Still unsettled.
Carpenters & Joiners	. Winsford		our 5	20	19		Still unsettled.
Plasterers Ditto	Dia	(7½ to 7½d. per hour) Objection to the employment of non-unionist Refusal of employer to give a pledge that cert	is I	9	3 19	19	Non-unionists withdrawn. No details of settlement.
Plumbers	Nottingham	In connection with the general strike of plumb		15	5	Oct. 10	Work resumed on termination of
Ditto	Dundee		aws I	4	19	Sept.	plumbers' dispute. Work resumed, the matter in dispute
Sawmillers and	Ditto	To compel a lapsed member to rejoin the un		14 dir.	16	17	being referred to arbitration. Workman joined the union.
Ditto Machinemen	Glasgow	For advance in wages of 2s. per week to two le		14 indir.	18	3 Oct.	Advance granted.
Mining & Quarrying. Coal Miners	Morthur	frame sawyers					Mississipped (melading Core
Stokers	Merthyr	For extra payments on account of alleg difficulties in some of the working places For advance in wages of 5d. per day			4	Sept.	Work resumed pending negotiations with the management.
Slate Quarrymen	D	For reinstatement of suspended colleagues	1		I	707 (B H	Work resumed pending Company's consideration of their demand.
Engineering and	- DE - DE	For remstatement of suspended coneagues	I	2,800	30	•••	Still unsettled.
Shipbuilding Trades. Moulders	Hamilton	For advance in wages of \(\frac{1}{2} \text{d. per hour} \)	1	21	12	anna i	Ditto.
Dítto	Alloa	For advance in wages of is, per week on tir	me i	20	15		Ditto.
Fitters, Turners, &c. (Sewing Machine and Cycle Worls)	Oldham	For advance in wages to some of the hands	1	250	21	23	Advance granted.
Fitters, Turners, &c Engineers, &c	Ebbw Vale London, E.C.	For advance in wages	ent I	84 64	21 17		Still unsettled. Ditto.
Fitters, Turners, &c Pattern-makers	Derby Bury	of non-unionists For advance in wages Against the employment of a joiner at patter	2	54	28	30 00	Ditto. No details of settlement.
Ditto	Sheffield	making Against alleged excessive number of apprentic	217 3 0107	3	510,000	60°0	Still unse tled.
Ditto	Halitax Derby	For advance in wages of 2s. per week		13 23	7 21		Ditto.
Telephone Workers Shipbuilding—	Leeds	Refusal of men to work an extra half hour p	er i	100	21	21	Work resumed on old conditions pending: reconsideration by employers.
French Polishers (in Shipyard)	Hull	For advance in wages of ½d. per hour	I	6	I	11.355	Still unsettled.
Shipsmiths and Strikers	Jarrow	Against the supply of alleged inferior coal fi	or 1	126 dir. & indir.	7	14	Dispute amicably arranged.
Holders-up	Belfast	For advance in wages of is, per week on tan riveting work	k- I	About 1,000	16		No details of settlement.
Painters' Labourers	Blyth	For advance in wages (helpers and fitters comir	ng I	dir. & indir.	21	Oct. 8	The question of advance to be referred
Miscellaneous Metal Trades.		out in sympathy)		Jeal and	The same	200	to arbitration.
Stovegrate Workers Tinplate Workers Nail and Boot Protector	Rotherham Pontardulais	Against the introduction of new rules Behinders objected to the engagement of certai furnacemen as interfering with their promotion	in I	94 36 dir, 350 indir	2 14		New rules withdrawn. Dispute amicably arranged.
	Leeds	Against a rearrangement of piece prices	1	40	18	19	Work resumed for a week's trial of new- system.
_	Renton, Dumbarton- shire	Against the introduction of an apprentice i excess of the number allowed by union rules	in I	16	23	29	Apprentice dismissed,
Warp Dressers Fustian Cutters	Colne	Against a reduction in mages	1		19		Still unsettled.
	Macclesfield	Ditto	: ::	300	I	2.2111	Ditto. Reduction accepted.
Jute Spinners	Ditto	Dittoged	I	45 104 dir. 299 indir	9 14		Work resumed on old conditions. Ditto.
Weavers (Linen Trade)	Leeds Ditto	Against a reduction in piece prices In support of winders on strike against reduction in wages	I	18 300	14 28	Oct. 3 I	Reduction withdrawn. Work resumed on termination of above-
Clothing Trades. Boot & Shoe Makers Boot & Shoe Operatives	Shipley Manchester	For advance in wages	. I	10	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	st Oct.	dispute.
Military Cork Head-	2012/19 15:00	of work For reinstatement of a discharged fellow work		15		Washing or	Work resumed at old rates.
dress Makers	OV S GIVE LES	man and for alteration in shop regulations	1	5	28		Still unsettled.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN SEPTEMBER 1896—continued.

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Es- tablish- ments.	Work- people.	Com- mence- ment.	Termi- nation.	Result.
- Selfe sendered A	M-4111	Against starting a fresh hand while the old	I	20	Sept.	Sept.	Manager agreed not to start fresh hands
Tailors	Motherwell	hands were not in full work	1 3 3 7 7	20		23	until trade improves.
Ditto	Edinburgh	Alleged refusal of employer to observe the union rule as to men getting work in tuen	I	6	22	26	Employer agreed to observe the union rule.
Dock, &c., Labour.	Bristol	For extra payment of 6d. per hour for dis- charging a cargo of heated maize	Í	16 dir. 15 indir.	16	17	An advance of 3d. per hour granted.
Miscellaneous Trades. Cabinet-makers	Leicester	Against the substitution of piece work for day work	I	6	21	23	Work resumed at day rates.
Ditto	Blackburn	For advance in wages and reduction in hours	6 <u>-</u> 00	45	21	28	Wages advanced from 7½d. to 8d. per hour, and hours reduced from 54 to 51
Upholsterers Cigarette-makers	London, E.C. Glasgow	For an advance in piece work prices Dispute as to day on which wages should be paid	I	9	15	18	per week. Advance granted. No details of settlement.
Coopers	Mid and West Lothian	For advance in wages of is. per week	5	50	9	16	Advance granted.
Flint Glass Makers	Brierley Hill .	Refusal of employer to take back a former work- man except at a rate below the current rate of wages	i de la compa	42	5	1000	Some of the men have returned to work, others have been replaced.

II. - DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE SEPTEMBER, AND WERE SETTLED IN THAT MONTH.

Building Trades. Bricklayers and	Leeds	For advance in wages of ½d. per hour, and altera-	130	About 1,600	1 Мау	Sept.	Advance of ½d. per hour to bricklayers,
Bricklayers' Labourers		tions in working rules.		dir. and indir.	9816.0		ld. per hour to labourers, with promise of another ld. on September 19th 1897; working rules amicably arranged.
Joiners Builders' Labourers	Winsford Scarborough	For advance in wages of 4s. per week For advance in wages from 5½d. to 6d. per hour	1 25	About 150	8 July 25 July	17 26	Advance of rs. per week granted. Work resumed; dispute to be submitted to arbitration.
Painters	Portsmouth	For advance in wages of ½d. per hour		160	т Мау	12	Work resumed at old rate of wages by those who had not been replaced.
Coal Mining.	Near Coleford, Glos	Dispute as to prices to be paid for coal cutting	I	30	(las ed	a week)	Work resumed on day to day contracts.
Ditto	Near Wakefield	Employer objected to the appointment of a certain checkweighman	I	About 1,000	Aug.	24	Work resumed with the checkweighman in question
Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades. Moulders, &c	Grantham	Alleged objectionable conduct of foreman	I	83	31 Aug.	22	Work resumed; the foreman objected
Moulders' Apprentices Pattern-makers	Leeds Springburn,	For advance in wages of is. per week	I	2I 15	24 Aug. 29 Aug.	7	to being retained. Work resumed at old rates. Advance granted.
Miscellaneous Metal	Glasgow	The same of the sa					STATE OF THE PARTY
Trades. Spring Makers	West Bromwich	For advance in wages of 12½ per cent	1	131	18 June	29	Work resumed on old conditions by as many of the men as work could be found for.
Textile Trades. Cotton Spinners	Accrington	Against the discharge of a spinner and alleged bad material	I	50 dir.	1 July	28	Work resumed as before.
Cotton Weavers and Winders	Burnley	Alleged unfair discharge of a winder	I	144	22 April	1	The winder to be allowed to recom- mence work when a vacancy occurs.
Twine Spinners and Dressers	Grimsby	Against a proposed reduction in wages	I	40 dir. 31 indir.	ı Aug.	26	Work resumed at old rates.
Clothing Trades. Tailors (Middlemen)	London, E	For advance in prices paid by the wholesale firm	A	About 330	14 Aug.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Work accepted on old terms.
Miscellaneous Trades. Brushmakers	Glasgow	For uniform list of prices for finishing, entailing advance in wages	6	87	20 Apri	23	List for finishing granted, and an advance of 5 per cent. on common work in two other branches.

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

The following disputes reported in last month's issue as commencing in August were still unsettled:—Plasterers, Cambridge, 10 on strike (since settled, Oct. 3rd); coal miners, Aspull, and Wrexham (since settled, Oct. 3rd); pattern-makers, Oldham; engineers, Hull; lacemakers, Nottingham; coopers, Glasgow; cabinet-makers, Halifax; brass casters and finishers, Dronfield; cotton weavers, Padiham.

The following disputes which commenced before August were also still unsettled:—Coal miners, Durham and Barnsley; plumbers, Nottingham (since settled, Oct. 8th); tailors, Leicester; joiners, Nantwich, Chorley and Cork; cotton-spinners, Slaithwaite; fustian-weavers, Norden; cotton-weavers, Barnoldswick (two disputes); engineers, Keighley and Shipley; brassfinishers, Halifax; fitters, &c., Dowlais; silk dyers, Macclesfield.

The following disputes commencing before September, of which information has only recently been obtained are also still unsettled:

Trade. Locality.		Alleged Cause or Object.	Establish- ments.	Workpeople.	Date of Commencement.	
Coal Miners Packing-case Makers Warpdressers Shipwrights	Swalwell Dublin Bradford Wivenhoe	For advance in wages	I I I	130 28 4 33	18th July. 20th July. 15th Aug. 18th Aug.	

London Cab Dispute — During the month a dispute has arisen in the London cab trade with regard to the so-called "privilege system" adopted by the chief railway companies with regard to the use of stations by cabs. The stoppage thus caused, though generally called a strike, has not been included in the above table, not being due to a dispute between employers and workmen. The stoppage began on September 22nd and still continues. At the beginning 900 cab drivers were said to be affected. Since that date the number involved has varied considerably from time to time involved has varied considerably from time to time.

SHIPPING CASUALTIES 1894-95.*

In the year July 1st 1894 to June 30th 1895, the total number of sea casualties to vessels belonging to the United Kingdom recorded, was 7,556 or 339 more than in the previous year. Of these, 529 (tonnage 153,640) were total losses, a decrease of 55 (tonnage 46,982) as compared with the previous year. The number of serious casualties was also lower than in the previous year. Lives were

* Abstracts of returns to the Board of Trade of Shipping Casualties, July 1st 1894 to June 30th 1895. [C-8247], Price 4s. 4d.

lost in 338 cases and amounted to 1,348 members of the crews, and 1,196 passengers. The number of passengers is considerably higher than for any year in the previous twenty years. The number of members of crews lost is below the average.

The number of casualties to vessels belonging to the British possessions abroad was 714, of which 261 were total losses, and the loss of life 499. The number of casualties occurring to foreign vessels on or near the coasts of the United Kingdom and British possessions was 573, of which 107 were total losses. Eighty-seven lives were lost by 19 of the casualties.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN SEPTEMBER.

(Based on information obtained from Local Correspondents, Superintendents of Mercantile Marine, and from Newspapers* and other sources, with corrections and additions supplied by many Employers, Employers' Associations and Trade Unions.)

Summary.—The total number of workpeople affected by the changes in rates of wages reported during September was 134,000, and the estimated general effect of all the changes on the wages of these persons was an average increase of 1½d. per head per week. About 26,000 received increases amounting on the average to 1s. 9d. per week and 108,000 sustained decreases averaging 3d. per week.

Increases.—Important increases are again reported in the metal trades. In the engineering and shipbuilding

Increases.—Important increases are again reported in the metal trades. In the engineering and shipbuilding industries over 18,000 workpeople have secured advances. This number includes 6,000 shipbuilders on the Clyde and at Belfast, 8,000 engineers at Manchester and 1,340 at Edinburgh and Leith. In other branches of the metal trades 700 fender and fire brass makers have obtained an increase of 10 per cent. under a Wages Board. The remaining increases include 3,000 stonemasons in the London district, whose wages have been increased to 10d. per hour from October 3rd, and 800 workpeople engaged in the woodworking and furnishing trades.

Decreases.—Reductions under sliding scales are reported affecting 107,000 workpeople. This number includes 100,000 miners in South Wales and Monmouthshire, 5,000 blastfurnacemen in Cleveland and 2,000 in Cumberland and North Lancashire. The amount of the reduction in each case is, however, very small.

in Cumberland and North Lancashire. The amount of the reduction in each case is, however, very small.

Method by which Changes of Wages were made.—Of the 134,000 workpeople affected by changes, 108,000 had their wages altered under sliding scales or wages boards, and 26,000 after negotiation, mutual arrangement, or by the authority of employers. Of this latter number the changes in the case of 2,500 persons were preceded or accompanied by strikes, although in some cases only a section of the men whose wages were altered actually struck work. In one case involving 120 men the strike was settled by arbitration.

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 changes in the pay of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c.

Employment.	Locality.	Date of	Num work dir	oximate ber of people ectly	Particulars of Change.	of wag full We clusi	ted Rate ges in a eek, ex- ve of time.	Decrea full We clusi	ase or ase in a eek, ex- ve of time.
Aberton of the patrices	Market S	change.	Inc.	Dec.	(Decreases in Italics.)	Before change.	After change.	In- crease per week.	De- crease per week.
	7 Increass-	-4,239 pers	ons.	BUI	LDING TRADES. 1 Decrease—400 persons.		basi ji	mi konemi	1978
Detablement	Loade	21st Sept.	1	120	name and to realize a lateralize the foreign as a lateral	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Bricklayers Stonemasons Carpenters and Joiners Plasterers Plumbers Lathrenders Builders' Labourers	London District Erith Cambridge Nottingham Newcastle-on-Tyne	3rd Oct. 1st Sept. 1st Oct. 12th Oct.	500 3,000 107 62 120 50 400‡		Advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \)d. per hour (8\frac{1}{2} \)d. to od.) Advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \)d. per hour (9\frac{1}{2} \)d. to od.) Advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \)d. per hour (8\frac{1}{2} \)d. to 8d.) Advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \)d. per hour (7\frac{1}{2} \)d. to 8d.) Advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \)d. per hour (8\frac{1}{2} \)d. to 1\(\frac{1}{2} \)d.) Advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \)d. per foot (1\frac{1}{2} \)d. to 1\(\frac{1}{2} \)d.) Advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \)d. per hour (6d. to 6\frac{1}{2} \)d.), and a further	34 134334 38 3 38 3 36 114 22 6 24 14	35 10 ³ 4 40 9 ¹ 2 40 6 36 6 ¹ 4 39 1 ¹ 4 26 3 24 11	1 9 34 2 3 14 2 2 9 34 2 9 94	
Ditto	Ditto	21st Sept.		4001	advance of \$\frac{1}{4}d\$, per hour on 19th September 1897 Decrease of \$\frac{1}{4}d\$, per hour (6\frac{1}{2}d\$, to 6\frac{1}{4}d\$,) but this decrease will be restored from 19th September 1897	25 11	24 11	we svize	1 0
	1 Inc	rease—100	person		COAL MINING. 1 Decrease—100,000 person	8.			100000
Ditta	South Wales and Monmouthshire	1st Oct.		100,000	Decrease of 1½ per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 10 per cent. above standard of December 1879	-	- 1	in the part	-
Ditto								3 0 1	0.50
Iron and Steel Dressers Steel Smelters, Mill-	2 Increases—587 p	ersons. 12th Sept. 15th Sept.	40 24 (470	ON AN	Advance of 1s. per week	28 0 26 0	29 0 28 0	I 0 2 0	
men, Pitmen, Charge Wheelers and Gas Producermen Millmen	Swansea, Neath, Briton Ferry, Port Talbot and Gorseinon	3rd Oct.	}		Advance of a per cent	-			
Charge Wheelers	Cumberland and Askam	BLITTER BUILDING	(35	1,500	Advance of 2½ per cent. Decrease 1½ per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 1½ per cent. above standard Decrease of 1½ per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages		TEDS!	Dollar	=
Blast Furnacemen	Ulverston	ist Oct.	{	183	2\frac{1}{2} per cent. above standard Decrease of 1 per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 2 per cent. above standard	2 -00 l	A COLUMN	2.7.0°16	
ensitent ; diametrials	Cleveland	3rd Oct.	SE YU	5,000	Decrease of ½ per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 4 per cent. above standard	bells:		militar	1000
	I	ncreases—	Nil.	TIN	PLATE TRADE. 2 Decreases—252 persons.	bosti	i dytets	lie ; sie	WALL.
Tinplate Workers Ditto		7th Sept. 22nd Sept.	:::	52 200	Decrease of 25 per cent	=	-		=
33 Increases-	-18,409 persons.	ENGII	NEERI	NG AI	ND SHIPBUILDING TRADES. Decrease	ses—Nil.	CHANGE A	-	
Fitters Ironfounders Patternmakers Engineers Engineers and Machinists	Lancaster 2 Ditto I Ditto I Bury and District	1st Oct. 6th Sept. 9th Sept. 9th Sept. 1st Oct. 5th Oct.	50 64 6 20 1,000		Advance of is. 6d. per week on old work Advance of 2s, per week Ditto Advance of is. per week Advance of 2s, per week Advance of 2s, per week	33 0 32 0 31 0	35 0 34 0 32 0	I 6 2 0 2 0 I 0 2 0	
Engineers	Manchester {	5th Oct. 5th Oct. 1st Jan. 1897	8.000	{	Ditto	32 0	34 0	2 0 I 0 I 0	
Turners and Fitters Patternmakers Machinemen in Railway Shop	Ditto	9th Sept. 2nd Oct. 8th Sept.	30 20 { 7 0 15		Advances varying from 1s. to 4s. per week Advance of 2s. per week	35 0	37 0	2 0 2 0 1 0	
Machine Workers, Planers, Shapers Ironfounders Ditto	Heywood 2 Barnsley 1	6th Sept. 9th Sept.	{ 15 2 87		Advance of 2s. per week	=		2 0 I 0 2 0	
Ditto Smiths' Strikers Engineers	Northwich 3 Bradford	6th Sept. 3rd Sept. 3rd Oct. 3rd Oct.	90 167 4 600 100	**	Ditto	34 0 22 0 30 0	36 0 24 0 32 0	2 0 2 0 2 0	
Patternmakers	Ditto	Sept.	3		Ditto	30 0	32 0 36 0	2 0	1111

* In all cases the accuracy of newspaper reports is enquired into before the information is used here.

† Where the winter and summer hours are known to differ in any trade, the weekly rate given in the table is the result of averaging the wages for five summer weeks and two winter weeks. 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.

† The total number of bricklayers' labourers at Leeds affected is returned as 800, but 400 received an advance of ½d, per hour from May 1st (see June GAZETTE pending a general settlement. These men will now forego ½d, of that advance until September 1897.

October 1896	5.	TH	HE I	_AB	OUR GAZETTE.
Employment,	Locality.	Date of change.	Approx Numb workpe direct	er of cople tly	Particulars of Change. Particulars of Change. Particulars of Change. (Decreases in Italics.) Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, exclusive of overtime. Before After change. Change. Increase or Decrease in a full week, exclusive of overtime. Increase or Decrease in a full week, exclusive of overtime. Increase or Decrease in a full week, exclusive of overtime.
- leaving appropriate			Inc.	Dec.	week, week,
		ENGINE	FRING	AND	SHIPBUILDING TRADES (continued.)
Turners	and a second		(25)	29 0 31 0 2 0
Fitters	Derby	28th Sept.	5 6	::: }	Advance of 2s. per week
Engineers Patternmakers	Ditto	7th Oct.	(12)	$\begin{bmatrix} 32 & 0 & 34 & 0 & 2 & 0 & \cdots \\ 30 & 0 & 32 & 0 & 2 & 0 & \cdots \end{bmatrix}$
Fitters and Turners Machinemen	Wolverhampton	12th Sept.	50 10 5	::: }	Ditto $\begin{vmatrix} 26 & 0 & 28 & 0 & 2 & 0 & \cdots \\ 31 & 0 & 33 & 0 & 2 & 0 & \cdots \\ 30 & 0 & 32 & 0 & 2 & 0 & \cdots \end{vmatrix}$
Smiths Jronfounders Platers	Gloucester	9th Sept.	14 3)	Ditto 30 0 32 0 2 0
Brass Moulders	London	Sept.	26		Advance of 2s per week 36 0 38 0 2 0
Ditto	Ditto	Oct.) Sept.	6 4		Advance of 2s. per week
Brass Trimmers Brass Firemen Ironfounders	Ditto Ditto Wrexham	Sept.	2 29		Advance of 2s. per week 34 0 36 0 2 0 Ditto
Blacksmiths Ditto	Aberdeen Dundee	Sept. 25th Sept.	62		Ditto
Ship Joiners	Dundee Springburn,	14th Sept.	50		Advance of 2s, per week
Patternmakers	Glasgow District Dunfermline	14th Sept.	130		Advances of 1s. per week to 55 men and of 1s. 6d. to 75 Advance of 2½ per cent. on piece rates, and 1s. per
Engineers	Edinburgh & Leith	7th Oct.	1,340		week on time rates Advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \), per hour Advance of 5 per cent. on piece rates, and of \(\frac{1}{2} \)d. per
Blacksmiths	Ditto	+th Oot	67		hour on time rates Advance of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour ($7\frac{1}{2}$ d. to $7\frac{2}{3}$ d.) 33 9 34 $10\frac{1}{2}$ A change from time rates to piece work, resulting in
Pattern-Makers Range and Stove Fitters		. 15th Sept	3 apps.		A change from time rates to piece work, resulting in an increase of earnings Advance of 5 per cent. on piece rates, and of is. per — —
Shipbuilders	The Clyde	6th Nov			week on time rates Ditto
Ditto	Belfast	oth Nov.			
Tinplate, Iron and Brass	5 Increases—1,0	53 persons.	, (THE	THE
Workers:— Journeymen		7th Sept	. { 74		Advance of 2s, per week
Labourers, &c. Pen and Pocket Blade Forger	Sheffield	26th Sep	t. 14		Advance of is, per week
Tinplate Workers	Oldham	9th Oct.	. 190	•••	cent. on piece rates
Brass and Iron Fender Makers	Birmingham and Dudley	} 5th Sept	655		Advance of 10 per cent, under Wages Board
Fire Brass Makers Fender Makers (all branches)	Manchester .	5th Sept	45		Ditto
Diamond,		eases—72 p			TEXTILE TRADES. 4 Decreases—427 persons. Readjustment of price list, resulting in an average - - 1 2
Cotton Weavers	Farnworth	14th Sej	pt. 2 male and 3 female	2	advance of is, 2d. per week
Powerlcom Overlookers	TT-11C	21st Sep 4th Sep	pt. 38		Deduction in brices haid for a certain class of goods,
	Halifax Hunslet, Leeds			1:	stated to be equal to a reduction of 55. per week 12 0 II 0 I 0
Fustian Cutters	Macclesfield Wharton, near	Sept.		300	Decrease in piece prices (9d. per raise)
e gleding on the engine	Winsfo	San Landerson		A See	Decreases—Nil.
	ases—809 persons.		7	1	Advence of ld per hour (71d to 8d)* 1 33 9 34 0 0 3
Cabinet-makers French Polishers Cabinet-makers	} Blackburn	28th Se	1 20	8 11 15	Advance of 3d, per hour (7d. to 73d.)* 31 6 34 22 82
French Polishers Cabinet-makers &	Accrington Halifax	4th Se	(10	CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE	Advance of 3d. per hour (7d. to 73d.) and extra pay for 30 II 33 0 2 I
French Polishe Cabinet and Chair	Birmingham	5th Oc	ct. 500		Advance of id. per hour (7id. to 8d.) and 5 per cent. 33 9 30 0 2 3
Makers and Carve Upholsterers Coopers	London, E.C. Mid and West	17th Se			Increase in piece prices for certain work 32 3 33 3 3 0 32 3 33 3 1 0
- 1000 000 10 1000	Loth Increases—190 pers	ian		OYEE	ES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES. Decreases—Nil.
Smiths	11	7	11	2	Advance of 2s, per week 30 0 32 0 2 0 Advance of 1s, per week 20 0 21 0
Smiths' Strikers Tinners Yardsmen in Gas Wor	ks Bradford	4th Se	ept. 6	2	Advance of 2s. 6d. and 11d. per week 21 0 22 0 1 0
Lamplighters Workpeople in Sanit	Broughty Ferry	14th S	ept.	5	Ditto
and Cleansing Dep Auxiliary Fireman	Greenock	Sep	. 1		Advance of 3d. per hour (9d. to 1s.) when attending fires
Carters and Foreman	2 Increases				CELLANEOUS TRADES. 1 Decrease—12 persons.
Joiners in Chemical W Newspaper Composito	orks Winsford and	ver 17th S	ept.	10 1	Allowance of is, per week granted to keep tools in order Decrease in piece prices 42 6 37 6 5 0
Jobbing Printers Brushmakers	Goole Glasgow Distri	28th S et 24th S	ebr.)	SIND OF SELECTION	B Decrease of 1s. per week
The souled of	TO THE REAL PROPERTY.	The day of		U Sales Sales	J per consignation to constant

	9 Incre	ases-120 persons.	SEA	MEN.	Decreases—Nil	-		Will be to		No.	
summer out a real and	tong on the court of the	Occupation.	No. shipped at new Rate during Sept.		Particulars of Change.			Monthly Rates.			
Port.	Voyage.	Occupation.	Increase.	Decrease.	(Decreases in Italics.)		Aug. 1896.	Sept. 1896.	In- crease.	crea	
Ditto	West Indies and East	Firemen Able Seamen Able Seamen Firemen Able Seamen Firemen Able Seamen Able Seamen	61		Increase of 5s. per month Increase of 5s. per month Increase of 5s. per month Increase of 5s. per month Increase of 5s. per month Increase of 5s. per month Increase of 5s. per month Increase of 5s. per month Increase of 5s. per month Increase of so. per month Increase of 5s. per month Increase of 5s. per month Increase of 5s. per month		s. d. 75 0 80 0 70 0 70 0 75 0 70 0 75 0 70 0 75 0	85 0 75 0 80 0 75 0 80 0 75 0 80 0 75 0 80 0	5 0 5 0 5 0 5 0 5 0 5 0 5 0 5 0 5 0 5 0	S	

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING SEPTEMBER.

THE changes in hours of labour reported during September (excluding the slight modification in the hours of London stonemasons) affected 1,931 workpeople, of which number 1,681 had their working hours shortened and 250 had them lengthened. The decreases included 900 building operatives at Leeds, and 125 workpeople in the London fur trade, whose hours have been reduced to 48 per week without loss of pay. The increase in hours of labour at Wolverhampton was mutually agreed to by employers and workpeople, the earnings of the latter being proportionately increased.

Employment.	Locality.	Date of change.	Approxi- mate number of work- people directly affected.	Hours of labour in a full week (exclusive of overtime).		
				Before change.	After change.	Dec. or Inc. pe week.
	I	DECREAS	ES.		No. W. A	
Building Trades. Bricklayers	Leeds	21st Sept.	500	Sum 50 Sum	491	1/2*
Stonemasons† Builders' Labourers	London Dist. Leeds	3rd Oct. 21st Sept.	3,000	44½ 50	44 49½	11 12 12*
Other Trades. Workpeople in Engineering Shop	Salford	15th Sept.	231	53	50	3
Plumbers' Brass- workers	Birmingham	11th Oct.	50	57	54	3
Cabinet-makers and French Polishers	Blackburn	28th Sept.	70	54	51	3*
Ditto Litho. Artists Workpeople in the Fur Trade —	Accrington Potteries	4th Sept.	30 26	54 50	53 47½	1 2½
Male Female } Shop Assistants	London, E.C. Birmingham	7th Sept. 7th Sept.	$\left\{\begin{array}{c} 38\\87\\8\end{array}\right\}$	55 62½	48 59	7 31
Ditto Employees of Co- operative Society	Pendleton Netherfield	24th Sept. 1st Sept.	215 26	56 58	55 54	1 4
	. 1	NCREASE	S.	- A London		
Workpeople in Electrical En- gineering Works	Wolver- hampton	ıst Sept,	250	49	53	4

* See also under Changes in Rates of Wages.

+ This change only applies to the mid-winter period, which has been reduced from 8 to 6 weeks, the summer period being extended from 38 to 40 weeks. There is, therefore, no reduction, but a very slight increase in the average hours per week over the whole year.

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN SEPTEMBER.

(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 September it will be seen that I Co-operative Association for Distribution and I for Production, 16 new Friendly Societies, and 36 new branches of existing Friendly Societies have been added to the Register for the United Kingdom during the past month. 5 Building Societies, 4 Industrial and Provident Societies and 1 Trade Union are reported as having ceased to exist, to have commenced "winding up," or to have had registry cancelled.

NEW ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

Trade Unions.—England and Wales. - None. Scotland. - None. Ireland .- None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—(A) Associations for Distribution.—England and Wales.—Wootton Progressive Ind. Co-op. Soc., 1 Quinton Road, Wootton, Northampton. Scotland. None. Ireland .- None.

(B) Associations for Production.—England and Wales.—None. Scotland .- None. Ireland .- Drummully Co-op. Agricultural and Dairy Soc., Drummully, Cavan.

Friendly Societies.—(A) New Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.— Ordinary Friendly, 4; Dividing, 2; Working Men's Clubs, 9; Juvenile, 1. Scotland—None. Ireland.—None.

(B) New Branches of Existing Societies.—England and Wales.—I.O. Rechabites, 9 (including 1 branch for Females); G.I.O.L. Caledonian Corks, 4; I.O.O.F.M.U., 4; various others, 14. Scotland.—Various, 4. Ireland.—I. N. Foresters, 1.

OLD ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—Milnrow Miners' Association Perseverance Lodge, Milnrow. Scotland .- None. Ireland .-

Industrial and Provident Societies .- England and Wales .- Goytrey Ind. and Prov. Soc., Ltd.; Fairford and Dist. Co-op. Soc., Ltd.; Woodborough Co-op. Land and Building Soc., Ltd. Notice of resolution to wind up has been received from the Co-op. Aid Association, London. Scotland .- None. Ireland .-None.

Building Societies.—By instrument of dissolution, 1; notice of commencement of dissolution, 1; notice of termination of dissolution, 3.

ACCIDENTS ON RAILWAYS.

The report on the accidents that have occurred in the working of the railways of the United Kingdom during 1895* states the number of persons reported to the Board of Trade as having been killed and injured from all causes in such working during the year to have been 5,045 (1,024 killed and 4,021 injured).† With respect to accidents affecting servants of companies or contractors, the total number killed or injured was 3,096 (442 killed, 2,654 injured), of whom 12 were killed and 88 injured from accidents to trains, rolling stock, permanent way, &c., while 430 were killed and 2,566 injured from other causes, including accidents from their own want of caution or misconduct. In all, 16 servants were killed and 331 injured whilst employed in the coupling and uncoupling of vehicles; 94 were killed and 1,127 injured whilst employed in various other shunting operations; 12 were killed and 64 injured by being caught between vehicles; 9 were killed and 54 injured by falling or being caught between trains and platforms; 86 were killed and 148 injured whilst walking, crossing, or standing on the line on duty.

The number of train accidents inquired into in 1895 was 69, in which 17 persons (including 12 servants of the company) were killed, and 424 (including 53 railway servants) were injured. Inquiries were also held by the Sub-Inspectors into 285 cases of accidents involving fatal and other injuries to 290 persons, nearly all of whom were servants of the railway companies, the remainder being contractors' servants and persons at work or transacting business on the companies' premises. "In the majority of these cases recommendations and suggestions were put before the railway companies with a view to securing the greater safety of their servants, and the companies have, with exception of one or two of the larger systems, favourably received these recommendations. As a result improvements have been made in many places by the provision of additional means of lighting up goods yards, sidings, &c., at night, by the covering in of wires and point-rods, and the removal of dangerous obstructions, as well as by the issuing of fresh instructions and regulations, and the adoption of other safeguards recommended by the Sub-Inspectors and approved by the Inspecting Officers." The total number of recommendations thus made is stated to have been 287, of which 175 were adopted. Communications have been addressed to the companies as to the provision of protectors intended to prevent the danger caused by flying class, and essenting steem in the case of hurst gives glass and escaping steam in the case of burst gauge-glasses, and "while many of the companies were already taking steps in this direction, most of the remaining companies have agreed to adopt the safeguard suggested." The companies have also been urged to provide brake handles on both sides of waggons, in order to prevent shunters and others having to pass between the waggons to apply the brakes; and many companies are taking steps in this direction.

* General Report to the Board of Trade upon the Accidents that have occurred on the Railways of the United Kingdom during the year 1895. C.—8246 of 1896. Price 3½d.

+ In addition, the companies have returned 66 persons killed and 5,297 injured from accidents that occurred on their premises, but which were not connected with the movement of railway vehicles, of whom 47 killed and 4,826 injured were servants of companies or contractors.

NOTICE.

Communications respecting the contents of the GAZETTE should b addressed to :-

> THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, 44 Parliament Street, London, S.W.

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