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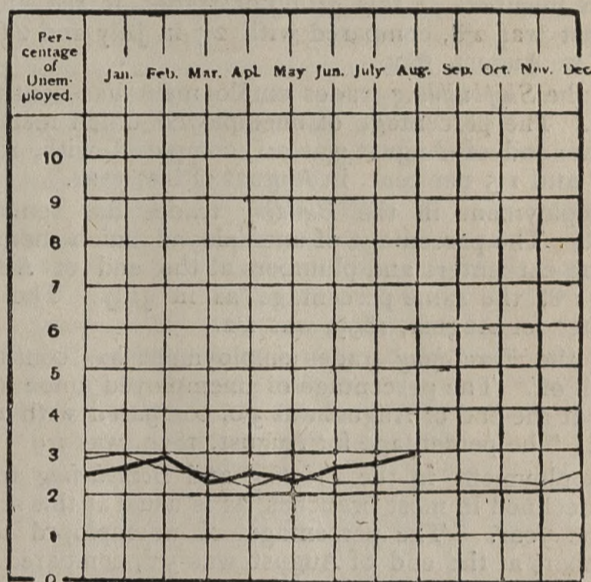
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## EMPLOYMENT CHART, 1899-1900.

Chart showing the percentage of unemployed members of the Trade Unions making returns at the close of each complete month of 1899 and 1900.

[The thick line applies to 1900, the thin line to 1899.]



## STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN AUGUST.

(Based on 2,460 returns, viz.: 1,721 from Employers, 615 from Trade Unions, and 124 from other sources.)

THE state of employment during August continued to show a slight tendency to decline in many important industries, though on the whole employment at the end of the month still remained generally good.

In the 138 trade unions making returns, with an aggregate membership of 534,331, 15,971 (or 3.0 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of August, compared with 2.7 per cent. in July, and with 2.3 per cent. in the 123 unions with a membership of 502,439 from which returns were received for August, 1899.

**Employment in Various Industries.—Coal Mining.**—Employment continues good in this industry, and the number of days worked per week during August at collieries covered by the returns shows an increase as compared with August last year. At collieries at which 455,086 workpeople were employed, the pits worked on an average 5.43 days per week during the four weeks ended August 25th, as compared with 5.23 days in August, 1899.

**Iron Mining.**—Employment continues good on the whole, but is not quite so good as a year ago. The average number of days worked by iron mines and open works, at which 16,928 workpeople were employed, in the four weeks ended August 25th, was 5.55 per week, as compared with 5.74 days per week in August, 1899.

**Pig Iron Industry.**—Employment shows a decline both as compared with July and with August, 1899. At the works of 117 ironmasters 372 furnaces were in blast at the end of August, employing about 25,700 workpeople, as compared with 377 furnaces at the end of July and 382 a year ago.

**Iron and Steel Manufacture.**—The figures relating to employment show a falling off in England and Wales, chiefly owing to holidays, but the decline has been more than counterbalanced by the improvement in Scotland. At 208 works covered by the returns, employing 75,728 workpeople at the end of August, the total volume of employment (taking into account both the numbers employed and the number of shifts worked) has increased by 6.0 per cent. as compared with July, but is 6.3 per cent. less than a year ago.

**Timplate Trade.**—Employment shows a further decline as compared with July, and is considerably worse than a year ago. At the end of August, 349 mills were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of black-plates), compared with 357 mills at the end of July and 395 mills at the end of August, 1899. The number of workpeople employed at the end of August is estimated to be about 17,500.

Employment in the **Engineering** and **Metal** trades has remained fairly good. The percentage of unemployed union members in this group of trades at the end of August was 2.8, compared with 2.7 in July and 2.6 per cent. in August, 1899.

In the **Shipbuilding** trades employment has continued good. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of August was 2.1, compared with 1.8 in July and 1.5 per cent. in August of last year.

Employment in the **Building** trades has remained good. The percentage of unemployed union members among carpenters and plumbers at the end of August was 1.8, the same percentage as in July. The percentage for August, 1899, was 1.2.

In the **Furnishing** trades employment has continued to fall off. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of August was 3.0, compared with 2.6 in July. The percentage for August, 1899, was 1.9.

Employment in the **Printing** and **Bookbinding** trades has declined in most branches, as is usual at this season of the year. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of August was 5.6, compared with 3.9 in July and 5.9 per cent. in August, 1899.

Employment in the **Paper** trades has continued to improve, the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of August being 3.0, compared with 3.5 in July. The percentage for August, 1899, was 4.1.

In the **Glass** trades the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of August was 9.1, compared with 6.8 per cent. in August, 1899.

Employment in the **Leather** trades has continued good. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of August was 2.1, compared with 2.2 in July and 2.5 per cent. in August of last year.

Employment in the **Boot** and **Shoe** trades continues slack.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the **Tailoring** trade is dull but beginning to improve; in the ready-made branch employment has been good on the whole, but now shows a decline.

Employment in the spinning and weaving branches of the **Cotton** trade remains only moderate. Information respecting cotton factories employing about 82,600 women and girls shows that 70 per cent. of those in spinning mills and 67 per cent. of those in weaving factories were working in factories giving full employment during the month, compared with 66 and 59 per cent. respectively in July, and with 97 per cent. in each case a year ago.

Employment in the **Woollen** trade shows a slight improvement, but is still slack; in the **Worsted** trade it continues to be slack. In the **Hosiery** trade employment shows a decline and is only moderate.

**Agricultural labourers** have been fully employed during August, chiefly in connection with the harvest. In many districts harvest work has been interrupted or delayed by rain, but plenty of work has been afforded during the broken weather at hoeing root crops.

**Dock and Riverside Labour in London.**—During the four weeks ended August 25th an average number of 14,993 labourers were employed daily at all the docks and the

principal wharves, as compared with averages of 14,868 in the preceding four weeks and 14,460 in August, 1899.

**Trade Disputes.**—Thirty-two fresh disputes occurred in August, 1900, involving 9,334 workpeople, of whom 6,831 were directly, and 2,503 indirectly, affected. The corresponding number of disputes in July was 41, involving 10,244 workpeople, and in August, 1899, 33, involving 10,232 workpeople. Of the 32 fresh disputes in August, 1900, the most important was that on the Taff Vale Railway. Of the others 2 occurred in the building trades, 12 in the mining and quarrying industries, 7 in metal and engineering trades, 3 in textile trades, 4 in transport trades, and 3 in miscellaneous industries. Of the 35 new and old disputes, involving 11,217 workpeople, of which the termination is reported, 15, involving 7,365 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 7, involving 600 persons, in favour of the employers; and 10, involving 1,712 persons, were compromised. With regard to the remaining 3 disputes, involving 1,540 persons, certain points are still under consideration.

**Changes in Rates of Wages.**—Changes in the rates of wages of about 333,680 workpeople were reported during August, of which number 327,580 obtained advances averaging 2s. 10½d. weekly per head, and about 6,100 sustained decreases averaging 4s. 6½d. weekly per head. The net result was an increase of about 2s. 9d. per head in the weekly wages of the 333,680 workpeople affected. The principal increases were in the coal mining industry. The decreases affected about 3,500 blastfurnacemen and labourers in Scotland, and about 2,600 bedstead workers at Birmingham. Changes affecting about 1,687 workpeople were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work. Changes affecting about 4,480 workpeople took effect under sliding scales, and changes affecting about 254,540 workpeople were determined by arbitration or conciliation. The remaining changes, affecting about 72,973 workpeople, were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople, or their representatives.

**DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.**

(Compiled from returns supplied by the Home Office.)

The following Table shows the number of cases\* of lead and phosphorus poisoning and of anthrax reported during August as having occurred in factories and workshops. Of the 89 cases of lead poisoning reported during the month 30 (28 males and 2 females) occurred in white lead works, and 14 (4 males and 10 females) in the china and earthenware industry, the number of cases in these industries in August, 1899, being 32 and 8 respectively. The death of one person (male) from lead poisoning was reported during the month.

Disease and Industry.	August, 1900.				Total Aug. 1899.
	Adults.		Young Persons.		
	M.†	F.‡	M.†	F.‡	
<b>Lead Poisoning—</b>					
White Lead Works ... ..	28	2	—	—	30
China and Earthenware ... ..	4	9	—	—	14
Red and Yellow Lead Works, Enamelling of Iron Plates, Electrical Accumulator Works	3	1	—	—	4
Manufacture of Paint and Colours... ..	5	—	—	—	5
Smelting Metals ... ..	4	—	—	—	4
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping, Printing, File Cutting	9	—	—	—	9
Coach Making, &c. ... ..	17	—	—	—	17
Other Industries ... ..	4	—	2	—	6
<b>Total Lead Poisoning</b> ... ..	<b>74</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>Phosphorus Poisoning</b> ... ..	<b>1</b>	—	—	—	<b>1</b>
<b>Mercurial Poisoning</b> ... ..	—	—	—	—	<b>1</b>
<b>Anthrax</b> ... ..	3	—	—	1	<b>4</b>

In addition to the cases included in the Table, 21 cases of lead poisoning (with two deaths) were reported among journeymen painters and plumbers.

\* Cases include all attacks, fatal or otherwise, reported during the month and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months. † M.—Males. ‡ F.—Females.

**THE PRICE OF BREAD.**

The principal Co-operative Societies that make and sell bread have been asked by the Labour Department to state the price of a 4-lb loaf of the quality mostly sold by each society at the 1st of June and September, 1900, and September 1st, 1899. From these societies 340 returns have been received, representing 327 towns in England and Scotland.

The returns have been arranged in thirteen districts in the following table, in which the highest, lowest, and mean prices are given for each district, and for the whole of Great Britain.

District.	1st Sept., 1899.			1st June, 1900.			1st Sept., 1900.		
	High-est	Low-est	Mean	High-est	Low-est	Mean	High-est	Low-est	Mean
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES</b>	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
N. Counties and Yorkshire ... ..	6	4	5½	6	4	5½	6½	4½	5½
Lancashire and Cheshire ... ..	6	4	5½	6	4	5½	6	4	5½
N. Mid. Counties ... ..	5	4	4½	5	4	4½	5	4	4½
W. do. do. ... ..	5	4	4½	5	4	4½	5½	4½	5
S. do. do. ... ..	5	4	4½	5	4	4½	5	4	4½
Eastern Counties ... ..	5	4	4½	5	4	4½	5	4	4½
London ... ..	5½	4½	5	5½	4½	5	5½	4½	5
S.E. Counties ... ..	5½	4½	5	5½	4½	5	6	5	5½
S.W. Counties, Wales and Monmouth ... ..	5	4	4½	5	4	4½	5½	4½	4½
<b>England and Wales</b> ... ..	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4½</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4½</b>	<b>6½</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5½</b>
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>									
N. Counties ... ..	6	4½	5½	6	4½	5½	6	4½	5½
Eastern Counties* Lanarkshire	5½	4	4½	5½	4	4½	5½	4	4½
Other Southern Counties ... ..	5½	5	5½	5½	5	5½	6	5	5½
<b>Scotland</b> ... ..	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5½</b>
<b>Great Britain</b> ... ..	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4½</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4½</b>	<b>6½</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5½</b>

It may be added that the above returns have been confirmed, so far as regards the more important towns, by special inquiries through the Local Correspondents of the Department as to the prices charged by private traders for bread of the quality most usually consumed by workpeople in their districts at the beginning of September.

The general result of the inquiry is to show that the present mean price of bread in all the 327 towns covered by the returns is 5½d. per 4 lbs., or ¼d. more than the price at June 1st, 1900, and September 1st, 1899. The rise was not, however, equally distributed. Of the 216 towns in England and Wales, 130 show a rise of ½d. and 6 rises of ¾d. and 1d., as compared with June, while the remaining 80 towns show no rise at all. In Scotland only 19 towns out of a total of 111 show any rise at all since June, 1900, the mean rise for all districts being ¼d. only. The present mean price of bread in Scotland is the same as in England and Wales, but at June of this year, and at September of last, prices in Scotland were ¼d. per 4 lbs. higher than in England.

It may be of interest to give here for comparison the average "Gazette" price of British wheat and the average declared value of imported wheat and flour:—

	Week ending		
	2nd Sept. 1899.	2nd June, 1900.	1st Sept. 1900.
British Wheat (per quarter) ... ..	25 0	25 5	25 8
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
	Aug. 1899.	Month of May, 1900.	Aug. 1900.
Wheat Imports, per cwt. ... ..	6 6	6 7	6 9½
Wheat Meal and Flour Imports, per cwt. ... ..	9 1	8 11	9 3½

**H. M. Inspectors of Factories.**

**New Appointments.**—Mr. W. F. E. Seymour, Southrop, St. Margaret-road, Swindon, and Mr. H. W. Younger have been appointed Inspectors of Factories and Workshops.

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

**DISPUTE ON THE TAFF VALE RAILWAY.**

For some months previous to the recent strike on the Taff Vale Railway in South Wales, a movement had been on foot among the employees for securing improved conditions of service, including advances in wages to shunters, guards, brakemen, and signalmen. Subsequently the firemen also joined the movement for improved conditions.

The question which immediately precipitated the strike was the alleged dismissal of a certain signalman for having taken part in deputations in March last. At a meeting of railway employees held on July 29th, the following resolution was passed:—

That this mass meeting most emphatically protests against the action of Mr. Beasley in dismissing Mr. J. Ewington for being a delegate on behalf of the men during the last movement, and at once calls upon the company to reinstate him within seven days to his former position, failing which notices be signed and submitted not later than Monday, August 6th.

It should be stated that the company denied having dismissed the signalman in question, stating that during his prolonged absence on account of illness, his situation had inevitably been filled up, but that on his return another appointment had been offered him.

A number of notices were actually sent in on August 6th, and others at later dates.

Interviews between deputations of the men and the company and other attempts at negotiation having proved fruitless, the men decided to strike work on August 20th, although in many cases the legal fortnight's notice had not expired. Both before and after the commencement of the dispute the company refused to meet the organising secretary or the general secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, declaring their intention of dealing only with their own employees. In the week previous to the outbreak of the strike, representatives of the Cardiff Chamber of Commerce endeavoured to mediate between the parties, but without success.

The strike commenced on August 20th, about 1,200 men being affected, and against some of those who had not served a proper notice legal proceedings were taken by the company.

Previous to the commencement of the dispute the President of the Board of Trade had, on August 15th, held interviews with the secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, and with the chairman of the company. The principal question discussed was the case of the signalman already referred to. The chairman on this occasion proposed that if this man would accept the position of relief signalman and found it did not agree with him he should be put in a signal box near his house at the wages he had previously received, although he could not be put in his old signal box in consequence of that position being now occupied. This offer, however, the signalman in question refused.

Shortly after Mr. Hopwood, of the Railway Department of the Board of Trade, visited the district affected by the dispute, and carried on negotiations with the company on the one hand and with the secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants on the other, with the result that the company offered certain terms which the secretary of the society pressed the executive committee of the men to accept. These proposals are summarised by Mr. Hopwood in his report to the President of the Board of Trade as follows:—

- (a) The reference of the question to the President of the Board of Trade as to whether signalman Ewington had been badly treated by the company.
- (b) The company to take back as many of their men as possible at once, and undertake to reinstate all of them in their service within two months.
- (c) The men to be entitled to their pension rights as if they had not broken their service by going on strike.
- (d) All legal proceedings to be abandoned.
- (e) The men to receive the concessions as to wages, etc., which had been promised them at the time of the rupture.
- (f) The directors to receive deputations from the various grades of servants to discuss other questions.

On August 27th the men's committee had an interview with the directors. They were unwilling to recommend the acceptance of the company's terms, which were afterwards rejected by mass meetings of the men. The principal ground of objection lay in the continued employment of men engaged during the strike, and in the length of time that might elapse before all the strikers were reinstated.

This matter was finally adjusted through the mediation of Sir W. T. Lewis, who at the same time secured recognition for his scheme for a Railway Conciliation Board. The terms on which the dispute was finally arranged are the same as those summarised above, except that in (b) one month is substituted for two, and instead of (f) it is agreed that if possible a Conciliation Board be established by the local railway companies and their employees before October 31st, and that the claims of the men be considered by that Board. Failing the formation of the Board by that date, the demands are to be considered by the directors of the Taff Vale Railway Company.

These terms were accepted by the workmen's committee on August 30th. They were ratified by mass meetings of the men on the following day. Work was partially resumed on August 31st, and by September 1st traffic was practically proceeding as usual.

### IRISH MIGRATORY AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS IN 1900.

RETURNS furnished by the courtesy of the under-mentioned Railway Companies, and the Glasgow, Dublin and Londonderry Steam Packet Company, Ltd., show that the total number of migratory labourers booked from the Province of Connaught by rail and sea for farm work in England and Scotland this year was 29,247, compared with 28,440 in 1899, and 27,866 in 1898. Of the total number booked in 1900, 21,951,\* or 75 per cent., came from the County of Mayo, the same percentage as in 1899 and 1898. The number who migrate from Mayo annually to Great Britain amounts to about 40 per cent. of the male population of 20 years of age and upwards in that county.

The following Table shows the number of migratory labourers who left the Province of Connaught for England and Scotland up to the end of August in each of the years 1898, 1899 and 1900:—

Place of Booking.	1898.	1899.	1900.
<b>By Rail.</b>			
<i>Midland Great Western Railway—</i>			
From stations in Mayo (Connaught) ... ..	15,537	15,484	15,794
From other stations in Connaught in the Counties of Galway, Sligo, Roscommon and Leitrim ...	5,565	5,943	6,213
<i>Waterford, Limerick and Western Railway (Claremorris and Collooney Line)—</i>			
From stations in Mayo ... ..	2,914	4,022	4,536
From stations in Sligo ... ..	185	458	372
<i>Sligo, Leitrim and Northern Counties Railway—</i>			
From Collooney Station ... ..	2,422	1,433	1,422
Total by Rail ... ..	26,623	27,340	28,337
<b>By Sea.</b>			
By steamer from Westport (Mayo) to Glasgow and Liverpool † ... ..	987	860	800
By steamer from Ballina (Mayo) to Glasgow † † ...	256	240	110
Total by Sea ... ..	1,243	1,100	910
Grand Total ... ..	27,866	28,440	29,247

In addition to the above, a small number (58 in 1898, 99 in 1899, and 109 in 1900) were booked from stations on the Midland Great Western Railway in Provinces other than Connaught.

Particulars as to the counties in England and Scotland in which the Irish labourers are mostly employed, and also as to their conditions of employment, are given in the recently issued Report on the Wages of Agricultural Labourers in the United Kingdom.—[Cp. 346] pages 104-5.

\* To making this total it is estimated that about half of the number booked from Collooney came from Mayo.

† The numbers booked by steamer are approximate, as no distinction is made between migratory labourers and ordinary passengers. The figures given in the Table are calculated, as in previous years, on the basis of an estimate furnished by the Steam Packet Company. 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.

† A few of these go to Liverpool.

### THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS.

THE Thirty-third Annual Congress of the Trade Unions of the United Kingdom was held at Huddersfield on Monday, September 3rd, and five following days in the Town Hall. The Congress was presided over by Mr. W. Pickles of the Huddersfield Branch of the National Amalgamated House and Ship Painters and Decorators Society.

Since 1896 the standing orders in force have restricted the admission to Congress to delegates of recognised trade unions, such delegates being actually engaged at their trade at the time of appointment, or being permanent paid working officials of their trade union. The basis of representation allows the unions to send to Congress one delegate for every 2,000 members or fraction thereof. Voting on important questions is by card on the principle of one vote for every 1,000 members, but none of the larger societies send the full number of delegates to which they are entitled. The analysis given below of the composition of the Congress and the trades represented is strictly comparable with the corresponding figures for the Congress of 1899.

Groups of Trades.	1899.			1900.		
	No. of Organisations.	No. of Delegates.	No. of Members.	No. of Organisations.	No. of Delegates.	No. of Members.
Building... ..	10	25	162,648	11	27	183,929
Mining and Quarrying ...	6	58	240,045	5	65	266,917
Engineering ... ..	14	20	60,020	13	19	60,008
Shipbuilding (including Boiler Making)	4	23	63,363	4	21	65,319
Other Metal Trades ... ..	32	42	70,255	26	36	77,523
Textile Trades... ..	10	72	136,724	11	74	146,829
Clothing ... ..	9	24	58,107	10	26	57,892
Transport (including Railway Workers, Seamen, Firemen, and Dock Labourers)	12	28	102,800	10	28	107,315
Agricultural, Chemical, Gas and General Labourers)	11	37	100,897	11	34	97,334
Printing, Bookbinding, &c.	10	19	43,338	9	16	44,706
Pottery and Glass ... ..	1	1	1,000	4	4	4,826
Cabinet Making and Furnishing Trades, &c.	11	14	29,720	9	11	30,155
Baking, &c. ... ..	1	3	4,866	3	5	6,852
Enginemens ... ..	6	6	16,629	6	8	26,008
Miscellaneous Trades ...	10	13	28,850	8	12	49,490
Total ... ..	147	385	1,120,164	140	386	1,225,133

NOTE.—Societies forming parts or branches of a general federation or amalgamation are not counted in this table as separate organisations, and double entries arising in this way have been deducted.

The number of organisations here accounted for is 140, but allowing for the number of distinct societies included in federations, about 210 separate unions sent delegates to the Congress this year out of a total of 1,267 unions known to be in existence at the end of 1898. The membership represented, however, comprised 74 per cent. of the total membership of the whole of these 1,267 unions. The number of organisations represented was seven less than at Plymouth in 1899, but the number of delegates was one more, and the total numbers represented 104,969 more than on that occasion. Under the heading of miscellaneous trades are included 30,000 Government employees. Among the larger unions not represented in any way were the Amalgamated Engineers and the Durham miners.

Various alterations were adopted by the Congress in their standing orders. In future the chairman of the Congress will not be selected locally as hitherto, but will be the president of the Parliamentary Committee. The vice-president of the Parliamentary Committee is also to be vice-chairman of the Congress. The duties and powers of the Parliamentary Committee were more broadly defined; disputes, in which one society makes charges against another, are to be investigated, and if the society charged refuses to submit the matter to investigation it is to be expelled from the Congress for two years. The other alterations accepted were chiefly intended to save the time of Congress.

The general programme of resolutions submitted was not so long as in several previous years. Among the principal subjects on which resolutions were passed were: in favour of old-age pensions; against refusal of railway companies to grant leave of absence to delegates of the men's unions; in favour of the payment

of fair wages in Government employment, and by contractors and sub-contractors for Government work; for the amendment of the Workmen's Compensation Act; for the amendment of the Mines Regulation Act; for the reform of the administration of the ports and docks of London and the River Thames; that trade unions should be placed on the same footing as friendly societies in respect to registrars' charges for certificates of death; for improvements in the position of Post Office employees; to ensure the employment of competent persons in charge of boilers and steam-engines; the appointment of Yiddish-speaking factory inspectors for the clothing trades; in favour of a general and of a miners' eight hours bill; on the housing of the working classes, and in favour of the taxation of land values. A resolution in favour of compulsory arbitration in trade disputes was defeated by a large majority.

The Congress, as usual, was addressed by delegates representing the National Federation of Labour of the United States, and the Co-operative Union of Great Britain. The Congress appointed two representatives to attend the Conference of the American Federation of Labour to be held in December next.

For the Parliamentary Committee there were elected representatives of the following organisations:—

Barge Builders, National Amalgamated Brassworkers, Miners' Federation, National Boot and Shoe Operatives, Associated Shipwrights, Northern Counties Weavers, Boiler Makers and Iron Shipbuilders, Amalgamated Card and Blowing Room Operatives, Gas Workers and General Labourers, London Compositors, Kindred Trades Affiliation, and Dock Labourers. Mr. C. W. Bowerman, of the London Society of Compositors, was elected President.

The balance-sheet presented to Congress by the auditors showed a total income of £2,869 7s. 11d. (including a balance of £1,298 8s. 4d. from the previous year), and an expenditure of £1,341 1s. 7d., leaving a balance in hand of £1,528 6s. 4d. Swansea was selected as the place of next year's Congress.

### RECENT LEGISLATION AFFECTING LABOUR.

The four Acts mentioned below have recently received the Royal assent.

#### (1) Railway Employment (Prevention of Accidents) Act, 1900.

This Act gives power to the Board of Trade to make rules in regard to certain subjects set out in a Schedule, with the object of reducing or removing the dangers and risks incidental to railway service, and also in regard to other operations not specified in the Schedule, from which the Board consider that avoidable danger arises, and as to which they have been in communication with the railway companies, and have given them a reasonable opportunity of reducing or removing the danger or risk.

The Board may by any of these rules require the use of any plant or appliance calculated to reduce danger, or the disuse of any plant or appliance shown to involve danger.

The Board of Trade are required to give notice by publication in the "London Gazette" of proposals to make rules under the Act, and to allow reasonable time and opportunities for objections to the draft rules, and they may if necessary withdraw any draft rule.

The Act further provides for reference of any objection to the Railway Commissioners when the person making it is not satisfied with the mode in which the objection is dealt with by the Board of Trade.

Both the Board of Trade and the Railway Commissioners are required in considering such objections to have regard to the question of interference with the trade of the country or the necessary operations of the railway company.

The Board of Trade may, if it is the general desire of the objectors, refer the objections to a referee, whose decision shall have the same effect as if the objections had been referred to the Commissioners.

The Board have power, if they consider it necessary

to make a specific order or give a direction in place of a rule.

Persons affected by any of these rules may, after a rule has been in operation for a period exceeding three months, make an application in writing to the Board of Trade to make a rule rescinding or varying the same, and the application if declined by the Board of Trade shall at the request of the person making the application be referred to the Railway Commissioners.

The Act gives the Board of Trade power to inspect any railway for the purpose of ascertaining whether there is any ground for proceeding under the Act, or whether there has been any contravention of, or default in compliance with any rule made under the Act; and it provides for the reporting of accidents on lines and sidings not the property of the railway companies.

Provision is made for the issue of debenture stock by Railway Companies to meet expenses incurred under the Act, for the appointment by the Board of Trade of the necessary staff for carrying the Act into effect, and for the making of experiments to the same end.

The Schedule referred to is as follows:—

1. Brake levers on both sides of waggons.
2. Labelling waggons.
3. Movement of waggons by propping and tow roping.
4. Steam or other power brakes on engines.
5. Lighting of stations or sidings where shunting operations are frequently carried on after dark.
6. Protection of point rods and signal wires, and position of ground levers working points.
7. Position of offices and cabins near working lines.
8. Marking of fouling points.
9. Construction and protection of gauge glasses.
10. Arrangement of tool boxes and water gauges on engines.
11. Working of trains without brake vans upon running lines beyond the limits of stations.
12. Protection to permanent way men when relaying or repairing permanent way.

#### (2) Workmen's Compensation Act, 1900.

This Act, which comes into operation on July 1st, 1901, provides as follows:—

1.—(1.) From and after the commencement of this Act, the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, shall apply to the employment of workmen in agriculture by any employer who habitually employs one or more workmen in such employment.

(2.) Where any such employer agrees with a contractor for the execution by or under that contractor of any work in agriculture, section four of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, shall apply in respect of any workman employed in such work as if that employer were an undertaker within the meaning of that Act. Provided that, where the contractor provides and uses machinery driven by mechanical power for the purpose of threshing, ploughing, or other agricultural work, he, and he alone, shall be liable under this Act to pay compensation to any workman employed by him on such work.

(3.) Where any workman is employed by the same employer mainly in agriculture but partly or occasionally in other work, this Act shall apply also to the employment of the workman in such other work.

The expression "agriculture" includes horticulture, forestry, and the use of land for any purpose of husbandry, inclusive of the keeping or breeding of live stock, poultry or bees, and the growth of fruit and vegetables.

#### (3) Mines (Prohibition of Child Labour Underground) Act, 1900.

By this statute the employment of boys under thirteen in mines below ground is prohibited (the age, up to which such employment was previously forbidden, was twelve years). Boys lawfully employed in mines below ground before the passing of the Act are exempted.

#### (4) Elementary Education Act, 1900.

This statute includes a provision raising the age of children affected by byelaws for compulsory attendance from 13 to 14 years.

By Section 4 of the Elementary Education Act, 1880, it was made illegal for any person to take into his employment a child of the age of 10 and under the age of 13 years resident in a school district, before that child has obtained a certificate of having reached the standard of education fixed by a byelaw in force in the district for total or partial exemption.

The new Act provides that in the section just mentioned 14 years shall be substituted for 13 years.

## WAGES AND EARNINGS OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.

THE Labour Department of the Board of Trade has issued a Report, by Mr. Wilson Fox, on the Wages and Earnings of Agricultural Labourers in the United Kingdom.\* The main purpose of the Report is to show the rates of weekly cash wages paid to agricultural labourers, and also their total yearly earnings, inclusive of all extra payments in cash or kind; but a description is also given of the various classes of agricultural labourers, their duties and the terms of their engagements, and an account of the different ways in which the labourers' nominal wages are augmented, e.g., by piecework, extra earnings at harvest, &c., and by allowances in kind, such as free cottages, potatoes, fuel, &c., which are frequently an important factor of their total earnings.

### Systems of Engagement.

Speaking broadly, in Scotland, Wales, the North of England, and the North of Ireland, the majority of the farm servants are on yearly or half-yearly terms of engagement, and are paid a regular wage; board and lodging being usually provided free in the farmhouses for the unmarried men, and cottages in many districts for the married men.†

This applies generally to all classes of farm servants in Scotland, and in Northumberland and Durham. In the other Northern Counties of England, and also in Wales, the yearly or half-yearly engagements are mainly confined to the unmarried men, while the majority of the married men, regularly attached to the staff of a farm, are usually on weekly engagements. It is a frequent custom in Wales and Ireland to give the married men their meals in the farmhouses on working days. In other parts of England (excepting the counties abutting on the Welsh border), and in Ireland, except in the north, the majority of agricultural labourers are, as a general rule, on weekly engagements, though the men in charge of animals are frequently engaged for longer periods. Throughout the greater part of England the custom of lodging and boarding men in the farmhouses has practically ceased to exist.

The system of hiring nearly all classes of farm servants at hiring fairs obtains in Scotland, the North of England, the North of Ireland, and in a few districts in Wales, chiefly in the North. In other parts of the United Kingdom the system is nearly extinct, and it is declining to some extent in all districts.

### Annual Earnings of Agricultural Labourers.

It is shown in the Report that although time-payments in cash form the main part of the agricultural labourers' earnings, the method of remuneration greatly varies in different parts of the United Kingdom. Where the hiring system prevails, extra cash payments for piecework, hay and corn harvest, overtime, &c., are few, if any, while allowances in kind, such as board and lodging, for unmarried men, and free cottage, potatoes, fuel, &c., for married men, are frequent. On the other hand, where the engagements are shorter, and the rates of cash wages are lower, as in the arable districts of the Eastern and Southern Counties of England, more piecework is done, and extra payments in cash at hay and corn harvests, and for overtime, can be earned, while men in charge of animals often receive lamb money, journey money, &c., free cottages, and other allowances in kind.

A comparison between the wages of agricultural labourers in different parts of the United Kingdom is, therefore, of not much practical advantage without an accompanying statement of the actual annual earnings including the extra amounts earned in cash from all sources, and the value of all the allowances in kind.

The Report gives a statement of the cash wages and earnings of the various classes of agricultural labourers

\* The report can be obtained through any bookseller, or direct from the publishers, Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode, Fetter-lane, E.C. The official number Cd. 346, should be quoted, and the price, ex-postage, is 3s. 4d.

† In the districts where it is customary to lodge and board agricultural labourers in the farmhouses, they are generally called farm servants.

in each county of the United Kingdom, and the report is followed by copious Appendix Tables, showing in detail the rates of wages paid in various districts, and the wages and earnings of individual labourers employed on certain farms. The following are the final averages obtained for the earnings of ordinary agricultural labourers in England, and for the classes of labourers most nearly corresponding to them in other parts of the United Kingdom for the year 1898:—

Country.	Average Earnings per week in 1898 (including the Value of all Allowances in Kind).
England ... ..	s. d.
Wales ... ..	16 10
Scotland ... ..	16 5
Ireland ... ..	18 1
	10 1

Accompanying the Report is a map showing for every county in the United Kingdom the average weekly earnings of ordinary agricultural labourers.

The map shows that the earnings were highest in Scotland, England and Wales, near the large industrial and mining centres. This is also true of Ireland, where, however, the earnings were uniformly lower than in Great Britain, the highest earnings there being in county Dublin, and in the counties of Down, Antrim, and Armagh in Ulster.

There are six counties in the United Kingdom where the earnings exceeded 20s. a week, viz., Renfrew, Lanark, Stirling and Dumbarton, Durham, and Northumberland, the highest being in Scotland, in the county of Renfrew, where they averaged 21s. 9d. a week. The county where the earnings were lowest in England was Suffolk, the earnings being 14s. 5d. a week; in Wales, in Cardiganshire, the earnings being 14s. 9d.; in Scotland, in Shetland, Orkney, and Caithness, the earnings being 14s.; and in Ireland, in Mayo, the earnings being 8s. 7d. In Ireland there were 18 counties where the average weekly earnings in 1898 were under 10s. a week. In many districts in the province of Connaught, and also in county Donegal in Ulster, agricultural labourers, as a class, scarcely exist, the holdings in such districts being generally small and worked by the farmers and their families. Large numbers of these small farmers and their sons go to work as labourers on farms in certain counties in England and Scotland during the spring, summer and autumn.

Information as to the annual earnings of shepherds and men in charge of horses and cattle in the various counties of the United Kingdom are also given in the report.

The section of the Report dealing with the rates of Agricultural wages during the past fifty years will be referred to in a future number of the GAZETTE.

## CANADA.

### Conciliation Act: Establishment of Department of Labour.

THE Canadian Legislature has recently passed "an Act to aid in the prevention and settlement of trade disputes, and to provide for the publication of statistical industrial information."

The new law, so far as it relates to Conciliation and Arbitration, follows generally the lines of the United Kingdom "Conciliation Act" of 1896 (see LABOUR GAZETTE, August, 1896, p. 239), the only provision materially different being as follows:—

§ 7 If before a settlement is effected, and while the difference is under the consideration of a conciliator or Conciliation Board, such conciliator or Conciliation Board is of opinion that some misunderstanding or disagreement appears to exist between the parties as to the causes or circumstances of the difference, and, with a view to the removal of such misunderstanding or disagreement, desires an inquiry under oath into such causes and circumstances, and, in writing signed by such conciliator or the members of the Conciliation Board, as the case may be, communicates to the Minister such desire for inquiry, and if the parties to the difference or their representatives in writing consent thereto, then, on his recommendation, the Governor in Council may

appoint such conciliator or members of the Conciliation Board, or some other person or persons, a commissioner or commissioners, as the case may be, under the provisions of the "Act respecting inquiries concerning public matters," to conduct such inquiry, and for that purpose may confer upon him or them the powers which under the said Act may be conferred upon commissioners.

The Act further provides for the establishment, under the charge of the Minister, of a Department of Labour "which shall collect, digest, and publish in suitable form statistical and other information relating to the conditions of labour, shall institute and conduct inquiries into important industrial questions upon which adequate information may not at present be available, and issue at least once in every month a publication to be known as the 'Labour Gazette,' which shall contain information regarding conditions of the labour market and kindred subjects, and shall be distributed or procurable in accordance with terms and conditions in that behalf prescribed by the Minister."

The Governor in Council has assigned the carrying out of the provisions of the new Act to the Postmaster-General of Canada.

## RECENT CONCILIATION & ARBITRATION CASES & COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS.

### Arbitration in the Leeds Boot and Shoe Trade.

Reference was made in the last issue of the GAZETTE (page 229) to the appointment by the Board of Trade of Mr. G. R. Askwith to act as umpire on certain matters in dispute in the Leeds boot and shoe trade. Mr. Askwith's award is dated August 17th, and the operative clauses are as follows:—

"Now I, the undersigned, do decide and determine that the claim made on February 27th, 1900, by the Leeds No. 1 Branch of the National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives, 6, Coburg-street, Leeds, on behalf of the riveters and finishers on weekly wages for the minimum wage being increased from 28s. per week to 30s. per week, and the claim made on March 27th, 1900, by the Leeds and District Boot and Shoe Manufacturers' Association, Limited, that on and from the 1st day of July following, the minimum wages for riveters and finishers shall be 26s. are both refused."

"And in reference to the claim made on February 27th, 1900, on behalf of the aforesaid operatives for an increased rate of wages of 10 per cent. to both riveters and finishers on piece work, the said piece work being agreed to be piece work excluding extras, I decide and determine that there shall be an increase rate of wages of 5 per cent."

"And in reference to the claim made on March 30th, 1900, on behalf of the aforesaid manufacturers to terminate the present piece work statement of wages, and that a new statement be compiled by the Board, I decide and determine against the termination of the said statement, and a new statement being compiled."

"And I further decide and determine that this my award shall come into force at the end of the first full working week in the month of September, 1900. And whereas the rules of the said Association and the Schedule incorporated therewith require that all awards and decisions shall specify a date, before which neither side shall be competent to re-open the question, I decide and determine that the said date shall be the 1st day of September, 1902."

The following note with regard to the amendment of the statement is appended to the award:—

"I am of opinion that the point of amendment of the existing statement raised at the meeting does not come within the terms of reference, and is not excluded by this award from the consideration of both parties, and, while refusing to terminate the present piecework statement of wages, I consider that amendments, if they are definitely proposed by the manufacturers, especially with reference to divisions of Description 1 of strong work (sparables and hobs, one row of brass and one of iron in waist), ought to be reasonably considered by the Board of Conciliation in the interests of this department of the boot and shoe trade of Leeds.—G. R. A."

### Masons and Bricklayers at Barrow.

On September 7th an application under the Conciliation Act was received by the Board of Trade from the Barrow Master Builders' Association asking them to take action with a view to promote the settlement of a dispute between the bricklayers and stonemasons as to the respective limits of their work. The point in dispute was the class of workmen to be employed on the fixing of terra cotta. The stonemasons had proposed arbitration, but this had not been accepted by the bricklayers, and on September 6th the master builders locked out both masons and bricklayers. In consequence of the application an officer of the Board of Trade visited Barrow on September 12th and had

interviews with the parties, as a result of which both sides agreed to submit the matter in dispute to his arbitration. His award was given on September 14th in favour of the bricklayers, and the lock-out was withdrawn.

### Arbitration in the Cheltenham Building Trade.

Notice having been given by the builders' labourers of Cheltenham for an advance in wages from 5d. to 6d. per hour, the master builders gave a counter-notice of reduction from 5d. to 4½d. The men disputed the validity of this counter-notice, and whilst expressing their willingness to proceed to arbitration on their own notice, declined to arbitrate on the counter-notice. The master builders were prepared to accept arbitration only on the condition that both notice and counter-notice were submitted to the arbitrator. A dispute commenced on May 12th, directly affecting about 200 persons.

At a meeting arranged by the mayor it was agreed that the question of the validity of the counter-notice should be referred to the magistrate's clerk, and that in accordance with his decision an arbitration should be held on the wages question. The men returned to work on June 25th. It was decided that the counter-notice was valid, and Mr. O. J. Williams, Registrar of the County Court, has recently decided that the rate of wages shall remain unchanged.

### Mediation in the Paisley Building Trades.

A strike of plumbers at Paisley for an advance in wages from 9d. to 9½d. per hour commenced on May 1st, and affected about 60 workpeople. It was settled at a conference on August 23rd, the conference being presided over by an independent chairman, Mr. D. D. Dickie. An arbitrator had also been agreed upon in the event of the negotiations breaking down, but his services were not required, a minute of agreement being drawn up by the chairman, and signed by representatives of the parties. Work was to be resumed at the old rate of wages on August 27th, and wages were to be advanced ½d. per hour from the beginning of 1901, and to remain at the advanced rate until May 1st, 1902.

### Conciliation in the London Cabinet Making Trade.

An agreement was signed on August 11th by representatives of the Cabinet Trades Federation and the following Trade Unions: Alliance Cabinet Makers and Furnishing Trades' Association, the Perseverance Cabinet Makers' Association, the West End Cabinet Makers' Society, and the Amalgamated Union of Cabinet Makers. The agreement includes a Conciliation clause similar to those agreed upon between the London Master Builders and the plasterers, carpenters and joiners (see GAZETTE for April, page 102, and for May, page 133). By this clause a Conciliation Board is established for dealing with disputes between employers and workpeople, and the constitution of a Joint Conciliation Board is provided for, for dealing with disputes "involving claims or rights of other sections of the Furnishing Trades." The clause further provides that, "should the Board of Conciliation, as above constituted, be unable to agree, the Board shall have power to appoint some neutral person to act as Conciliator. In the event of both sides failing to agree upon a person to act as Conciliator, the Board of Trade shall be asked to appoint a Conciliator, the decision of such person to be final and binding on both parties."

### New Price Lists in the Cotton Trade.

RADCLIFFE AND DISTRICT TWISTING AND DRAWING (COLOURED WORK).—A uniform list, the first in this district for this class of work, has been agreed upon by the Employers' and Operatives' Associations. It came into operation on the first making-up day in September, and its adoption is estimated to have resulted in an average advance of 5 per cent. in the wages of about 75 operatives.

COTTON WEAVING.—A uniform list for weaving Jacquards was agreed upon by the North and North-East Lancashire Cotton Spinners' and Manufacturers' and the Northern Counties Weavers' Associations on July 27th last. It is based on the uniform list for weaving with certain modifications, and came into operation on the first pay-day in September.

LABOUR DISPUTES IN ITALY  
IN 1898.

THE Report of the Statistical Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce in Rome upon Labour Disputes in Italy in 1898\* shows that strikes were more frequent in that year than in 1897, but were of far less importance.

In 1897 there were 229 strikes (217 in various industries and 12 in agriculture), in which 100,705 strikers were involved (76,570 in industrial, 24,135 in agricultural strikes). But in the 292 strikes (256 industrial and 36 agricultural) which occurred in the course of 1898, the number of strikers was 44,200 only (35,705 in industrial, 8,495 in agricultural strikes). So far as concerns industrial strikes, the total number of working days lost by strikers and non-strikers affected by labour disputes was 1,294,644 in 1897, but only 281,334 in 1898. In agricultural strikes 82,833 working days were lost by strikers in 1898, as against 322,020 in 1897; the number of days lost by non-strikers in agriculture is not stated for either year.

The extent, to which certain of the principal groups of trades were affected by strikes in the two years, will be seen from the following Table:—

Group of Trades.	Strikes.		Strikers.		Working Days Lost by Strikers.	
	1898.	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.	1897.
Building Trades ... ..	51	38	6,098	5,336	24,846	21,240
Mining and Quarrying ...	26	10	5,542	1,461	33,300	5,317
Metal Trades ... ..	14	17	1,573	1,998	12,930	16,938
Textile Trades ... ..	84	74	13,382	16,653	124,169	328,273
Clothing Trades ... ..	15	18	869	43,652	13,834	539,668
Deck Labour and Transport	10	9	2,491	2,114	4,436	18,714
Agriculture ... ..	36	12	8,495	24,135	82,833	322,020
Miscellaneous ... ..	56	51	5,810	6,166	25,777	83,985
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>44,200</b>	<b>100,705</b>	<b>322,125</b>	<b>1,438,558</b>

In 1898, 42,042 working days (compared with 181,109 in 1897) were lost by persons employed in various industries, who, although not taking part in disputes, suffered enforced idleness owing to strikes. These figures are not included in the foregoing Table.

In the following Table the workpeople, who took part in strikes in the two years, and the working days, which they lost, are distributed according to the principal causes or objects of the strikes.

Principal Cause or Object of Strikes.	Strikers.		Working days lost by Strikers.	
	1898.	1897.	1898.	1897.
	Number.	Number.	Number.	Number.
Wages—For increase ... ..	24,817	82,744	131,425	1,131,226
"    Against decrease ... ..	6,902	4,576	87,904	60,202
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>31,719</b>	<b>87,320</b>	<b>219,329</b>	<b>1,191,428</b>
Hours of Labour—For decrease ...	891	3,551	8,056	150,119
"    Against increase ... ..	908	239	11,826	230
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>1,799</b>	<b>3,781</b>	<b>19,882</b>	<b>150,349</b>
Other causes or objects ... ..	10,682	9,604	82,914	93,778
<b>Grand Total ... ..</b>	<b>44,200</b>	<b>100,705</b>	<b>322,125</b>	<b>1,438,558</b>

Thus, strikes on questions mainly concerning wages involved 72 per cent. of all strikers, and 68 per cent. of all working days lost by strikers in 1898. The corresponding percentages were considerably higher in 1897, viz., 87 and 83 respectively.

The results of the strikes, which took place in the two years, may be seen from the following figures:—

Results of Strikes.	Per cent. of all Strikers.		Per cent. of all days lost by Strikers.	
	1898.	1897.	1898.	1897.
In favour of the Workpeople ... ..	25.52	14.44	17.52	5.89
In favour of the Employers ... ..	37.14	11.33	34.76	8.04
Compromised ... ..	37.34	74.23	47.72	86.07
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The foregoing particulars are exclusive of 18 suspen-

\* Statistica degli Scioperi avvenuti nell'Industria e nell'Agricoltura durante l'Anno 1898. Rome, National Printing Works (G. Bertero), 1900.

sions of work classed separately as lock-outs, but of which 14 had no connection with any dispute between employers and employed. In the remaining 4 lock-outs (compared with 3 in 1897) 334 workpeople (as against 468 in 1897) were locked out.

LEGAL CASE AFFECTING LABOUR.\*

PICKETING: PERSUADING NOT TO WORK.  
INCITING WORKMEN TO BREAK CONTRACTS.

In connection with the dispute between the Taff Vale Railway Company and its workmen referred to above (p. 259), an application was made by the company to the Queen's Bench Division asking for an injunction to restrain the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, Richard Bell (the general secretary of the society), and James Holmes (organising secretary), from watching or besetting, or causing to be watched or beset, the Great Western railway station at Cardiff, or the works of the Taff Vale Company, or any of them, or the approaches thereto, or the places of residence, or any place where they might happen to be, of any workmen employed by or proposing to work for that company for the purpose of persuading or otherwise preventing persons from working for that company, or for any purpose except merely to obtain or communicate information, and from procuring any persons who might have, or might enter into contracts with the company to commit a breach of such contracts.

It was stated on behalf of the company that the conditions of service of their workmen were contracts determinable by 14 days' notice. On August 6th a number of men gave notice expiring at midnight of August 10th. On August 13th a further number gave notice expiring on August 26th. On August 16th the defendant Holmes issued a circular to the platelayers saying there had been a dispute, which would probably end in the guards, shunters, brakemen, signalmen, and enginemen withdrawing their labour, and asking for their impartiality and fidelity with and by the working-men. On August 18th a deputation of the workmen went to discuss matters with the general manager of the company, and said that they could not treat at all unless Mr. Holmes was present. The general manager refused to see Mr. Holmes, and the deputation then withdrew. On August 19th Mr. Holmes was present as organising secretary at a meeting of the workmen, and then told an engine-driver, whose notice had not expired, that if the men passed a resolution to cease work, the job must stop and the mail could not run. While the meeting was being held, a telegram from Mr. Bell, addressed to Mr. Holmes, was received, stating that the Executive Committee of the Amalgamated Society had decided that every effort should be made by Mr. Bell and other persons whom the executive might appoint to bring the dispute to a speedy termination, and that they would support the workmen in the dispute financially, and that Mr. Bell would come down next day. On August 20th Mr. Bell went down, and then not only the men whose notices had expired, but also those whose notices would expire on August 26th, ceased work. On the same day Mr. Bell wrote to the general manager of the company to the effect that his executive had had the matters in dispute under their consideration, had decided to support the workmen in their action, and had appointed him to take charge of the movement with a view of bringing it to a conclusion. Mr. Bell stated that all further negotiations were to be dealt with through him.

Evidence was given on behalf of the company that since the early morning of August 20th the company's stations, works and premises had been watched and beset by pickets of workmen out on strike. In particular, on August 21st pickets, organised by Mr. Holmes, went to meet and turn back several of the company's engine-drivers, who were coming from their houses to the locomotive sheds for the purpose of performing their duties, and succeeded in inducing one driver to return home. The private house of the company's chief locomotive and carriage superintendent was also continually watched and beset by pickets. The Great Western Railway Company's Cardiff Station was also picketed. On August 23rd when a train, in which were travelling a number of workmen, coming down for the purpose of entering the employment of the Taff Vale Company, was expected to arrive at Cardiff station, Mr. Bell and a number of pickets waited there for the arrival of this train. Evidence was given that Mr. Bell addressed the newly-arrived workmen, and informed them that there was a strike on the Taff Vale Railway and that the men had been out since August 20th. He urged the new workmen to come with him and with the pickets who were with him, and told them that their fares would be paid back to the places from which they had come, and also any reasonable expenses. He further said to them "You are taking the bread out of the strikers' mouths and you do not want to be known as 'black-legs.'" In all, Mr. Bell succeeded in taking away 25 to 30 men on this occasion.

Later on the same day (August 23rd) a number of workmen engaged on behalf of the company were being conveyed by train to one of the company's stations, when, just as the train was about to start from the Great Western Station, one of the pickets threw into the van, in which these workmen were travelling, a bill in the following terms:—

"Strike on the Taff Vale Railway. Men's Headquarters, Cobourn-street, Cathays. There has been a strike on the Taff Vale Railway since Monday last. The management are using every means to decoy men here, who they employ for the purpose of black-legging the men on strike. Drivers, firemen, guards, brakemen, and signalmen are all out. Are you willing to be known as a

\* Based upon reports in newspapers.

blackleg? If you accept employment on the Taff Vale that is what you will be known by. On arriving at Cardiff call at the above address, where you can get information and assistance—Richard Bell, General Secretary. Richards, printer, 41, Lower Cathedral-road, Cardiff."

It was sworn generally that the effect of the assistance and organisation rendered by the Amalgamated Society and its secretaries, Bell and Holmes, had been to deprive the Taff Vale Company of the services of a large number of workmen, who would otherwise have been performing their duties for the company, and to induce such workmen, and also other workmen willing to enter the company's employ, to refrain from doing so.

Evidence was given on behalf of the company of various acts of intimidation and of violence alleged to have been committed by workmen of the company out on strike. For example, an engine-driver swore that a number of men on strike boarded his engine, violently pulled him off it, removed him from the company's premises, threw him down a flight of steps on to the public road, and forcibly conveyed him along the public road for over a mile to the headquarters of the strikers, where he was detained for nearly two hours and interviewed by the men's secretaries. He was subsequently sent to Cardiff by train through the men's officials, met at Cardiff station by a large picket, and induced by them to go to the headquarters of the men and of the defendant Holmes in Cardiff, where the men's officials tried to persuade him to refrain from following his employment as an engine-driver.

Mr. Bell made an affidavit in which he stated that he had been entrusted by the railway servants and former employees of the Taff Vale Company to act for them in bringing about a reasonable settlement of the dispute then pending between the company and their late servants, and that he had endeavoured to give to the men directions on all occasions not to watch or beset, cause a nuisance or annoyance to any man or men who desired to enter the employment of the company. He admitted that he was on the Cardiff platform of the Great Western Railway on August 23rd, but claimed that he had a right to be there as one of the general public. He denied having used the expressions which he was alleged in the evidence tendered on behalf of the company to have used, and said that he simply attended there for the purpose of obtaining information and finding out whether any men were about to enter the employment of the company under false pretences or wrong information that there was no strike in the district. He did not attend there with any desire (and none of the men under his control were so instructed by him) to use any unlawful means to watch and beset any men who desired to enter the service of the company. It had come to his knowledge that a number of men had been brought down from other railway systems under the pretence that there was no strike on the Taff Vale Railway, and had been engaged on the distinct understanding that no dispute was pending. He was not warned or prevented from entering upon the platform, and believed that he was entitled to enter upon the platform to give such information as might bring the true facts of the situation to the knowledge of any imported men who were arriving in the district. Mr. Bell swore that no instructions had been given by him as head official of the Amalgamated Society to any man or men to picket, or otherwise watch or beset the premises of the company. With respect to the acts of violence and intimidation alleged to have been committed, Mr. Bell denied on oath that any such acts had been done with his knowledge, or by his instructions, and said that no act or word of his, or of any one under his authority, had been such as to cause a nuisance or annoyance to the company or any of their servants. Mr. Bell further deposed: "It is true that I have, under the instructions of my society, paid the railway fares back of men who were being kept by the Taff Vale Railway Company against their will, and who freely and voluntarily came to the headquarters of the men out on strike, and who desired to go back to their own homes, but we have used only lawful means of communication with such men, and it has only been by their own express request that such men have been assisted back to the places from whence they came."

Mr. Holmes did not make any affidavit. The judge said that neither master nor men were at liberty to use violence or watching or besetting for the purpose of persuading workmen not to work. In his letter of August 20th Bell took upon himself to state to the railway directors that the executive committee of the defendant society had decided to support the men, and had instructed him to take charge of the movement with a view of bringing it to a conclusion. He went to Cardiff, and for the purposes of the present application there was substantially no denial of the facts. Bell's circular was a statement made by him as secretary, for the purpose of being disseminated, and in order to deter persons from working as and when they pleased. It was a distinct threat. As to the acts of violence deposed to, Bell, who had undertaken to work the strike, was bound to take care that men incited by a circular such as his did not commit the violence which he deprecated. Holmes had put in no affidavit, and there was sufficient evidence against him. The judge accordingly granted an injunction, as asked for by the company, against Bell and Holmes, the costs to be costs in the action.

INJUNCTION AGAINST TRADE UNION: LIABILITY OF UNION FOR WRONGFUL ACTS OF AGENTS.

With regard to the Amalgamated Society, a summons had been taken out by the society to strike out their name as defendants on the ground that they were neither a corporation nor an individual, and could not be sued in a quasi-corporate or any other capacity. Failing this, the society contended that no injunction ought to be granted against them. The judge held that for wrongs done to persons outside the society, and arising as they did from the

wrongful conduct of the agents of the society in the course of managing a strike which was a lawful object of the society, they, the defendant society, were liable and were proper parties to the action. The defendants Bell and Holmes, as agents for the society and on their instructions and for their benefit, put themselves in charge of the strike, and on the evidence given illegally watched and beset men to prevent them from working for the company and illegally induced men to break their contracts. The defendant society were under the circumstances of the present case liable for the acts of their agents. The judge dismissed the summons taken out by the society with costs, and granted an injunction against the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants in the same terms as that granted against the defendants Bell and Holmes. Leave was granted to the society to appeal against this decision.—*Taff Vale Railway Company v. Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants and Others, High Court of Justice, before the Vacation Judge, August 30th, September 5th.*

LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.

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

**Canada.**—A report from British Columbia states that farm labourers should not go there unless they are prepared eventually to take up land. Accommodation and constant employment for married men are very uncertain. The strike among the Fraser River fishermen in British Columbia is now over, the men agreeing to accept from the canners 19 cents per fish throughout the season. At the Rossland mines, in the same province, there is a large demand for miners, and a good demand for blacksmiths, carpenters, timbermen, engineers and pump-men, and for female servants. At Toronto in Ontario, there is no demand for mechanics. There is a good demand for coal-miners at Cape Breton, in Nova Scotia. Female domestic servants are in special demand throughout Canada, and may go at all seasons of the year.

**New South Wales.**—A Bill to prevent labour disputes by arbitration is about to be introduced by Government, and a scheme for providing Old Age Pensions. Work is being provided by the Government for men out of employment by starting necessary road-making and water conservation works, which will give employment to at least 2,000 men.

**Victoria.**—At Melbourne there is a good demand for first-class plumbers and iron workers, and for competent females in the clothing factories. There is a considerable number of unemployed persons at Melbourne, and it is proposed to provide work for them by carrying out railway extensions. A large meeting of clerks has decided to form a union of clerks, book-keepers and accountants to protect their interests. At Bendigo there is no demand for more labour. At Castlemaine miners are in some demand for gold dredging.

**South Australia.**—There is no demand for more labour. A certain number of unemployed have been given work by the Government on construction works at the minimum wage of 6s. a day.

**Queensland.**—There is a good demand for farm and general labourers, for female servants, and for men in the building trades. Youths from 14 to 18 years of age are greatly wanted for farm work.

**Western Australia.**—At Coolgardie the supply of men in the building and other trades, of miners and unskilled labourers, is greater than the demand: there is a demand for female servants. At Fremantle the only demand is for female servants. At Northam there is a demand for all kinds of labour except miners. At Perth the building and other trades have improved, but demand is about equalled by supply. In agricultural parts, as at Albany, Toodyay, Geraldton, and Dongarra, the supply of all kinds of labour, except female servants in some places, is equal to or in excess of the demand, but in the York and Beverley districts farm and unskilled labour has been scarce. At Yilgarn and Blackwood miners have been temporarily in demand.

**New Zealand.**—There has been no lack of work in New Zealand, though, as this is the winter season, it has become somewhat less brisk in some outdoor trades. At Auckland and Napier the building and

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

clothing trades have been busy. At Wellington the building, engineering and boot trades have been very busy. At Nelson the building and engineering trades have been brisk. At Christchurch the building trades have been particularly busy, bricklayers having been in special demand; men in the engineering trades have also been fully employed. At Dunedin carpenters, bricklayers and stonemasons have been fully employed, but painters and plasterers have been slack; shirt, hosiery and waterproof factories have been very busy. At Invercargill the building trades—in which competent carpenters have been specially wanted—engineering and boot trades, and shirt and hosiery factories have all been very busy.

**South Africa.**—All persons are warned against going to South Africa in search of work. Cape Town and other towns are full of unemployed, and as the railways are now being used for military purposes only, no persons can travel to the Transvaal till the war is over.

## LABOUR ABROAD.

### FRANCE.

**Coal Mining in July.\***—The average number of days worked per week by those employed underground in coal mines in July was 5.91, as compared with 5.90 in June 1900, and 5.91 in July 1899. During the month, full time (six days and over per week) was worked by 74 per cent., and from 5 to 6 days by 26 per cent. of all employed in and about the mines, the percentages in the previous month being 73 and 25 respectively. The above particulars were supplied to the French Labour Department by the Committee of Coalowners, and relate to over 100,000 workpeople (three-fourths of all employed in and about the mines).

**Conciliation and Arbitration in July.\***—Seven cases of recourse to the Conciliation and Arbitration Law were reported to the French Labour Department in July, the workpeople having taken the initiative in six cases and the justice of the peace in one. Meetings of conciliation committees were brought about in two cases, resulting in the settlement of two strikes, in which 659 workpeople were involved. In three cases the employers refused to accept the proffered mediation; in one case the strike was abandoned before the committee of conciliation met, while in the remaining case the result of the application to the justice of the peace (which was made on July 28th) was not reported, and the strike was stated to be still in progress.

**Labour Disputes in July.\***—Seventy-four fresh disputes were reported to the French Labour Department in July, the number of workpeople known to have taken part in 70 of these disputes being 13,243. The corresponding number of disputes in June was 70 (including 2 lock-outs), in 65 of which 8,934 workpeople were known to have taken part, while in July, 1899, there were 143 disputes (including 14 lock-outs), in 129 of which 14,310 workpeople took part. Of the 74 new disputes in July last, 8 occurred in the building trades, 3 in mining and quarrying, 15 in the metal trades, 22 in the textile trades, 11 in the transport trades, 3 in woodworking trades, and 3 in the glass, pottery trades, the others being in occupations not included in any of the foregoing groups. The most important of the new disputes was a strike of 4,000 metal workers at Le Creusot (Saône-et-Loire), which began on the 13th and lasted until the 25th July. Of the 69 new and old disputes, of which the termination is reported, 15 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 28 (including the dispute at Le Creusot referred to above) were decided in favour of the employers, 25 were compromised, while in one case the result is stated to be unknown.

**Strikes at Havre.**—Reporting to the Foreign Office under date of August 11th, Mr. E. Cecil Hertslet, H.M. Consul-General at Havre, states that the strike of the stokers, firemen and seamen of the French Navigation Companies, referred to in the August GAZETTE (p. 233), had terminated. Vice-Admiral

\* Bulletin de l'Office du Travail (Journal of the French Labour Department).

Beyle, of the Département de la Marine at Paris, arrived at Havre, and had interviews with the delegates of the Navigation Companies and with the strikers. This action resulted in the concession by the owners of the demands of the men. In the same report the Consul-General mentions that the labourers on the quays had threatened to cease work on August 13th if the concession of an eight-hours' day, recently made to the coal porters (see August GAZETTE, p. 233), were not extended to them. A report from the same source, dated August 30th, states that the threatened strike of the dock labourers had been averted by the concession of an eight-hours' day, but that other classes of workpeople had made demands for higher wages and shorter hours of labour, and during August strikes had occurred among the boiler-makers, the plaster-makers, the bakers' assistants, the seamstresses, and the women employed in coffee-sorting, most of which had been attended with success, although, in some cases, final arrangements had not yet been made. These strikes, however, were of minor importance compared with those which had occurred in the two great shipbuilding yards, the "Forges et Chantiers de la Méditerranée," and M. Augustin Normand. At these works the owners maintained that it was impossible for them to increase the scale of wages. British navigation had not been affected since the termination of the strike of coal porters, and the loading and discharge of British ships had been carried on as usual.

Under date of September 8th, the Consul-General reported that the metal workers at the Forges et Chantiers de la Méditerranée and at M. Normand's dockyards, as well as those at the principal foundries, had resumed work, but that no permanent settlement had yet been arrived at.

**Strike of Stokers and Trimmers at Bordeaux.**—Reporting to the Foreign Office under date of August 25th, Mr. W. P. S. Palmer-Samborne, Acting British Consul at Bordeaux, states that the strike of French stokers and trimmers at that port was at an end. All the shipowners had conceded the men's demands except the Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes, which had only accepted the terms for the men on board their ships actually in port. The Consul remarks that under these circumstances the strike had caused practically no inconvenience at Bordeaux.

**Strike of Dock Labourers at Dunkirk.**—In a report to the Foreign Office, under date of August 31st, Mr. Edward Taylor, H. M. Consul at Dunkirk, states that the strike of dock labourers at that port, which commenced on August 20th, had on the day of writing taken a very serious aspect. A large crowd assembled, and demanded that 40 English workmen, who had been brought over to discharge the cargo of a steamer, should be withdrawn and sent home. The captain of the vessel gave orders to stop work, and for the men to leave by direct train. Reporting to the Foreign Office under date of September 3rd, the Consul states that the strike had terminated, the men having on that morning returned to work.

**Strikes at Marseilles.**—In addition to the strikes at Havre, Bordeaux and Dunkirk mentioned above, disputes have, according to newspaper reports, taken place in various other French ports, those of the greatest importance having occurred at Marseilles. On August 13th it was reported that the stokers of the Transatlantic Company at Marseilles had struck on the previous day for the wages conceded to the same class of workmen at Havre. The coal trimmers employed by the company also struck. The dockers at Marseilles then struck, and by the middle of August the number of workpeople out on strike at this port was reported to be about 7,500. On August 17th it was reported that the Transatlantic and three other companies had conceded the demands of the stokers, but these workmen declined to return to work until the other companies should have granted their demands, and asked the Minister of Marine to send down Vice-Admiral Beyle. The Minister, however, directed Admiral Besson, who was on the spot, to confer with the stokers. The shipowners, on the mediation of Admiral Besson, offered an advance of 17 per cent. in wages, but this was declined by the strikers. A partial resumption of work took place; but on August 18th there were still 8,000 men out on strike. The strikers on August 20th intimated to the Admiral their willingness to accept the advance in wages offered

by the employers, but demanded certain concessions as to the hours of working and payment for overtime. On August 21st the strike of stokers, coal-trimmers and sailors came to an end, terms having been settled between the shipowners and these workmen, and work was resumed by them on August 22nd. The dockers still remained on strike, but a settlement was arrived at on August 27th, and work was resumed next day, except by the coal porters. The carters, however, remained out, and business was in consequence much hindered, numerous manufactories having to be closed and a large number of workmen being thrown out of employment. Early in September the carters' dispute was settled; the employers and the workmen agreed to refer it to an arbitrator, who made his award on September 4th, and the strike then terminated, work being resumed on September 5th. On September 6th fresh disputes took place among various classes of workmen, affecting certain engineering works, a steamship company, and a large number of oil mills. By September 7th 2,000 workmen employed at oil mills were idle, and on September 8th the oil mill workers declared a general strike. On September 11th the journeymen bakers declared a strike, and on September 12th, 1,800 bakers were out.

### GERMANY.

**Dispute in Hamburg Shipbuilding Trade.**—According to German newspapers the number of workpeople involved in the dispute in the shipbuilding trade at Hamburg mentioned in the August GAZETTE (p. 233) in the middle of August was estimated at 5,400. On August 15th the Industrial Court offered to mediate, with a view to the discussion of terms of settlement before a Conciliation Board. The workmen accepted this offer, but the employers declined it, refusing to admit the intervention of the Court, and stating that they would only deal directly with the workpeople. On August 20th the union lightermen went out on strike, demanding an advance in wages of 6d. a day. About 300 ship-joiners, employed by one firm, are also stated to have struck, in consequence of the dismissal of certain joiners by the firm. On August 21st and 22nd the dispute received further extension. *Soziale Praxis* of September 6th reports that the dispute was still extending, but slowly, and that the employers had succeeded in importing labour in sufficient amount to enable them to carry out a part of the work waiting to be done in their yards. As reported in the English Press, 2,000 workmen, employed at 5 dockyards, were to resume work on September 10th, and it was expected that 4,000 more would return to work on September 11th.

### BELGIUM.\*

**Employment in July.**—No decrease of activity took place in the coal-mining industry; on the contrary, an insufficiency of labour force was reported. The slackness, which set in some months ago in the iron trade as a result of the high price of fuel, still continued, but to a less degree in the Liège district than in the Province of Hainaut, where partial unemployment tended to become chronic. Employment generally was satisfactory in the construction of the heavier kinds of machinery, in spite of slackness in certain branches. In the manufacture of looking-glasses a marked scarcity of employment began to be evident. Seasonal activity was in general exhibited in the building, garment-making, brickmaking and brewing trades; some slackness was observable in the manufacture of arms; and the situation in the lace trade was unfavourable by reason of the scarcity of markets for the goods. The extensive strike movement, which took place in the textile trades of Flanders, came to an end, after having lasted more than a month; spinning and weaving again became active, especially flax spinning. Employment was dull in the woollen industry of Verviers. Difficulty was still experienced in several districts in obtaining workpeople for agricultural labour.

**Labour Disputes in July.**—Eight new disputes were reported to the Belgian Labour Department in July, 7 of which involved 350 workpeople, but 5 other disputes, begun before July 1st (one of which commenced so far back as February 9th), still continued in July, and involved about 750 workpeople. The number of fresh disputes in June, 1900, was also 8, involving about 1,450 workpeople; while in July, 1899, there were again 8 disputes, involving 409 workpeople. Of the 8 fresh disputes in July of the

\* *Revue du Travail* (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department).

present year, the most important was a strike of 169 coalminers at Battice (near Verviers), which lasted from the 14th to the 18th of the month. Two of the remaining 7 disputes were in the metal, and two in the textile trades, the workpeople involved in the other 3 disputes being quarrymen, wood workers and paper workers. Of 8 disputes, involving about 853 workpeople, of which the termination is reported, 2, involving 74 workpeople, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 4, involving 160 workpeople, in favour of the employers, while 2, involving about 619 workpeople, were compromised.

**Dispute in the Glass Trade.**—Since June last a movement on the part of the glass workers in the Charleroi district has been going on with the object of inducing the employers to discharge their non-union operatives (who are in a considerable minority), and the workmen gave notice that they intended to cease work at the end of July. On July 27th one firm locked out their workmen, and on August 1st a general strike of glass workers in the district took place. On August 5th some 6,800 were out, and others were working out their notices preparatory to ceasing work. The glass workers at Binche also handed in their notices, with a view to ceasing work in September.

### AUSTRIA.

**Employment in Austria in June\*.**—For every 100 offers of situations at labour registries (public and private) furnishing Returns of their operations to the Austrian Labour Department, there were, on an average, 125 applications for work in June, as compared with 122 in May. Taking the sexes separately, we find that, in regard to males, the average number of applications for each situation offered was 1.6 (the same proportion as in May), while in regard to skilled female workpeople, the number of applications for each situation averaged 1.6 in June, as in May, but, so far as concerns unskilled females, there were in both May and June 1.8 situations offered for each application for work. The proportion in regard to skilled and unskilled women combined was 1.4 situations in June for each application, as against 1.5 in May.

The total number of Registries furnishing Returns for June was 724, of which 572 were attached to the relief stations for unemployed wayfarers existing throughout the country, chiefly in rural districts.

**Labour Disputes in Austria in July.†**—Nineteen disputes were reported to the Austrian Labour Department as having begun in July, the number of workpeople involved in 12 of these disputes being about 3,487. The number of disputes reported in June was 33, in which it was estimated that about 700 workpeople were involved. Of the 19 disputes reported in July, 3 occurred in the building trades, 3 in the metal (including mining and smelting) and shipbuilding trades, 2 in the clothing trades, 3 in the printing and allied trades, and 3 in the woodworking trades, while 5 occurred in trades not coming within any of these groups. Of 15 disputes, of which the results were reported, 6 were decided in favour of the workpeople (2 of these involved 204 workpeople), 3 were decided in favour of the employers (2 of these involved 40 workpeople), and 6 (involving about 2,337 workpeople) were compromised.

### SPAIN.

**Workmen's Compensation.—Regulations for Insurance Offices.**—The official *Gaceta de Madrid* of August 30th, 1900, contains the text of a Royal Decree, dated August 27th, regulating the operations of insurance offices carrying on the business of insuring employers against their liabilities under the recent Workmen's Insurance Law (see GAZETTE, February, 1900, p. 37). All such offices must be registered by the Government, and must give security for the due fulfilment of their obligations. Every office undertaking employers' liability insurance must, if it carries on any other business, keep its reserve

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

† The figures are provisional. Those for July have been supplied through the courtesy of the Austrian Labour Department. Those for June are taken from *Soziale Rundschau* for July.

funds in respect of its liabilities under its employers' liability branch absolutely distinct from its other funds.

Insurance offices of the class referred to in the law are required to submit their accounts and supply returns showing their operations annually to the Government, by which a periodical valuation of the financial position of the offices will be made. Power is given to the Government, if they are of opinion that the offices are, through undue competition, reducing rates below the point of safety, to draw up a minimum premium tariff, which will be binding on all offices.

UNITED STATES.

PHILADELPHIA CONSULAR DISTRICT.

**Strike of Coal Miners.**—In a telegraphic report to the Foreign Office, under date of September 13th, Mr. W. Powell, H.M. Consul at Philadelphia, states that a strike of anthracite coal miners, affecting 150,000 miners in the Consular District, had been declared to begin on the 17th instant.

CHICAGO CONSULAR DISTRICT.

**Strike in Chicago Building Trades.**—In a despatch to the Foreign Office dated August 6th, Mr. W. Wyndham, H.M. Consul at Chicago, states that since the last report, dated June 29th, 1900, the labour conditions at Chicago in the building trade have improved to the extent that work is able to be done on many jobs, although the strike in the building trade nominally continues. Numbers of men, who are members of the union, have individually gone back to work on the builders' terms, and the unions have closed their eyes to the fact.

The Carpenters' District Council considered a new proposal from the employers, but rejected the proposition as a whole because they could not agree on three points: (i.) The carpenters insist on the foreman being a member of the union; (ii.) in refusing to work with non-union men, and (iii.) they decline to withdraw from the Building Trades Council. On the other hand they are willing to work for 42 cents (1s. 9d.) an hour, which was the union scale at the time of the strike, and not insist on 50 cents (2s. 1d.) an hour which they have recently been asking for. They also agree to allow the men to use patent mitre boxes if the contractors furnish them. The contractors were willing to pay the 50 cents (2s. 1d.) rate, but insisted on the carpenters withdrawing from the Building Trades Council.

Some members of the Cut Stone Contractors' Association tried to induce the Association to withdraw from the Building Trades Council, but without success; but many members of the Association are now using machinery prohibited by the Union.

**Increase of Miners' Wages in Missouri.**—Union coal miners in Missouri, outside the mines controlled by the (Big 4) companies are to receive an advance of wages of 10 per cent., beginning September 1st.

This will affect several thousand men. This is the result of an arbitration which has been some days in progress: underground day labourers are increased from 7s. 3d. a day to 8s. 1d., special track repairers and timber men are raised from 7s. 11d. to 8s. 10d.

**St. Louis Street Railway Strike.**—The St. Louis car strike has been a failure for the strikers, as the cars there, as well as in Kansas City, are running as usual and many of the strikers are out of employment. In Kansas City the street railway companies brought in reserve men so that when this strike took place it only caused two hours' inconvenience, when the places of the strikers had all been filled by emergency men.

BALTIMORE CONSULAR DISTRICT.

**Strike of Coal Miners.**—In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated August 30th, 1900, Mr. G. Fraser, H.M. Consul at Baltimore, states that the strike of coal miners in the St. George's Creek Coalfields in Cumberland (Maryland), which began on April 11th (see GAZETTE, May, 1900, p. 139, and August, 1900, p. 235), has terminated, the men having resumed work on August 2nd at the former rate of wages.

REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

(a) COAL MINING IN AUGUST.

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

EMPLOYMENT continues good, and the average number of days worked at collieries during August is higher than a year ago.

Returns relating to 1,298 pits, at which 455,086 workpeople were employed, show that an average of 5.43 days per week was worked by those pits during the four weeks ended August 25th, as compared with 5.52 days per week in July, and 5.23 days per week a year ago. It should be noted, however, that the decrease as compared with July is chiefly attributable to the stoppage of pits in England and Wales for holidays (stoppages for holidays in Scotland occurred, for the most part, in July).

The following Table shows the average time worked in each division of the United Kingdom in the three periods specified:—

District.	No. employed in Aug., 1900, at the collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the pits in four weeks ended.		
		25th August, 1900.	26th August, 1899.	21st July, 1900.
England and Wales ... ..	414,262	5.42	5.22	5.58
Scotland ... ..	40,051	5.51	5.30	4.86
Ireland ... ..	773	5.45	5.15	5.38
<b>United Kingdom ... ..</b>	<b>455,086</b>	<b>5.43</b>	<b>5.23</b>	<b>5.52</b>

The number of workpeople employed at the pits from which returns have been received for both periods was about 4.2 per cent. greater than a year ago.

In the following Table the workpeople are grouped according to the number of days worked at the pits at which they were employed. It will be seen that 86.8 per cent. were employed at pits working 5 or more days per week in August, as compared with 75.8 per cent. a year ago.

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

Number of days on which Coal was hewn and wound in four weeks.	August, 1900.		Corresponding percentages in—	
	No. of Workpeople employed.	Percentage proportion to total.	August, 1899.	July, 1900.
24 days (full time) ... ..	61,673	13.6	9.2	26.4
20 and under 24 days ... ..	333,203	73.2	66.6	62.4
16 " " 20 " " ... ..	53,233	11.7	17.4	17.4
12 " " 16 " " ... ..	5,790	1.3	8.2	0.7
8 " " 12 " " ... ..	222	0.0	1.6	0.0
Under 8 days ... ..	965	0.2	0.0	0.1
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>455,086</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The Table below, which gives detailed particulars for the different mining districts, shows that in nearly all districts the average number of days worked in August was greater than in the corresponding period a year ago, Cumberland and South Wales and Monmouth being the only exceptions. In Derbyshire, Gloucester and Somerset, and Nottingham and Leicester districts the increase in the number of days worked amounted to more than half a day per week; and in Salop, Worcester and Warwick, Staffordshire, Yorkshire and the Lothians districts to more than one-third of a day per week. As compared with the previous month there was a decline in most districts in England, a slight increase in North Wales, and an increase in Scotland amounting to nearly a whole day in Fife, and to over half a day in West Scotland; but employment in Scottish districts had been affected by holidays in July.

The highest averages during the month were worked in Gloucester and Somerset (5.74 days), Yorkshire (5.70 days), the Lothians (5.65 days), Durham (5.62 days) and Derbyshire (5.61 days). The only district in which the average was less than five days was Staffordshire (4.94 days).

EMPLOYMENT IN AUGUST—IRON MINING INDUSTRY; PIG-IRON INDUSTRY; IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

COMPARISON OF THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED BY COLLIERIES IN AUGUST, 1900 AND 1899, AND IN JULY, 1900.

District.	No. employed in August, 1900, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average No. of Days worked per Week by the Collieries in four weeks ended.			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in August, 1900, as compared with	
		25th August, 1900.	26th August, 1899.	21st July, 1900.	A year ago.	A m'th ago.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.</b>		<b>Days.</b>	<b>Days.</b>	<b>Days.</b>	<b>Days.</b>	<b>Days.</b>
Northumberland ... ..	33,719	5.22	5.20	5.34	+ .02	— .12
Durham ... ..	89,661	5.62	5.58	5.59	+ .04	+ .03
Cumberland ... ..	6,463	5.36	5.50	5.84	— .14	— .48
Yorkshire ... ..	67,176	5.70	5.33	5.70	+ .37	...
Lancashire and Cheshire ... ..	46,895	5.27	5.04	5.48	+ .23	— .21
Derbyshire ... ..	36,790	5.61	4.86	5.62	+ .75	— .01
Nottingham and Leicester ... ..	26,725	5.06	4.47	5.37	+ .59	— .31
Staffordshire ... ..	24,854	4.94	4.55	5.44	+ .39	— .50
Salop, Worcester and Warwick ... ..	7,486	5.32	4.89	5.61	+ .43	— .20
Gloucester and Somerset ... ..	8,048	5.74	5.02	5.70	+ .72	+ .04
North Wales ... ..	11,357	5.44	5.28	5.33	+ .16	+ .11
South Wales & Mon. ... ..	55,088	5.27	5.57	5.80	— .50	— .53
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
West Scotland ... ..	22,070	5.46	5.26	4.84	+ .20	+ .62
The Lothians ... ..	3,976	5.65	5.30	5.63	+ .35	+ .02
Fife ... ..	14,005	5.56	5.38	4.67	+ .18	+ .89
<b>IRELAND.</b>						
... ..	773	5.45	5.15	5.38	+ .30	+ .07
<b>Grand Total &amp; Averages</b>	<b>455,086</b>	<b>5.43</b>	<b>5.23</b>	<b>5.52</b>	<b>+ .20</b>	<b>— .09</b>

The Exports of coal, coke, cinders and patent fuel during August amounted to 4,173,499 tons, as compared with 3,981,021 tons in July, and 3,758,781 tons in August, 1899.

(b) IRON MINING IN AUGUST.

EMPLOYMENT continues good on the whole, but is not quite so good as a year ago.

Returns relating to 127 iron mines and open works show that the average number of days worked by these mines in the four weeks ended August 25th was 5.55 days per week, as compared with 5.52 in the four weeks ended July 21st, and 5.74 days in August, 1899. The number of workpeople employed at the mines covered by the returns was 16,928 (or 104 less than a year ago), of whom 75.3 per cent. were employed in mines working 22 or more days in the four weeks.

The following Table summarises the returns received:

District.	No. employed in August, 1900, at the Mines included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the mines in 4 weeks ended.			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in August, 1900, as compared with	
		25th Aug., 1900.	26th Aug., 1899.	21st July, 1900.	A year ago.	A month ago.
<b>ENGLAND—</b>		<b>Days.</b>	<b>Days.</b>	<b>Days.</b>	<b>Days.</b>	<b>Days.</b>
Cumberland and Lancashire ... ..	5,792	5.60	5.82	5.38	— .22	+ .22
Cleveland ... ..	6,777	5.72	5.80	5.53	— .08	+ .19
Lincolnshire and Leicestershire ... ..	706	5.94	5.99	5.94	— .05	...
Northamptonshire Staffordshire and Shropshire ... ..	678	5.61	5.74	5.90	— .13	— .29
Other places in England ... ..	1,593	4.62	4.98	5.76	— .36	— .14
Scotland ... ..	126	5.34	5.51	5.59	— .17	— .25
IRELAND ... ..	1,140	5.42	5.65	5.23	— .23	+ .19
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>16,928</b>	<b>5.55</b>	<b>5.74</b>	<b>5.52</b>	<b>— .19</b>	<b>+ .03</b>

The decrease in the time worked in Staffordshire and Shropshire as compared with a month ago is largely accounted for by local holidays in August.

(c) PIG-IRON INDUSTRY IN AUGUST.

EMPLOYMENT shows a decline in nearly every district as compared with the previous month and with August, 1899.

At the works of 117 ironmasters covered by the returns, two furnaces were re-lit and seven damped down or blown out in England and Wales during the month, while in Scotland one furnace was re-lit and one blown out. Thus at the end of August there were five furnaces less in blast than at the end of July. As compared with August, 1899, there is a decrease of ten furnaces in blast.

The estimated number of workpeople employed at the 372 furnaces in blast at the end of August was 25,700.

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

Districts.	Present time compared with a year ago.			Present time compared with a month ago.		
	Aug., 1900.	Aug., 1899.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Aug., 1900.	Aug., 1900.	July, 1900.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Aug., 1900.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES—</b>						
Cleveland ... ..	97	98	— 1	97	97	...
Cumberland & Lancs. ... ..	49	52	— 3	49	51	— 2
S. and S.W. Yorks... ..	16	19	— 3	16	17	— 1
Lincolnshire ... ..	15	16	— 1	15	16	— 1
Midlands ... ..	99	100	— 1	99	101	— 2
Gismorgan and Mon. ... ..	24	23	+ 1	24	22	+ 2
Other districts ... ..	8	9	— 1	8	9	— 1
<b>Total England and Wales...</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>— 9</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>— 5</b>
SCOTLAND ... ..	64	65	— 1	64	64	...
<b>Total furnaces included in returns ...</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>— 10</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>— 5</b>

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

EMPLOYMENT in these industries shows an improvement as compared with the previous month, but a decline as compared with August, 1899. In England and Wales, however, the numbers employed are less than in July, 1900, and August, 1899, chiefly owing to the observance of holidays at some large works in the Northern Districts; while in Scotland there has been a great improvement as compared with July (when, however, employment was considerably affected by holidays), and a slight one as compared with August, 1899.

Numbers Employed.

At 208 works covered by the returns, 75,728 workpeople were employed in the week ended August 25th, as compared with 71,591 in the week ended July 28th, and 79,643 a year ago.

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

District.	Numbers employed in week ending			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Aug. 1900, as compared with	
	Aug. 25th, 1900.	Aug. 26th, 1899.	July 28th, 1900.	a year ago.	a month ago.
England and Wales ... ..	62,551	66,800	67,121	— 4,258	— 4,570
Scotland ... ..	13,177	12,834	4,470	+ 343	+ 8,707
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>75,728</b>	<b>79,634</b>	<b>71,591</b>	<b>— 3,905</b>	<b>+ 4,137</b>

Weekly Number of Shifts Worked.

Information as to the number of shifts worked has been received with respect to works employing about 86 per cent. of these workpeople, and the particulars are summarised in the Table below. The average number of shifts worked was 5.34 per man in the week ended August 25th, as compared with 5.33 in the week ended July 28th, and 5.42 in the corresponding week a year ago.

Number of Shifts worked.	Number employed in August, 1900, so far as returned.	Percentage proportion to Total.	Corresponding percentage in	
			August, 1899.	July 1900.
Under 5 per week ... ..	8,636	13.2	8.8	10.9
5 per week ... ..	22,399	34.1	35.1	40.3
5 1/2 per week ... ..	1,095	1.7	1.7	1.2
6 per week ... ..	32,665	49.9	53.1	47.5
Above 6 per week ... ..	738	1.1	1.3	0.1
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>65,533</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

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

## EMPLOYMENT IN AUGUST—TINPLATE WORKS; WOMEN IN TEXTILE TRADES; AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

Assuming that the workpeople not included in this Table worked the same number of shifts as those who are included, the total number of shifts worked by all the people included in the first Table may be estimated at 404,427 in the week ended August 25th, 381,379 in the week ended July 28th, and 431,486 in the corresponding week a year ago. Thus the volume of employment at the works included in the returns was 6.0 per cent. greater than in the week ended July 28th, and 6.3 per cent. less than a year ago.

## (e) EMPLOYMENT AT TINPLATE WORKS\* IN AUGUST.

EMPLOYMENT at the end of August showed a further decline, both as compared with the end of July and the end of August, 1899. Since the end of June 16 works have been closed and 4 re-started, with the net result that 12 fewer works are now open than two months ago. These 12 works possess 65 mills, 40 of which have been in operation during some part of July or August.

At the end of August 42 works with 221 mills had all their mills at work, whilst 29 others with 194 mills were giving partial employment, 128 of their mills being at work. Thus in all 349 mills were working, compared with 357 mills at the end of July, and 395 mills a year ago. The number of workpeople employed at the mills in operation at the end of August, 1900, is estimated to be about 17,500.

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

	No. of Works open.	No. of Mills in such Works		
		Working.	Not Working.	Total.
Works giving full employment	42	221	—	221
Works giving partial employment	29	128	66	194
Total at end of August, 1900†	71	349	66	415
Corresponding Total for July, 1900†	76	357	78	435
Corresponding Total for August, 1899†	82	395	71	466

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

	Tinplates.			Blackplates.		
	August, 1900.	July, 1900.	August, 1899.	August, 1900.	July, 1900.	August, 1899.
To United States ...	Tons. 4,166	Tons. 6,138	Tons. 5,109	Tons. 22	Tons. 8	Tons. 538
„ Other Countries	14,791	14,051	17,299	6,800	4,761	6,624
Total ...	18,957	20,189	22,408	6,822	4,769	7,162

## (f) EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN THE TEXTILE TRADES IN AUGUST.

ACCORDING to returns from women correspondents, employment for women during August showed an improvement in both branches of the cotton trade. In the woollen and worsted trades a further marked decline was apparent, only one-third being in mills giving full employment throughout the month. Infor-

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

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

mation has been received with regard to 599 cotton, woollen and worsted mills, employing about 102,100 women and girls, and is summarised in the following table, which also gives for comparison the corresponding figures for the previous month, and for a year ago:—

Trade and Month.	Percentage ordinarily employed in Mills which were			
	Working full Time.		Working Short Time.	Closed for repairs, bad trade, disputes, or other causes.
	With Full Employment.	With Partial Employment.		
<b>Cotton Trade—Spinning—</b>				
August, 1900 ...	70	9	20	1
July, 1900 ...	66	9	18	7
August, 1899 ...	97	1	1	1
<b>Cotton Trade—Weaving—</b>				
August, 1900 ...	67	18	11	4
July, 1900 ...	59	26	10	5
August, 1899 ...	97	2	—	1
<b>Woollen and Worsted Trades—</b>				
August, 1900 ...	33	51	16	—
July, 1900 ...	45	48	6	1
August, 1899 ...	96	3	—	1
<b>Total of above Trades—</b>				
August, 1900 ...	61	22	16	2
July, 1900 ...	58	26	12	4
August, 1899 ...	97	2	—	1

**Cotton Trade.—Spinning.**—The number of women and girls usually employed in cotton spinning mills reported on is 27,200; of these 70 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 66 per cent. among those for whom returns were received in July, and with 97 per cent. in August, 1899.

**Cotton Trade.—Weaving.**—The number of women and girls usually employed in cotton weaving factories reported on is 55,400; of these, 67 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 59 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in July, and with 97 per cent. in August, 1899.

**Woollen and Worsted Trades.**—The number of women and girls usually employed in the woollen and worsted mills reported on is 19,500; of these, 33 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 45 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in July, and with 96 per cent. in August, 1899.

## (g) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN AUGUST.

THE Agricultural Correspondent to the Department on the basis of 217 Returns from various parts of England reports of follows:—Agricultural labourers have been fully employed during August, chiefly in connection with the harvest. The gathering of the corn crops has been interrupted or delayed to some extent by rain in many districts, particularly in the north of England, but plenty of work has been afforded during the broken weather at hoeing root crops, which had frequently been much neglected owing to scarcity of labour. Generally speaking, the supply of extra men for harvest has not been equal to the demand, the exceptions being chiefly in the Eastern counties, but much of the corn has been light, and has stood well, and self-binding machines have been largely used, so that the inconvenience occasioned by the scarcity of men has not been so much felt as was anticipated. In districts where the corn has been beaten and twisted by storms much inconvenience has been experienced, as the cutting has had to be done by hand.

**Northern Counties.**—Reports from Cumberland from the Unions of Bootle, Carlisle, Cockermouth, Penrith, Whitehaven, and Wigton state that employment, though interrupted to some extent by wet weather, has been generally regular, and extra men for harvest scarce. The corn was much beaten down by storms during August in some districts, and a good deal of it has to be cut by hand. In South Westmorland and in the Unions of Fylde, Garstang, Lancaster, Lunside, and Ulverston in North Lancashire the supply of

## EMPLOYMENT IN AUGUST—AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

labour is stated to be short of the demand for harvest work, which has taken more time than usual owing to the crops being laid by storms, necessitating cutting by hand.

In Durham agricultural labourers are said to be, with few exceptions, regularly employed in the Unions of Chester-le street, Durham, and Darlington (Durham and Yorks N.R.). The corn crops have been much damaged by rain, which has made self-binders nearly useless, and extra labour is said to be very scarce in most districts. Employment has been regular in Yorkshire in the Unions of Beverley, Easingwold, Guisborough, Howden, Malton, Pocklington, Ripon, and Thirsk. The weather is reported to have been fairly favourable for harvesting in these Unions, and, with the exception of the Guisborough and Thirsk Unions, the supply of labour has been generally equal to the demand, owing partly to the influx of Irish labourers, and also to the use of machinery.

**Midland Counties.**—Agricultural employment is reported as regular in Cheshire in the Unions of Chester, Macclesfield, and Nantwich, and in Derbyshire in the Unions of Ashbourne, Hayfield (Derby and Cheshire), and in the Derbyshire portions of the Worksop Union (Notts, Derby, and Yorks, W.R.), and of the Burton-on-Trent Union (Staffs and Derby). There is said to have been a fair supply of labour in the Worksop Union, but a scarcity of men in the Hayfield, and Burton-on-Trent Unions. Full employment is reported in Shropshire in the Unions of Bridgnorth, Drayton (Salop and Staffs), Oswestry, Wellington, and Wem, and in Staffordshire in the Unions of Leek, and Tamworth. Scarcity of labour is reported from both of these counties, but the report from the Wem Union states that there was no scarcity, while the report from Tamworth Union states that more men were obtainable in the latter part of the month.

Regularity of employment is reported in Warwickshire in the Unions of Alcester, Coventry, Meriden, and Stratford-on-Avon (Warwick and Gloucester), and in the Warwickshire portion of the Banbury Union (Oxon, Northants, and Warwick). The supply of labour is stated to be plentiful in the Alcester, and Meriden Unions, but very short in the Stratford-on-Avon Union. A report from the Alcester Union states that there has been no difficulty in getting sufficient labour to secure the fruit and hops. Agricultural labourers have been fully employed in Leicestershire in the Unions of Barrow-on-Soar, Blaby, Lutterworth (Leicester and Warwick), Market Harborough (Leicester and Northants), and Market Bosworth. In some districts the heavy crops were laid and twisted by storms and could not be cut by machines. A general scarcity of extra men for harvest is reported from this county. In Nottinghamshire work has been plentiful in the Unions of Bingham and Retford. Scarcity of labour has been experienced, but the crops have not been much damaged by the rains, and self-binding machines have been used to a fair extent. Employment is reported to be regular in Worcestershire in the Unions of Evesham (Worcester and Gloucester), Martley, Tenbury (Worcester and Salop), and Upton-on-Severn. Labour is stated to be scarce in many districts. A correspondent from the Upton-on-Severn Union writes that "storms laid much of the corn, and in consequence more manual labour was required."

Reports from Oxfordshire state that employment for agricultural labourers has been regular in the Unions of Thame (Oxon and Bucks), Wallingford (Oxon and Berks), and Witney. The supply of labour has not been equal to the demand, but it has been possible to cut much of the corn by machinery, so that the scarcity of labour has not been severely felt. In Northamptonshire the labourers have been fully employed in the Unions of Brixworth, Hardingstone, Kettering, Potterspury, and Wellingborough. Scarcity of labour is reported from all of these Unions with the exception of Wellingborough, where it is stated "the supply of labour has been better than was expected. The shoe trade having fallen off and the iron trade not so good as it was, a good many casual men have come for work in the harvest and labour has been fairly plentiful." Employment is said to be regular in Huntingdonshire in the Unions of Huntingdon, and St. Neots (Hunts and Beds.), and in Buckinghamshire in the Unions of Aylesbury, and Buckingham, and in the Buckinghamshire portion of the Henley Union (Oxon and Bucks). The reports from these counties refer to a difficulty in getting extra hands for harvest, but the report from the St. Neots Union states that the supply of labour has been fair. Agricultural labourers are said to have been well employed in Hertfordshire in the Unions of Buntingford, Hatfield, Hertford Hitchin, and Watford. In the Buntingford Union the supply of labour for harvesting is reported to have been unequal to the demand and the ingathering has been much delayed in consequence. In the Hitchin, and Watford Unions, however, the crops are said to have been light,

requiring less labour than usual. Regularity of employment is reported in Bedfordshire in the Unions of Bedford, and Leighton Buzzard. The weather being rainy during August, extra men were not so much in request as usual for harvesting. The report from the Leighton Buzzard Union states that the weather was wet, but that there was plenty of hoeing for the men.

**Eastern Counties.**—Agricultural employment is reported as generally regular in Essex in the Unions of Billericay, Braintree, Colchester, Dunmow, Halstead, Lenden and Winstree, Maldon, Orsett, Tendring, and Saffron Walden. Reports from this county state that the crops have not been so bulky as in 1899, and much of the corn has stood well and has been cut by machinery. The supply of labour has been generally about sufficient, and though the showery weather interrupted harvest operations, nearly all the men have been fully employed. Regularity of employment is reported in Suffolk in the Unions of Blything, Bosmere and Claydon, Cosford, Hartismere, Hoxne, Mildenhall, Mutford and Lothingland, Plomesgate, Risbridge (Suffolk and Essex), Samford, and Thingoe, though harvesting has been interrupted by wet weather, particularly in the early part of the month. The supply of labour has, generally speaking, been sufficient, and a correspondent in the Bosmere and Claydon Union states that, on the whole, he thinks that there have been rather more men about than last year. Some scarcity of men is, however, reported from the Cosford Union, and of good men in the Hoxne Union.

Agricultural labourers have had full employment in Norfolk in the Unions of Blofield, Depwade, Docking, Downham, East and West Flegg, Erpingham, Forehoe, Freebridge Lynn, Giltcross, Loddon and Clavering, St. Faith's, Smallburgh, Swaffham, Thetford (Norfolk and Suffolk), Walsingham, and Wayland. Harvest operations were much retarded by wet weather in the early part of the month, but in many cases there was plenty of work at hoeing root crops until the weather became suitable for harvest work. Some scarcity of labour is reported from the Unions of Giltcross, Erpingham, Blofield, and Thetford. A report from the last-named union states that the crops on the heavy land were much laid by wind and rain, and that in consequence they had to be cut by hand. In all other Unions reported on, the supply of labour is said to have been just sufficient, with little or no excess. Regularity of employment is reported in Cambridgeshire in the Unions of Chesterton, North Witchford, Royston (Cams and Herts), and Whittlesea, and in the Cambridgeshire portion of the Peterborough Union (Northants, Cams, Hunts, and Lincoln). In the Chesterton Union some farmers, it is stated, have been complaining of the shortness of labour, but in the other Unions reported on the supply of labour has been equal to the demand. A correspondent in the Royston Union writes: "The crops were mostly standing and short of straw so that they could all be cut and tied by self-binders, consequently the harvest was gathered with fully 10 per cent. less labour, or we should have been very short of men." Agricultural labourers have been well employed in Lincolnshire in the Unions of Boston, Brigg, Caistor (Notts and Lincoln), Lincoln, Louth, and Spilsby, and in the Lincolnshire portion of the Newark Union (Notts and Lincoln). The corn crops have been light, and self-binding machines have been extensively used for the harvest, so that fewer extra labourers have been required than usual. In the Brigg, and Spilsby Unions, however, labourers are said to have been scarce, but in the other Unions reported on, the vacancies for extra men have been filled by the arrival of Irish labourers.

**Southern and South-Western Counties.**—Agricultural employment in Kent is reported as regular in the Unions of Blean, Bridge, Cranbrook, Eastry, Faversham, Hollingbourne, Hoo, Maidstone, Sevenoaks, and Tenterden. Scarcity of labour is reported from the Faversham, Elham, and Tenterden Unions, and regular men are said to be scarce in the Blean Union, though there have been more casual labourers about than usual. In the Bridge, Eastry, Hollingbourne, Hoo, Maidstone, and Sevenoaks Unions the supply of labour is reported as equal to the demand. With reference to the short supply of men in the Faversham Union the report states:—"Crops not heavy, so less hands required. Self-binding machines now very much used. It would not have been possible to have got even this small crop cut by hand." Fruit-growers in this county have, generally speaking, had no difficulty in procuring sufficient labour to secure the crop. Hop picking had hardly commenced at the end of the month, but no difficulty is anticipated in getting labour for this work. Regularity of employment is reported in Surrey in the Unions of Godstone, and Hambleton, and in the Surrey portion of the Farnham Union (Surrey and Hants). The supply of labour



EMPLOYMENT IN AUGUST—AGRICULTURAL LABOUR; SEAMEN; DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR.

is stated to be short of the demand in these Unions. Agricultural labourers have been fully employed in *Sussex* in the Unions of Chalely, Cuckfield, Hailsham, Horsham, Lewes, Newhaven, Petworth, and Rye. With the exception of the Lewes, Newhaven, and Cuckfield Unions the reports refer to scarcity of labour, but owing to the lightness of the crops and the general use of machinery at harvest, the dearth of labour has not caused much inconvenience. In districts where hops or fruit are grown sufficient labour is stated to be forthcoming for the gathering of these crops. In *Hampshire* the labourers are said to have been fully employed in the Unions of Basingstoke, Christchurch, Havant, Kingsclere, Lymington, Petersfield, and Stockbridge, and in the *Hampshire* portion of the Farnham Union (*Hants* and *Surrey*). Reports from this county state that showery weather retarded harvest operations, but that men were kept fully employed at hoeing root crops and other work. The supply of labour is said to be sufficient in the Kingsclere, and Stockbridge Unions, but not in the other Unions reported on. Employment is stated to be regular and labour scarce in *Berkshire* in the Unions of Bradfield (*Berks* and *Oxon.*) and Wantage. A correspondent in the Wantage Union states that all the corn was cut and bound by machines, thus saving a great deal of manual labour, but that some of the root crops are spoiled through lack of hands to hoe them.

Agricultural labourers are reported to be well employed in *Dorsetshire* in the Unions of Blandford, Dorchester, Wareham and Purbeck, and Wimborne and Cranborne. Extra hands for harvest have been scarce in some districts, but not so scarce as was expected, and with light crops and fine weather harvest has been gathered with very little extra labour. Regularity of employment is reported in *Wiltshire* in the Unions of Amesbury, Bradford-on-Avon, Chippenham, Cricklade and Wootton Bassett, Devizes, Marlborough, Mere, Warminster, and Westbury and Whorwells-down. Some scarcity of labour is said to have been experienced, and a correspondent in the Amesbury Union states that for want of labourers some farmers were unable to get in their corn in time to prevent damage by rain, but, generally speaking, the use of self-binding machines reduced the inconvenience caused by the short supply of men to a minimum. In *Gloucestershire* employment for agricultural labourers has been regular in the Unions of Barton Regis, Dursley, Gloucester, Northleach, Stow-on-the-Wold (*Gloucester* and *Worcester*), Thornbury, Wheatenhurst, and Winchcomb (*Gloucester* and *Worcester*). Extra men have been difficult to obtain in some districts, but machinery has been used as far as possible for harvesting, and with the advantage of fine weather in the latter part of the month, the need of extra men has been not much felt. The report from the Union of Stow-on-the-Wold states, however, that labour is very scarce, and that much of the corn has been laid and has had to be cut by hand. Employment has been regular in *Herefordshire* in the Unions of Bromyard, Dore, and Ross. Scarcity of labour is reported from the Bromyard, and Ross Unions, but in the Dore Union the supply of labour is said to have been about sufficient. Wet weather has interfered to some extent with ordinary field work, but men have filled up their time with hedge cutting and other work. Agricultural labourers have been well employed in *Somersetshire* in the Unions of Bridgwater, Clutton, Frome, Langport, Taunton, Wellington (*Somerset* and *Devon*), and Yeovil. Scarcity of labour is reported except in the Clutton Union, where the supply is said to have been "quite enough," and in the Yeovil Union, where it has been "just sufficient." The weather has been, on the whole, favourable, and the harvest has been gathered without much trouble. With reference to the scarcity of labour a report from the Frome Union states that work on the roads was suspended by the District Council for several weeks to enable the men to assist in securing the harvest.

Employment is reported as regular in *Devonshire* in the Unions of Axminster, Barnstaple, Crediton, Holsworthy, Kingsbridge (*Devon* and *Cornwall*) South Molton, and Torrington, and in the *Devonshire* portion of the Tavistock Union (*Devon* and *Cornwall*), and also in *Cornwall* in the Unions of Bodmin, Camelford, and Stratton. The demand for labour in these two counties has, generally speaking, exceeded the supply. In the Torrington Union, however, the supply of men is reported as "just enough." Rainy weather has delayed harvest operations in some districts, but plenty of work has been found for all, and a correspondent in the Camelford Union states that much work has to be left undone on account of the scarcity of labourers. It is reported from the Barnstaple Union that in some cases the corn has been badly laid, rendering the use of machinery for cutting impracticable to any extent, thus increasing the demand for manual labour.

(h) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN AUGUST.

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

THE number of seamen shipped during August as the crews of foreign-going vessels, from certain selected ports (at which about 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared), was 37,319, or slightly more than the number shipped in August, 1899. At most of the ports the supply of seamen has been equal to or in excess of the demand, but a scarcity of men is reported at Southampton, and (for A.B.'s) at Bristol, while at Sunderland and South Shields the supply of men fell off towards the end of the month.

During the eight months ended August 31st, the number of men shipped was 265,631, as compared with 275,740 in the corresponding period of 1899. The falling off is accounted for by decreases at the East Coast and Bristol Channel ports and at Liverpool, partly balanced by increases at London and Southampton.

Of the total number shipped during the eight completed months of 1900, 39,484 (or 14.9 per cent.) were foreigners, the percentage for the corresponding period of 1899 being 14.8. Lascars who are engaged in Asia are not included in these figures.

Particulars of changes which have taken place during August in the wages of seamen at London (Tilbury), will be found in the Table on page 284.

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 August, 1900 and 1899 respectively, together with the number\* shipped in the eight months ended August in each of these years:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Men, &c., shipped in August, 1900.*			Total in August, 1899.*	Total number shipped in 8 months ended August.*	
	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in August, 1900.		1900.	1899.
<b>ENGLAND.</b>						
<b>East Coast.</b>						
Tyne Ports ...	89	3,225	3,314	3,603	21,857	25,899
Sunderland ...	6	57	63	614	3,518	4,046
Middlesbrough ...	—	209	209	376	2,078	2,751
Hull ...	53	1,043	1,096	1,227	9,530	10,672
Grimsby ...	—	62	62	130	694	751
<b>Bristol Channel.</b>						
Bristol ...	—	472	472	491	3,193	3,712
Newport, Mon. ...	23	947	970	937	6,795	8,573
Cardiff ...	140	3,623	3,763	4,569	34,723	41,479
Swansea ...	96	446	542	702	3,658	4,974
<b>Other Ports.</b>						
Liverpool ...	216	12,281	12,497	12,419	80,222	86,091
London ...	266	6,864	7,130	6,654	51,383	45,037
Southampton ...	—	2,627	2,627	1,603	18,827	11,533
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
Leth, Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth ...	19	695	714	601	5,346	5,132
Glasgow ...	112	2,888	3,000	3,002	19,411	19,229
<b>IRELAND.</b>						
Dublin ...	—	149	149	174	1,009	957
Belfast ...	—	271	271	305	2,337	2,194
<b>Total, August, 1900</b>	<b>1,020</b>	<b>36,299</b>	<b>37,319</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>265,631</b>	<b>—</b>
<i>Ditto, August, 1899</i>	<i>1,141</i>	<i>36,096</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>37,237</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>275,740</i>

(i) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN AUGUST.

EMPLOYMENT at the docks and wharves again shows an improvement as compared with both a month and a year ago.

The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and the principal wharves during the four weeks ended August 25th was 14,993, as compared with averages of 14,868 in the preceding four weeks, and 14,460 in the corresponding period of 1899.

(1) Weekly Averages.—The following Table shows

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

EMPLOYMENT IN AUGUST—DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR. DISTRICT REPORTS—LONDON.

the estimated average number of dock and wharf labourers employed daily in each week of the month:—

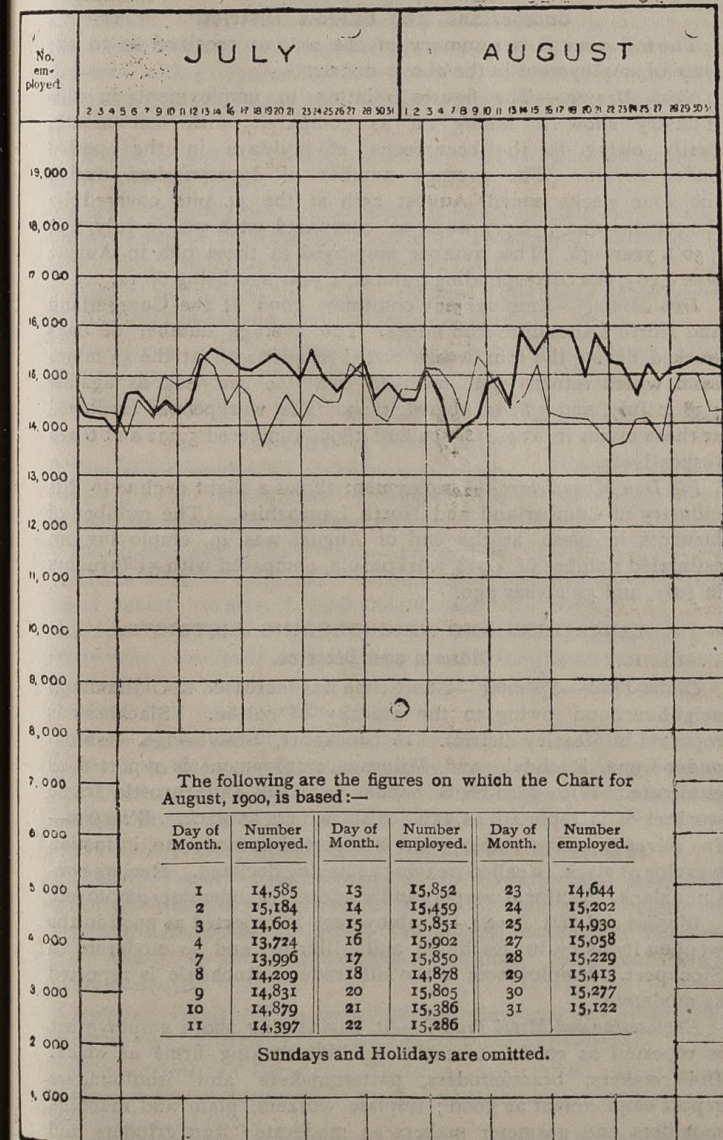
Period.	Labourers employed in Docks			Labourers employed at 115 Wharves making Returns.	Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ending Aug. 4	6,729	2,353	9,082	5,407	14,579
" " " 11	6,415	2,473	8,888	5,574	14,462
" " " 18	7,153	2,667	9,820	5,812	15,632
" " " 25	7,301	2,001	9,302	5,908	15,210
Average for 4 weeks ending Aug. 25th, 1900	6,921	2,369	9,290	5,793	14,993
Average for Aug. 1899	5,659	2,924	8,583	5,877	14,460
Average for July, 1900	6,966	2,641	9,607	5,261	14,868

(2) Daily Fluctuation.—The daily fluctuation in the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed by all the docks and principal wharves is shown on the chart below. The numbers in August ranged from 13,724 on the 4th to 15,902 on the 16th.

During August, 1899, the total number of dock and wharf labourers employed varied from 15,473 on the 9th to 13,632 on the 22nd.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 115 of the principal Wharves for each day during the months of July and August, 1900. The corresponding curve for July and August, 1899, is also given for comparison.

(The thick curve applies to 1900, and the thin curve to 1899.)



Particulars respecting the employment of other classes of dock and riverside labourers will be found under "District Reports, London," on page 274.

DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

LONDON.

General.—A slight downward tendency has continued in several industries, but on the whole the state of employment during August was fairly steady. Returns from 471 branches of 126 unions, having an aggregate membership of 80,328, show that 3,035 (or 3.8 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 3.5 per cent. in July, and 3.7 in August, 1899.

Employment in the *Engineering, Metal and Shipbuilding* trades has remained good. Reports from 157 branches of 30 unions, with an aggregate membership of 23,084, show that 387 (or 1.7 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.8 per cent. in June and July in August of last year the percentage was also 1.7. With sail-makers employment has been slack.

The *Building* trades continue well employed. Returns from 183 branches of 8 unions paying unemployed benefit, with a membership of 13,569, show that 176 (or 1.3 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.1 in July, and 0.5 per cent. in August, 1899. The bricklayers and painters and decorators describe employment as good; the carpenters and joiners and stonemasons as fair; the plumbers and stonemasons as moderate; the plasterers as bad.

Employment in the *Furnishing* trades has continued to fall off. Reports from 47 branches of 14 unions, with a membership of 6,626, show that 311 (or 4.7 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.4 in July, and 3.1 per cent. in August, 1899.

The *Woodworking* trades continue well employed. Reports from 3 unions, with a membership of 896, show that 12 (or 1.3 per cent.) were unemployed, as in July.

*Coopers* still remain busy. Reports from 2 societies, with a membership of 1,064, show that less than 1 per cent. were unemployed, as in July and also in August of last year.

Employment with *Coachbuilders* and *Wheelwrights* has remained good. Reports from 12 branches of 8 unions, with a membership of 1,461, show that 22 (or 1.5 per cent.) were unemployed, as in July. The percentage for August, 1899, was 1.2.

The *Printing and Bookbinding* trades have continued to decline, as is usual at this season of the year. Returns from 25 unions, with a membership of 24,597, show that 1,436 (or 5.8 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.3 in July, and 6.7 per cent. in August, 1899.

Employment in the *Clothing* trades is slack. The West End bespoke tailors have been dull, but employment improved towards the end of the month; the East End contract trade has remained busy; the stock and bespoke trades have been quiet; the East End military and uniform tailors and tailoresses have been employed four days a week; with ladies' tailors and mantle makers employment has remained slack. Employment with hatters has continued bad; with capmakers it has also been bad. Fur skin dressers are still slack.

*Boot and Shoe Trades.*—Employment with West End hand-sewn boot and shoemakers has been quiet; with the East End sewn round trade it has remained bad; with boot and shoe clickers it is slightly better; with boot and shoe operatives still bad.

Employment in the *Leather* trades has remained steady. Returns from 7 unions, with a membership of 1,730, show that 38 (or 2.2 per cent.) were unemployed, as in July. The percentage for August, 1899, was 1.5.

In the *Glass and Pottery* trades returns from 8 unions, with a membership of 1,463, show that 62 (or 4.2 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.1 in July and 5.2 per cent. in August of last year.

*Hair, Fibre, and Cane Workers.*—In these trades returns from 5 unions, with a membership of 914, show that 26 (or 2.8 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.6 in July and 3.1 per cent. in August, 1899.

*Gold and Silver Workers* have remained steadily employed. Returns from 8 unions, with a membership of 1,137, show that 20 (or 1.8 per cent.) were unemployed, as in July. The percentage for August, 1899, was 0.3. *Diamond Workers* were not so well employed.

In the *Tobacco* trades employment has remained bad. Returns from 4 unions, with a membership of 2,340, show that 309 (or 13.2 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 12.7 in July and 6.9 per cent. in August of last year.

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

**Dock and Riverside Labour.**—The average number of dock and wharf labourers employed daily at all the docks and the principal wharves was 14,993 in the four weeks ended August 25th, as compared with 14,868 in the preceding four weeks and 14,460 in August, 1899. Employment in mid-stream has been fair. Employment with deal porters has been good; with lightermen, stevedores, lumpers and corn-porters fair; with coal-porters and winchmen, moderate. The fruit porters in Thames-street have had fair employment, the average daily number employed being 394, compared with 278 in July and 275 in August, 1899.

## ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES.

## Tyne and Wear District.

**Coal Mining.**—*Northumberland.*—Steam and house coal pits have worked an average of 5.19 days each per week respectively for the four weeks ending August 25th, which include Bank Holiday. The 22,918 union miners have four unemployed. Colliery mechanics, deputies, engine and fire men, are all employed. *Durham.*—Some collieries have lost time through the holidays. The coking, house, manufacturing, and gas coal pits have averaged 5.73, 5.47, 5.55, and 5.45 days per week, as compared with 5.70, 5.59, 5.57 and 5.32 days respectively in July. At 144 pits employing 68,447 men and boys, the average number of days worked per week, as shown in the returns, was 5.56 days as against 5.47 in July. The union miners again report 0.1 per cent. as unemployed. Colliery deputies, mechanics, engine and fire men and cokeyard workers are fully employed.

**Metal Mining.**—Three lead mines have worked full time. Employment in the iron ore mines has been fairly steady.

**Quarrying.**—Employment generally has been good.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—*On the Tyne.*—Much overtime is still worked in the ordnance factory. Nearly all engine shops and electrical works are working double shifts. Frame benders and platers have been well employed. There is a continued demand for riveters. Employment in docks, repair yards, and pontoons has been exceptionally good. Of the 12,682 members of these trades, 144 (or 1.1 per cent.), are off work, as against 221 (or 1.7 per cent. of their membership), in July. *On the Wear.*—Shipsmiths and forgemen are better employed. Work in the engine and boiler shops remains fairly good. In most of the yards iron shipbuilders are in good demand. These trades, with 4,969 members, have 43 (or 0.9 per cent.) unemployed, as against 48 (or 1.0 per cent. of their membership), in July. The union drillers and hole cutters on both rivers have 1.4 per cent. of their membership idle. Shipwrights on the Wear are all employed. Sailmakers are scarcely so brisk, especially on the Tyne. With ship joiners and plumbers employment is moderate; with iron and steel moulders good. The steel smelters at Consett, Jarrow and Spennymoor have worked 6, and at Newburn 5, shifts per week. All forges and plate and angle mills have worked 5 shifts; anchor and chain smiths full time.

**Shipping and Dock Labour.**—Employment with trimmers and teemers, with Tyne watermen, riggers and lumpers has been good; with dock and quayside labourers fairly good. The union porters and shippers on both rivers are all employed. Sailors and firemen are in good demand.

**Building Trades.**—Branches on the Tyne, with the exception of painters, slaters and tilers, are slack. The bricklayers' dispute still continues. Masons on the Wear are exceedingly busy. Slaters and tilers have been unsettled through a dispute.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Bookbinders on both rivers are steadily employed. Letterpress printers on the Tyne remain quiet; at Sunderland employment is somewhat better. Six paper mills have worked full time, two others 42 out of a possible 100 shifts.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Branches of cabinet makers, mill-sawyers, and woodcutters, with a membership of 539, have 14 (or 2.6 per cent.), out of work. Coopers continue fairly busy, lath-renders moderately so.

**Chemical and Glass Trades.**—Pressed glass makers are better employed. Bottle-makers continue busy. White lead factories are well employed. Chemical workers in "black ash" are slack; in the soda and bleaching departments moderately brisk. At one or two copper works furnaces are out through repairs and a scarcity of ore. Cement factories have worked well.

**Fishing.**—The supply of line fish has been scarce. Trawl boats have landed good catches of white fish. The herring fishing during the month has been very successful.—*J. Ratcliffe.*

## Middlesbrough, Stockton and District.

**Ironstone Mining.**—Employment continues fairly good with the Cleveland miners. The average number of days worked by the 21 mines furnishing returns was 5.72 days per week during the 4 weeks ending August 25th, as compared with 5.53 during the 4 weeks ending July 21st and 5.80 per week in August, 1899. The number of workpeople employed at the mines was 6,777 the corresponding number a year ago being 6,667.

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—Employment continues good at blast-furnaces, finished ironworks, steel works, metal expansion works, and bridge works. Employment is reported as good in pipe and general foundries; as moderate in chair foundries.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—The engineers report employment as good at Bishop Auckland, Middlesbrough, Stockton and South Bank, fairly good at Hartlepool, and fair at Darlington; pattern-makers as good at Darlington and Stockton, steady at Middlesbrough, moderate at Hartlepool; ironfounders as moderate at Stockton, good at Darlington, Middlesbrough and Hartlepool; smiths and strikers as good. Branches of these trades with 4,437 members have 44 (or 1.0 per cent.) unemployed, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of July.

**Shipbuilding.**—Ship-joiners report employment as good; shipwrights as fair.

**Building Trades.**—Plumbers report employment as good at Hartlepool and Stockton, moderate at Middlesbrough; joiners, painters and slaters as good; bricklayers, masons and plasterers as fair.

**Shipping and Dock Labour.**—Dock labourers, sailors and firemen report employment as fairly good; riverside labourers as good.

**Miscellaneous.**—Printers report employment as fair; mill-sawyers and machinists, cement and concrete workers, pulp workers and tailors as good; salt workers as steady; cabinet makers as quiet.

A. Main.

## Cumberland and Barrow District.

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

**Coal Mining.**—The figures relating to employment in this industry show a falling off as compared with last month, partly owing to the occurrence of holidays in the period under review. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended August 25th at the 21 pits covered by the returns was 5.36 per week, as compared with 5.84 in July, and 5.50 a year ago. The number employed at these pits in August was 6,463, the corresponding number a year ago being 6,411.

**Iron Mining.**—Employment continues good at the Cumberland and North Lancashire iron mines. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended August 25th at the 43 mines from which returns were received was 5.60 per week, as against 5.38 in July, and 5.82 in August, 1899. The workpeople employed at these mines in August, 1900 and 1899, numbered 5,792 and 6,019 respectively.

**Pig Iron Manufacture.**—Employment shows a slight decline in this industry in Cumberland and North Lancashire. The number of furnaces in blast at the end of August was 49, employing an estimated number of 4,028 workpeople, compared with 51 furnaces in July, and 52 a year ago.

## LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS.

## Oldham and District.

**Cotton Trade—Spinning.**—Short time has increased in Oldham and neighbourhood owing to the scarcity of cotton. Slackness is reported in Mossley district. In Stockport, Stalybridge, Ashton-under-Lyne, Rochdale and Milnrow, employment is reported as moderate. With card-room hands, and ring and throstle frame workers it is reported as fair; with twiners as slack. **Weaving.**—In velvet weaving employment is reported as moderate, in fustian weaving as slack, in calico weaving as having declined. Reelers continue slack. Sectional warpers and winders are moderately employed.

**Woolen and Silk Trades.**—Employment is reported as good in the woolen industry in Rochdale and Milnrow, and as moderate in Stockport. Employment in the silk trade of Rochdale is reported as moderate.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—At engineering shops employment is reported as good; at textile machine making firms as slack. Boiler-makers, brassfounders, patternmakers and ironfounders report employment as good; tinsplate workers, plate and machine moulders and gasmeter makers as moderate; iron grinders and glazers as slack.

**Building Trades.**—Employment generally is fair.

**Coal Mining.**—Employment is very good, and full time continues.

T. Ashton.

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

## Bolton and District.

**Cotton Trade.**—**Spinning.**—In Bolton and neighbourhood, although many large firms are not so active as usual, all mills are working full time. In Chorley, Bury, Hindley, Farnworth and Wigan employment is not quite so brisk. Employment with card-room operatives is reported as moderate in Bolton; as not so good at Bury, Wigan and Chorley. **Weaving.**—Weavers on plain goods are better employed, and fancy goods weavers are fairly well employed at most firms.

**Engineering and Iron Trades.**—Engineers and steam engine makers report employment as fairly good; roller makers, machine fitters, moulders and pattern makers as moderate; iron machine makers as slack. In Chorley, Wigan, Bury, Horwich and Farnworth employment with most ironworkers is moderate.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is moderate in Bolton; quiet in Wigan, Chorley and Bury.

**Coal Trade.**—Colliers throughout the district are fairly active.

**Miscellaneous.**—Leather workers, tanners, printers, cabinet makers, tailors and shoe-makers are reported as fairly well employed.

R. Toothill.

## Blackburn, Burnley and District.

**Cotton Trade.**—**Weaving.**—Employment is reported as bad at Blackburn and Preston; fair at Burnley, Darwen and Harwood; slack at Colne and Nelson, with short time at several firms. Employment in the coloured goods trade in Colne and surrounding district shows no improvement. Hard waste weavers are far from busy. Twisters and drawers at Blackburn report employment as bad; at Burnley as moderate. Winders and warpers are slack throughout the district. Warp dressers report no improvement in the Colne and Nelson districts. **Spinning.**—Spinners report employment as bad at Blackburn and Burnley, fair at Darwen and Accrington. Ring-spinners and card room workers are not so well employed. Branches of spinners, twisters and drawers, and warp dressers, with 3,099 members, have 98 (or 3.2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 119 (or 3.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

**Building Trades.**—Painters are slack at Blackburn, but employment generally is fair.

**Engineering and Iron Trades.**—Machine shops are less busy. Ironfounders report employment as fair at Todmorden, moderate at Blackburn; engineers at Todmorden as slack.

**Mining and Quarrying.**—Coal miners and stone quarrymen throughout the district continue fully employed.

**Miscellaneous.**—Cabinet makers, tailors, letterpress printers, calico printers and bleachers report employment as moderate. Brick-makers are less busy.—*W. H. Wilkinson.*

## Manchester and District.

**General.**—Branches of societies with 23,252 members have 661 (or 2.8 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 541 (or 2.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Ironfounders, boiler makers and machine workers, smiths and strikers report employment as good; sheet metal workers, brassfounders and wheelwrights as fair; engineers as moderate. In Northwich, Macclesfield and Stockport ironworkers are fairly well employed. In Warrington employment is good with wire drawers, wire weavers, fiesmiths and sheet metal workers; fair with other branches.

**Textile Trades.**—Cotton operatives report a decline. In Macclesfield silk dressers and silk throwers are busy; silk dyers and power and hand loom weavers are slack; employment is moderate with fustian cutters; bleachers and dyers are not busy.

**Transport Trades.**—Employment continues fairly plentiful.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment in the bespoke and wholesale tailoring trade is reported as bad; in the boot and shoe, waterproof and umbrella trades as quiet. The felt hat makers and trimmers have nearly 50 per cent. working short time. Shirt makers are fairly employed.

**Building Trades.**—The plasterers and plumbers report employment as bad; otherwise employment generally is moderate.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Coachmakers and cabinet makers report employment as good; upholsterers, French polishers, and coopers as fair.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Pattern card makers are busy; letterpress and lithographic printers and lithographic artists report employment as bad; bookbinders and stereotypers as moderate.

G. D. Kelley.

## Liverpool and District.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—Boiler makers and iron ship builders and brassfounders report employment as fairly good; whitesmiths, ironfounders and shipwrights as good; iron and steel dressers, drillers and holecutters and hammermen as steady; copper-smiths and ship joiners as dull; turners and fitters as moderate.

**Transport Trades.**—Seamen and firemen, Mersey flatmen and coal heavers report employment as fair; dock labourers, quay and railway carters and salt heavers as moderate.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Coopers report employment as good; mill-sawyers, French polishers and upholsterers as fair; cabinet makers and coach builders as moderate.

**Building Trades.**—Plumbers report employment as moderate; painters and plasterers as declining; carpenters and joiners as rather dull; other branches as fair.

**Clothing Trades.**—The tailors report employment as slack in the bespoke branch, fair in the ready-made branches; boot and shoe-makers as quiet.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers report employment as slack; lithographic printers as moderate; bookbinders as dull.

**Coal Mining and Quarrying.**—Coalminers report employment as good, with an average of 5.5 days per week; quarrymen are fully employed.

**Glass and Chemical Trades.**—Bottlemakers report employment as good; other branches of the glass trade as fair; chemical workers as moderate.—*C. Rouse.*

A report from Winsford states that employment in the salt trade again shows a slight improvement. It is moderate in the building trade at Middlewich, dull at Winsford. Moulders at Winsford have full employment. Fitters, boiler-smiths, shipwrights and brass workers report employment as moderate; chemical workers at Middlewich as fair; fustian cutters as moderate.

## YORKSHIRE.

## Hull and District.

**Shipbuilding, Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment in the shipbuilding yards continues slack; and in the boiler shops, and engineering works, and on general repairs, moderate. The engineers report employment as good; the machine workers, brass founders and finishers, pattern makers, iron founders, smiths and strikers, braziers, sheet metal workers, drillers and hole cutters, boiler makers, shipwrights, sailmakers and general labourers as moderate; the iron and steel dressers as bad. The shipwrights and smiths at Goole and Grimsby report employment as good; other branches as moderate. At Doncaster and Selby employment is moderate. At Beverley it is moderate with shipbuilders; bad with engineers.

**Building Trades.**—At Hull plasterers report employment as fair; bricklayers as moderate; other branches as good. Employment is good at Goole and Selby; moderate at Beverley, Doncaster and Driffield.

**Transport Trades.**—The seamen and firemen, dock labourers and railway workers report employment as good.

**Fishing Industry.**—The trawl and line fishermen and steam fishing vessel engineers and firemen at Grimsby report employment as good, at Hull as moderate; the general labourers in the fish trade as fair; curing house workers as moderate.

**Seed-crushing, Oil Cake, Oil Refining, Paint and Colour Trades.**—Employment generally is reported as moderate.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—The letterpress printers at Doncaster, and the bookbinders at Hull report employment as good; the letterpress and lithographic printers at Hull as moderate.

**Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.**—The mill-sawyers report employment as quiet; the coopers, cabinet makers and coachbuilders as moderate.

**Miscellaneous.**—The bakers and confectioners and Jewish tailors report employment as good; the tanners as fair; the brushmakers as bad.—*W. G. Millington.*

## Leeds and District.

**General.**—Branches with 8,627 members have 246 (or 2.9 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 225 (or 2.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment is good with engineers, ironmoulders, boiler-makers, steel workers, and tinsplate workers; fair with machine workers; quiet with patternmakers, wool comb, hackle, and gill makers, and brass workers. At Wakefield employment is good; at Stanningley it is moderate.

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

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment at the tailoring factories in Leeds has been good, the majority of firms working overtime. Jewish tailors and machinists and bespoke tailors report employment as fair; boot and shoe operatives as fairly steady; slipper makers as good on hand-sewn work, slack on machine goods. At Heckmond-wike employment continues good; at Pudsey it is steady.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment in the Leeds mills continues quiet, weavers, spinners, finishers and burlers being only partially employed; blanket raisers are fully employed; linen workers fairly so; willeys and fettlers are slack. At Wakefield employment is moderate.

**Building Trades.**—Bricklayers, masons and plasterers report employment as fair; joiners and plumbers as moderate; painters as fair. At Harrogate employment has declined.

**Mining.**—The coal pits in Leeds and district continue working full time; iron stone and clay miners are also well employed.

**Leather Trades.**—Tanners, lace cutters, &c., report employment as fair; curriers as slack; saddlers and harness makers as improved.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—The letterpress printers report employment as bad; lithographers, bookbinders, and machine rulers as slack; paper mill workers as quiet.

**Glass Trades.**—Glass bottle makers at Leeds and Wakefield report employment as good; flint glass makers as fair; decorative glass workers as moderate.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Brushmakers are on short time; cabinet makers continue quiet; coachmakers are moderately busy.—O. Connellan.

**Bradford, Huddersfield and District.**

**Worsted Trade.**—Employment in Bradford and district is still quiet and has not improved. In the Keighley district and the Worth Valley it is bad. In the Huddersfield district it is rather better.

**Woollen Trade.**—In the woollen trade in and around Huddersfield employment is slightly better. One or two firms have recommenced full time. Employment in Dewsbury and Batley is reported as quiet, but not so slack as in the rest of the district.

**Other Textile Trades.**—Employment in the silk trade remains quiet at Manningham, but in Halifax and Brighouse it has fallen off. Dyers at Huddersfield and Bradford report employment as bad. In the cotton trade employment is unchanged.

**Metal Trades.**—Engineers report employment as good in Dewsbury and Halifax, moderate in Huddersfield and Bradford, and declining in Keighley; ironfounders as good in Huddersfield, Dewsbury, Keighley, and Bradford; moderate in Halifax.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is not quite so good.

**Miscellaneous.**—Tailors, printers, and bookbinders report employment as quiet; glass workers as fair; miners as very busy.—A. Gee.

**Sheffield, Barnsley, and Rotherham District.**

**General.**—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with 16,273 members have 159 (or 1.0 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 146 (or 0.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

**Iron and Steel Industries.**—Branches with 6,699 members have 67 (or 1.0 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 50 (or 0.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July. Engineers, iron and steel founders, boiler and girder makers, wire drawers, Siemens steel smelters, engine, crane and boiler firemen, and core makers report employment as good; Bessemer steel workers, iron and steel dressers, machine workers, railway spring makers, and spring smiths and strikers as fair or moderate. At Barnsley, engineers and ironfounders continue well employed. At Rotherham, Parkgate and Masbro' ironworkers are busy; makers of axles, tyres, and springs, and all kinds of steel forgings are well employed; stove-grate workers and bath makers are slack.

**Cutlery and Tools.**—Employment is reported as good in the table and spring knife cutlery and file trades; as fairly good in the engineers' and joiners' tool trade. The razor and scissor makers, the haft and scale pressers, and handle and scale cutters, saw makers and edge tool grinders report employment as moderate; saw handle makers as quiet.

**Other Metal Trades.**—All branches of the silver and Britannia metal and brass trades, except the platers and gilders, continue slack.

**Coal Mining.**—Returns from 69 of the principal collieries employing upwards of 50,000 men and boys show an average of 5.8 days per week worked during August.

**Building Trades.**—Employment generally is quieter. Masons and bricklayers in Sheffield report employment as moderate, at Barnsley, Rotherham and Normanton as good; carpenters and joiners as fair.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers are quieter; lithographic printers and bookbinders are fairly well employed.

**Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.**—Coachmakers, railway carriage and wagon builders, box and bobbin makers report employment as good; cabinet makers as fair.

**Linen Trade.**—Employment is slack.

**Clothing Trades.**—Bespoke tailors are slack; in the ready-made section employment is good. Boot and shoe makers report it as moderate.

**Glass Trade.**—Bottle makers and flint glass workers are well employed.

**Miscellaneous.**—Farriers, railway workers, paviors, gasworkers, quarrymen, paper and down quilt makers, and general labourers report employment as good.—S. Utley.

**ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.****Derbyshire District.**

**General.**—Branches of societies (exclusive of coalminers) with 6,970 members have 98 (or 1.4 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 91 (or 1.3 per cent of their membership) at the end of July.

**Coal Mining.**—Returns from 76 collieries employing upwards of 27,500 men show an average of 5.2 days per week worked during August; several pits were standing 3 or 4 days owing to local holidays.

**Quarrying.**—Limestone quarrymen are not so well employed; chert quarrymen are busy.

**Engineering and kindred Trades.**—Employment with engineers is reported as moderate; with boiler makers, brass moulders and finishers, smith and strikers, iron and steel dressers, iron founders and lace machine builders as good generally; with wire drawers and farriers as fair; with cycle workers as bad.

**Clothing Trades.**—Bespoke tailors report employment as slack; factory tailoring operatives, dress and mantle makers, and makers of all kinds of underclothing are well employed. Boot and shoe operatives at Derby and Chesterfield report employment as fair.

**Coachbuilding and Woodworking Trades.**—Employment continues good with railway carriage and wagon builders, and with repairers and lifters. Most timber yards are well employed. Coopers report employment as good.

**Building Trades.**—Employment generally is fair.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment is reported as bad with cotton weavers, all mills in Glossop standing during August; with card-room operatives at Hadfield as moderate; with elastic web weavers as bad; with surgical bandage makers, hard silk winders, drawers and doublers, and wool workers as good; with hosiery workers in Belper as slack, in Ilkeston as fair; with calico printers and engravers as fair; with lace workers as slack.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—All branches are rather quiet.

C. White-Deacon.

**Nottingham and District.**

**Lace Trade.**—Employment generally shows a decline, and is reported as bad in the levers, curtain and plain net branches. It is dull at Beeston, Kimberley, Bulwell, and Stapleford. Dyers at Nottingham and bleachers at Basford and Bulwell report employment as moderate.

**Hosiery Trade.**—Employment is reported as slack in the power frame branches; as good in the hand frame branch. It is moderate in the power frame branch at Sutton and Mansfield, and with hosiery trimmers at Basford and Bulwell; good on wool shawls at Hucknall.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment is reported as moderate to bad with engineers, fitters and smiths; moderate with ironfounders and carriage straighteners; slack with cycle workers; fair with tool machinists, wheelwrights, farriers, brassworkers, bobbin and carriage makers, and smiths and strikers. Employment is fair at Mansfield, moderate at Newark, not so brisk at Grantham. Blast furnacemen at Bulwell are well employed. Branches with 2,930 members have 76 (or 2.6 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 63 (or 2.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

**Building Trades.**—Employment generally is moderate.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Employment is reported as good with cabinet makers, upholsterers, coach makers, mill-sawyers and machinists and coopers; moderate with packing-case makers and box makers.

## EMPLOYMENT IN AUGUST—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—MIDLAND COUNTIES.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers report employment as bad; lithographic printers and bookbinders as moderate; lithographic artists as bad.

**Clothing Trades.**—Tailors report employment as quiet; boot and shoe makers as good at Nottingham and Hucknall, fair at Mansfield; mantle makers and ready-made tailoring operatives as good.

**Coal Mining.**—Returns from 28 collieries employing some 16,000 men show an average of nearly 5.4 days per week.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is reported as good with engine and crane-men, stationary engine drivers, cab and hackney carriage drivers, saddlers and bakers; as slack with leather dressers; as declining with female cigar makers; as improving with maltsters; as fair with silk dressers; as moderate with gasworkers.

W. L. Hardstaff.

**Leicester and Northampton District.**

**Boot and Shoe Trade.**—Employment continues slack, and short time general, except on army boots and shoes.

**Other Clothing Trades.**—Employment is rather less brisk in the wholesale clothing trade, and slack with bespoke tailors. It is good with stay and corset makers and mantle makers; moderate with dressmakers and milliners; slack with silk hatters; and moderate in the felt and cap-making branches.

**Hosiery and Woolspinning Trades.**—In the Leicester hosiery trade work is slightly less regular. It is slack in all branches at Loughborough. It continues good with dyers, trimmers and wool-spinners.

**Elastic Web Trade.**—Employment is fairly regular with weavers of cords, braids and narrow goods, and is moderate in the shoe webbing branch.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment at Leicester is moderate with shoe machinery builders, good in other sections. At Loughborough it is slack generally.

**Mining and Quarrying.**—Coal miners, stone quarrymen, and limestone workers continue fully employed. In the ironstone trade employment is somewhat affected by the high price of coal.

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

**Building Trades.**—Employment is less regular in most branches.

**Woodworking and Coachmaking Trades.**—Coachmakers, road and tramcar builders, cabinet makers, and French polishers report employment as good; mill-sawyers as moderate at Leicester and Northampton; good at Loughborough.

**Leather Trades.**—Employment is good with tanners, but has slightly fallen off with curriers.

**Miscellaneous Trades.**—Employment is good with farriers, railway employees, and brick and tile makers; moderate with gas stokers and electric light and gas fitters; bad with cigar makers.—T. Smith.

**Potteries District.**

**Pottery Trades.**—Employment generally has improved. Printers and transferrers report a slight decline, but in many instances printers are idle owing to a scarcity of transferrers. Throwers, turners, and handlers in the general trade continue busy; in the electrical branch short time is still the rule. In most other branches the operatives are now averaging 5 days per week.

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—Employment is quieter; full time is being worked by the puddlers, but rollers report a slight decline.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment continues good, except at Burslem, where short time prevails.

**Mining and Quarrying.**—Coal miners and stone quarrymen continue busy.

**Textile Trades.**—At Leek employment in the silk trade continues brisk. At Congleton silk dressers and throwsters continue busy; fustian cutters report a decline, most of the operatives working short time. At Cheadle and Tean employment among silk and tape workers continues good.

**Clothing Trades.**—Tailors are slack. At Stafford boot and shoe-makers are working short time; at Stone employment remains fair.

**Building Trades.**—Employment continues good.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers in the Potteries are slack. At Stafford employment is fair. Lithographic artists and printers report employment as moderate; bookbinders and machine rulers as good.

**Miscellaneous.**—Railway workers continue busy. Bakers are fully employed. Brush-makers are moderately busy; gas-workers report an improvement.—I. S. Harvey.

**Wolverhampton and District.**

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—In South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire employment has improved with steel smelters; it is quieter in the iron bar, angle, hoop and steel trades. Half-time is being worked in the sheet iron mills. In South Shropshire the wire mills and forges are fairly well employed.

**Engineering and allied Trades.**—Engineers report employment as moderate; machinists as a little busier; moulders, and bridge, girder, tank, and gasometer makers as busy; cycle and motor makers as bad; malleable iron workers at Walsall as good. At Madeley and Coalbrookdale employment continues brisk in the engineering departments, but is slack in the foundries.

**Hardware Trades.**—Employment on nuts and bolts, edge-tools, plantation hoes, malleable nails and protectors, steel traps, electrical and gas fittings and heating apparatus is good; it is moderate on tubes, horseshoes, gunlocks, stamped and light hollow-ware, black castings, builders' ironmongery, iron fences and hurdles and with stampers and piercers, tinplate-workers, filesmiths, japanners and galvanizers. Employment on locks, keys, latches, steeltoys, spectacle frames, tacks, tips and cut nails, and with hollow-ware tanners and brass workers is quiet. The chainmakers and strikers at Old Hill and anvil and vicemakers at Dudley report employment as quiet; the block chainmakers at Cradley Heath, the spike and rivet-makers at Blackheath, and the iron-plate workers at the Lye as moderate; iron-plate workers at Wolverhampton and Bilston as fair; the anchor-smiths at Cradley Heath, and the wrought nail makers at Halesowen as slack. At Wednesbury the railway axle, tyre, and carriage workers, and the steel forgers continue busy.

**Coal Mining.**—The pits on Cannock Chase are averaging 5 days per week. At Oldbury, Tipton, Dudley, and Old Hill the average time worked is 4.4 days. The Shropshire pits are working full time.

**Building Trades.**—Bricklayers and builders' labourers report employment as good at Wolverhampton, moderate at Walsall; carpenters, plasterers and plumbers as improving; painters as fair.

**Glass Trades.**—Employment is quiet in all branches of the flint glass trade at Wordsley, Brettle Lane and Stourbridge.

**Leather Trades.**—At Walsall employment continues good in all branches.

**Carpet Trades.**—Employment is good at Bridgnorth, and quiet at Kidderminster.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment in the ready-made and bespoke tailoring departments is quiet; in the boot and shoe trade it is good.—C. Anthony.

**Birmingham and District.**

**General.**—Branches of societies with 21,399 members have 1,119 (or 5.2 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 740 (or 3.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

**Engineering and allied Trades.**—Eight branches of engineers return employment as moderate, three as good; smiths and strikers as good, ironfounders as moderate, patternmakers as fair, toolmakers as moderate. At West Bromwich and Coventry employment is returned as good, at Redditch as moderate. Cycle makers are quiet. Employment on motors and electrical machinery is good.

**Brass and Copper Trades.**—Employment in the brass trades is reported as moderate. Solid drawn and copper brazed tube-makers report employment as good; rolled metal and wire drawers as moderate; fender makers and fire brass makers as quiet in Birmingham, as slightly improved at Dudley.

**Jewellers, Silversmiths and Electroplaters.**—Workers in gold report employment as moderate, in silver as good; electroplaters, silver-smiths and Britannia metal workers as moderate.

**Other Metal Trades.**—Makers of wrought iron and steel tubes, heavy and light steel toys, picks, shovels, spades and stove grate and tinplate workers and file cutters return employment as good; makers of machine made rivets, wire and cut nails, machine made nuts and bolts, and edge tool makers, and wire workers as fair; nail and oddside casters, ironplate workers and scale beam makers as quiet; bedstead makers as bad. At West Bromwich employment in the iron hollow ware and spring trades continues good; in the hardware trade it is fair. In the Lye district employment in the ironplate trade is reported as moderate. At Redditch fishing tackle makers are busy; fish hook and needle makers are quiet.

**Building Trades.**—Employment continues quiet throughout the district.

**Glass Trades.**—Flint glass makers and flint glass cutters return employment as quiet; plate glass bevellers and silverers as fair. At West Bromwich employment in the glass trade continues fair.

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

*Clothing Trades.*—Bespoke tailors, Jewish workers, and boot and shoe makers are reported as quiet.

*Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.*—Millsawyers and wood-working machinists and coachmakers return employment as good; cabinet makers as improving; coopers as dull; wood carvers as bad. The railway and wagon shops continue busy.

*Miscellaneous.*—All branches in the saddlery trade, except cycle saddlers, are reported as busy; gasworkers and gasfitters as fair gun workers as good in the military section, bad in the sporting; letterpress printers and brickmakers as bad. At Coventry watch-makers are reported as fairly well occupied, and weavers as quiet. At Redditch the fancy needle-case makers are busy.—A. R. Jephcott.

## ENGLAND: EASTERN COUNTIES.

## Norfolk and neighbouring District.

*Engineering and Shipbuilding.*—Employment generally is good.

*Clothing Trades.*—Employment in the boot and shoe trade is dull; the ready-made tailoring factories are on full time; bespoke tailors and corset makers are fairly busy.

*Textile Trades.*—Employment is dull in silk and crape factories; good with mat and matting weavers.

*Building Trades.*—The bricklayers' dispute at Norwich continues; otherwise employment generally is fair.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—Lithographic printers and bookbinders are fairly well employed; letterpress printers are dull.

*Miscellaneous.*—Horticultural builders, organ builders, brick-makers, and millworkers are fairly busy. Workers on the fish wharf at Yarmouth are better engaged. Navvies are fairly well employed.—G. Cleverly.

## Suffolk, Essex and District.

*Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Trades.*—Engineers report employment as good at Ipswich, Beccles, Bury St. Edmunds, and Chelmsford; fair at Colchester, Halstead and Earl's Colne. Employment is good with boiler makers and moulders; fair with shipwrights.

*Clothing Trades.*—In the wholesale tailoring trade employment is good at Ipswich, Beccles, Bungay and Southend; fair at Chelmsford; dull at Colchester. It is fair with bookbinders and lithographers.

*Textile Trades.*—Mat weavers report employment as good. Silk workers at Halstead are well employed; at Sudbury the weavers report employment as fair with factory operatives, quiet with hand-loom weavers.

*Building Trades.*—Employment is fairly good throughout the district.

*Furnishing Trades.*—Cabinet makers and upholsterers report employment as fair.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—Employment is good with letterpress printers at Ipswich, Beccles, Bungay and Southend; fair at Chelmsford; dull at Colchester. It is fair with bookbinders and lithographers.

*Miscellaneous.*—Employment is good with general labourers, brickmakers, gasworkers, farriers, horticultural builders and organ builders. Shipping and dock labour has been good at Harwich and Parkeston; fair at Ipswich.—R. W. Mather.

## ENGLAND: SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES.

## Bristol and District.

*General.*—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with 10,073 members have 136 (or 1.4 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 117 (or 1.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

*Clothing Trades.*—Employment in the boot and shoe trade has improved both in the Bristol and Kingswood districts. The wholesale garment makers and gloves report employment as good; the hatters as moderate; the bespoke tailors as quiet.

*Engineering and allied Trades.*—The engineers report employment as fair; the shipwrights as slack. Boiler-makers, pattern-makers, iron and brass moulders, smiths and hammermen, toolmakers, coachmakers, and tinplate workers are busy.

*Coal Mining.*—Employment continues good throughout the district.

*Building Trades.*—The bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, masons and labourers report employment as good; the plumbers as moderate; the plasterers and painters at some towns as rather slack.

*Textile Trades.*—Employment at the West Somerset mills is good although less brisk; in the Trowbridge district slackness prevails.

*Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.*—The cabinet makers and wood-cutting machinists describe employment as fair; the box-makers as moderate; the coopers and lathrenders as good; the upholsterers as dull.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—Employment is rather quiet at Weston-super-mare, but elsewhere it is good.

*Miscellaneous.*—The saddle and harness makers report employment as moderate; the brush makers, glass bottle makers, and general labourers as good; the tobacco workers as steady.—F. Curle.

## Plymouth and South-Western District.

*Mining, Quarrying, and China Clay Industries.*—Employment among tin and copper miners continues good, with an increasing number employed. Granite, slate and limestone quarrymen and china clay workers are well employed.

*Engineering and Shipbuilding.*—Engineers are still quiet in Cornwall, otherwise employment generally is good throughout the district. Branches with 2,673 members have only one unemployed.

*Building Trades.*—In Plymouth and Devonport carpenters and stonemasons report employment as fair; painters as moderate; bricklayers as dull; plasterers as slack; plumbers as bad. In Exeter and Dartmouth employment is fair; in Bideford and Barnstaple moderate; at Falmouth and Penzance quiet; at Torquay dull. Branches with 3,808 members have 64 (or 1.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 42 (or 1.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—Letterpress printers are moderately employed. Lithographers continue quiet, and bookbinders and paper-rulers dull.

*Clothing Trades.*—Tailors report that work is quiet in the bespoke department; in the ready-made department and the tailoring factories work is fair. In collar and cuff factories it is better.

*Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.*—Employment generally is quiet.

*Dock and Quayside Work.*—Employment continues dull on the quays. Coal lumpers and grain carriers are quiet.

*Fishing Industry.*—Trawlers have had a fair month's fishing, with good catches in the two last weeks. Hook and line boats have done moderately, and have had good catches of pollack and whiting. Prices generally are good.

*Miscellaneous.*—Builders' labourers, excavators, navvies, and brickyard workers are well employed; artificial manure workers fairly so. Bakers report employment as good. Work continues plentiful in the market and fruit gardens.—W. Hedge.

## WALES.

## North Wales District.

*Mining.*—Employment continues good at coal, lead and blende mines.

*Quarrying.*—Employment at the slate, granite sett, freestone, and lime and road stone quarries continues good.

*Building Trades.*—Employment generally is fair, but at Llandudno plasterers are slack and painters quiet.

*Engineering and Metal Trades.*—The engineers at Sandycroft and Oswestry report employment as moderate, at Ruabon as quiet. The ironworkers at Mostyn report employment as slack. Otherwise employment generally continues good.

*Clothing and Textile Trades.*—Employment continues good in the flannel and tweed industries of Montgomeryshire. The bespoke tailors at Carnarvon, Wrexham, Rhyll, Bangor and Oswestry report employment as quiet.

*Printing Trade.*—The letterpress printers at Carnarvon and Wrexham report employment as fair.

*Brick and Terra-Cotta Trades.*—Employment continues good.

G. Rowley.

## South Wales District.

*Coal Mining.*—With the exception of the collieries affected by the Taff Vale dispute the whole district has been working fairly regularly.

*Iron and Steel Trades.*—Employment generally shows a marked decline.

*Shipping and Dock Labour.*—Employment in all branches has fallen off.

*Ship Repairing and Engineering.*—Several yards have been slack, others working short time. The engineering works and foundries in the inland districts have had good employment. Branches of engineers and ironfounders with 3,079 members have 131 (or 4.3

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

per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 152 (or 4.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

*Building Trades.*—Employment generally is dull. Branches of the carpenters and joiners, and plumbers with 1,790 members have 63 (or 3.5 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 74 (or 4.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

*Miscellaneous.*—Patent fuel workers have good employment. Metallurgical and chemical works are quiet, some being on short time. Wagon builders and repairers have few unemployed. Lithographic and letterpress printers report employment as quiet.

T. Davies.

*Tinplate Trade in South Wales, Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire.*—Employment shows a further decline, both as compared with July and with a year ago. At the end of August, 337 mills were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of black plates), compared with 348 at the end of July and 382 at the end of August, 1899. The number of workpeople employed at the end of August is estimated to be about 16,900.

## SCOTLAND.

## Edinburgh and District.

*General.*—Branches of societies with 13,828 members have 524 (or 3.8 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 376 (or 2.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

*Coal Mining.*—Employment continues good.

*Shale Miners and Oil Workers.*—Returns from 30 mines, employing 3,189 workpeople, show that 1,838 were employed in mines working full time, and 1,138 in mines working 22 and under 24 days during the 4 weeks ended August 25th.

*Engineering and Metal Trades.*—Branches with 2,231 members have 91 (or 4.1 per cent.) idle, as against 49 (or 2.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July. Branches in Falkirk with 3,584 members have 64 (or 1.8 per cent.) idle, as against 56 (or 1.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

*Shipbuilding.*—Branches of shipwrights and boiler-makers with 600 members have 74 (or 12.3 per cent.) idle, as against 68 (or 11.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

*Textile Trades.*—Employment in the woollen industry continues to be slack in Hawick, Galashiels, and Selkirk. Hosiery workers in Hawick and Selkirk continue fairly busy. The carpet weavers in Midlothian report employment as quiet.

*Building Trades.*—Owing to the continuance of the masons' dispute all branches have a number of idle members.

*Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.*—Branches with 1,159 members have 33 (or 2.8 per cent.) idle, as against 38 (or 3.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

*Shipping and Dock Labour.*—The seamen and firemen report employment as good. The dock labourers and coal porters have been fairly well employed.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—Branches with 2,295 members have 53 (or 2.3 per cent.) idle, as against 49 (or 2.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

*Miscellaneous.*—The saddlers and sett makers report employment as good; the bakers as fair; the tailors, shoemakers, glass cutters and curriers as quiet.—J. Mallinson.

## Glasgow and West of Scotland.

*Shipbuilding.*—Employment continues fairly good. Branches with 15,144 members return 375 (or 2.5 per cent.) as idle, as against 229 (or 1.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

*Engineering and Metal Trades.*—Employment continues fairly good. Branches with 31,826 members return 1,202 (or 3.8 per cent.) as idle, as against 1,067 (or 3.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

*Building Trades.*—Employment is good with slaters, painters and glaziers; fair with plumbers; dull in other branches.

*Mining.*—Employment in coal and ironstone mining continues good throughout the district.

*Clothing Trades.*—Bespoke tailors continue dull. Ready-made tailoring operatives and mantle makers are busy; waterproof makers fairly so. Employment with boot and shoe operatives is dull; with slipper makers fair; with knee shoe-makers quiet.

*Textile Trades.*—Employment is dull at Greenock, and with lace

workers at New Milns and thread workers at Paisley; elsewhere it continues fair.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—Employment generally is dull.

*Glass Trades.*—With decorative glass workers and flint glass cutters employment is dull; with flint glass makers and bottle makers good.

*Transport Trades.*—Tramway men, railway men and hackney carriage drivers are well employed; carters are hardly so busy; dock labourers and seamen and firemen are dull.

*Miscellaneous.*—Sett makers, basket makers, paviors, saddlers, tobacco pipe makers and finishers, spindle makers, scale beam makers, bakers, gilders, curriers, labourers and potters are all busy; mattress makers, calico engravers, cigarette makers and brush makers are slack.—A. J. Hunter.

## Dundee and District.

*Textile Trades.*—Employment in the jute industry continues good. In the linen trade machinery is still well employed.

*Coal Mining.*—Work at the Fifeshire collieries remains steady. Returns from pits employing 12,835 workpeople show an average of 5.7 days per week worked during the four weeks ending August 25th, as compared with 4.6 days per week in July, when employment was interrupted by holidays.

*Engineering and Shipbuilding.*—Employment in the engineering establishments is reported as moderate. Slackness prevails at the shipbuilding yards. Branches of societies with 2,158 members return 132 (or 6.1 per cent.) as unemployed, as compared with 146 (or 6.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

*Building and Furnishing Trades.*—Employment in the building trades has slightly improved, but joiners are affected by a dispute. The cabinet trade remains fairly employed, but the upholstery branch shows slackness. Societies with 1,245 members (exclusive of carpenters and joiners) report 84 (or 6.7 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 154 (or 12.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

*Dock Labour.*—Employment at the docks has been moderate.

*Fishing Industry.*—The boats engaged in the herring fishing latterly have met with fair success. The white fishing has been poor. The summer salmon net fishing improved considerably before the close of the season.

*Miscellaneous.*—Employment in the printing and allied trades is reported as good; in the tailoring trade it is dull; in the boot and shoe trade fair; in the bleaching and linoleum industries good.

P. Reid.

## Aberdeen and District.

*General.*—Branches of societies with 6,162 members have 138 (or 2.2 per cent.) idle, as against 184 (or 2.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

*Quarrying.*—The masons, quarrymen, and sett-makers report employment as good; granite polishers as fair.

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

*Transport Trades.*—The railway workers and carters report employment as good; dock labourers as fair.

*Shipbuilding and Engineering.*—Branches of societies with 1,380 members have 26 (or 1.9 per cent.) unemployed, as against 37 (or 2.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July. The boiler-makers and iron and steel shipbuilders report employment as moderate; engineers, tinplate workers, ironmoulders, and brass-finishers as good; shipwrights, blacksmiths, horseshoers, drillers and holecutters as fair; patternmakers as dull.

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

*Printing and allied Trades.*—The letterpress printers and bookbinders, and machine rulers report employment as good; lithographic printers as fair.

*Fishing.*—At the Port of Aberdeen in August trawl and line boats landed 85,340 cwt. (not including herrings), with a value of £48,758, an increase both in quantity and value as compared with July.

*Miscellaneous.*—The combmakers report employment as bad; upholsterers, gas workers, general labourers, bakers, and hackney carriage drivers as fair; cabinet-makers and sawmillers as good.

W. Johnston.

IRELAND.

Dublin and District.

Building Trades.—Employment has been fair on the whole. Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment is reported as good with the smiths and boiler-makers; fair with the whitesmiths; moderate with the engineers and ironfounders; slack with the brassfinishers, brassfounders and gasfitters. Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Employment has been well maintained. Clothing Trades.—The silk weavers report employment as fair the bootmakers and tailors as dull. Printing and allied Trades.—The letterpress and lithographic printers report employment as bad; other branches as fair. Branches with 1,197 members have 135 (or 11.3 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 140 (or 11.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July. Miscellaneous.—The bottle-makers, stationary engine drivers, basket makers and labourers report employment as good; railway servants as fair; paviors as bad.—J. P. Nannetti.

Belfast and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering Trades.—Branches of societies with 8,713 members have 233 (or 2.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 197 (or 2.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July. The brass foundries report employment as bad; boiler-makers and iron-shipbuilders as declining; blacksmiths, strikers and helpers, engineers and iron-turners as moderate; steam engine-makers, carpenters and joiners, furnishing trades, machine workers, drillers and hole cutters, enginemen, cranimen and firemen, and sheet metalworkers as fair; iron foundries, patternmakers, shipwrights, general labourers and platers' helpers as good. Linen Trades.—Societies with 3,894 members have 94 (or 2.4 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 87 (or 2.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July. Most of the mills and factories are running 4 days per week. Building Trades.—Branches of societies (excluding carpenters and joiners who are still affected by a dispute) with 1,630 members have 89 (or 5.5 per cent.) unemployed as against 80 (or 5.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July. The plumbers and plasterers report employment as bad; hodsmen and painters as dull; bricklayers as improving. Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Branches of societies with 848 members have 31 (or 3.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 23 (or 2.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July. The upholsterers report employment as quiet; mill-sawyers as dull; cabinet makers and packing case makers as fair; French polishers, coopers and coach builders as good. Printing and allied Trades.—Branches of societies with 889 members have 57 (or 6.4 per cent.) unemployed as against 65 (or 7.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July; the lithographic printers and lithographic artists report employment as bad; the letterpress printers as dull; the bookbinders as fair. Clothing Trades.—Employment in the tailoring and boot and shoe trades continues dull. Miscellaneous.—Branches of societies with 1,936 members have 52 (or 2.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 43 (or 2.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July. The bakers, butchers, and municipal employees report employment as fair; carters as quiet; paviors, locomotive engine drivers, and railway workers as good. R. Sheldon.

Cork and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Boiler makers and iron shipbuilders report employment as fair; all branches of the engineering trade and shipwrights as good throughout the district. Building Trades.—Employment is good in Limerick, fair in Cork, dull in Waterford. Woodworking Trades.—Millsawyers and woodworking machinists, cabinet makers, coachmakers, and packing-case makers report employment as moderate; coopers as good. Clothing Trades.—Tailors and boot and shoe operatives report employment as dull. Fishing.—The mackerel fishing round the south and west coasts has been very successful. Miscellaneous.—Employment with locomotive and stationary enginemen, railway and tramway employees is good; with coal porters, quay labourers and bacon curers fair; with bakers and confectioners dull.—P. O'Shea.

INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN AUGUST.

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

Table with 5 columns: Nature of Offence, Cases taken, Convictions, Amount of Penalties, Amount of Costs. Rows include Neglecting to Linewash, Neglecting to provide fan for carrying away steam, Neglecting to maintain floor of laundry, etc.

II.—Under Mines and Quarries Acts. (Supplied by the Home Office.)

Table with 5 columns: Nature of Offence, Prosecutions, Convictions, Cases with- drawn, Cases dis- missed, Amount of Penalties and Costs. Rows include Registers, Notices, Returns, Plans, &c., Ventilation, etc.

UNDER THE QUARRIES ACT.—There were no prosecutions under this Act in August, 1900. In August, 1899, there were 16 prosecutions and 14 convictions (2 cases were dismissed). The fines and costs amounted to £38 10s.

III.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts. (Supplied by the Solicitor's Department, Board of Trade.)

Table with 5 columns: Nature of Offence, Prosecutions, Convictions, Total Penalties, Total Costs. Rows include Carrying excess passengers, Illegal engagement, Misdealing with wreck, etc.

EXAMINATIONS FOR MINING MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.

Midland District.—An examination for Certificates of Competency as Manager or Under Manager of a Mine will be held for this district on the 18th, 19th, and 20th October, 1900. Intending candidates should communicate on or before 16th October with the Secretary of the Examination Board, Mr. William Saunders, Wilson Street, Derby. North and East Lancashire and Ireland District.—An examination for Certificates of Competency as Manager or Under Manager of a mine will shortly be held for this district. Intending candidates should at once communicate with the Secretary of the Examination Board, Mr. T. R. Ellis, 18, King-street, Wigan.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN AUGUST.

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

THE total number of workpeople reported as killed by accidents during August was 323, or 28 less than in July, and 3 less than in August, 1899.

In the first group of industries shown in the following summary Table, including railways, mines, quarries, shipping, and factories, and employing 5,448,552 persons (according to the latest available figures), 307 were reported killed, and 7,288 injured by accidents in August, as compared with 315 reported killed and 6,895 injured in August, 1899. These figures give one death in August, 1900, for every 17,748 persons employed in those industries. During the eight completed months of 1900, 3,058 persons were reported killed and 59,274 injured, as against 2,843 reported killed and 54,708 injured in the corresponding period of 1899.

In the remaining occupations included in the Tables, 16 persons were reported killed, and 915 injured in August, as compared with 11 killed and 885 injured in August, 1899.

SUMMARY TABLE.

Summary table with columns: Industry, Killed (Aug. 1900, Aug. 1899), Injured (Aug. 1900, Aug. 1899), Number Employed according to latest Returns. Rows include Railway Service, Mines, Quarries, Shipping, Factories, Workshops, etc.

DETAILED TABLE.

Detailed table with columns: Industry, Killed, Injured, Total. Rows include Railway Service, Mines, Quarries over 20 feet deep, Explosives or Blasting, etc.

Table with columns: Industry, Inside, Outside, Total. Rows include Quarries over 20 feet deep, Explosives or Blasting, etc.

Table with columns: Killed, Injured, Total. Rows include Shipping—On Trading Vessels, On Fishing Vessels, etc.

Table with columns: Males, Females, Total. Rows include Factories—(a) Accidents reportable by Certifying Surgeons, (b) Other Accidents, etc.

Table with columns: Industry, Killed, Injured, Total. Rows include Workshops—Adults, Young Persons, Children, etc.

Table with columns: Industry, Killed, Injured, Total. Rows include Factories & Workshops (classified by trades), Textiles, Non-Textiles, etc.

Table with columns: Industry, Killed, Injured, Total. Rows include Under Factory Act, 1898, Docks, Wharves and Quays, etc.

Table with columns: Industry, Construction or Repair, Use or Working, Total. Rows include Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894, Bridge, Canal, etc.

\* The figures relate to seamen who have been reported during the month to have been killed or injured by accidents at sea, or in rivers and harbours, whilst they were members of the crews of sea-going vessels (except yachts) registered in the British Islands under Part I. of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894 (this includes all trading vessels and about a half, say 3,000, of the fishing vessels of 15 tons and upwards). Injuries to members of the crews of fishing vessels employed in and out of Scottish ports and of vessels trading exclusively between Scottish ports, or to Asiatics serving under Asiatic articles of agreement, are not included. With these exceptions, injuries, however trivial, are included. The number of persons stated to be employed is the sum of the number of persons engaged for the first crew of each vessel employed during 1899, and remaining on the Register at the end of that year.

1 Accidents during the working of railways, being reportable under other Acts are not notified under the Act of 1894. 2 Authorised by any local or personal Act of Parliament. 3 Or other steam engine or machine in the open air.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN AUGUST, 1900.

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

Summary.—The changes in wages reported during August affected about 333,680 workpeople, and the net effect of all the changes on the weekly wages of those affected was an increase of 2s. 9d. per head. About 327,580 received advances averaging 2s. 10½d. weekly per head, and 6,100 sustained decreases averaging 4s. 6½d. weekly per head.

Increases.—The principal increases were those granted to 302,000 colliery workers in the Federated Districts, Cumberland, Warwickshire, and the Forest of Dean; to 8,000 cabinet makers in the London district, and to 1,000 tube trade workers in the Wednesbury district.

Decreases.—The only decreases affected 3,500 blast-furnacemen in Scotland, and 2,600 bedstead workers at Birmingham.

Methods of Arrangement.—Changes affecting 1,687 workpeople were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work. Changes affecting about 4,480 workpeople in the metal trades took effect under sliding scales, and changes affecting 254,540 workpeople, principally in the coal mining and metal industries, were determined by arbitration or conciliation. The remaining changes, affecting 72,973 workpeople, were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or their representatives.

Summary for First Eight Months of 1900.—For the eight months, January to August, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) reported as having received advances or sustained decreases is 1,013,847. Of these 997,242 obtained a net average increase of 3s. 3½d. weekly per head, and 16,605 sustained a net average decrease of 2s. 2½d. weekly per head. The general effect of all the changes was a rise of 3s. 2½d. weekly per head on the wages of the 1,013,847 workpeople affected.

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

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which change takes effect in 1900, Approximate Number of workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week. Includes sections for BUILDING TRADES, MINING, and MISCELLANEOUS TRADES.

\* Exclusive of overtime. † Where the winter and summer hours are known to differ in any trade, the weekly rate given in the table is, in the absence of exact figures, the result of averaging the wages for five summer and two winter weeks. When a change in wages is accompanied by a change in hours of labour, the weekly wages before and after change are computed on the basis of the old and new hours respectively.

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

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which change takes effect in 1900, Approximate Number of workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in full week. Includes sections for MINING, IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE, METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES, TEXTILE TRADES, and EMPLOYEES OF PUBLIC AUTHORITIES.

\* Exclusive of overtime. † 1901.

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

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which change takes effect in 1900, Approximate Number of workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week.

\* Exclusive of Overtime. † The agreement providing for this advance is dated 11th August. It also provides for a reduction in the hours of labour from 54½ to 50 per week. ‡ 1901.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN AUGUST.

During August 497 fresh applications for work were registered by eight bureaux (see LABOUR GAZETTE, February, 1899, p. 36) furnishing returns, and 500 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 104 persons, of whom 58 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers and mothers' helps).

The returns for the London Girls' Friendly Society business agency and the Manchester, Liverpool and Edinburgh Bureaux are for the present grouped together in the following Table, which shows the work done by the eight bureaux during August. A return from the Dundee Labour Bureau is appended, but not included in the Summaries.

WORK DONE IN AUGUST.

Summary by Bureaux and Summary by Occupations. Tables showing No. of Fresh Situations offered by Employers, No. of Fresh Applications of Workpeople seeking Situations, No. of Workpeople engaged by Employers, and No. of Workpeople engaged Permanently and Temporarily.

The number of fresh applications for domestic servants rose from 393 to 400, but the number of servants applying fell from 280 to 235, and the number permanently engaged from 66 to 48. The number of fresh applications from employers for dressmakers and milliners fell from 40 to 28, while the number requiring such situations rose from 26 to 46; only 6 were engaged through the bureaux, compared with 21 in July.

Of the 24 situations offered at the Dundee Labour Bureau, 16 were for mill and factory operatives. Of the 70 wanting situations, 34 were charwomen, and 23 were mill and factory operatives. Of the 7 who obtained situations 6 were charwomen.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The number of passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during August was 37,862, or 8,044 more than in August, 1899. Comparing the eight completed months of 1900 with the corresponding period of last year, there is an increase of 39,350, viz., from 157,128 in 1899, to 196,478 in 1900, the increase being chiefly due to the larger numbers of foreigners bound for the United States and British North America.

British and Irish.—Of the 37,862 passengers in August, 21,766 were of British or Irish origin, being 2,877 more than in August, 1899. During the eight months ended August, 1900, the number of passengers of British or Irish origin was 107,540, an increase of 10,399 as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

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

Table showing Emigration and Immigration by Destination (United States, British North America, Australasia, South Africa, Other places) for August 1900 and August 1899, with totals for eight months ended.

Foreign.—The remainder of the 37,862 passengers in August, viz., 16,096 were foreigners, or persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being an increase of 5,167 as compared with a year ago, the increase being chiefly due to increased numbers bound for the United States.

The total number of foreigners, etc., who left the United Kingdom during the eight completed months of the year was 88,938 in 1900, and 59,987 in 1899.

Alien Immigration.—The number of aliens that arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent during August was 14,989. Of these, 6,820 were stated on the Alien Lists to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, compared with 4,669 so stated in August, 1899. Those not stated on the Alien Lists to be on their way to America or other places out of the United Kingdom numbered 8,169 (including 1,215 sailors), the corresponding number for August, 1899, being 7,129 (including 1,017 sailors). The figures for August, 1900 and 1899, and also for the eight months ended August in each year, are as follows:—

Table showing Alien Immigration by Destination (Allens not stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, Allens en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom) for August 1900 and August 1899, with totals for eight months ended.

\* These figures are inclusive of sailors, to the number of 1,215 in August, 1900; 1,017 in August, 1899; and 10,204 and 8,896 respectively for the eight months ended August in each year.

PAUPERISM IN AUGUST.

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

THE number of paupers relieved in 35 selected Urban Districts of the United Kingdom on one day in the second week of August was 314,037, corresponding to a rate of 194 per 10,000 of the estimated population of those districts in 1900.

Compared with July, 1900, there is an increase of 1,511 in the number of persons relieved, and of 1 in the rate per 10,000 of population. In eighteen districts the rate has increased slightly, and in two districts the rate remains unchanged, while the remaining 15 districts show small decreases.

Compared with August, 1899, the number of persons relieved is 1,636 less, and the rate per 10,000 of population 3 less. In 22 districts the rates show decreases, the largest decreases being in the Cork, Waterford and Limerick district (21 per 10,000), Belfast (20), Wolverhampton (18), Paisley and Greenock district (17), Central London (15), and the Leeds and Barnsley districts (13 each). In 2 districts the rate remains the same, and in the remaining 11 districts increases in the rate are shown, the principal increases occurring in the Galway district (25 per 10,000), Coatbridge and Airdrie (22), and Dublin district (14).

Table showing Pauperism in August, 1900, by Selected Urban Districts (England & Wales, Scotland, Ireland). Columns include In-door, Out-door, Total, Rate per 10,000 of estimated Population, and Increase (+) or decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of population as compared with August, 1899.

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

LABOUR BUREAUX IN AUGUST.

DURING August the 10 bureaux furnishing returns registered 1,982 fresh applications for work, as compared with 1,721 in August, 1899, an increase of 261. Work was found by these bureaux for 1,023 persons, of whom 603 (401 males and 202 females) were engaged by private employers, 148 by Local Authorities, and 272 males by the Salvation Army.

The number remaining on the registers at the end of August was 1,257, as against 1,202 a year ago.

(I.) Work done in August.

Table showing Work done in August by Labour Bureau, including No. of Fresh Applications by Workpeople during, No. of Situations offered by Employers during, and No. of Workpeople found Worked by Bureaux (Engaged by Private Employers, Engaged by Local Authorities).

(II.) Employments found for Workpeople during August, 1900.

Table showing Employments found for Workpeople during August, 1900, categorized by Engaged by Private Employers (Men, Lads and Boys), Engaged by Local Authorities (Men, Lads and Boys), and Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities (Men).

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

Table showing Usual Occupations of Workpeople on Registers at end of Month, categorized by Occupation (Men, Lads and Boys, Women and Girls) and No. on Register at end of August, 1900, and August, 1899.

\* Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities.

TRADE DISPUTES.

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

**Number and Magnitude.**—Thirty-two fresh disputes were reported as having begun in August, 1900, compared with 41 in July, 1900, and 33 in August, 1899. In these 32 disputes 6,831 workpeople were directly and 2,503 indirectly affected, a total of 9,334, which compares with 10,244 in July, 1900, and 10,232 in August, 1899.

**Trades Affected.**—In the building trades 2 disputes took place, involving 252 workpeople; in the mining and quarrying industries 12 disputes, involving 5,953 workpeople; in the metal and engineering trades 7 disputes, involving 845 workpeople; in the textile trades 3 disputes, involving 129 workpeople; in transport trades 5 disputes, involving 2,039 workpeople; and in miscellaneous trades, 3 disputes, involving 116 workpeople.

**Causes.**—Of the 32 disputes, 16 arose on demands for advances in wages-rates, 8 on other wages questions, 5 on questions of trade unionism, and 3 on miscellaneous questions.

**Results.**—Twenty-three new disputes, involving 8,294 workpeople, and 12 old disputes, involving 2,923 workpeople, were reported as having terminated. Of the 35 new and old disputes terminated, 15, involving 7,365 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 7, involving 600 persons, in favour of the employers; and 10, involving 1,712 persons, resulted in compromise. With regard to the remaining 3 disputes, involving 1,540 persons, certain points are still under consideration. At the end of August, 13 old disputes involving altogether about 2,900 workpeople, were reported to be still unsettled.

**Duration of Disputes in Working Days.**—The aggregate duration in August of all the disputes, new and old, was about 198,000 days, compared with 300,000 in July, 1900, and 120,700 in August, 1899.

**Summary for the First Eight Months of 1900.**—For the eight completed months of 1900 the aggregate number of workpeople involved in the 398 disputes which commenced in these months was 130,343, as compared with 102,296 in the 487 disputes reported in the corresponding period of 1899. The aggregate duration in 1900 of trade disputes was about 2,292,000 working days, as compared with 1,684,000 in the corresponding period of 1899.

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

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN AUGUST, 1900.

		3 Disputes.		BUILDING TRADES.		252 Workpeople affected.	
Dundee	Carpenters and Joiners	237	...	Aug. 25	...	Against proposed reduction in wages from 9d. to 8d. per hour	Work resumed at old rate of wages.
Greenock	Carpenters and Joiners	15	...	13	16	Refusal of employer to allow machines in shops to be worked by joiners only	Machines to be worked by joiners pending a settlement of the question by the employers' and workmen's associations.

		12 Disputes.		MINING AND QUARRYING.		5,953 Workpeople affected.	
Maryport	Coal Miners and other Colliery Workpeople	65	260	20	1	Dispute as to scale of fines for "dirt"	Question referred to Conciliation Board for settlement.
Barnsley	Coal Miners and Daymen	650	...	29	2	Against employment of a certain man	Removal of cause of dispute.
Burnley	Coal Miners and other Colliery Workpeople	775	623	20	4	To compel non-unionists to join the trade union	Work resumed, most of the men having joined the union.
Blackheath (Staffs.)	Coal Miners	200	...	27	1	To compel non-unionists to join the trade union	Men returned to work unconditionally.
Cwmbach	Coal Miners	400	...	20	...	Against proposed reduction in cutting price in one seam	No settlement reported.
Maesteg	Coal Miners, Hauliers and Labourers	28	7	20	10	For adoption of a price list in four foot seam	Price list mutually agreed to.
Penrhynwiler (Glam.)	Colliery Workpeople generally	1,230	90	1	4	Refusal to work with non-unionists	Non-unionists joined the South Wales Miners' Federation.
Port Talbot	Hewers, Repairers, Hauliers, Tipplers and other Workpeople	90	5	1	...	To obtain 2d. per ton for carting coal in addition to ordinary cutting prices	No settlement reported.
Rhymney	Daywagemen and other Workpeople	600	830	1	24	For advance in standard rates of wages	Advance granted.
Bathgate	Coal Miners, Pithead-man and Trimmer	35	2	24	1	Dispute as to tare of hutches	New tare amicably arranged.
Dundee	Dressers, Quarriers, Mechanics, Labourers, Cranemen and Firemen	72	65	9	6	Against proposed reduction in wages of 3d. per hour	Work resumed at old rates of wages.
Galston (Ayrshire)	Coal Miners	126	...	27	...	For advance in wages of 2 1/2d. per ton	No settlement reported.

		7 Disputes.		METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES.		845 Workpeople affected.	
Huddersfield	Ironfounders	25	...	15	...	Refusal to work with a non-unionist	No settlement reported.
Oldham	Irondressers and Core Makers	28	...	9	...	For advance in wages of 2s. per week	No settlement reported.
Wolverhampton	Brass Dressers, &c. and Coremaker	9	1	6	18	For advance in bonus to 20 per cent., reduction in mill "power" charges, and revision of piece prices	Bonus advanced and other points conceded.
Newport	Ship Joiners	91	...	10	...	Men brought from other towns for urgent repair work demanded special terms of extra payment	No settlement reported.
Lydney	Tinmen and other Tinplate Workers	30	530	13	2	For advance from 2d. to 3d. per box for tinning at the patent continuation pot	Advance granted.
Swansea	Furnacemen and Charge Wheelers (Spelter Works)	120	...	21	3	Dissatisfaction with refusal of firm to fix a minimum wage for a longer period than three months	Work resumed on previous terms on advice of union officials.
Leith	Brassfounders	11	...	27	...	Refusal to do electrical work at same rates as ordinary work	No settlement reported.

		3 Disputes.		TEXTILE TRADES.		129 Workpeople affected.	
Burnley	Winders	16	...	8	5	Alleged bad material	Amicable settlement effected.
Loughborough	Winders and Framework Knitters and other Hosiery Workers	13	...	16	3	Alleged bad material	Compensation granted.
		66	40	24	1	Misunderstanding as to alteration in system of time keeping	Work resumed after misunderstanding had been removed.

		5 Disputes.		TRANSPORT.		2,039 Workpeople affected.	
Newhaven	Quay Labourers	400	...	6	...	For advance in wages	No settlement reported.
Barry and Vale of Glamorgan	Platelayers	243	...	20	13	For advance in wages of 3s. per week	Advance of 1s. per week granted, and men to be provided with shovels by Company.
South Wales (Taff Vale)	Railwaymen	1,200	...	20	11	For advance in wages, reinstatement of discharged colleague, and recognition of trade union officials	For details of settlement, see p. 259.
Swansea	Grain dischargers and Warehouse Labourers	116	50	9	27	Refusal to work with non-union men who had gone in during a strike, and to enforce recognition of union	Work resumed after negotiation by union officials with whom grievances are to be discussed by firm at an early date.
Montrose	Timber Labourers	30	...	31	4	For advance in wages	Work resumed at old rate of wages.

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

TRADE DISPUTES—(continued).

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

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN AUGUST, 1900—(continued).

		3 Disputes.		MISCELLANEOUS TRADES.		116 Workpeople affected.	
Leeds	Clothiers' Pressers	14	...	Aug. 20	2	Refusal of men to accept girls' work at price paid to latter	Work resumed at 1 1/2d. per dozen in excess of girls' rates.
Armada	Brickmakers	38	...	2	1	For advance in wages	Work resumed at old rates.
Cork	Labourers, Carters, &c. (Manure and Chemical Works)	64	...	30	...	For advance in wages of 2s. per week	No settlement reported.

II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE AUGUST, 1900, AND TERMINATED IN THAT MONTH.

		5 Disputes.		BUILDING TRADES.		700 Workpeople affected.	
St. Helens	Bricklayers and Labourers	120	80	1 June, 1899	348	For advance in wages from 9d. to 9 1/2d. per hour and other alterations in working rules	Demand for advance in wages withdrawn, and amicable settlement arrived at on other questions.
Warrington	Carpenters and Joiners and Plasterers	110	...	1 June	55	For advance in wages and other alterations in working rules	Modified advances granted, and working rules mutually arranged.
Ipswich	Bricklayers and Labourers	168	100	9 July	35	For amended code of working rules	Modified code of rules agreed to.
Paisley	Plumbers	60	...	1 May	99	For advance in wages from 9d. to 9 1/2d. per hour	Advance granted, to take effect from 1st Jan., 1901.
Perth	Painters	62	...	4 May	101	For adoption of a code of working rules	Work resumed on the understanding that conference of employers and workpeople should be held in December to arrange working rules for ensuing year.

		3 Disputes.		COAL MINING.		1,393 Workpeople affected.	
Clydach	Coal Miners	70	...	6 July	22	For reinstatement of tipplers who had been discharged without notice	Tipplers reinstated.
Neath	Coal Miners	454	179	2 July	34	For advance in rate of wages	Demands granted at two pits; an advance of 10 per cent. made at the third.
Hamilton	Colliery Workpeople generally	600	90	23 July	30	Against employment of non-unionists	Work resumed, non-unionists having joined the union.

		4 Disputes.		MISCELLANEOUS TRADES.		830 Workpeople affected.	
Rawtenstall	Cardroom Operatives, Spinners, Weavers, &c.	100	418	4 July	45	For advance in wages	Agreement arrived at that cardroom operatives should be paid on the basis of the Oldham List.
Chepstow	Engineers' Labourers and Machine Workers	74	...	2 July	52	For advance of 2s. per week on time, and from 15 to 20 per cent. on piece rates	Men replaced by non-unionists.
Coatbridge	Furnacemen and Labourers (Tube Works)	200	...	25 June	36	Dispute as to dismissal of a fellow-workman	Amicable settlement arrived at.
Granton	Steam Trawl Engine-men and Firemen	38	...	10 July	35	Against withdrawal by firm of an extra hand from each vessel	Work resumed on employer's terms.

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

GERMAN SHOP HOURS ACT.

THE German Industrial Code has been amended by a law dated June 30th, 1900, introducing a number of new provisions affecting the hours of employment of persons employed in shops. Assistants, apprentices and workpeople employed in shops, or in counting-houses or warehouses connected with shops, must be allowed an uninterrupted rest of not less than 10 hours after the termination of the day's work. In towns with a population exceeding 20,000 not less than 11 hours of uninterrupted rest must be allowed where two or more assistants and apprentices are employed. In smaller towns the duration of the daily rest may be fixed at 11 hours by an order of the local authorities. A mid-day interval of suitable duration must be allowed during the day, and for such of the staff as take their principal meal off the premises the interval must be at least an hour and a half. (Exemption from the observance of the foregoing provisions is allowed for certain purposes and on certain occasions specified in the law.)

All shops must remain closed from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. The 9 o'clock limit may, however, be exceeded: (a) in cases of unforeseen necessity; (b) on certain days to be determined by the local police (on such days, which must not exceed 40 in any year, shops may remain open till 10 p.m., but no later); and (c) in places of less than 2,000 inhabitants and in rural localities in which business is transacted mainly on particular days in the week, or during particular hours in the day; the conditions of exemption under (c) are to be determined in detail by the Higher Administrative Authorities.

On the proposal of two-thirds of the shop-keepers of any commune, or group of contiguous communes, the Higher Administrative Authority, after consulting the communal authority, may issue an order requiring all shops, or those of one or more trades, to remain closed from 8 p.m. to 7 a.m. all the year round, or at specified periods. If a proposal to adopt these hours shall be made by one-third of the shop-keepers concerned, the same authority is required to take the vote of the

general body of such shop-keepers, and if two-thirds of those voting declare themselves in favour of it, that authority may issue an order accordingly.

During the hours, during which shops are closed under the law (or under any order issued by virtue of the law), the sale of goods (or of the class of goods sold in the shops affected by any such order) on the streets, or from house to house is prohibited.

In shops employing, as a rule, not less than 20 assistants and apprentices a code of shop-rules must be posted in a conspicuous place.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

**Cotton Statistics.**—The following Table shows the number of bales of cotton imported, forwarded from ports to inland towns, and exported during the month of August, and also during the eight completed months of 1900, with comparative figures for 1899:—

	Month of August.		Eight months ended August—	
	1900.	1899.	1900.	1899.
Imported	136,618	79,699	1,950,082	2,157,946
Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns	139,182	199,238	2,025,070	2,075,250
Exported	26,498	45,747	241,725	406,328

**Traffic Receipts.**—The total receipts of 21 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended September 1st amounted to £7,937,323, an increase of £192,980 (or 2 1/2 per cent.) over the corresponding period of 1899. The receipts from passenger traffic were £4,306,871, an increase of £59,078, and those from goods and mineral traffic £3,630,452, an increase of £133,902.

**Fishery Statistics.**—The total value of the fish (including shell fish) landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom during August was £1,239,755, an increase of £149,345, as compared with August, 1899. In England and Wales there was an increase of £63,741, in Scotland of £81,846, and in Ireland of £3,758.

**Bankruptcies.**—The bankruptcies gazetted during August numbered 371, being 38 more than in August, 1899, 3 less than in August, 1898, and 49 more than in August, 1897.



## FOREIGN TRADE OF UNITED KINGDOM.

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

## Summary for August.

The trade returns for August, 1900, show an increase as compared with the corresponding period of 1899 in the value of the imports from foreign countries and British possessions, in the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures, and in the exports of Foreign and Colonial merchandise.

The Imports for August, 1900, were valued at £42,097,059, as compared with £40,693,398 for August, 1899, an increase of £1,403,661, or 3·4 per cent., and the Exports amounted in value to £30,394,002, as against £27,312,271 in August, 1899—an increase of £3,081,731. The Exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures alone were valued at £24,984,623 in August, 1900, and £22,258,538 in August, 1899—an increase of £2,726,085, or 12·2 per cent. The value of Foreign and Colonial merchandise exported in August, 1900, shows an increase as compared with August, 1899, of £355,646, or 7·0 per cent.

Imports.—The following table shows the value of the imports for August, 1900, as compared with August, 1899, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

	Month ended Aug. 31st.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1899.	1900.		
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	£ 18,213,704	£ 18,978,504	764,800	—
Metals ...	2,520,550	2,753,097	232,547	—
Chemicals, Dyestuffs, and Tanning Substances ...	435,478	399,956	—	35,522
Oils ...	917,819	1,000,893	83,074	—
Raw Materials for Manufactures	9,569,014	10,356,902	787,888	—
Manufactured and Miscellaneous Articles ...	9,036,833	8,607,707	—	429,126
Total ...	£ 40,693,398	£ 42,097,059	1,403,661	—

There is a net increase in the value of corn imported of £241,427. Wheat shows a decrease of 124,500 cwts. in quantity, but an increase of £65,908 in value; wheat meal and flour has decreased 210,921 cwts. in quantity, and £75,804 in value; and barley, 223,530 cwts. in quantity, and £60,905 in value. On the other hand oats show an increase of 1,040,200 cwts. and £271,563, and oatmeal of 20,690 cwts. and £13,271. Maize or Indian corn has decreased 467,860 cwts. in quantity, and increased £55,309 in value, but beans and maize meal show decreases in both quantity and value.

The imports of raw cotton have increased 239,800 cwts. in quantity and £820,270 in value, but raw silk and sheep or lambs' wool show decreases respectively of 185,923 lbs. in quantity and £101,827 in value, and 5,294,213 lbs. in quantity and £293,939 in value. The decrease in the imports of sheep or lambs' wool may be referred almost entirely to the drop in the imports from France and Australasia. The most noticeable feature in the imports of other kinds of raw materials is the great increase in the imports of wood and timber, which were valued at £712,419 more than in August, 1899.

Exports.—The following table shows the value of the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures for the month ended 31st August, 1900, as compared with a like period of 1899, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

	Month ended Aug. 31st.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1899.	1900.		
Animals, living ...	£ 112,746	£ 90,184	—	22,562
Articles of Food and Drink ...	1,081,019	1,177,200	96,181	—
Raw Materials ...	2,254,198	3,881,436	1,627,238	—
Articles Manufactured and Partly Manufactured, viz.—				
Yarns and Textile Fabrics ...	9,249,028	8,564,615	—	684,413
Metals, and Articles Manufactured therefrom (except Machinery and Ships) ...	3,179,196	4,112,122	932,926	—
Machinery and Millwork ...	1,590,926	1,587,299	—	3,627
Ships, new (not registered as British) ...	211,236	445,745	234,009	—
Miscellaneous ...	4,580,189	5,126,522	546,333	—
Total ...	£ 22,258,538	£ 24,984,623	2,726,085	—

414,718 more tons of coal, coke and fuel were shipped from ports in the United Kingdom in August, 1900, than in August, 1899, the value being increased by £1,683,585. Increased quantities went to Germany, France, Spain, and Italy. Wool also shows an increased export.

The exports of cotton yarn show a decrease of 5,619,500 lbs. in quantity, and £64,723 in value, and cotton piece goods a decrease of 108,881,900 yards in quantity, and £474,433 in value.

The exports of jute yarn and piece goods, linen yarn and piece goods, woollen and worsted yarn, and woollen and worsted piece goods all show decreases in both quantity and value.

Tonnage of Vessels entered and cleared with Cargoes.—The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during August, 1900, amounted to 3,335,195 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,882,653 tons, as against 3,424,103 tons entered and 3,789,524 tons cleared in August, 1899. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during August, 1900, amounted to 2,686,959 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,618,008 tons, as against 2,690,804 tons entered, and 2,671,994 tons cleared in August, 1899.

## INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS

## REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN AUGUST.

(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 August it will be seen that 2 Trade Unions, 1 Co-operative Association for Distribution, 2 Miscellaneous Industrial and Provident Societies, 17 Friendly Societies, and 29 branches of existing Friendly Societies were added to the Register of the United Kingdom during the month. One Trade Union, 8 Industrial and Provident Societies, 22 Friendly Societies (including 9 branches) and 13 Building Societies are reported as having ceased to exist, commenced to "wind-up," or had registration cancelled, while 1 Trade Union is reported as having amalgamated with another.

## ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—Shaw Coal Dealers' Association, Moulders' Arms Inn, Shaw, Oldham; Bootle and District Bricklayers' Labourers' Union, 205, Marsh-lane, Bootle, Liverpool. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—(A) Associations for Distribution.—England and Wales.—Grantham People's Supply Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 1, Chapel-street, Grantham. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None. (B) Associations for Production.—None. (C) Miscellaneous.—England and Wales.—Gelli Builders' Soc., Ltd., 10, Bridge-street, Maesteg, R.S.O., Glamorgan; Long Eaton, Sawley-road Land Soc., Ltd., Craig-street, Long Eaton, R.S.O., Derbyshire. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Friendly Societies.—(A) New Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—Ordinary Friendly, 9; Dividing, 5; Specially Authorised, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 2. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None. (B) New Branches of Existing Societies.—England and Wales.—27. Scotland.—2. Ireland.—None.

Building Societies.—None.

## ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—Notice of Dissolution received.—Amal. Soc. of Welded Boiler Makers, 3, West View-yard, Bootle, Halifax. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None. Amalgamation.—National Unity of Painters and Decorators, Coach and Horses, Broadway, Stratford, E., with Reliance House Painters and Decorators. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—Dissolved by Instrument.—England and Wales.—Down Ampney Co-op. Industrial Soc., Ltd., Down Ampney, Gloucestershire; King Street Permanent Money Soc., Ltd., 32a, King-street, Oldham. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None. Registry cancelled.—England and Wales.—Palatine, Ltd., 25, Lord-street, Liverpool; Tenant Right Soc., Ltd., 23, 24, and 25, Billiter-street, E.C.; Walsall Saddlers, Ltd., 59, Corporation-street, Walsall; Dewsbury and District Co-op. Brewery Soc., Ltd., Eightlands, Dewsbury. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None. Resolution to wind-up received.—England and Wales.—Long Eaton Engineering and Cycle Manufacturing Soc., Ltd., High-street, Long Eaton; Wholesale Fish Supply Co op. Soc., Ltd., 91, Hunslet-lane, Leeds. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—By instrument of dissolution: Ordinary Friendly, 9. Registry cancelled: Ordinary Friendly, 2; Juvenile, 1; Specially authorised, 1. Dissolved otherwise: Branches, 9. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Building Societies.—England and Wales.—By instrument of dissolution, 9; notice of commencement of dissolution, 2; notice of termination of dissolution, 2. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

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