# ABOUR GAZETTE

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

PUBLISHED ON THE 15th OF EACH MONTH.

VOL. VIII.—No. 3.

MARCH, 1000.

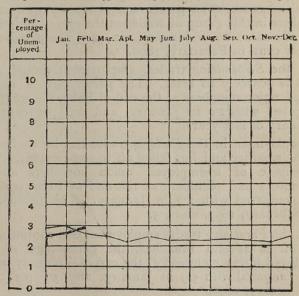
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### EMPLOYMENT CHART, 1899-1900.

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 FEBRUARY.

[Based on 2,332 returns, viz.: 1,648 from Employers, 571 from Trade Unions, and 113 from other sources.]

LITTLE change has taken place in the general state of employment during February, most of the principal industries being still busy. The percentage of unemployed returned by Trade Unions is somewhat higher than last year, but with that exception is lower than at the corresponding period of any year since 1891.

In the 137 Trade Unions making returns, with an aggregate membership of 524 872, 15 114 (or 220 per

aggregate membership of 524,872, 15,114 (or 2.9 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of February, compared with 2.7 in January, and with 2.6 per cent. in the 123 unions, with a membership of 491,790, from which returns were received for February, 1899.

Employment in Various Industries. - Coal Mining. Employment in February was exceptionally good, the average time worked by the collieries included in the returns being higher than any previously recorded in the six years during which these statistics have been compiled. The average time worked by these collieries, at which 448,888 workpeople were employed, was 5.69 days per week in the four weeks ended February 24th, as compared with 5.63 days per week a year ago.

Iron Mining.—Employment continues good, but is not so good as a year ago. The average number of days worked by mines and open works at which 16,627 workpeople were employed in the four weeks ended February 24th, was 5.55 days per week, compared with 5.86 days a year ago.

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment continues better than a year ago. At the works of 116 ironmasters, 383 furnaces were in blast at the end of February, employing about 25,887 workpeople, as compared with

381 furnaces with 25,917 workpeople employed at the end of January, and 376 furnaces with 24,632 workpeople employed at the end of February, 1899.

Iron and Steel Manufacture.—Employment is practically the same as at the end of January; it continues to compare favourably with a year ago. At 209 works covered by the returns, 82,698 workpeople were employed in the week ended February 24th, 82,400 in the week ended January 27th, 1900, and 80,092 in the week ended February 25th, 1899, the average number of shifts worked being 5.56, 5.58, and 5.60 respectively.

Tinplate Trade.—Employment shows little change, and is considerably better than a year ago. At the end of February 418 mills were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of blackplates) employing 21,183 workpeople. These figures compare with 418 mills employing 21,060 workpeople at the end of January, 1900, and 356 mills employing 17,720 workpeople at the end of February, 1899.

Employment in the Engineering and Metal trades has remained good. The percentage of unemployed union members in this group of trades at the end of February was the same as in January, viz., 2.3, compared with 2'4 per cent. in February, 1899.

In the Shipbuilding trades, employment though still good is scarcely so brisk. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of February was 2.9, compared with 2.0 in January, and 2.8 per cent. in February of last year.

Employment in the Building trades has been affected by the weather and has fallen off to some extent. The percentage of unemployed union members among carpenters and plumbers at the end of February was 3.1, compared with 2.7 in January. The percentage for February, 1899, was 1.5.

In the Furnishing trades employment has continued to fall off in several branches, the percentage of un-employed union members at the end of February being 6.9, compared with 5.9 in January, and 3.0 per cent.

Employment in the Printing and Bookbinding trades has remained fairly steady, though the latter is not so busy. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of February was 4.3, compared with 4.2 in January, and 3.5 per cent. in February of last year.

In the Paper trade employment has remained good, the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of February being 2.3, compared with 2.4 in January, and 3.2 per cent. in February, 1899.

In the Glass trades the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of February was 9.4, compared with 11.5 in February, 1899.

Employment in the Leather trades has continued to improve, and is now brisk. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of February was 1.3, compared with 1.8 in January. The percentage for February, 1899, was 3.6.

Employment in the Boot and Shoe trade has improved and is fair on the whole.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the Tailoring trade continues dull; in the ready-made branch it has improved and is good generally.

Employment continues very good in the Spinning and Weaving branches of the Cotton trade. Information respecting Cotton factories employing about 83,800 women and girls shows that 99 per cent. of those in Spinning mills, and 93 per cent. of those in Weaving factories, were working in factories giving full employment during the month, compared with 97 and 92 per cent. respectively in January, and with 90 and 81 per cent. respectively a year ago.

Employment in the Woollen and Worsted and Hosiery trades continues very good.

Dock and Riverside Labour in London.-Employment at the docks and wharves is better than a year ago, but not so good as in January. During the four weeks

ended February 24th, an average number of 14,207 labourers were employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves, as compared with averages of 15,762 in January, and 13,836 in February, 1899.

Agricultural employment was much interrupted in February by snow and rain, and a good many men. chiefly extra hands, were in irregular work, but in no particular district were any considerable number reported to have been out of employment.

Trade Disputes.—Thirty-three fresh disputes occurred in February, 1900, involving 11,357 workpeople, of whom 8,698 were directly and 2,659 indirectly affected. The corresponding number of disputes in January was 37, involving 11,305 workpeople, and in February, 1899, 36, involving 5,348 workpeople. Of the 33 fresh disputes in February, 1900, 3 occurred in the building trades, 3 in the coal mining industry, 4 in metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades, 21 in textile trades, and 2 in miscellaneous industries. Of the 32 new and old disputes, involving 11,500 workpeople, of which the termination is reported, 12 involving 2,871 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 5, involving 1,822 persons, in favour of the employers; and 12, involving 3,126 persons, were compromised. With regard to the remaining 3 disputes, involving 3,681 persons, certain points are still under consideration.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—Changes in the rates of wages of about 15,700 workpeople were reported during February, of which number 14,200 received advances, averaging 1s. 11d. weekly per head, and about 1,500 sustained decreases, averaging 2s. old. weekly per head. The net result was an increase of about is. 6½d. per head in the weekly wages of the 15,700 workpeople affected. The principal increases were in the coal mining, iron and steel, and metal, engineering and shipbuilding trades; the principal decreases were in the building trades. Changes affecting about 200 workpeople were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work. One change, affecting 2,600 workpeople, was arranged by a Wages Board, and the remaining changes, affecting about 12,900 workpeople, were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or their representatives.

#### OUTPUT OF COAL, AND NUMBERS EMPLOYED IN COAL MINES IN 1899. PRELIMINARY FIGURES.

An advance proof has been forwarded by the Home Office, of the Tables relating to the output of coal and other minerals, and the number of persons employed at mines under the Coal and Metalliferous Mines Regulation Acts, during 1899. The figures are subject to correction, and of a preliminary character only, and in the case of several important minerals large quantities of which are obtained from quarries, do not represent the total production of the minerals for the year. The following figures relating to coal, may, however, be regarded as substantially complete. The Table shows the output, and numbers employed in each inspection district at mines, under the Coal Mines Regulation Act. It will be seen that between 1898 and 1899 the total output has increased from 202 to 220 million tons, or by about 9 per cent., and the numbers employed from 707,000 to 729,000, or by about 3 per cent. Owing to the great coal dispute in South Wales, the figures for some districts in 1898 were abnormal, and those for 1897 have been inserted for comparison. The increase of output in 1899 compared with 1897 is about 9 per cent., and of number employed

Districts.	Numb	er empl	oyed.	Total Output of Coal (in thousands of tons)		
	1897.	1898.	1893.	1897.	1898.	1899.
Newcastle	72,223 80,599 89,782 38,945 51,369 80,322 24,639 25,970 45,760 92,624 39,215 49,752 1,013	73,736 81,184 91,452 38,732 53,799 82,314 25,272 25,993 46,471 94,938 40,453 51,569 981	77,623 82,927 95,140 38,965 54,091 84,797 26,104 27,279 47,422 97,452 47,426 42,305 53,607 993	21,768 23,810 24,049 10,439 15,299 23,798 6,434 9,316 12,478 25,510 12,696 16,387 135	23,005 24,372 25,631 10,897 16,627 25,768 6,652 9,421 9 442 19,860* 13,216 17,021 130	23,753 24,496 26,904 11,034 16,548 27,581 6,799 9,413 13,753 28,629 17,755 12

\* Affected by prolonged trade dispute (April to September).

#### ACCIDENTS TO WORKPEOPLE IN 1899. I.-FATAL ACCIDENTS.

March, 1900.

THE number of workpeople reported as killed during 1899 by industrial accidents was 4,416, or 418 more than in 1898, 386 more than in 1897, and 265 more than in 1896. Of the 4,416 deaths in 1899, 4,145 occurred in connection with industries employing (according to the latest returns) 5,447,140 workpeople. The average death rate for the year in these industries is thus about 76 per 100,000 persons employed. In the case of the industries in which the remaining 271 fatal accidents occurred the number employed is not known.

The number of persons employed in 1899 in the principal industries dealt with is not yet available, and the death rate for that year is, therefore, based on the numbers employed in 1897 and 1898. It is probable that the numbers engaged have increased to some extent since then, and the death rate quoted for 1899 would accordingly appear to be somewhat too high, but on the other hand the total number of deaths in 1899 is based on preliminary figures, subject to revision, and the revised figures usually show some increase over the preliminary figures.

In the following table the industrial accidents causing death are analysed according to classes of industries. The table shows for each class both the absolute number of deaths from industrial accidents, and the proportion of such deaths per 100,000 workpeople employed, for each of the years 1896 to 1899 :-

Industry.	Number employed according	Tota	l numbe	r of de	ths in	Annual death-rate in 1899 per	
	to latest returns.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	100,000 em- ployed.	
Shipping	230,372	1,818	1,642	1,598	1,839	798	
Mines: Underground Surface	587,297 153,828	935 130	875 104	806 135	846	144 78	
Total mines	741,125	1,065	979	941	966	130	
Quarries(over20ft.deep) Railway service	134,478 534,141* 3,807,024	124 490 †490	123 566 513	134 542 575	117 548 675	87 103 18	
Total for above indus- tries	5,447,140	3,987	3,823	3,790	4,145	76	
Workshops Works under Secs. 22 and 23 of Factory Act,	Cannot	‡106	3 142	2 150	6	Cannot	
Under Notice of Accidents Act	stated	58	62	56	75	be stated.	

It will be seen that the highest death rate in 1899 was, as usual, amongst seamen, where it amounted to 798 out of every 100,000 employed. Amongst miners, the rate per 100,000 was 144 for underground workers, and 78 for surface workers; amongst quarrymen it was 87, and amongst railway servants 103. In the case of factory operatives, the death rate was 18 per 100,000

If we turn to the actual number of deaths shown in the above table, it will be observed that, with the exception of quarrymen and surface workers at mines there is an increase in the number of deaths recorded for each class of workpeople in 1899, as compared with 1898. The marked increase in the number of seamen killed, is attributed principally to wrecks or casualties occurring amongst merchant vessels in the first half of 899, while the increase in the number of fatalities nongst under-ground workers at mines is mainly made up of a rise in the number of deaths amongst metalliferous miners (as distinct from coal miners).

#### II.-NON-FATAL ACCIDENTS.

Non-fatal accidents occurring to workpeople employed in factories and workshops, and on railways are reportable when they are of such a nature as to prevent the injured person from performing his ordinary work on any one of the three days following that on which the accident took place. This definition also applies to injuries reportable under the Notice of Accidents Act of 1894. There is, however, no definite minimum fixed in the case of non-fatal accidents in connection with mines, quarries, and shipping, and these groups of industries cannot, therefore, be compared as regards the number of non-fatal accidents reported. In the following table, therefore, no attempt has been made to show the proportion of accidents in the several trades to the numbers employed:-

Industry.	Number of persons reported as injured.					
	1896:	1897.	1898.	1899.		
Industries in which the "3 days" limit is in operation. Factories and workshops: -		SHIP SHIP SHIP		10 to		
Workshops	3,710	35,447 76 4,293	49,290 135 7,410	60,689 152 9,047		
Total, factories and workshops	32.961	39,816	56,835	69,888		
Railways Works under Notice of Accidents Act	14,110	14,402	12,979	15,399 2,358		
Mines:- Other Industries.						
Underground Surface	5,426 647	4,164 600	3,845 563	3,867 584		
Total mines	6,073	4,764	4.408	4,451		
Quarries Shipping	931 2,258	1,126 2,643	1,434 2,722	1,155 2,777		
Total, above industries	57,472	63,905	79,869	96,028		

With the exception of quarrymen, all classes of workpeople included in the above table show increases in the numbers reported as injured by accidents in 1899, as compared with 1898, the largest increase being among those reported as injured in factories and workshops. Taking the whole of the industries dealt with. the number reported as injured in 1899 is 16,159 more than in 1898, 32,123 more than in 1897, and 38.556

It may be added that fuller details of accidents in 1899, with comparative figures for a number of years, will appear in the "Abstract of Labour Statistics" which will shortly be issued by the Board of Trade.

#### STRIKE OF COALMINERS IN AUSTRIA.

THE following account of the coal strike in Austria is based on memoranda received through the Foreign Office, dated February 1st, February 1sth and March 1st, from Mr. A. Percy Bennett, H.M. Commercial Attaché at Vienna.

The strike began on a small scale early in January at certain pits on the borders of Moravia and Silesia. and has since developed into the greatest strike which has ever taken place in Austria.

The men's demands were at first limited to an increase of wages, but subsequently included the following: -(1) Eight-hours' shift (bank to bank) in place of the ten-hours' system at present in force; (2) the fixing of a minimum wage; (3) weekly instead of monthly settlements of wages accounts; (4) free light; and (5) a general increase of wages.

Various steps have been taken by the Government with a view to bringing about a compromise. The Minister of Agriculture (whose department administers the Mining Code) issued a semi-official communiqué calling upon the governing Authorities in the coal-

Excluding contractors' servants. A small number of these persons is, wever, included in the total number of deaths for each year Including a few persons in Workshops.

Included with accidents to factory operatives.

producing districts to see that nothing was done to FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS prevent either owners or men from submitting their differences to the legally-constituted Boards of Conciliation. These Boards were permanently established by a law of 1896, and consist of representatives from both the capitalist and mining classes, who are elected for a period of three years, and whose duty it is under certain conditions to settle any differences that may arise from time to time between capital and labour provided these differences assume a general character in the district concerned. (For an account of the Law of 1896, see GAZETTE, April, 1897, p. 104.)

None of the Boards of Conciliation were successful in effecting any settlement. Sundry concessions were offered to the miners, but a most determined stand was taken against their principal demand, viz., the introduction of the eight-hours' shift.

Various other measures have been taken by the Government in respect to the strike. Inspectors have been commissioned to visit the districts affected for the purpose of obtaining information on the spot, and reporting as to the grounds upon which the miners base their demands. The Minister of Justice visited Moravia to confer with the strike leaders, whilst a high official of the Ministry of Agriculture was sent to Bohemia.

A special commission consisting of the heads of various ministerial departments under the presidency of the Premier, has been holding daily conferences in Vienna in connection with the strike. On January 20th, the Ministry of Agriculture conceded an eight-hours' day (from January 1st, 1901) and weekly payments of wages to the workpeople in the Government lignite mines in Brüx. Finally, the Government announced its intention to appoint a commission to draft a Bill for the reduction of the working day in coal mines.

On February 7th, at the meeting of the Conciliation Board for the Mährisch-Ostrau district (where some 21,000 are on strike) the employers offered a number of concessions, including a 12 per cent. increase of wages. At a meeting of the men which took place on the following day, resolutions were carried to the

- (1) That the intention of the Government to summon a commission to draft a Bill destined to shorten the coalminers' working day could not be accepted as offering a satisfactory settlement of the strikers' just demands, inasmuch as there could be no guarantee that the Bill so drafted would become law.
- (2) That no minor concessions, such as increases of wages, free lights, etc., would induce the strikers to return to work until the question of the eight-hours' shift was satisfactorily settled.

On the meeting of the Reichsrath on February 22nd eight urgency motions were immediately brought forward by the Social-Democratic Party demanding the immediate introduction of the eight-hours' shift in the coal mines of the Empire. The debate on these motions was concluded at a sitting of the Reichsrath on February 28th, when it was unanimously agreed to refer the motions in question to a Social-Political Committee. It was further agreed that a report on the whole subject of mining hours should be drawn up by this committee and submitted to the Reichsrath by March 12th.

Out of an approximate total of 110,000 coalminers in Austria, 90,000, belonging to the mines of Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia, are said to be on strike.

Report of the Bureau of Industrial and Labour Statistics of the State of Maine, U.S.A., for 1899. - This, the thirteenth annual report, gives particulars of the principal industries of the State. special attention being devoted to the lumber and pulp and paper industries. It is stated that the conditions of labour have been very satisfactory during the year, employment being plentiful and labour disturbances few and of brief duration. The report of the Inspector of Factories, Workshops, Mines and Quarries, is bound up with the report. The Inspector states that the increase in the number of children employed is much smaller than that of adults.

## BILL, 1900.

THE Factories and Workshops Bill, which has been introduced by the Home Secretary, proposes several alterations in the present law, of which the most important are as follows :-

Regulations for Dangerous Trades.—The Bill proposes to substitute, for the present method of estab-lishing special rules in dangerous or unhealthy trades by means of arbitration, a new procedure.

Under the existing law rules are established separately for each factory and workshop, with the result that diverse rules may be in force in the same industry and even in factories where the circumstances are exactly similar. Every occupier has a separate appeal to arbitration against any new rules, and hence, by the proposal of special rules for any industry, the Home Office may find itself involved in a separate arbitration with each occupier. In the arbitration one of the arbitrators is appointed by the person or persons interested, and the appointment of umpire is subject to his consent. On the other hand, the present procedure allows the occupiers a public hearing of their objections after the rules have been definitely formu-

In place of this procedure:-

The Bill provides for the establishment of general regulations for the whole of a defined class of factories

and workshops, with, if necessary, defined exceptions.

While preserving the right of the occupiers to object, and to have their objections heard judicially in open court, it gives the Secretary of State the power of appointing the referee by whom the objections would be heard. The referee will be an independent person, selected by the Secretary of State, in no way concerned either with the Factory Department, which proposes the rules, or with the trade, which objects to them.

This referee will hear all persons entitled to object to the proposed regulations, and will then give a general decision applicable to the whole trade.

The power of making rules is, at the same time, extended to meet the case of tenement workshops, where, under the existing law, no one can be made responsible for not enforcing the rules; and it is also made clear that the rules can prohibit the use of any particular material, and can modify statutory rules, if they stand in the way of more effective precautions.

Sanitation.—The existing provision with regard to the prohibition of home work in places injurious to health can only be put in force if both the two following conditions are satisfied, (1) there is danger to the health of the persons employed, and (2) there is danger to the general health of the district. The Bill proposes to abolish the necessity for the fulfilment of the second of these conditions, which has hitherto rendered the provision in the Act of 1895 inoperative.

Safety.—(a) Children are prohibited from cleaning under moving machinery if it is possible for them to come into contact with the machinery.

- (b) Steam boilers are required to be provided with proper safety valves and gauges; to be cleaned and examined internally by a competent person once in three months; and to be examined internally and externally by a competent engineer once in six
- (c) The provisions respecting means of escape from fire are strengthened.

Employment.—The age at which children may first be employed in a factory or workshop is raised from II to 12, thus making the law for Scotland and Ireland the same as that in England.

In certain occupations of a special character it is proposed to allow the employment of women in two shifts under stringent restrictions.

Additional regulations are made with regard to the employment of persons in a factory or workshop and a shop on the same day.

Laundries.-With the view of simplifying the law, it is proposed to repeal the present provisions relating to laundries and to empower the Secretary of State by an order to apply to laundries, with or without modification, such of the provisions of the Factory Acts as are applicable. The existing exemptions are retained

Particulars.-Power is given to the Secretary of State to extend the provisions of the Particulars section

Emergency Processes .- The existing unlimited exemptions for certain processes, e.g., jam-preserving and fish-curing, are repealed; and the Bill, while providing exemptions for emergency processes, i.e., processes which must be immediately carried out to save perishable materials from spoiling, confines the exemptions strictly to such processes, and limits them to a relaxation of the restrictions in relation to the hours of work prescribed by the Acts.

Other provisions of the Bill empower the Secretary of State to determine by Order what accidents shall be reported to the factory inspectors and certifying urgeons, and to require reports of particular classes of accidents, whether injury is caused to any person or

The definitions of "nor-textile factory" and "workshop" are extended to include places, other than laundries, where articles are cleaned.

#### AGRICULTURAL WAGES IN DECEMBER, 1898 AND 1899.

INFORMATION has been received from a number of correspondents in England as to the rates of weekly cash wages paid to ordinary agricultural labourers.\* exclusive of piecework earnings, and all extra allowances in cash or kind, in December, 1899, compared with December, 1898.

The general effect of the returns is to show that there has been an upward movement in agricultural wages.

It has been assumed for the purposes of calculation that where the predominant rates of wages of ordinary labourers have changed in a district, a similar change has taken place in the wages of all classes of agricultural labourers. Although, strictly speaking, this assumption is not absolutely correct in all counties, it may be said that the wages of shepherds and of men in charge of horses and cattle roughly follow the movement in the wages of the ordinary labourers, although they do not necessarily change by the same amount, nor do the changes always take place at the same time.

The following table shows the number of agricultural abourers (according to the Census of 1801) in the Poor Law Unions reported on, grouped by districts, and also by the extent to which the rates of weekly cash wages are stated to have changed in December, 1899, as compared with 1898:-

Districts.	No. of Poor Law	Number of Agricultural Labourers in Pour Unions in which there has been—					
Districts.	Unions re- ported on.	No	I	ncrease p	er week	of	1
			change	6d.	IS.	1s. 6d.	28.
Midland Counties	32	41.720	_	5,962	-	13-11-1	47,682
Home Counties	41	58,358	1,660	39,534	3,400	-	102,952
Southern and South-	15	18,049	-	5,821	1,418	-	25,288
Western Counties	48	50,189	1,312	5,261	-	2,787	59,549
Total	136	168,316	2 972	56,578	4,818	2,787	235,471
Percentage	-	72.5	1.3	24.0	2.0	1.2	100.0

It will be seen from this table that, out of the total number of agricultural labourers, namely, 235,471, in

the Unions reported on, 168,316 (or 71.5 per cent.) were in Unions where there was no change in the predominant rates of wages, and 67,155 (or 28.5 per cent.) were in Unions in which the wages rose, the changes ranging from 6d. to 2s. a week. Much the greatest proportion of the labourers whose wages were increased received a rise of 1s. per week. Such labourers represented 24 o per cent. of the total number in the Unions to which the returns relate, and, in the Midland counties the increases recorded were all of this amount. The total increase in the weekly wages if spread over all the labourers in the Unions reported on amounts to an average rise of over  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. per week.

The greatest number of changes took place in the

Eastern counties. Of the 67,155 labourers in Unions in which the wages rose, 44,594, or 66.4 per cent., were in the Unions in these counties.

The Northern counties have been excluded from these calculations, as the greater number of labourers there are hired by the year or half-year. Wages in these counties in 1899 have been well maintained, and at some of the hiring fairs there has been an upward tendency (see Labour Gazette for July, 1899, p. 196; December, 1899, p. 358).

#### THE WORKING OF THE ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE LAWS IN AUSTRIA IN 1897.\*

I.-Accident Insurance.

EXCLUDING the bulk of the mining and allied trades (in which the old provident funds known as Bruderladen have been retained) there were in Austria, at the end of 1897, 236,413 establishments, with a mean number of 2,077,473 workpeople subject to the Accident Insurance Laws, compared with 224,307 establishments and 1,974,644 workpeople the year before.

The total wages of the insured workpeople, according

to the returns sent in by the employers for the purposes of the Accident Insurance Laws, amounted to £41,932,500, as compared with £39,507,500 in 1896.

Out of a total of 69,283 accidents notified in 1897, 19,661 (28'4 per cent.) were accidents entailing compensation under the Accident Insurance Laws, while as to the remaining accidents, the large majority of the injured persons were excluded from the operation of these laws, because they recovered within 4 weeks (during which time they received medical relief and sick pay under the provisions of the Sickness Insurance Law).

The following table classifies roughly, according to the gravity of their results, the 19,661 accidents reported in 1897, which entailed compensation, the corresponding figures for the years 1892-6 being given for comparison :-

Result of Accidents.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897		
John State	Number of Accidents.							
Death Permanent disablement; Temporary disablement (over	574 2,530	649 3,244	670 3,701	835 4,924	929 5,399	929 5,046		
4 weeks)	6,318	7.008	8,181	10,636	12,216	13,686		
Total of accidents entailing compensation	9,422	10,901	12,552	16,395	18,544	19,661		
	Propo	ortion o	f Accide	nts per	1,000,000	Days		
Death Permanent disablement; Temporary disablement (over	2'I 9'4	2'3	2'3	2.3	2'4 14'0	2'3 12'6		
4 weeks)	23'6	24.8	27.5	20'I	31.7	34'2		

\* Amtliche Nachrichten des K.K. Ministeriums des Innern betreffend die Unfallversicherung und Krankenversicherung der Arbeiter. Nos. 23 and 24 (Dec. 1 and 15) 1899,

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

† The Report for 1879 does not give separate figures as to total and partial permanent disablement. It is stated that it has been found that it is practically impossible to make this distinction with accuracy in annual reports.

† During 1897, the 2,077,473 workpeople worked in the aggregate 399,587,100-days.

Men not exclusively engaged with the charge of animals, such as shepherds, them, carters and waggoners,

In comparing the figures for 1895-7 with those for earlier years, allowance has to be made for the additions to the list of trades subject to accident insurance made by the Law of July 20th, 1894. Most of the people affected by this extension of the Law were railway servants.

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The number of persons, to whom annuities were granted in 1897 in respect of permanent disablement or for the loss of their bread winners, was 6,549, viz., 4,676 for the former, and 1,873 for the latter reason. The average value of these annuities was £7 9s. 11d. At the end of 1897 there were 26,252 persons (compared with 22,151 the year before) in receipt of such annuities, the number and average value of each class of annuity being as shown in the following table:—

Persons Drawin	g Ann	uitie	s.	Amount of Annuities.		
Class of Annuitar	nt.	700	Number of Annuitants.	Total.	Average per Annuitant.	
				1	£ s. d.	
Widows			3,022	20,453	6 15 4	
Children			5,116	22,387	4 7 6	
Parents, &c		***	433	2,061	4 15 2	
Invalids Totally disabled Partially disabled	***		1,144	24,114	21 1 7	
Partially disabled	***		16,537	110,710	6 13 11	
Totals			26,252	179,725	6 16 11	

The total income of the accident insurance institutions in 1897 was £799,368, whilst the expenditure exceeded that sum by £118,306 (compared with £280,168 in 1896). The chief items of income in 1897 were, £718,136, contributions of employers and workpeople, and £76,291, interest on investments. The chief items of expenditure were £502,814 set aside as capital value of annuities granted during the year, £327,862 actually disbursed during the year in paying compensation for accidents, and £77,584 costs of administration.

#### 2.—Sickness Insurance.

The total number of Austrian Sick Funds in 1897 (exclusive of 12 which sent no returns or incomplete returns) was 2,927 (compared with 2,921 in 1896); and their aggregate mean membership was 2,285,233 (compared with 2,188,010). (The miners' provident funds, Bruderladen, are not included in these or the following figures.)

The number of cases of sickness, in respect to which sick money was paid in 1897, was 1,158,388 (compared with 1,046,209 in 1896), and the number of days of sickness, 20,015,380 (compared with 18,260,622). In 1897, as in previous years, the number of cases of sickness per 100 members was smaller among women than among men, when confinements are not counted, viz., 43.4 for the former and 50.1 for the latter. The average duration of an illness has, however, been greater for women than for men in each year (19 days for the former, and 16.3 days for the latter in 1897). As a result, the number of days of sickness per member has been greater among women than among men in each of the years 1890—1897, except 1896. In 1897 the average was, for men, 8:18, and for women, 8:25 days. By including confinements, the number of cases of sickness per 100 women members in 1897 is brought up to 52.6, and the number of days of sickness per woman member to 10.75.

The total income of the sick funds in 1897 amounted to £1,688,795 (compared with £1,595,183 in 1896), and included contributions from employers to the amount of £488,880 (£460,024 in 1896), and from workpeople to the amount of £1,088,860 (£1,026,736 in 1896). The total expenditure was £1,583,986 (£1,448,946 in 1896), and included £1,354,531 in sick, and £40,927 in funeral benefits (£1,231,426 and £39,590 respectively in 1896), and £122,796 (£114,912 in 1896) for administration. The excess of income over expenditure (i.e., the amount paid into reserve funds) was £104,809 (£146,236 in 1896), the total value of the reserve funds at the end of the year being £1,260,180 (£1,158,939 in 1896). The amounts added to reserve in 1897 were 6.64 per cent. (9.85 per cent. in 1896) of the total con-

tributions of employers and employed, whereas, according to the law, they should have amounted to at least 20 per cent. of those contributions.

The average amount of sick and funeral benefit granted per insured person in 1897 was 12s. 2½d. (11s. 7½d. in 1896) while the average sum contributed by each such person was 9s. 6¼d. (9s. 4½d. in 1896).

The figures as to the special sick funds for apprentices employed by members of Trade Guilds are not included in the foregoing. Returns from 327 such funds for 1897 showed an aggregate mean membership of 56,239; receipts amounting to £13,790; an expenditure of £11,363; and reserve funds amounting at the end of the year to £16,204. There were 11,163 cases, and 161,977 days of sickness, for which benefits amounting in the aggregate to £9,675 (including £94 burial money) were paid.

## NEW INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED IN 1899.

THE following table, showing the number of new industrial organisations registered in the United Kingdom in 1899, is based upon monthly returns supplied to the Department by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, and shows the number of each of the various classes of organisations registered in England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland respectively.

The total number registered during 1899 was 1,107, an increase of 171 over 1898 and of 354 over 1897.

The increase is mainly due to the larger number of new branches of existing Friendly Societies, 493 of which were registered, compared with 385 in 1898, an increase of 108; and in new Friendly Societies, of which 374 were registered, compared with 292, an increase of 82. Trade Societies also show an increase, 61 having been registered compared with 45 in 1898, but Industrial and Provident Societies show a decrease of 28, and Building Societies a decrease of 7. England and Wales and Scotland show an increase of 170 and 49 respectively in the total number of organisations registered, and Ireland a decrease of 48, partly due to a decrease of 37 in the number of Co-operative Societies.

Table showing the number and nature of New Industrial Organisations registered in 1899 in England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland respectively, together with the totals for the United Kingdom, and the corresponding totals for the year 1898.

Description of Organisation.	England and Wales,	Scotland.	Ireland.	Total Number registered in United Kingdom during 1899.	Corresponding Totals for 1898.
Trade Societies:-		1000	100		100
Trade Unions	45	5	6	56	44
" Federations Employers' Associations	4	_		4	1
Employers Associations	-		-	1	
Totals	50	5	6	61	45
Industrial and Provident Societies:					
For Distribution	33	4	18	55	44
" Production	20	-	53	73	108
" Miscellaneous Purposes	22	3		28	29
Totals	75	7	71	153	181
Friendly Societies :-	E SOL III		1040		
Ordinary Friendly	109	4	3	116	84
Working Men's Clubs	90	I	1	92	53
Dividing	86	-	-	86	51
Specially authorised	24	-	34	58	66
Juvenile	7	-	-	7	13
26 31 1	S I	100	-	1	1
Collecting	7	-	-	7	3
Benevolent	I	The same of	-	1	4
New Orders	5	1		6	4
New Branches of existing Societies	372	108	13	493	385
Totals	702	114	61	867	677
Building Societies	20	4	2	26	33
Total Industrial Organisa- tions Registered in 1899	817	130	130	1,107	100-0
Corresponding Totals for	677	81	178		936

GERMAN LABOUR COLONIES IN 1899.\*

March, 1900.

Der Wanderer (the official organ of the German Labour Colony Central Board), in its issue for January, 1900, summarises the work of the colonies in 1899.

The figures show the number of inmates remaining in the 31 colonies existing at the end of 1899 to have been 2,082 (compared with 2,804 in 29 colonies at the end of 1898); the number of persons for whom accommodation existed being 3,500 (compared with 3,390 at the end of 1898). The number of persons admitted in 1899 was 7,244 (7,333 in 1898). The largest number of admissions took place in November, and the smallest in July, the figures being 902 and 465 respectively. In all, 1,158 persons (compared with 1,181 in 1898) were refused admission into the colonies in the course of the year: 376 for want of room, 181 because they did not belong to the district, 16 as too young or too old, 109 as being ill, 71 as unfit for work, 26 for intemperance, 153 as being on the black list, and 226 for other reasons.

Of the 7,244 persons admitted in 1899, 2,688 had (so far as could be ascertained) never been in a labour colony before, 1,577 had been in a colony once; 1,006, twice; 628, three times; 412, four times; 282, five times; 209, six times; and 442, more than six times before.

The following statement classifies the persons admitted to the colonies in 1898 and 1899 according to age:—

The state of the s		Persons	admitted.	
Age.	Nun	mber.	Per	cent.
****	1898.	1899.	1898.	1899.
Under 15 years	 38 402 1,396 3,996 1,197 304	1 22 323 1,297 3,993 1,293 315	0·5 6·5 19·0 54·5 16·3 4·2	0·3 4·5 17·9 55·1 17·9 4·3
Total	 7,333	7,244	100.0	100.0

A considerable number of those admitted to the colonies are returned as "workmen" simply. This was the case with 2,173 of the admissions of 1899 (2,210 in 1898). Those, as to whose trade or occupation more precise information was available in 1899, may be grouped as follows:—

	Trad	le or (	Occup	ation.	S.C.	No. of persons admitted in 1898.
Building Trades					 	 579
Metal Working					 	 426
Textile Trades					 	 194
Clothing, &c., Tr	rades				 	 517
Paper and Leath	er Tr	ades			 1	 178
Woodworking, C	arvin	g. Gil	ding.	&c.	 	 290
Glass, Pottery, B	rickn	nakin	g. &c.			 168
Food, &c., Prepa	ratio	n			 ***	 489
Agriculture, Gar	denin	g. &c.			 •••	 750
Commerce					 	 357
Officials, Survey	ors. &	cc.			 	 153
Other Trades an	d Occ	upati			 	 970
To	tal				 	 5,071

The number of persons, who left the colonies in 1899, was 7,065 (7,583 in 1898), the circumstances, under which they left, being as follows:—

	No. of De	epartures.	Per	cent.
	1898.	1899.	1898.	1899
Sent to situations found by Colonies Went to situations found by themselves Jischarged at own desire Jischarged ar own desire Jischarged for other causes Left without permission	877 958 4,146 768 570 233 31	711 837 3,895 770 584 248 20	11.6 12.6 54.7 9.6 8.0 3.1 0.4	10·1 11·8 66·1 10·9 8·3 8·5 0·8
Total	7,583	7,065	100.0	100.0

\*See Labour Gazette, March, 1899 (p. 68), April, 1898 (p. 102) and March, 1897 (p. 70); also Report on Agencies and Methods for dealing with the Unemployed (5-7182 of 1893), pp. 269-307.

Of the 2,982 persons remaining in the colonies at the end of December, 1899, 1,484 (49.8 per cent.) had been there under 2 months; 763 (25.6 per cent.) over 2 up to 4 months; 334 (11.2 per cent.) over 4 up to 6 months; 264 (8.8 per cent.) over 6 up to 12 months, and 137 (4.6 per cent.) over a year.

The number of days of work performed in all the colonies in 1899 was 635,628 (compared with 655,012

n 1898).

DIVIDENDS ON PURCHASES PAID BY CO-OPERATIVE DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES.

RETURNS showing the amount and rates of dividend paid to members on purchases in the third quarter of 1899 have been received from 1,104 Co-operative retail Distributive Societies in the United Kingdom, with a total membership of 1,492,695.

The returns from the 1,104 Societies show that 68.9 per cent. of the total members received dividends on their purchases ranging from 2s. 1d. to 3s. 6d. in the £1, the average dividend for the United Kingdom being 2s. 7.45d., compared with 2s. 7.21d., the average paid by the 952 Societies which made returns for the third quarter of 1898.

The total amount paid in dividend to members for the quarter was £1,068,440 in England and Wales, £341,326 in Scotland, and £473 in Ireland, or a total for the United Kingdom of £1,410,239, an average of

18s. 103d. per member.

In Table II., the average rate of dividend paid in the several districts is shown separately. From this it will be seen that in England and Wales the highest rate of dividend (3s. 0.42d.) was paid in the Northern Counties, and the lowest (1s. 5.65d.) in the London district, the average for the 851 societies in England and Wales being 2s. 6.87d., compared with 2s. 6.68d. paid by the 742 societies making returns in the corresponding quarter of 1898.

In Scotland, the highest average rate (2s. 11.24d.) was paid also in the Northern Counties, the average for the 248 societies in Scotland being 2s. 10.37d., compared with 2s. 9.98d. paid by the 204 societies making returns last year.

#### I. Dividends classified by Rate per £.

Rates of dividend per £r of purchases.	Numbe	er of Socie	ties.	Members Societi making re for 3rd qu of 189	turns tarter	Percent age for corres- ponding
TESTS THAT OUT MANY STANSOTINGS OF MA	England and Wales,	Scotland and Ireland.	Total.	Number.	Per- cent- age.	period of 1898
No dividend Sixpence and under Sixpence and under	24 17 37 82 166 119 198 120 71 13	6 1 5 8 18 43 67 54 30 14 4 3	30 18 42 90 184 162 265 174 101 27 8	8,598 4,783 14,556 59,187 233,576 262,728 574,864 190,144 129,374 9,513 3,313 2,059	0.6 0.3 1.0 4.0 15.7 17.6 38.5 12.8 8.6 0.6 0.2	0.5 0.8 1.4 3.7 16.5 18.1 38.0 11.8 8.3 0.6 0.2 0.1
Totals	851	253	1,104	1,492,695	100-0	100-0

#### II. Dividends classified by Districts.

			Membership		
Districts.		No. of Societies.	Number.	Per- centage of total.	Average Dividend.
ENGLAND AND WALES:  Northern Counties Lancashire and Cheshire		108 168 172 41 142 47 97 48 28	197,157 366,493 300,482 16,198 159,986 47,639 72,296 39,129 35,485	13'2 24'6 20'1 1'1 10'7 3'2 4'8 2'6 2'4	s. d. 3 0 42 2 10 10 2 9 33 2 0 52 2 0 40 1 10 89 1 10 59 1 7 76 1 5 65
Totals: England and Wa	les	851	1,234,865	82.7	2 6.87
NORTH SCOTLAND SOUTH "		100	97,089 159,522	6.5	2 11.54
Totals: Scotland		248	256,611	17.2	2 10.37
IRELAND		5	1,219	0.1	0 11'54
Totals: United Kingdom		1,104	1,492,695	100-0	2 7.45

March, 1900.

#### LABOUR DISPUTES IN AUSTRIA IN 1898.\*

THE figures relating to strikes and lock-outs hitherto published by the Austrian Government and summarised in the LABOUR GAZETTE, and the "First Annual Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics" have been incomplete in so far as they did not include disputes occurring in the mining and cognate industries. These disputes are now, for the first time, included in the report for the year 1898 recently issued.

The amended aggregate figures relating to strikes in all industries (including mining) in Austria, for each year back to 1894, are as follows:-

Year.		No. of Strikes.	No. of workpeople affected by strikes, directly & indirectly.	No. of working days lost through strikes, by workpeople directly & indirectly affected.	
1894 1895 1896 1897 1898			172 209 305 246 255	74,623 30,714 69,707 41,325 45,116	896,033 325,609 937,884 401,488 352,873

The extent to which various groups of trades were affected by strikes in 1898, as compared with 1897, will be seen from the following Table

		18	97-			1898.				
	Strike	rs only†	Days lost by Strikers onl			rs only}		lost by kers.		
Group of Trades	Total.	Proportion per cent. of all Strikers	Total.	Propertion per cent. of all days lost by Strikers	Total.	Proportion per cent. of Strikers	Total.	Proportion per cent of all days lost by Strikers		
THE IT IS		Per		Per	I TE	Per		Per		
n m .		cent.		cent.		cent.		cent.		
Building Trades	4,095	13.0	38,090	10.3	13,561	35.2	78,445	24.2		
Mining	3,632	9.4	13,174	3.6	7,046	17.8	54,718	16.9		
Metal, Engineer- ing, &c, Trades	6,257	16.3	87,415	23.8	3,462	8.7	46,816	14.4		
Textile Trades	11,275	29.3	97,347	26.4	3,171	8.0	22,352	6.9		
Clothing Trades	300	0.8	2,670	0.7	1,354	3.4	8,707	2.7		
Transport and Communication	2 629	6.8	7,845	2.1	124	0.3	248	0.1		
Wookworking, India-rubber & Furnishing Trades	1,382	3.6	16,451	4.5	1,318	3.3	30,803	9.5		
Chemical, Glass, Pottery, &c., Trades	3,340	8.7	62,058	16.9	4,540	11.5	45,494	14.1		
Miscellaneous Trades	4,657	12:1	43,046	11.7	4,682	11.8	36,036	11.2		
Total	38,467	100.0	368,096	100.0	39,658	160.0	323,619	100.0		

In the following Table the strikes of the two years 1897 and 1898 are grouped according to their objects. In the case of strikes with two or more objects, the same workpeople are counted under each object :-

Objects or Demands.					Number of Workpeople directly affected by Strike			
							1897.	1898.
	V	Vages.						
For increase	***						35,191	39,049
Against decrease							1,172	3,173
Other						•••	595	3,839
н	ours	of Lal	bour	r.				
For decrease							17,579	19,824
Against increase				***		***	221	837
Other							45	498
Worl	king	Arran	gem	ents.				
For alteration							22,366	25,108
	Othe	r Obje	cts.					
Disputes as to e		14-11-11				of	19,914	15,947
Relating to trade	union	nism or	com	binati	ion		3,671	6,076
Miscellaneous	***	***			***		18,041	17,754

As regards lock-outs (which are shown separately from strikes in the Austrian statistics) the report states that none took place in 1898. There were 11 lock-outs in 1897, 10 in 1896, and 8 in 1895, most of them due to unauthorised absence from work on the 1st of May. 1

In the following statement the strikers are classified according to the results of the strikes in which they were engaged-in 1898, compared with 1897:-

		1897.		1	1898.		
Result.	Strikers.			Strikers.			
	Strikes.	Number.	Per cent.	Strikes.	Number.	Per cent.	
In favour of Workpeople Compromised In favour of Employers	43 91 112	6 034 18,39t 14,042	15.69 47.81 36.50	48 105 102	3,315 26.356 9,987	18.82 41.18 40.00	
	246	38,467	100.00	255	39.658	100.00	

### RECENT CONCILIATION & ARBITRATION CASES & COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS.

#### Renewal of Trust Deed in the Boot and Shoe Trade

RESOLUTION 6 of the Terms of Settlement of the general dispute in the boot and shoe trade of 1895, agreed to at the Conference at the Board of Trade, declared "that it is desirable and necessary to provide financial guarantees for duly carrying out the provisions of this agreement, and existing and future awards, agreements and decisions of boards, arbitrators, or umpires, so long as they do not contravene the provisions of this agreement; and that a scheme be at once prepared for depositing certain sums in the hands of trustees for that purpose.

In order to give effect to this clause a trust deed was entered into on March 8th, 1898, between the representatives of the Incorporated Federated Associations of Boot and Shoe Manufacturers of Great Britain and Ireland and the National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives, by which the sum of £2,000, half being contributed by each party, was vested in three trustees. This deed was entered into for a period of two years, and the question of renewing these arrangements for a further period has been engaging the attention of the parties.

The question was submitted last month to a ballot of the Union, when the voting was as follows:-

	of renewal	 	3,338
Against		 	1,169

Majority in favour ... 2,169

The Employers' Federation are also stated to be prepared to renew the trust deed, and steps are being taken accordingly.

#### Arbitration in the Tin Plate Trade at Morriston.

On February 3rd, a dispute arose between a firm of tinplate manufacturers at Morriston and their employees. In all, about 300 workpeople were affected. The men asked for the reinstatement of three men, and the return of 2s. 6d. deducted from the wages of certain men, alleged to be a fine for refusing to do certain work. Other demands had reference to the payment for iron hooping, lapping down and pickling, and to the speed at which the tinning machines, known as "patent pots," should be worked. After the dispute had lasted about a week, work was resumed, the matters in dispute being referred by agreement to 6 arbitrators, 3 representing each side. On February 16th, these arbitrators, without calling in an umpire, issued their award.

They decided that two of the men should be reinstated when casing had to be done, if they were available, and that the third should be employed as long as the work on which he was engaged should be continued. With regard to the alleged fine, they decided against its return, it having been paid to others for labour originally contracted for with the men from whom it had been deducted. They further agreed that the operations of iron hooping, lapping down and pickling, should be paid for in accordance with the custom of

the trade, and that the speed of the "patent pots' should be equal to that at other works in similar

#### Mediation in the West Hartlepool Timber Trade.

Four labourers employed by a firm of timber merchants and sawmill owners at West Hartlepool were dismissed for refusing to work on the afternoon of Saturday, January 27th, at the order of their foremen, misunderstanding having arisen as to their rate of pay for so doing. Accordingly the whole of the abourers struck work for their reinstatement, the sawmill operatives being thrown out by the strike. In all, over 100 persons were directly or indirectly affected. On February 1st a conference was held between representatives of the firm and the men, the Mayor of West Hartlepool acting as mediator. An agreement was signed in which the firm state that they never had any intention of asking the men to work overtime without extra pay, and the men's representative expresses regret for the refusal of the men to work, and undertakes that in future there shall be no stoppage until the complaint has been laid before the firm. The firm acordingly agree to reinstate the dismissed men. Work was resumed on February 2nd.

#### Arbitration in the Nottingham House Painting Trade.

The house painters of Nottingham having applied for an advance in wages from 81d. to 9d. per hour, and the employers having put in a counter demand for certain alterations in the working rules, the questions at issue were referred to the arbitration of Mr. J. A. Simpson, The Arbitrator has decided against both claims, and the working rules and rate of wages therefore remain unchanged during the ensuing year.

#### LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

THE following are among the more interesting legal cases reported in February, specially affecting labour. The accounts are based principally upon reports appearing in newspapers :-

#### (1) Workmen's Compensation Act.

'ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF THE EMPLOYMENT"; " SERIOUS AND WILFUL MISCONDUCT."

The Act provides, that, if in any employment to which the Act applies personal injury by accident arising out of and in the course of the employment is caused to a workman, his employer shall, subject as therein mentioned, be liable to pay compensation; and that, if it is proved that the injury to a workman is attributable to the serious and wilful misconduct of that workman, any compensation claimed in respect of that injury shall be disallowed. The widow of a miner, who lost his life by an accident, claimed on behalf of herself and her children compensation from his employers. On the day of the accident the miner was working in a certain level, the way for the men to get from which to the upper level was a ladder. There was also a sump shaft with a cage working in it, which led from one level to the other, and was used for raising the lead ore. The cage was worked by an engine on the higher level, some way from the top of the shaft, so that the engineman could not see the bottom of the sump shaft. that the engineman could not see the bottom of the sump shaft. For this and other reasons it was dangerous for the men to go up and down by the sump shaft, and they knew that this was not the proper way for them to ascend or descend, but there was no notice posted up prohibiting them from going up or down the shaft, which they frequently did, but not when any of the mine officials were present. The engineman was ordered not to wind the men up the sump shaft; but after he had left off work, frequently one of the men would go up by the ladder and then wind the rest up by means of the engine. On the day of the accident the deceased called to a boy to wind him up, but the boy refused, saying that he would only wind up the tools. The deceased got into the cage and called to the boy to wind up, but the boy ceased got into the cage and called to the boy to wind up, but the boy thought that he was winding up tools only. When the cage was near the top, the deceased called out "Higher up"; the boy became confused, and pulled the wrong lever, with the result that the cage fell down the shaft, and the man was killed. The County Court judge found that the accident arose out of, and in the course of the employ ment of the deceased, and that he was not guilty of serious and wilful misconduct, and made an award in his favour. The employers appealed; but the Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal, holding that the questions raised in the appeal were questions of fact, and not of law. There was plenty of evidence upon which the County Court judge could find that the accident arose out of and in the course of the employment; nor could the Court say that there was not evidence upon which the judge was entitled to find that the accident was not attributable to the serious and wilful misconduct of the deceased.—Douglas v. United Minera Mining Company, Limited, Court of Appeal, February 19th. WHAT IS A "FACTORY."

The Act applies "only to employment by the undertakers as hereinafter defined, on or in or about a railway, factory, mine, quarry, or engineering work, and to employment by the undertakers as hereinafter defined on in or about any building which exceeds 30 feet in height, and is either being constructed or repaired by means of a scaffolding, or being demolished, or on which machinery driven by steam, water, or other mechanical power, is being used for the purpose of the construction, repair, or demolition thereof." In the Act, "'Factory' has the same meaning as in the Factory and Workshop Acts, 1805, and also includes any dock, wharf, "'Factory' has the same meaning as in the Factory and Workshop Acts, 1878 to 1891, and also includes any dock, wharf, quay, warehouse, machinery, or plant, to which any provision of the Factory Acts is applied by the Factory and Workshop

By the Factory and Workshop Act. 1895, Section 23, certain provisions of the Factory Acts are applied to "every dock, wharf, quay, and warehouse, and, so far as relates to the process of loading or unloading therefrom or thereto, all machinery and plant used in

widow of a workman, who was killed by accident in the The widow of a workman, who was killed by accident in the course of his employement claimed compensation from his employers. The deceased was, with others, working in the discharge of a ship belonging to the defendants. This ship was lying in a dock, moored to the quay. The cargo, which was in bags, was being discharged from the hold on to the quay by means of the dock company's hydraulic crane, which was placed on the quay. The crane was worked by the defendants' men. The bags were sent up from the hold by men stationed there, one of whom was the deceased. The men in the hold made up sets of 15 bags each, which they laid across a rope strop. They then fastened the strop on to the hook of the runner of the crane, which then hoisted the set out of the hold and landed it on the quay. The deceased and another man were making up a set, and had got 12 bags across the rope strop, and were in the act of putting another bag on to the 12 bags, when a bag fell from behind upon the deceased and so injured him that he died. When this bag fell, the runner of the crane was not attached to the strop, but was at that time ashore. The County Court judge made an award in favour of the plaintiff, and, on appeal, the Court of Appeal confirmed his decision, holding that, notwithstanding the fact that the runner of the crane was at the time of the accident ashore, and not on board the ship, the deceased was employed about a factory, within the meaning of the Act, and dismissing the appeal.—Lawson v. Atlantic Transport Company, Court of Appeal, February 5th.

In another case compensation in respect of personal injury In another case compensation in respect of personal injury by accident was claimed by a workman employed by a firm of ship chandlers (which supplied stores, and also undertook the painting of ships) under the following circumstances. The owners of a steamship, which was in a dock for the purposes of repair, and which at the time of the accident was actually in course of being repaired, her machinery being used in the performance of work necessary for the repairing of the ship, employed the workman's employers to paint the inside of the ship, which for this purpose was moored alongside the quay of the inner dock. That dock was practically surrounded by warehouses, and cranes were placed at intervals along the dock quays for loading and unloading ships. In order to do this painting, it was necessary to unloading ships. In order to do this painting, it was necessary to remove the ship's ballast; and, as the ship chandler firm did not do this work, another firm undertook to do it, borrowing, however, some men (including the applicant) from the ship chandler firm and paying the men so borrowed. The ballast was removed by being put into a bucket in the hold, this bucket being hoisted and owered into a barge floating alongside by means of a steam crane on board the ship. The applicant was employed in the hold in loading the bucket, and was injured by the bucket swinging across the hold. He claimed compensation from his employers, also making the firm to whom they had lent him respondents; the former firm claimed indemnity against the latter, in case they were held liable to the applicant. The County Court index makes a second of the county of applicant. The County Court judge made an award in favour of the applicant against his employers, and held that they were not entitled to be indemnified by the other firm. The man's employers appealed, contending that the dock was not a factory within the meaning of the Compensation Act. It had been held by the County Court judge that the dock was a factory, because it came within section 93 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1878. That section defines "non-textile factory" to include any premises or places named in Part II. of the Fourth Schedule to "wherein, or within the close or curtilage or precincts of which, steam, water, or other mechanical power is used in aid of the manufacturing process carried on there." Among the premises named in Part II. of the Schedule in question is "'shipbuilding yards,' that is to say, any premises in which any ships, boats, or vessels used in navigation are made, finished, or repaired."
The Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, holding that the dock was not a shipbuilding yard, within the meaning of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1878.—Spencer v. Livett, Frank, and Son, and others, Court of Appeal, February 5th.

In a third case a workman claimed compensation from his employers, stevedores, in respect of injuries sustained by him while loading a steamer at a dock. In the loading operations the work was done entirely by the aid of the steam winch on board the vessel, the cranes on the dock not being used. The sheriff-substitute held that the employment of the workman was not employment on, or in, or about a factory, within the meaning of the Act, and made an award in favour of the defenders. The pursuer appealed; and the Court of Session dismissed the appeal.—Patrick Healy v. James Macgregor and Ferguson, Court of Session, February, 21st.

<sup>\*</sup> Die Arbeitseinstellungen und Aussperrungen in Oesterreich während des Jahres 1898. Published by the Bureau of Labour Statistics of the Austrian Ministry of Commerce, Vienna, Alfred Holder I., Rothenthurmstrasse, 15. These statistics relate 10 Austria as distinct from Hungary.

† That is, exclusive of those indirectly affected.

† With regard to 1898 the report points out that the 1st of May fell on a Sunday.

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"EMPLOYMENT BY THE UNDERTAKERS."
The term "undertakers" is defined by the Act to mean in the case The term "undertakers" is defined by the Act to mean in the case of a factory "the occupier thereof within the meaning of the Factory and Workshops Acts, 1878 to 1895." A company owning a factory contracted with a master joiner to do certain work there. While this work was being carried out, a workman, employed by the joiner on the job, met with an accident causing personal injury. He claimed compensation from his employer, who gave notice of a claim for indemnity to the company. The County Court judge made an award in favour of the applicant against the company, who appealed. On the appeal the company and the master joiner were represented, but not the workman. On behalf of the company it was contended that the company were not liable, because the workman was not in their employment. The Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, and ordered judgment to be entered for the allowed the appeal, and ordered judgment to be entered for the company, such judgment not to be drawn up for three weeks, and notice of what had been done to be given to the workman, so that he might come before the Court and mention the case if he so wished. If he did not, then the order entering judgment for the company would be drawn up.—Herron v. Charnley, the Rhea Fibre Company, Limited, third parties, Court of Appeal, February 17th.

Building "Being Constructed": "Undertakers." The widow of a workman, who was killed by falling from a scaffold during the course of his employment, claimed compensation from his employers, a firm of painters and decorators. A firm of builders had contracted with the building owner to con struct a theatre, power being reserved in the contract for this owner to put part of the work of fitting up and decorating the inside of the building into the hands of another contractor. The owner contracted with the employers of the deceased to do this work, this contract including the putting up of a ceiling, the erection of a proscenium, and the fixing of the private boxes with columns, caps, etc. At the time of the accident the theatre was an incomcaps, etc. At the time of the accident the theatre was an incomplete building, exceeding 30 ft. in height, and was being constructed by means of a scaffolding. The scaffold, from which the deceased fell, was erected by the firm of builders. He was engaged in painting the ceiling, and was walking on the scaffolding, when one of the planks gave way, and he fell to the floor and was killed. The employers of the deceased denied liability on the ground that his employment was not one to which the Act applies, alleged that the firm of builders were responsible for the defects in the scaffolding, and gave them a notice of a claim to indemnity. The matter came in the first instance before an arbitrator, who The matter came in the first instance before an arbitrator, who made an award against the employers of the deceased in favour of the applicant, but stated a case for the opinion of the County Court judge, submitting the following questions:—(1) Whether the employers of the deceased were undertakers in the construction of employers of the deceased were undertakers in the construction of a building within the meaning of the Act (i.e., "the persons undertaking the construction"); (2) whether the employment, in the course of which he met with this accident, was employment to which the Act applies. The County Court judge set aside the award of the arbitrator, with costs, on the ground that, although the respondents were undertakers engaged in the construction of a building within the Act. The painting the ceiling was not an employment within the Act. The applicant appealed; and the Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, holding, that the work, which the employers of the deceased contracted to do, included, not alone decoration pure and simple, but also structural work, and was the construction of a substantial part of the theatre, that they were therefore undertakers, within the meaning of the Act, and that the employment of the deceased was accordingly employment to which the Act applied, it being immaterial what particular sort of work the workman was doing at the time of the accident.—Mason v. A. R. Dean, Limited, Court of

Appeal, February 17th.
In another case a builder and contractor entered into a contract with a building owner to construct a building. This builder then made a sub-contract with a master painter to do the whole of the painting of the building. A workman, employed by the master painter upon this painting work, was engaged in painting the roof, and was standing on scaffolding belonging to the builder, which was used in the construction of the building. A plank broke, and the workman (with another working at the same job) fell, the workman (with another working at the same job) fell, and was killed. The widow of the deceased claimed on behalf of herself and her children compensation from the master painter. The County Court judge held that the master painter was an undertaker, within the meaning of the Act, and that the painting on which the deceased was engaged (the painting of a new building) was "construction;" and he made an award in favour of the widow. The master painter appealed; and the Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, holding that, whether the painting work in this case was "construction" or not, the employer of the deceased was not an undertaker within the meaning of the Act, being merely a person who had made a sub-contract to do part Act, being merely a person who had made a sub-contract to do part of the work with a contractor having a contract with the building owner for the construction of the entire building. A similar applica-tion for compensation in respect of the death of the fellow-workman of the workman first referred to (who had been killed by the same accident) had also been made, and the County Court judge had made an award against the same employers. In this case also the employers appealed, and the Court of Appeal allowed the appeal.—Cass v. Butler, & Crowther v. Butler, Court of Appeal, February 24th.

UNDERTAKERS: SUB-CONTRACTORS.

Section 4 of the Act provides that, "where, in an employment to which this Act applies, the undertakers as hereinafter defined contract with any person for the execution by or under such contractor of any work, and the undertakers would, if such work were executed by workmen immediately employed by them, be liable to pay compensation under this Act to those workmen

in respect of any accident arising out of and in the or respect of any accident arising out of and in the course of their employment, the undertakers shall be liable to pay to any workman employed in the execution of the work any compensation which is payable to the workman (whether under this Act or in respect of personal negligence or wilful act independently of this Act) by such contractor, or would be so payable if such contractor were an employer to whom this Act applies. Provided that the undertakers shall be entitled to be indemnified by any other person who would have been liable independently of this section. This section shall not apply to any contract with any person for the execution by or under such contractor of any work which is merely ancillary or incidental to, and is no part of, or process in, the trade or business carried on by such undertakers respectively." A railway company contracted with a firm of signal makers to firm proving the company contracted with a firm of signal makers to firm proving the company contracted with some new sidings which the up new signals in connection with some new sidings which the up new signals in connection with some new sidings which the company were making. The company never themselves construct new signals, though they have a staff for maintaining signals. During the progress of their contract one of the firm's workmen was killed while at work fitting wires, being knocked down by a train. His widow and children claimed compensation from the railway company. By the Act, "'Undertakers' in the case of a railway means the railway company." The sheriff-substitute found that Section 4 of the Act did not apply to the present application, in respect that the railway company were not the principal contractors in connection with the fitting up of the not the principal contractors in connection with the fitting up of the signalling apparatus, and that they had not a sub-contract with the gnal-making firm within the meaning of the section, and that, even signal-making firm within the meaning of the section, and that, even if the section applied, the work in question was merely ancillary or incidental to, and was no part of, the business carried on by the company. He accordingly found that the company were not liable, and he dismissed the application, and found the applicants liable in expenses. The matter then came, on appeal, before the Court of Session, the questions stated for the Court being—(1) Whether the company were, in terms of Section 4, liable as undertakers, within the meaning of that section, to make compensation to the applicants, and (2) Whether the work, in the execution of which the deceased was engaged at the time of the accident was merely ancillary or incidental to, and no part of the accident was merely ancillary or incidental to, and no part of, or process in, the trade cr business carried on by the company. The Court of Session answered the first question in the affirmative, and the second in the negative, and remitted affirmative, and the second in the negative, and remitted to the sheriff to fix the amount of the compensation to be paid, the applicants being allowed expenses. The Court held that the question was, whether the Company were the undertakers. If they were, then the workman might pass over his employer and come to them. Whether the company were undertakers, depended upon whether the employment of the deceased was employment on or in or about a railway. It was on or in or about a railway, and the company were undoubtedly completing the equipment of the railway. With regard to the second question, the equipping of signals was just part of the enterprise of the railway, without which they could not carry on their business. Accordingly, the work, in the execution of which the deceased was engaged, was not "merely ancillary or incidental to, and no part of, or process in, the trade or business carried on by the "railway company.—Mary Ann Carson or Burns v. North British Railway Company, Court of Session, February 20th.

WEEKLY PAYMENT DURING INCAPACITY; NEGLECT TO FOLLOW

March, 1900.

Doctrons' Instructions.

The compensation provided by the Act, where total or partial The compensation provided by the Act, where total or partial incapacity results from the injury caused by an accident, is a weekly payment during the incapacity after the second week not exceeding 50 per cent. of the workman's average weekly earnings before the accident. A collier in the employment of a colliery company met with an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, the result being a severe fracture of the shoulder. The accident happened on October 25th, 1898, and the fractured choulder was put by the surgeon into splints, in which it remained shoulder was put by the surgeon into splints, in which it remained until December, 1898. On their removal the collier was told by the surgeon to move his arm as much as he could, and directions were given to him as to the manner of doing so. Subsequently he was examined by other surgeons, and again directions were given to was examined by other surgeons, and again directions were given to him as to how he should move his arm. The collier claimed compensation from the company; and the case was heard in June, 1899. At that time the joint was reported to be stiff, and the applicant was, therefore, in a condition which disabled him from earning full wages. The company paid him one-half of his earnings before the accident until March 27th, 1899, when the payment was stopped, because in the opinion of the surgeons his incapacity after that date was solely due to his neglect to follow the directions given him. The County Court judge found that the applicant did not carry out the instructions of the surgeons, and that, if he had followed carry out the instructions of the surgeons, and that, if he had followed them, there was every reason to believe that he would have been fit for work on March 27th, 1899; that the applicant was of very nervous temperament, and that this constitutional and natural nervousness, intensified to some extent by the accident, was the reason why he did not carry out the directions of the medical men, and that this neglect had delayed his recovery, and was the cause of his present inability to work; that his neglect to obey the instructions was not the result of wilfulness or carelessness, but was due to the nervous condition, which he appeared to have but was due to the nervous condition, which he appeared to have been unable to control. In these circumstances the judge awarded the collier a weekly sum equal to one-half of his earnings before the accident from March 27th, 1899. The company appealed, contending that they were not bound to pay the collier a weekly sum in respect of an incapacity to work caused, not by the accident, but by his own neglect to follow the doctors' instructions. The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal.—Smith v. Coed Talon Colliery Company, Limited, Court of Appeal, February 5th.

(2) Trade Union Act. LEAVING WORK WITHOUT SANCTION OF COUNCIL OF TRADE UNION

Total Exclusion from Benefits by Rules.
The trustees of a coal miners' trade union took out a summon to determine a point in the construction of the rules of the society. The defendants were the treasurers of the society, made party as representing one of the lodges. The rules state among the objects the association "(3) To protect all lodges and members unjustly ealt with by their employers or managers in any respect whatever,

and provide that, "(22) The committee shall have power to grant money in deserving cases and when appeals are made to the association for support, but not more than £5 shall be granted in any case till after the approval of the lodges. All applications for grants for any person or persons must be first made to the executive committee before being sent to council programme. . . . (50) No lodge in this association shall programme. . . . (50) No lodge in this association shall give any notice of a strike, or of an intended alteration the hours or conditions of labour until its case has been laid before a council or committee meeting for their examination and before a council or committee meeting for their examination and approval. (51) Any lodge or number of men in a lodge ceasing work without the consent or approval of either the committee or council meeting, the lodge shall forfeit all claims on or protection from this association. (52) Any lodge in this association having ceased work or having been locked-out, and having complied with the said for the same of loss per member the sum of loss per per the sum of loss per per the sum of loss per the sum of 6, 47, and 50, shall be paid per member the sum of 10s. per The hewers belonging to the lodge in question, having had a dispute with their employers in respect to the conditions of labour, left their work, and the lodge held a meeting and resolved not to begin work again except in a certain contingency. Application was made to the executive committee for strike pay, and refused on the ground that rule 50 had not been complied with. At a meeting of the council it was moved that the members of this lodge have a grant gual to a lock-out allowance. The chairman ruled the motion out of order; but his ruling was challenged and reversed, and the motion was carried. The summons raised the following questions: Can the trustees act upon the resolution of the council making the grant above mentioned, and make the payments mentioned in that resolution without incurring personal responsibility? Can the treasurer act upon such resolution, and make such payments without incurring personal responsibility? If the treasurer proposes to act upon such resolution and make such payments, will the trustees be justified in abstaining from all interference, or will they thereby incur personal responsibility? In case it should be held that such resolution was irregularly passed, would such a resolution, if regularly passed, be within the powers (a) of the council, or (b) of the association? The Court gave judgment for the trustees, holding that, although the language of rule 3, defining the objects of the association, included the men to whom it was proposed to make these grants, yet they were excluded by rule 51. That rule could not be limited to mean that they should forfeit only the absolute right to have 10s. a week under rule 52. The men were excluded from all protection by the association, and they could not be deemed legally or properly objects of the benefits of the association.—In re Durham Miners' Association, Chancery Division,

#### LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.

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

Canada - Intending emigrants should prepare to start in three or four weeks' time. The chief demand for farm and general labourers, skilled miners, and nestic servants

New South Wales .- At Sydney the building trade as been moderately active during the summer, and there has been an increased demand for labour. There a fair demand for female servants, carpenters and station hands at Bourke. At Young there is a fair demand for miners and female servants; at Hillston, Drange, Queanbeyan, and Armidale, there is a demand or female servants only.

Victoria.—A report from Melbourne states, "Menanics are now fully employed in all trades, especially e iron trade, at wages slightly higher than formerly. The building trade also has been busy, and the wages of carpenters, bricklayers, and masons have increased o 9s. a day. The strike of engine drivers at the Bendigo mines has ceased; in future all will be paid the standard wages of 50s. a week. A report from Carisbrook states that there is no demand for any kind

South Australia. - A report from Port Pirie in the North states that there is a limited demand for nechanics at 10s. per day of eight hours, and a fair emand for general labourers at 10d. to 1s. per hour, nd for female servants at 8s. to 12s. per week.

Queensland.—There is a good demand for farm urers and ploughmen, for female servants, and in he South for carpenters, engine fitters, and some other

Western Australia. - In the annual report of the Government Labour Bureau for 1899 it is stated that, as far as the Bureau was concerned, no really ablebodied man, honestly desirous of finding employment, remained idle for a very lengthened period. There was a considerable demand for farm labourers throughout a portion of the year. It was difficult to find employment or clerks, accountants, book-keepers, and that class of abour. At the end of the year stone-masons, carpenters, engine-drivers, and general labourers were in demand at East Coolgardie; really good men could get work at Perth; there was some demand for miners and general labourers in the Yalgoo district; labour was in good demand at Southern Cross; and female servants were wanted in several parts. In other places the supply of labour was sufficient.

New Zealand.—At Auckland, the timber industry continues to be very prosperous, and sawmill hands, carpenters, etc., are fully employed; the building, engineering and boat-building trades also have been busy. The building and engineering trades have been busy also at Napier, Masterton, Greymouth, Christchurch, Invercargill, and at Dunedin, where good hands in the engineering trade have been very scarce. The clothing trade is very busy in many parts, and at Wellington order shops and factories have been nearly all working overtime. Ordinary labourers have had

no difficulty in finding work.

South Africa.—Persons are warned against going to South Africa, as long as the war lasts, in search of

### LABOUR ABROAD.

FRANCE.

Coal Mining in January.\*—The average number of days per week worked by those employed underground in coal mines in January was 5.86 (compared with 5.52 in the previous month, and 6.00 in January, 1899). During the month, full time (six days and over per week) was worked by 80 per cent., and from five to six days by 13 per cent. of all employed in and about the mines; the percentages in the previous month being 28 and 69 respectively. The above particulars are 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 coal mines).

Factory Inspection and Trade Unions.—The French Minister of Commerce, Industry, Posts, and Telegraphs has, under date of January 19th, addressed letters to the superintending inspectors of factories and workshops and to the secretaries of Trade Unions and Labour Exchanges respectively, with the object of promoting co-operation between the inspectors and these organisations, which is desirable for the purpose of securing fuller information with respect to the infringement of the Factory Laws than can be obtained from individual workmen. Instructions are given that each factory inspector shall put himself into communication with the secretaries of Trade Unions and Labour Exchanges in his district, requesting them to bring to his notice infractions of the law, and reporting to them the results of the visits paid in consequence of information received from them. In his letter to the labour organisations the Minister recognises the value of the assistance which these bodies have occasionally rendered to the inspectors, and expresses the hope that their co-operation may in future be obtained in a systematic manner.

#### GERMANY.

Strike of Coalminers in Saxony. - In a dispatch to the Foreign Office, dated February 25th, Sir A. Condie Stephen, H.M. Minister-Resident at Dresden, reports the collapse of a strike of coalminers of the Zwickau and Oelsnitz districts of Saxony, which, began on February 14th, and caused considerable anxiety and a certain amount of inconvenience. It is stated, that the price of coal reached unprecedented heights; that,

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

<sup>\*</sup> Bulletin de l'Office du Travail, January and February, 1900.

according to newspaper reports, some of the less prosperous undertakings, including one or two textile factories at Chemnitz, were obliged to stop working; and that about one-fifth of the passenger trains on the Saxon State Railways had to cease running. The object of the strike appears to have been, first, to help

the coalminers on strike in Austria (see p. 67) by making it impossible to import Saxon coal into that country, and, secondly, to take advantage of the conditions of scarcity occasioned by that strike to obtain concessions which would otherwise have been

unobtainable.

In the Zwickau district all public meetings and entertainments were prohibited, picketing was declared illegal, the early closing of public-houses was decreed, and the police re-inforced. An order was also issued by the local administration, threatening strikers of foreign nationality with expulsion if they did not resume work by a given date. This order was, however, sub-sequently rescinded. The employers made it known that all men, who were still out on strike on February 19th, would be summarily dismissed, and would forfeit their claims on the pension funds of their provident societies.

No definite information is available as to the number of men who took part in the strike.

Employment in February.—According to Der Arbeitsmarkt, the proportion which the total number of applications for work bore to the total offers of situations offered at public employment registries throughout the Empire was III'9 per cent. in February. The corresponding proportion for January was 126.9, and that for February of last year 113.8.

Labour Disbutes in February. - The same journal reports 35 disputes as having begun in Germany in February, as compared with 45 in January. The groups in which the greatest number of disputes took place were those of mining and quarrying, metal and engineering and woodworking trades, in each of which 5 disputes occurred; and the building trades, in which 4 disputes took place.

Strike of Berlin Cabinetmakers .- According to Soziale Praxis of March 1st, some 6,000 cabinetmakers of Berlin have struck for minimum weekly wages of 24s., and uniform piece-wages, so that the same rates shall be paid at all establishments for the same articles. The men are being supported by the Woodworkers' Federation, which has a membership of some 100,000. A report published in the same journal, on March 8th, stated that the dispute has extended considerably in consequence of lock-outs on the part of the employers. The Berlin Industrial Court has offered its services as a Board of Conciliation. The proffered mediation has been accepted by the workpeople, but rejected by the employers. A sum of £3,500 was distributed in strike pay by the Woodworkers' Federation on March 2nd and 3rd.

Special Rules for Zinc-smelting Works .- Special rules drawn up by the Federal Council, under date of February 6th, prescribe con ditions to be fulfilled by establishments in which zinc ore is roasted or calcined, or in which zinc is obtained by distillation. These rules have reference to the internal dimensions and proper ventilation of the work-rooms, to the prevention of the accumulation of dust by the proper construction and the maintenance in proper condition of the floors and walls, to the adoption of suitable arrangements for the removal of dust and ashes, and for preventing the diffusion of dust, vapours, etc., in processes involving that risk, and to the provision of a plentiful supply of drinking water.

In certain processes connected with zinc distillation the employment of women is forbidden; in others it is allowed subject to specified conditions. The presence of young persons and children in places where zinc distillation is carried out is altogether pro-

Other rules make it obligatory for the employer to provide, in a part of the premises free from dust, washing and bathing accomdation and dressing and meal rooms heated in cold weather. He must employ a doctor (approved by the factory inspector) to examine his workpeople at least once a month. The doctor may order that any person showing symptoms of disease specifically attributable to the occupation shall, until completely cured, cease doing work connected with zinc distillation, and may require that any person appearing specially susceptible to such disease shall altogether give up the work. The rules are to take effect from

With respect to periods of rest, particulars are given as to 214,459 railway servants. In the course of one calendar month these servants had, between them, 705,144 cff-duty spells of not less than 18 hours each, of which 416,014 fell on Sundays.

#### SWITZERLAND

Insurance against Want of Employment.—On November 23rd last the Great Council of the Canton of Bâle-Ville accepted a Bill for the introduction of a scheme of compulsory insurance against want of employment. Mr. F. R. St. John, H.M. Minister at Berne, reporting to the Foreign Office, under date of February 21st. with reference to the proposed measure, states that on Sunday, February 18th, it was submitted by Referendum to the Cantonal electorate and rejected

by 5,458 votes to 1,119.

The rejection is attributed to the encouragement which would otherwise be held out to indolence at the expense of the laborious and thrifty, and the inducement to Italian workmen, who come in great numbers for the summer months only, to remain throughout the

winter in a state of idleness.

Statistics of Trade Unions.—In consequence of the receipt, by the Swiss Workmen's Secretary, of additional information relating to trade unions, the Monatsblätter des Schweiz. Arbeiter-sekretariats has published amended totals. Thus the trade union organisations of Switzerland are now stated to comprise, in the aggregate, 758 branches, with a total membership of 49,034, including 632 women. (See GAZETTE, January, 1900, p. 11.)

#### AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Journal of the Austrian Labour Department-A copy has just been received of the first number of Sociale Rundschau,\* the journal of the Austrian Labour Department. The publication is to appear monthly. The present issue is, however, a double number (January and February), and consists of 193 octavo pages, followed by an appendix of 79 pages of matter relating to Austrian labour disputes in 1899, and 32 pages relating to decisions of Industrial Courts in regard to matters at issue between employers and workmen.

The subjects dealt with in the 193 pages forming the body of the journal are as follows:

- 1. The Labour Market .- This section describes, on the basis of reports of Chambers of Commerce, the general condition of the labour market in Austria in December. 1899; it also contains special notices relating to the mining, iron, and engineering trades in Austria in 1899, the scarcity of agricultural labourers, and the migration of miners from Styria.
- 2. Agencies for Procuring Employment.—The operations of Austrian labour registries in December, 1899, are here dealt with, as well as the general question of labour registries in Austria and in Hungary, and a record of new Municipal Labour Registries organised in Austria.
- 3. Wages and Hours of Labour .- Besides an article on miners' wages in England, this section treats of hours of labour on Austrian railways and the new wages tariff of Austrian printers.

4. Strikes and Lock-outs .- This section gives a summary of the provisional figures relative to strikes and lockouts in Austria for 1899.

5. Other Labour Differences .- This section deals with the special courts (Gewerbegerichte) for settling matters at issue between individual workpeople and their em-

6. Social Policy.—Under this heading a number of questions are dealt with relating to the position of agricultural labourers, agricultural co-operation, trade unions and employers' associations, friendly societies, workmen's dwellings, etc.

Social Legislation and Administration.—The subjects dealt with in this section include the issue of new working rules for Government tobacco factories in Austria, and the provisions made for the insurance of municipal employees in Vienna against accidents and sickness.

In the remaining section of the journal, books are reviewed and statistical matters dealt with.

The journal is issued at the price of 20 heller (say 2d.) per number, or 2 kronen (say 1s. 8d.) per annum, and may be obtained through any bookseller in

\* Herausgegeben vom Arbeitsstatistichen Amte im K. K. Handelsministerium. Vienna Alfred Hölder, I., Rothenthurmstrasse, 15.

Strikes in 1899.—According to provisional figures contained in the above journal the number of strikes which occurred in Austria in 1899 was 324; the number of workpeople directly engaged in 208 of these strikes being 59,146.

The groups of trades most affected in 1899 were the textile, building, metal and engineering, mining, wood and india-rubber working, and food, etc., preparing groups, the strikers involved numbering 34,207, 7,544, 3,615, 3,407, 3,253 and 2,373 respectively. Out of a total of 294 strikes, of which the results have been ascertained, 69 ended in favour of the workpeople; 105 in favour of the employers and 120 in a compromise.

## REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

(a) COAL MINING IN FEBRUARY.

[Note.—The following tables only profess to state the number of days (allowance the made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal was hewn an event 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

EMPLOYMENT during February was very good, the average time worked by the collieries included in the returns, being higher than any previously recorded in the six years during which these statistics have been

Returns relating to 1,258 pits, at which 448,888 work-people were employed, show that an average of 5.69 days per week, was worked by these pits in the four weeks ended February 24th, as compared with 5.63 days per week in the corresponding period a year ago. The average for the period ending January 20th, which is shown in the tables below, was affected by the Christmas and New Year holidays.

The following table shows the average time worked in each division of the United Kingdom in the three

periods specified:-

March, 1900.

District.	No. employed in Feb., 1900. at the	Average per we	number of dek by the pi weeks ende	ts in four
A STATE OF THE STATE OF	collieries included in the Table.	24th Feb., 1900.	25th Feb., 1899.	20th Jan.,*
England and Wales Ireland	38,217	5'70 5'58 5'33	5 65 5 40 5 54	5'17 4'68 4'51
United Kingdom	418,888	5-69	5.63	5.13

The number employed at the pits, from which returns have been received for both periods, was about 1.7 per cent. greater than in February, 1899.

In the following table the workpeople are grouped according to the number of days worked at the pits at which they are employed. It will be seen that 95.6 per cent. were employed at pits working 5 or more days per week in February, compared with 92.9 per cent. a year ago, and 7c.8 per cent. in January.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE WORKPEOPLE ACCORDING TO THE NUMBER

Number of days on	Februar	у, 1900.	Corresponding percentages in—		
which Coal was hewn and wound in four weeks.	No. of Workpeople employed.	Percentage proportion to total.	February, 1899.	January,	
24 days (full time)	165,239	36.8	35.8	2.6	
20 and under 24 days	263,708	588	57.1	68.2	
16 11 11 20 11	19,359	4'3	5.9	28.0	
8 12	365	0.1	0.8	1.1	
Under 8 days	52	0.0	0.1	0.0	
Under 8 days	165	0.0	0.3	0.1	
Total	448,888	100.0	100.0	100.0	

From the table below, which gives detailed particuars for the different mining districts, it will be seen that in ten districts the average time worked was more than a year ago, the increase being greatest in the Nottingham and Leicester, and Fife districts. In South Vales district there was no change. In five districts he average worked was less than a year ago.

The highest averages during the month were worked Yorkshire (5.86 days per week), Gloucester and Somrset (5.84 days), South Wales and Monmouth (5.83 ays), and Salop, Worcestershire and Warwick (5.81 ys). In no district was the average less than 5.33

COMPARISON OF THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED BY Collieries in February, 1900 and 1899, and in January, 1900.

District.	No. employed in Feb., 1900, at the	Average per We- in fo	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Feb., 1900 as com- pared with			
	Collieries included in the Table.	24th Feb. 1900.	25th Feb., 1899.	20th* Jan. 1900.*	A year ago.	M'nth ago.
ENGLAND & WALES		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days
Northumberland	34,674	5'49	5'44	4'97	+ '05	+ '52
Durham	89,132	5.63	5.60	5'26	+ '03	+ '37
Cumberland	6,185	5'73	5.82	5.00	- '09	+ '64
Yorkshire	63,195	5'86	5'77	5'09	+ '09	+ .77
Lancashire and Cheshire	46,981	5'71	5.66	5'06	+ '05	+ .65
Derbyshire	34,962	5'77	5'74	5'29	+ '03	+ 48
Nottingham and Leicester	24,420	5'34	4'93	4.84	+ '41	+ .50
Staffordshire Salop, Worcester and	25,274	5.63	5'72	5.12	07	+ .20
Warwick	7,590	5.81	5'66	5'20	+ '15	+ ·61
Gloucester and Somerset	8,197	5.81	5'86	5'44	- '02	+ '40
North Wales	11,630	5'77	5'79	5'18	- '02	+ '59
South Wales & Mon	57,829	5.83	5.83	5'39		+ '44
SCOTLAND. West Scotland	21,141	5'44	5125	4.64	+ .00	+ '80
The Lothians	3,759	5'77	5'35 5'60	4.88	+ '17	+ '89
Fife	13,317	5.76	5'42	4.69	+ '34	+ 1.02
IRELAND	бо2	5'33	5'54	4.21	- '21	+ '82
Grand Total & Averages	448,888	5-69	5.63	5-13	+.06	+ *56

The Exports of coal, coke, cinders and patent fuel during February amounted to 3,333,664 tons, as compared with 3,087,532 tons in January, and 3,196,848 tons in February, 1899.

#### (b) IRON MINING IN FEBRUARY.

THE average number of days worked in February, 1900 (5.55), was more than in January (5.35), when, however, the average was lowered by holidays. Compared with February, 1899 (5.86), and December, 1899 (5.75), employment in this industry shows a decline as measured by the number of days that the mines were worked. The number employed in February, 1900, was 710 less than at the corresponding date in 1899.

Returns relating to 128 iron mines and open works, show that the average number of days worked during the four weeks ending February 24th, was 5.55 per week, as compared with 5.86 a year ago. Of the 16,627 persons employed at these workings (510 less than a year ago), 69.9 per cent. were employed in mines working 22 or more days n the four weeks as compared with 41.1 per cent. in January, and 92.4 per cent. in February, 1899.

The following table summarises the returns received:

District.	No. em- ployed in Feb., 1900, at the Mines	worked	per wee	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Feb., 1900, as compared with		
	included in the Table.	24th Feb., 1900.	25th Feb., 1899.	20th Jan., 1900.	A year ago.	A month
ENGLAND-		Alexandra La		1		
Cumberland and		Days.	Days,	Days.	Days.	Days,
Lancashire	5,752	5'82	5'95	5:52	- '14	+ '30
Cleveland	6,781	5'26	5:81	5'35	- '55	00
Lincolnshire and	. 70		1000	3 33	33	09
Leicestershire	720	5.87	6.00	5.8r	13	+ .06
Northamptonshire	677	5'72	5'95	5'75	- '23	- '03
Staffordshire and	116 115	Control			A PART	1000
Shropshire	1,546	5'53	5.66	4.80	13	+ '73
Other places in		The same				
England	165	5'10	5'46	5'03	- '56	+ '02
SCOTLAND	857	6.00	5.78	4'73	+ '22	+1'27
IRELAND	129	6.00	6.00	5'87		+ '13
Total	16,627	5'55	5.86	5'35	- '3t	+ '20

#### (c) PIG-IRON INDUSTRY IN FEBRUARY. EMPLOYMENT in February was much the same as in January. It continues better than a year ago.

During the month, at the works of 116 ironmasters covered by the returns, one furnace was re-lit and one damped down in England, and two were re-lit in Scotland. Thus at the end of the month there were two more furnaces in blast than at the end of January. The estimated number of workpeople employed was 25,887, or 30 less than at the end of the previous month. As compared with a year ago, seven more furnaces were in blast and 1,255 more people were employed.

<sup>\*</sup> The Christmas and New Year Holidays fell within this period.

#### EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-PIG IRON, IRON AND STEEL AND TIMPLATE INDUSTRIES; SEAMEN.

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

			e compared	Present time compared with a month ago,				
Districts.	Feb., 1900.	Feb., 1899.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Feb., 1900.	Feb., 1900.	Jan.,	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Feb., 1900.		
ENGLAND & WALES-				777		and the state of t		
Cleveland	95	97	- 2	95	95			
Camberland & Lancs	- 55	48	+ 7	55	55			
S. and S.W. Yorks	19	19		19	19	18 18 V		
Lincolnshire	15	16	- I	15	15			
Midlands	102	100	+ 2	102	101	+ 1		
Glamorgan and Mon.	21	21		21	22	- I		
Other districts	9	9		9	9			
Total England   and Wales }	316	310	+ 6	316	316	-		
SCOTLAND	67	66	+ 1	67	65	+ 2		
Total furnaces included in returns	383	376	+ 7	383	381	+ 2		

The shipments of pig-iron to foreign countries and British possessions from all ports of the United Kingdom during February amounted to 89,958 tons, as compared with 130,246 tons in January, and 61,553 tons in February, 1899.

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

EMPLOYMENT in these industries has remained practically the same as a month ago. It continues to compare favourably with a year ago.

#### Numbers Employed.

At 209 works covered by the returns, 82,698 work-people were employed in the week ended February 24th, as compared with 80,092 in the corresponding week of 1899, and 82,400 in the week ended January 27th, 1900.

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

District.	Number	Numbers employed in week ending			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Feb., 1900, as compared with	
	Feb. 24th,	Feb. 25th, 1899.	Jan. 27th, 1900.	a year ago.	a month ago.	
Castland	69,468	67,599 1 <b>2,</b> 493	69,165 13,235	+1,869 + 737	+ 303 - 5	
Total	82,698	80,092	82,400	+2,606	+ 298	

### Weekly Number of Shifts Worked.

Information as to the number of shifts worked has been received with respect to works employing about 89 per cent. of these workpeople, and the particulars are summarised in the table below. The average number of shifts worked was 5.56 in the last week of February, 5.58 in the week ended January 27th, and 5.60 in the last week of February, 1899.

Number of Shifts worked.	Number employed in Feb., 1900, so far as returned.	Percentage proportion to Total.	Corresponding percentage in Feb., 1899.
Under 5 per week 5 per week 5 per week	01 800	4'4 33'8 1'7	2.8 34.2 1.1
6 per week	43,311	58.8	59'9
Total .	. 73,682	100.0	100,0

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 workpeople included in the first table, may be estimated at 460,015 in the last week of February, 459,600 in the week ended January 27th, 1900, and 448,658 in the last week of February, 1899.

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

This industry continues active, and there has been a slight increase during the month both in the number of works open and of persons employed. Employment shows a very marked improvement compared with a year ago.

At the end of February, 58 works with 297 mills had all their mills at work, whilst 25 others with 179 mills were giving partial employment, 121 of their mills being at work. Thus in all 418 mills were working and giving employment to 21,183 workpeople. These figures compare with 418 mills and 21,060 workpeople employed at the end of January, 1900, and 356 mills and 17,720 workpeople employed a year ago.

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

100000000000000000000000000000000000000	No. of Works open.	No. of M	Esti- mated No. of Work-		
The last of star of		Working.	Not Working.	Total.	people em- ployed.
Works giving full employ-	58	297	-	297	14,745
ment Works giving partial em- ployment	25	121	58	179	6,438
Total at end of Feb., 1900†	83	418	58	476	21,183
Corresponding Total for January, 1900†	81	418	40	458	21,060
Corresponding Total for February, 1899+1	73	356	70	426	17,720

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

THE REAL PROPERTY.	1	Cinplates.		Blackplates.			
	Feb. 1900.	Jan. 1900.	Feb. 1899.	Feb. 1900.	Jan. 1900.	Feb. 1899.	
To United States ,, Other Countries	Tons. 4,210 21,449	Tons. 6,276 16,623	Tons. 3,806 14,001	Tons. 211 6,352	Tons. 263	Tons. 3 4,912	
Total	25,659	22,899	17,807	6,563	4,540	4,915	

## (f) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN FEBRUARY.

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

THE number of seamen shipped during February as the crews of foreign-going vessels from certain selected ports (at which 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared), was 26,812 or 2,075 less than the number for the corresponding month of 1899.

The decline is mainly accounted for by a falling off at Liverpool, Cardiff and the Tyne ports, partly balanced by increased shipments at London and Southampton. The supply of seamen and firemen is reported to have been equal to, or in excess of the demand at most ports. At Southampton the demand for seamen and firemen, at Bristol the demand for seamen, and at Glasgow and Barry the demand for seamen on sailing vessels exceeded the supply.

Of the total number shipped during January and February 9,393 (or 15.1 per cent.) were foreigners, as compared with 9,501 (or 14.8 per cent.) in the corresponding period of last year. Lascars who are engaged in Asia are not included in these figures.

#### EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-SEAMEN; AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

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

March, 1900.

		of Men, &c ebruary, 1		Total in	Total number shipped in 2 months ended		
Principal Ports.	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Steam Feb.,		1900.	1899.	
ENGLAND.							
East Coast. Tyne Ports Sunderland Middlesbrough Hull Grimsby	6 -	1,850 258 117 792 69	1,961 268 123 792 69	2,498 322 168 782 69	4,792 739 598 2,239 182	5,209 898 511 2,253 138	
Bristol Channel. Bristol Newport, Mon Cardiff; Swansea	8 231 60	362 675 3,571 372	362 683 3,802 432	374 995 5,037 325	809 1,726 9,461 1,235	816 2,420 11,511 1,206	
Cither Ports. Liverpool London Southampton	154 204	7,821 5,787 1,738	7,975 5,991 1,788	9,402 4,872 1,355	17,002 12,409 4,805	19 910 10,778 2,913	
SCOTLAND. Leith, Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth	3	515	518	457	1,308	1,378	
Glasgow	83	1,735	1,818	1,928	4,023	3,628	
IRELAND. Dublin Belfast	12	8 <sub>5</sub>	85 205	58 265	213 574	221 565	
otal, Feb., 1900	872	25,940	26,812	_	62,065	_	
Ditto, Feb., 1899	764	28,123		28,887	_	64,355	

#### (g) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN FEBRUARY.

THE Agricultural Correspondent to the Department on the basis of 115 returns from all parts of England, reports as follows:-The weather in the month of February was most unfavourable for outdoor employment, owing to a heavy fall of snow and a great deal of Following upon a wet January this caused farm work in most districts to get into arrear, although the very fine autumn had enabled farmers to be well ahead with their work up to the end of last year. Employers from most parts of the country state that at the end of February ploughing and spring sowing was backward, as the land was too sodden to work during nearly the whole of the month. In consequence, in a number of districts there was some irregularity of work, more particularly in the Midland and Eastern counties, and this notwithstanding a greater scarcity of labour owing to the calling up of the Reserves and Militia. In no district, however, does there appear to have been any considerable number of men out of employment, though, taking the country as a whole, employment was more irregular than during the previous month. The greater number of those who lost time were extra hands who rely on odd work, such as threshing and wood-cutting. In a good many districts some of these men got employment clearing away snow from the roads.

Changes in wages took place in February amounting to a rise of 1s. a week compared with the corresponding period in 1899, in certain districts in the counties of Dorset, Kent, and Hampshire; of 1s. to 2s. a week in parts of Cheshire, Cumberland, Herefordshire, and Yorkshire.

Northern Counties.—In the Northern counties very wet and stormy weather prevailed during the greater part of the month, and considerably interfered with outdoor work. But as most of the farm servants are hired by the year or half year, they lose no wages in wet weather. In some districts a few odd hands lost time, but the calling out of the Reserves and Militia generally made labour scarce. In Northumberland employment is reported as regular, and in Cumberland in the Unions of Bootle, Carlisle, Whitehaven, and Wigton. In the Carlisle Union some odd hands were irregularly employed owing to bad weather. In the Penrith Union, though outdoor work was considerably interrupted, it is

stated that extra men were scarce on account of the calling up of the Reserves and Militia. In Lancashire a report from the Fylde, Garstang, Lancaster, Luneside, and Ulverston Unions states that for the first 18 days of February it was quite impossible to do any outdoor work on account of frost, snow and storms, except on the fells where men were busy digging sheep out of the snow. The whole of the irregular hands are said to have been out of work in most districts during the severe weather, except a few who had a little indoor work found for them by employers who did not want to risk not being able to get them when the weather cleared up. When work was resumed on the land about the 20th, labour was scarce on the farms and also on the public works which are in progress in the district. In Durham a few extra hands were stopped work owing to the stormy weather. Reports to this effect come from the Unions of Chester-le-Street and Darlington (Durham and Yorks, N.R.). In Yorkshire outdoor work was considerably interrupted by bad weather. Those who lost wages on this account were chiefly odd hands, but they found employment in some districts in clearing snow from the roads. Reports have been received from the Unions of Beverley, Guisborough, Howden, Malton, Pocklington, Ripon, and Thirsk.

Midland Counties .- Reports from the Macclesfield, Nantwich, and Tarvin Unions of Cheshire state that generally speaking, notwithstanding the inclement weather during the first three weeks of the month, agricultural labourers as a rule lost no time. A few are stated to have been in irregular work in the Tarvin Union. In all these districts agricultural labourers are said to be scarce. Reports of a similar character come from Derbyshire from the Union of Hayfield and from the Derbyshire portions of the Worksop Union (Notts, Derby, and Yorks W.R.), Burton-on-Trent Union (Staffs and Derby) and Mansfield Union (Notts and Derby). A report from the Burton-on-Trent Union states that, "Labour continues very scarce in these districts. Boys for farm work cannot be got. Notwithstanding the bad weather since Christmas, there have been no men out of work." A large employer of labour in the Mansfield Union writes," From inquiries I have made, I find labour is most difficult to get anywhere in the Union. If a man leaves, you cannot get another." In Shropshire the snow and wet caused some irregularity of employment in some districts, but this was mainly confined to odd hands. It is stated that a good many employers find work for their men under cover as far as possible. Reports have been received from the Unions of Bridgmorth, Drayton (Salop and Staffs), Oswestry, Wellington, and Wem. A scarcity of labour is reported by several correspondents. A report from the Tamworth Union of Staffordshire states that labourers are very scarce throughout the Union. A few agricultural labourers in Warwickshire were in irregular employment during the month on account of the bad weather. Reports have been received from this county from the Unions of Alcester, Atherstone, Coventry, Meriden. and Stratford-on-Avon, and most of them state that men are scarce, but a large employer of labour in the Alcester Union writes. "The continued wet weather during this month has made it very awkward to work on the land and in fruit plantations, and this has caused labour to be plentiful this month,

Reports from Leicestershire have been received from the Unions of Barrow-on-Soar, Lutterworth (Leicester and Warwick), Market Harborough, and Melton Mowbray. Outdoor work was considerably interrupted by the wet weather, but as a rule only extra hands in some districts lost time. A report from the Barrow-on-Soar Union states that, "The weather has been extremely wet, and has considerably hindered farming operations; still, the men have been kept on." Generally speaking, employment was regular, with few exceptions, in Nottinghamshire in the Unions of Bingham, Southwell, and Retford. A large employer of labour in the Oakham Union of Rutland writes as follows: "Many men in almost every parish throughout the Union have been off work through influenza, and it was found difficult at times to get the stock attended to, the working staff being so broken. The month has been a very wet one on the whole, but all were well employed owing to the number of men sick.

In Worcestershire wet weather caused some irregularity of employment in certain districts. Reports have been received from the Unions of Evesham, Martley, Tenbury, and Upton-on-Severn. A report from the Evesham Union states that, "Frost, snow, and much rain almost stopped farm work on the land. Attention to cattle and sheep almost the only employment. Crops backward, bean planting not done, all much behindhand." In parts of Oxford-shire wet weather caused some irregularity of work. A report from the Witney Union states that employment was generally regular and labour scarce. In the Oxfordshire portion of the Wallingford

<sup>\*</sup> Including iron puddling and rolling, and steel making and rolling.

<sup>\*</sup> 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, mills and persons actually employed.

‡ Revised figures.

<sup>\*</sup> 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.

March, 1900.

employer, referring to the parish of Thame, in the Thame Union, states that there were some farm hands idle throughout the month owing to the weather, while a correspondent in another district of this Union writes as follows: "The deep snow and rain were against employment upon the land, but I heard of no ablebodied men being out of work in consequence of the weather. Cowmen are more difficult to retain, and the drain of labourers for the war and home defence will be more felt in the spring and summer. No spring corn has been sown." Though outdoor employment was interferred with to a considerable extent in Northamptonshire, labourers were not usually much out of work. In a good many districts men are reported to be scarce. Reports have been received from the Unions of Brixworth, Hardingstone, Kettering, Potterspury, and Wellingtorough, and from the Northamptonshire portion of the Banbury Union (Oxon, Northants, and Warwick). In the Hardingstone and Kettering Unions the wet weather is said to have much interfered with ploughing and seeding. A correspondent from the Potterspury Union states that during the wet weather it was difficult to find work for the men. A large employer of labour in the Wellingborough Union writes as follows: "The very wet weather has retarded work and thrown most farmers rather backward, but this does not affect the regularity of employment, very few regular men having to lose any time even in wet weather." Another report from the same Union states that a few men engaged on piece-work were in irregular work, also that in consequence of the frost, bricklayers' labourers were at liberty for farm work and also for removing snow from roads. Agricultural labourers in Huntingdonshire and Bedfordshire were in irregular work to some extent owing to wet weather. Reports have been received from Huntingdonshire from the Unions of Huntingdon, St. Ives, and St. Neot's (Hunts and Beds), and from Bedfordshire from the Unions of Bedford, Biggleswade, Leighton Buzzard, and Luton. A correspondent in the Huntingdon Union writes as follows: "The weather has been unfavourable for the usual work, but men have been kept on to secure them for the spring work." A correspondent in the St. Neot's Union states that all outdoor work was at a standstill, that large tracts of land are flooded, and that work is much behindhand. Employers in the Bedfordshire Unions state that the land was impossible to work during February, and that ploughing and spring sowing is much in arrear.

Eastern Counties .- Reports from Essex state that a certain number of agricultural labourers lost time owing to the wet weather in the Unions of Billericay, Braintree, Dunmow, Maldon, and Orsett. In the Colchester, Halstead, and Tendring Unions work is said to have been generally regular. In Suffolk the bad weather greatly interfered with outdoor work, and some men lost time in a good many districts, but not to any great extent. Several employers state that farm work is in arrears. Reports have been received from the Unions of Blything, Bosmere and Claydon, Cosford, Hartismere, Hoxne, Mildenhall, Mutford and Lothingland, Plomesgate, Risbridge, Samford, Sudbury, and Thingoe. A large employer in the Bosmere and Claydon Union writes: "We have about sufficient hands. A long spell of wet weather begins to make it difficult to find suitable work for the men."

In Norfolk employment out of doors was frequently rendered impossible by the rain and snow, and in some districts labourers had irregular work, though it is stated that a number of employers found their men as much work as possible under cover. A good many labourers were suffering from influenza during the month. Reports have been received from the Unions of Aylsham, Blofield, Depwade, Docking, Downham, East and West Flegg, Erpingham, Forehoe, Freebridge Lynn, Guiltcross, Henstead, Loddon and Clavering, Mitford and Launditch, St. Faiths, Smallburgh, Swaffham, and Walsingham. A correspondent who is not an employer of labour himself, writes from the Guiltcross Union, "There has been a downfall of snow, and this impeded work generally. Many labourers have had only partial employment. The better class of farmers always find their men work in bad weather, and they would number two or three in every parish." An employer writing from the same Union says that at the end of the month half the labourers were in irregular work, owing partly to wet weather and partly to nfluenza. Employers state that work is in arrears, spring sowing delayed, and threshing at a standstill.

Reports from Cambridgeshire state that work was fairly regular with few exceptions in the Unions of Chesterton, North Witchford, and Wisbech, and in the Cambridgeshire portion of the Peterborough Union (Cambs, Hunts, Lincoln, and Northants). A report from the last-named district says that a lot of land was under water, but that

Union (Oxon and Berks) employment is said to be regular. An agricultural labourers found employment on a railway in course of construction. In Lincolnshire employment is said to be regular, with few exceptions, in the Unions of Boston, Brigg, Caistor, Grimsby, Gainsborough, Lincoln, Louth, Stamford, Spilsby, and in the Lincolnshire portion of the Newark Union (Lincoln and Notts). An employer in the Lincoln Union says that "labour is so scarce there was no loss of employment even during the inclement

> Home Counties .- In Buckinghamshire employment is said to have been generally regular, with few exceptions, in the Unions of Aylesbury, Buckingham, Newport Pagnell, and Winslow. In some districts work was considerably interrupted, especially where there were floods. Reports of a similar character come from Berkshire from the Bradfield, Newbury, and Wantage Unions. Some men were in irregular employment in certain parishes in the Wantage Union. Reports from Surrey state that there was some irregularity of work owing to bad weather. Reports have been received from the Unions of Farnham, Godstone, Hambledon, and from the Surrey portion of the Farnham Union (Hants and Surrey). A large employer of labour in the Gcdstone Union writes that 'We are still short of men for threshing. Wet weather has stopped hedging, but I employed the men in the barns." Some agricultural labourers in Kent, chiefly extra men, were in irregular work in February owing to the impossibility of getting on to the land. Reports have been received from the Unions of Blean, Cranbrook, Eastry, Elham, Faversham, Hollingbourne, Hoo, Maidstone, and Tenterden. Farm work is said to be backward. A good deal of ploughing has to be done, and spring sowing is in arrear. Labour in several Unions is scarce. A large employer in the Hoo Union states: "We keep all employed, and have some trouble to get men for the threshing machine." In Hertfordshire reports from the Unions of Buntingford, Hatfield, Hertford, Hitchin, St. Albans, and Watford, state that with few exceptions labourers were regularly employed, and that men are scarce owing, to some extent, to the calling up of the Reserves and Militia. A report of a similar character comes from the Barnet Union of Middlesex.

Southern and South-Western Counties .- Reports from Sussex, from the Unions of Battle, Chailey, Cuckfield, Hailsham, Horsham, Lewes, Newhaven, Petworth, Rye, and Uckfield, state that generally speaking agricultural labourers lost but little time, notwithstanding the excessive wet. Reports from the Cuckfield and Hailsham Unions state that woodcutters and other men on piece-work lost time. Several employers state that farm work is in arrears. A large employer of labour in the Rye Union writes: All hop work is backward owing to the great amount of rain. In this neighbourhood, when fine weather does set in, all hands will be wanted for digging, dressing, poling, etc., as well as for putting in spring corn." In Hampshire reports from the Unions of Basingstoke, Christchurch, Hartley Wintney, Havant, Kingsclere, Lymington, Petersfield, and Stockbridge, and from the Hampshire portion of the Farnham Union (Hants and Surrey) state that generally speaking the labourers regularly attached to the staff of a farm were continuously employed. In the Havant Union it is stated that all jobbing men, and those employed with steam-threshing machines did little or nothing during the month, though all ordinary workmen received full pay. In Dorsetshire agricultural labourers are said to have been generally regularly employed in the Unions of Blandford, Dorchester, Wareham and Purbeck, and Wimberne and Cranborne; and in Wiltshire in the Unions of Bradford-on-Avon, Amesbury, Cricklade and Wootton Bassett, Devizes, Highworth and Swindor, Marlborough, Mere, Pewsey, Warminster, Wilton, and Westbury and Whorwellsdown. A number of reports both in Wilts and Dorset refer to a scarcity of labourers. In the Salisbury district this is partly attributed to the calling up of the Reserves and Militia, and partly to the construction of a railway on Salisbury Plain. In the Chippenham Union, however, a report states that a good many men were in irregular work owing to the bad weather.

Agricultural labourers in Gloucestershire are said to have lost some time in some districts, but no report refers to any considerable number of men being in irregular work. Reports have been received from the Unions of Barton Regis, Dursley, Gloucester, Northleach, Thornbury, Stow-on-the-Wold, and Wheatenhurst. Reports of a similar character come from Herefordshire from the Unions of Bromyard, Dore (Hereford and Monmouth), Ledbury, and Ross. Farm work in both counties is said to be in arrear. Reports from Somersetshire state that agricultural employment was generally regular in the Unions of Bridgwater, Chard, Clutton, Frome, Langport, Taunton, Wellington, Wincanton, Wells,

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-Textile Trades; Dock and Wharf Labour.

nd Yeovil. Several reports state that labourers are scarce. An ver in the Yeovil Union reports as follows: " A very wet and reable month, no getting the teams on wet clay land. Fortutely the dry autumn enabled the farmers to get nearly all the ploughed." An employer in the Clutton Union states that weather-rain, snow, frost and fog-has completely stopped illage operations during the last ten weeks, and the sowing of rley, oats, peas and beans has not even commenced." In Devonshire ownent is said to have been generally regular in the Unions Axminster, Barnstaple, Crediton, Holsworthy, Kingsbridge, oth Molton, Torrington, and Tavistock, and in Cornwall in the ions of Bodmin, Camelford, and Stratton. Several reports m Devonshire and Cornwall refer to a scarcity of labour. A ort from Camelford Union states that the slate quarries take any surplus labour. A correspondent in the Stratton Union sses the opinion that the scarcity of labour is due in a iderable measure to an insufficiency of cottage accommodation.

## (h) EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN THE TEXTILE TRADES IN FEBRUARY.

cording to returns from women correspondents, loyment for women has continued good in all branches the textile trades. Information has been received ith regard to 608 cotton, woollen and worsted mills, ploying about 105,550 women and girls, and is marised in the following table, which also gives or comparison the corresponding figures for the previous onth, and for a year ago :-

		11:	Percer	ntage ordi	narily em hich were	ployed in Mills					
			Working	full Time.	the same of the same	Closed for					
Trade and Mont	Trade and Month.				rade and Month.		Full P Employ- En		With Partial Employ- ment.	Working Short Time.	repairs, bad trade, disputes, or other causes,
Cetton Trade—Spinning	ıg-	7.19		- 1483540							
February, 1900			99		-	1					
January, 1900			97	2	-	I					
February, 1899		***	90	8	2	Mana Talanta					
Cotton Trade-Weavin	ng—			A High		The state of the state of					
February, 1900			93	6	-	1					
January, 1900			92	8		-					
February, 1899		•••	81	17	2	_					
Woollen and Worsted	Trad	es-									
February, 1900			98	1	1	_					
January, 1900			96	3	I	-					
February, 1899	•••	•••	74	. 13	10	3					
Total of above Trade	-10			1	12 4						
February, 1900			98	3	1	1					
January, 1900		•••	95	5	-						
February, 1899	***		82	14	3	I					

Cotton Trade. - Spinning. - The number of women and irls usually employed in cotton spinning mills reported is 27,570; of these, 99 per cent. were employed in ls giving full employment during the whole month, be compared with 97 per cent. among those for whom eturns were received in January, and with 90 per cent.

Cotton Trade. - Weaving. - The number of women and girls usually employed in cotton weaving factories reorted on is 56,250; of these 93 per cent. were employed n factories giving full employment during the whole nonth, to be compared with 92 per cent. among those for whom returns were received in January, and with per cent. in February, 1899.

Woollen and Worsted Trades .- The number of women and girls usually employed in the woollen and worsted nills reported on is 21,730; of these, 98 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 96 per cent. in anuary, and with 74 per cent. in February, 1899.

#### (i) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN FEBRUARY.

EMPLOYMENT at the docks and wharves was better than year ago, but not so good as in January.

The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves, during the four weeks ended February 24th, was 14,207, as compared under "District Reports, London," on page 82.

with averages of 15,762 in the preceding four weeks, and 13,836 in the corresponding period of 1899.

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

	Labourers	employed in	Docks.	Labourers	Total Dock		
Period.	By Dock Companies or through Contractors	By Ship- owners, &c.	Total.	employed at 115 Wharves making Returns.	and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.		
Week ending Feb. 3	6,222 5,778 5,106 5,414	2,391 1,913 1,910 2,887	8,613 7,691 7,016 8,301	6,381 6,274 6,254 6,300	14,994 13,965 13,270 14,601		
Average for 4 weeks ending Feb. 24th, 1900	} 5,630	2,275	7,905	6,302	14,207		
Average for Feb., 1899	5,432	2,515	7,947	5,889	13,836		
A verage for Jan., 1900	6,792	2,772	9,564	6,198	15,762		

(2) Daily Fluctuation .. - The daily fluctuation in the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed by all the docks and principal wharves during January and February is shown on the chart below. The numbers in February ranged from 12,778 on the 15th to 14,976 on the 28th.

During February, 1899, the total number of dock and wharf labourers employed varied from 14,482 on the 7th to 12,923 on the 28th.

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

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

em- ployed.	1234			UARY		R	100	UARY	
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18,000				-					
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16,000		1		In	1		10 1911		
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e, 000	-		-		-				-
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7,000			The fo	ollowing an	re the fig	gures on w	hich the	Chart for	_
		Fe	bruar	y, 1900, is	based:	Number	Day of	Number	
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6. 000	-	+	1 2	14,730	10	13,254	20 21 22	14,403	101-
100		13.43	5 6	14,410	13	13,349	23 24	14,818	
4,000	100	Ī	6 7 8	14,265	15	13,769	26 27	14,535	
3,000		+ _	9	13,599	17 19	13,039 14,221 olidays are	28	14,976	-
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2.000	1 1				3 43				
	1000	A COLUMN							

Particulars respecting the employment of other classes of dock and riverside labourers will be found

### DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL COR-RESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

LONDON.

General.—The state of employment during February remained on the whole good. Returns from 455 branches of 120 unions having an aggregate membership of 77,558, show that 2,670 (or 3.4 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 3.5 in January and 2.7 per cent in February, 1899.

Employment in the Engineering, Metal and Shipbuilding trades has remained good. Reports from 147 branches of 28 unions with an aggregate membership of 21,684, show that 434 (or 20 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 21 per cent. in January, and 25 per cent. in February of last year.

The Building trades continue well employed in most branches. Returns from 181 branches of 8 unions paying unemployed benefit, with a membership of 12,624, show that 209 (or 17 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 13 in January and of per cent. in February, 1899. The carpenters and joiners, plasterers and stone-carvers describe employment as fair; the bricklayers and plumbers as moderate; the stonemasons and painters and decorators as dull, the latter as improving.

Employment in the Furnishing trades is dull. Reports from 44 branches of 11 unions with a membership of 7,117, show that 623 (or 8.8 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 9 o in January and 4.6 per cent. in February, 1899.

The Woodworking trades continue well employed. Reports from 3 unions with a membership of 705, show that 13 (or 1'8 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1'7 per cent. last month.

Coopers still remain busy. Reports from 2 societies with a membership of 1,055, show that in February, as in January, practically all the members were employed. In February, 1899, the percentage of unemployed was 1.5.

Coachbuilders and Wheelwrights are rather better employed. Reports from 12 branches of 8 unions, with a membership of 1,442, show that 35 (or 2.4 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.8 in January, and 2.0 per cent. in February, 1899.

The Printing and Bookbinding trades have remained quiet. Returns from 26 unions, with a membership of 24,083 show that 1,014 (or 4.2 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.4 in January. The percentage for February, 1899, was 3.4.

Employment in the Clothing trades has remained generally quiet. The West End bespoke tailors describe employment as dull; the East End bespoke trade has been quiet; the contract and stock trades good; the East End military and uniform tailors and tailoresses have been only partially employed; with ladies' tailors and mantle-makers employment has been moderate, slightly improving towards the end of the month. Employment with hatters has been quiet; with capmakers slack. Fur skin dressers have been busy.

Boot and Shoe Trades.—Employment with West End handsewn boot and shoe makers has been quiet, improving towards the end of the month; with the East End sewround trade it has remained bad; with boot and shoe operatives it has been fair.

Employment in the *Leather* trades has somewhat improved, and is now brisk. Returns from 6 unions with a membership of 1,551, show that 21 (or 1'4 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1'9 in January and also in February of last year.

In the Glass and Pottery trades returns from 8 unions show that 76 (or 50 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 60 in January and 76 per cent. in February, 1899.

Hair, Fibre, and Cane Workers.—In these trades returns from 5 unions, with a membership of 901, show that 20 (or 2.2 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.8 in January and 2.0 per cent. in February of last year.

Gold and Silver Workers are not so well employed, and short time is being worked in some branches. Returns from 7 unions with a membership of 1,116, show that 25 (or 2'2 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.8 in January. The percentage for February, 1899, was also 1.8.

Employment in the Tobacco trades has continued to fall off. Returns from 4 unions, with a membership of 2,396, show that 168 (or 7 o per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 6.8 in January, and 3.8 per cent. in February, 1899.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves was 14,207 in the four weeks ended February 24th, as compared with averages of 15,762 in January and 13,836 in February, 1899. Employment in mid-stream has been fair during the month. With stevedores

and coalporters it has been fairly good; with lumpers, lightermen, winchmen, and corn porters moderate. The fruit porters in Thamesstreet have been well employed, the average daily number employed being 352, compared with 375 in January.

March, 1900.

## ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES. Type and Wear District.

Coal Mining.—Northumberland.—Steam and house coal pits have averaged 5.42 and 5.43 days per week during the four weeks ending February 24th. Of the 24.940 union miners, deputies, mechanics, engine and firemen, 4 are unemployed. Durham.—All collieries have worked well. Manufacturing, house, gas and coking coal pits have averaged 5.68, 5.49, 5.33 and 5.85 days per week respectively, as against 5.25, 5.24, 5.02 and 5.43 days for the four weeks ending January 20th. The returns received from 127 pits employing 61,806 men and boys, show that the average number of days worked per week was 5.57, as compared with 5.23 days in January. Of the unemployed union miners there are 84 (or o'13 per cent.) in receipt of "stoppage relief," as against 74 (or o'11 per cent.) the previous month. The 9,165 union colliery deputies, enginemen, mechanics and cokeyard workers have 7 members idle.

Metal Mining.—Lead miners are fairly busy, one mine having again started work. Iron ore miners are well employed.

Quarrying.—At most of the quarries in Stanhope and Frosterley employment has been irregular owing to bad weather; one limestone quarry remains entirely idle. In Gateshead, Blyth and district some quarries have been laid off a week.

Engineering and Shipbuilding .- On the Tyne .- The ordnance works are exceedingly brisk. Scarcity of castings and forgings is some what interrupting employment in a few engine shops. Copper smiths are still slack. Repair work has been busier. At most the shipyards work has been at a standstill through stormy weather Of the 12,618 members of these trades 403 (or 3'2 per cent.) are out of work as against 290 (or 2.3 per cent. of their membership) in January. On the Wear .- Forges are working double shifts, and ship smiths remain steadily employed. One or two engine shops are ahead of their work; others are moderately busy. Branches of these trades with 5,216 members have 216 (or 41 per cent.) unemployed as against 85 (or 1.6 per cent. of their membership) in January. Branches of pattern-makers, iron and steel moulders, with 1,740 members have 25 (or 1.4 per cent.) idle. Ship joiners on the Tyne are fairly employed; on the Wear they are rather slack. Employment of sailmakers on both rivers remains steady. The 1,220 union drillers and hole cutters return 93 (or 76 per cent.) as idle. Steel smelting shops and plate mill have worked full time; angle mills five shifts per week. Chain and anchor smiths are fully employed; brass-finishers fairly so.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Tyne watermen, lumpers, and quayside labourers report employment as moderate; trimmers and teamers on both rivers as fairly good; coal-porters and shippers as averaging full time. The demand for sailors and firemen has not been so good. Tugboat men on the Wear have been all employed.

Building Trades.—All branches of these trades continue dull.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as unsettled by a dispute at Newcastle, as moderate at Sunderland; bookbinders as good. Three paper mills have worked full time; five others have averaged a little over half-time.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Branches of cabinet-makers, upholsterers, and millsawyers, with 732 members, have 31 (or 4'2 per cent.) unemployed. Employment with coopers continues quiet; with lathrenders moderate.

Chemical and Glass Trades.—Employment in copper works is less steady owing to scarcity of ore. At one or two chemical factories want of coal has hindered employment, otherwise the bleaching-powder departments are busy. White lead and cement-workers and bottle-makers are busy.

Fishing.—Employment has been interrupted by stormy weather.

J. Ratcliffe.

#### Middlesbrough, Stockton and District.

Ironstone Mining.—The Cleveland miners report employment as continuing fairly good, although 8 or 9 mines have been working one day per week short. The average number of days worked by the 21 mines furnishing returns was 5 26 per week during the 4 weeks ended February 24th, as compared with 5.81 days per week a year ago. The number of workpeople employed at these mines was 6,781, the corresponding number a year ago being 6,742.

Iron and Steel Trades .- Employment continues good through-

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)-NORTHERN COUNTIES; LANCASHIRE.

out the district at iron and steel works, blast-furnaces, bridge works, metal expansion works, pipe and general foundry works. At chair foundries it continues moderate.

Engineering.—Employment with the engineers is reported as Coderate at Stockton, South Bank, Bishop Auckland and Darlington; and fair at Hartlepool. Ironfounders, pattern makers, smiths and strikers report employment as good generally throughout the strict. Branches of these trades with 4,384 members have 85 (or 9 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 49 (or 1 1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Shipbuilding.—The yards are reported as having plenty of work in hand, but owing to the weather employment has been slack. Shippiners report employment as only moderate. Except for the weather, employment has been fair with shipwrights; good with emiths and strikers.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Sailors and firemen report employment as moderate, and dock labourers as slack, both at Middlesgrough and Hartlepool. Riverside labour is fairly good.

Building Trades.—Employment has been interfered with by the weather, but is otherwise good.

Miscellaneous.—Printers report employment as good; cement, pulp and concrete workers as fairly good; sawmill and woodworking machinists as moderate; cabinetmakers as dull; tailors as quiet; saltworkers as improving slightly.—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 Industry.—Employment at the Cumberland coal mines is good, though not so good as a year ago. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended February 24th at the 21 pits covered by the returns was 5.73 per week, as compared with 5.82 days a year ago. The number of workpeople employed in February was 6.185, as against 6.545 a year ago.

Iron Mining.—Employment at the Cumberland and North Lancashire iron mines continues good, though not so good as a year ago. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended February 24th, at the 44 mines from which returns have been received, was 5.82 per week, as compared with 5.96 days a year ago. The number of workpeople employed at the mines was 5,752, the corresponding number a year ago being 5,963.

Pig Iron Manufacture.—Employment at the Cumberland and North Lancashire blast furnaces continues good, and is better than a year ago. The number of furnaces in blast at the end of February was 55, the same number as in January, and 7 more than in February, 1899. The estimated number of workpeople employed at these furnaces was 4,471, being 6 more than at the end of January, and 589 more than a year ago.

## LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS. Oldham and District.

Cotton Trade.—Spinning.—Employment remains about the same, and is reported as good in Oldham and neighbourhood, Stockport, Mossley, Rochdale, Ashton-under-Lyne, Dukinfield, and Droylsden. Cardroom workers, ring frame spinners and throstle frame tenters report employment as good, with full work. Employment in the twining branch is fairly good in Oldham and district; reelers report employment as moderate. Weaving.—The powerlcom overlookers and weavers report employment as good in calicoes; as moderate in velvets; and as bad in fustians. Beam and sectional warpers and ball warpers report employment as slack.

Woollen and Silh Trades.—Employment with woollen workers is good in Rochdale and Milnrow districts, moderate at Stockport. With silk dressers at Rochdale it continues moderate.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment is reported as good in engineering works; as slack in machine shops. Brassfounders, boilermakers, ironfounders, and pattern-makers report employment as good; gas-meter makers, tinplate workers, and plate and machine moulders as moderate; irongrinders and toolmakers as slack.

Building Trades.—Painters are slack. In other branches employment is moderate.

Coal Mining —Returns received from three collieries show that employment continues good, full time being worked by the miners.

#### Bolton and District.

Cotton Trade—Spinning.—In Bolton and the surrounding district, Moses Gate, Farnworth, Pendlebury, Leigh, Bury and Chorley employment is reported as very good, the mills generally working full time. Cardroom operatives also report employment as good in

Bolton, Bury, Chorley and immediate district. Weaving.—Weavers in Bolton are fully employed on plain goods; a slight improvement is reported in the fancy goods trade.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—Employment in the iron trade generally has improved slightly. Machinemen and steam engine makers are reported as fairly well employed. In Bury, Wigan, Ince, Hindley and Chorley employment continues fairly active. Forgemen and steel smelters report employment as a little better.

Building Trades.—Employment is reported as fairly good in Bolton; moderate in Farnworth; good in Wigan; and as still slack in Chorley, except with painters and decorators.

Coal Mining.—Coal miners continue well employed throughout the district, an average of over 5 days per week being worked.

Miscellaneous.—Tanners, leather workers, printers, cloggers, shoemakers and tramway men are reported as fairly well employed.

#### Blackburn, Burnley and District.

Cotton Trade.—Weaving.—Employment continues good throughout the district. In many cases there is a scarcity of weavers, due to some extent to sickness. In the hard waste trade, little overtime is being worked; some departments are already on short time. Twisters and drawers, winders and warpers and tapesizers continue well employed; warp dressers are rather slack, with complaints regarding bad material. Spinning.—Spinners again report employment as good; ring spinners and cardroom workers throughout the district are busy. Branches of spinners and twisters and drawers with 2,956 members, have 74 (or 2.5 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 108 (or 3.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Building Trades.—Employment with painters, masons and bricksetters is slack; with plumbers it continues fair.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—Employment continues fair.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment with coal miners is again reported as good. Stone quarrymen are slack.

Miscellaneous.—Cabinetmakers report employment as quiet; brick-makers as moderate; letterpress printers as good; calico printers, and woollen block printers as moderate; tailors as still slack.

W. H. Wilkinson.

#### Manchester and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 22,651 members have 639 (or 2.8 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 618 (or 2.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineers report employment as moderate in Manchester, Stockport, and Warrington; as good in Northwich; boilermakers, ironfounders, brassfounders, and finishers, smiths and strikers, wire-weavers, and wheelwrights and blacksmiths as good; sheet metal workers as fair; wire drawers as not busy.

Textile Trades.—Cotton operatives report employment as moderate. Silk workers, although not busy, are fairly well employed. Fustian cutters are busy. Bleachers, dressers, dyers and finishers report employment as moderate.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the bespoke and wholesale departments of the tailoring trade continues slack. Felt hat makers are not busy. Employment in the boot and shoe trade is improving. Shirt makers are fairly busy; cap-makers and mantlemakers report employment as moderate but improving; waterproof garment makers are slack.

Building Trades.—Bricklayers report employment as dull in Manchester and Stockport, moderate in Northwich; carpenters and joiners, plasterers, plumbers and bricklayers' labourers as moderate; stonemasons and painters as bad.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—The upholsterers and Jewish cabinetmakers report employment as bad; other branches of cabinetmakers, French polishers and coopers in Manchester, Stockport and Warrington are busy. Coachmakers are fully employed.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as slack; lithographic artists and printers as fair; electrotypers as busy; bookbinders as moderate; pattern cardmakers as slack.—G. D. Kelley.

#### Liverpool and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Boilermakers and iron shipbuilders report employment as fairly good; brass and ironfounders, shipwrights, whitesmiths and hammermen as good; drillers and holecutters as steady; fitters and turners as moderate; ship joiners and painters as unsettled. The number of ships engaged upon transport work is causing a lack of employment in most companies.

## EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)-LANCASHIRE; YORKSHIRE.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as fairly good; lithographic printers as dull; bookbinders as fair; stereotypers as good.

Building Trades.—Plumbers and painters report employment as dull; joiners and carpenters as quiet; other branches as fair.

Clothing Trades.—Bespoke tailors report employment as dull, but improving; the ready-made branches as fair; boot and shoe makers as moderate.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Cabinet makers, French polishers, coachbuilders and woodworking machinists report employment as fair; upholsterers as moderate; coopers as good.

Transport Trades.—Seamen and firemen report employment as good; dock labourers as dull, the displacement of tonnage engaged in transporting troops being felt. Mersey flatmen report employment as quiet; Mersey quay and railway carters as steady; coal and salt heavers as dull.

Coal Mining and Quarrying.—Coal miners report employment as fair, averaging five days per week. Quarrymen continue well employed.

Glass and Chemical Trades.—Glass bottlemakers and glass workers and decorators report employment as fair; chemical workers as moderate.—C. Rouse.

A report from Winsford states that employment in the salt trade has slightly improved. In the building trades it is reported as dull at Winsford, good at Middlewich. Moulders at Winsford, and boat builders, boilersmiths and brassworkers in both towns have full employment. Fustian cutters are busy.

#### YORKSHIRE.

#### Hull and District.

Shipbuilding, Engineering and Metal Trades.—Shipbuilders are well employed on the construction of the smaller class of vessels, but slack on the larger class. Employment is good in the engineering works, boilershops and on general repairs. Sailmakers report employment as good. At Selby and Goole employment generally is good; at Grimsby, Beverley, and Doncaster moderate. Shipwrights at Grimsby report employment as bad.

Building Trades.—Employment at Hull is moderately good, but outside employment has been interrupted by bad weather. It is good at Selby; fair at Grimsby and Goole; moderate at Beverley and Doncaster: bad at Driffield.

Transport Trades.—The seamen and firemen and the railway workers report employment as good; the dock labourers as moderate at Hull and Goole, bad at Grimsby.

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

Seed crushing, Oil Cake, Varnish, Colour, and Paint Trades.— Employment in the seed-crushing and oil cake mills, and in the oil refining, varnish, colour, paint, and tar distillery works continues good.

Printing and allied Trades.—At Hull the lithographic printers and bookbinders and machine rulers report employment as good, the letterpress printers as bad. Letterpress printers at Doncaster are well employed.

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—At Hull the millsawyers and wood machinists report employment as fair; the coachbuilders, coopers, and cabinetmakers as moderate. The coachbuilders at Doncaster are well employed.

Miscellaneous.—At Hull the brushmakers report employment as good; the tanners, leather lace cutters and belt makers as fair; the bakers and confectioners as moderate; the Jewish tailors, pressers and machinists as bad.—W. G. Millington.

#### Leeds and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 8,129 members have 188 (or 2.3 per cent.) unemployed, the same proportion as at the end of January.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment at Leeds is good with engineers, ironfounders, boilermakers, steel workers, and blast-furnacemen; improved with spindle and flyer makers, and brassworkers; fair with pattern makers and machine workers; moderate with stove grate and tinplate workers. At Wakefield engineers and ironfounders are fully employed. At Stanningley and Rodley employment with ironfounders and boilermakers is moderate.

Clothing Trades.—In the Leeds ready-made tailoring factories employment has been brisk; in the Jewish workshops however it is reported as slack. Bespoke tailors are quiet. In the Leeds boot

actories employment is fair; at Heckmondwike, good; at Pudsey, steady. Jewish slipper-makers are slack.

Textile Trades.—In Leeds, employment in the mills has been generally good; at Wakefield fairly good. Dyers are moderately employed.

Building Trades.—Employment has been only partial, owing to the weather.

Mining.—Full time continues general.

Leather Trades.—Employment is fair with tanners, belt makers and lace cutters, good with curriers, moderate with leather shavers. Saddlers and harness makers are busy, owing to army work.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employ. ment as fairly good; lithographers and bookbinders and machine rulers as moderate. Employment in the paper mills continues good

Glass Trades.—Glass bottle makers report employment as good at Leeds and Wakefield, moderate at Castleford; flint glass makers as good.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with brushmakers is good; with coachmakers slack; with cabinetmakers and terra-cotta workers only moderate.—O. Connellan.

#### Bradford, Huddersfield and District.

Worsted Trade.—Employment continues fairly good in Bradford, Halifax, Keighley, and the Worth Valley. In the Huddersfield district two or three firms are working short time in some departments, and overtime in the worsted trade seems to be stopped for the present, except in one or two firms making khaki cloths for Government contracts. Wool-sorters still report employment in Bradford as good, and wool-combers as fairly good, but wool-combing in the Haworth district is reported as quiet.

Woollen Trade.—In the Huddersfield district some of the mills are still working overtime, and one or two night and day, another firm being added to this list. There is some difficulty in getting night workers.

Other Textile Trades.—Employment in the silk trade at Manningham, Brighouse and Halifax is still fairly busy. In the cotton trade it is reported as good. Dyers at Bradford report employment as busy; at Huddersfield as fair.

Metal Trades.—The engineers report employment as good at Bradford and Halifax; moderate at Keighley and Huddersfield; at Dewsbury it is fair. Ironfounders report employment as good at Bradford, Keighley, Halifax and Huddersfield.

Building Trades.—Except with painters employment continues good.

Miscellaneous.—Bespoke tailors continue slack. Letterpress printers, lithographers and bookbinders remain fairly busy.

#### Sheffield, Barnsley, and Rotherham District.

General.—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with 13,304 members, have 118 (or 0.9 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 130 (or 1.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of languary

Iron and Steel Industries.—Boiler and girder makers, wire drawers, railway spring makers, and machine workers report employment as fairly good; stovegrate workers as quiet, but improving; bath makers at Rotherham as moderate. Engineers, ironfounders, armour plate workers, shot and shell makers, and iron and steel workers are busy throughout the district. Branches with 6,374 members have 46 (or 0.7 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 71 (or 1.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Cutlery and Tools.—Employment is good in the razor and file trades; fair in the pocket-knife, saw, and tool trade; moderate in the table-knife trade and with haft and scale pressers and handle and scale cutters.

Other Metal Trades.—All branches of the silver and Britannia metal trades report work as slack. Brass workers are only moderately employed in Sheffield; at Rotherham an improvement is reported.

Coal Mining.—Returns from 62 collieries employing upwards of 46,000 men, show an average of 5.94 days per week worked during February as against 5.17 in January.

Building Trades.—Employment is fairly good in Sheffield and Rotherham, slack in Barnsley.

Printing and allied Trades. — Employment is good in all branches.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Railway wagon and carriage builders, cabinetmakers, box and bobbin makers report employment as good; coachmakers as fair.

#### EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)-MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Linen Trade.—Employment is moderate.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors report employment as bad in the bespoke branch, moderate in the ready-made branch. Boot and shoe makers are quiet.

Glass Trade.—Flint glass workers and bottle makers are busy.

Miscellaneous.—Railway workers are busy. Brickmakers, chemical workers, and papermakers are well employed. Potters are fairly busy. Quiltmakers are slack. Quarrymen have been affected by the weather.—S. Uttley.

#### ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

#### Derbyshire District.

General.—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with  $_{7,293}$  members have  $_{42}$  (or 0.6 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with  $_{84}$  (or 1.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Engineering and kindred Trades.—The engineers at Derby, Chesterfield and Burton report employment as good, elsewhere as moderate; brass moulders and finishers as moderate; ironfounders and boilermakers, puddlers, merchant iron rollers, malleable iron-workers, farriers, iron and steel dressers as good; lace machine builders in Long Eaton as good; cycle workers as improving

Coal Mining.—Returns from 69 collieries, employing upwards of 25,500 men show an average of  $5\frac{3}{4}$  days per week worked, as against 5 days in January.

Quarrying.—Limestone quarrymen are fairly well employed; chert quarrymen are busy.

Building Trades.—Carpenters and joiners and bricklayers report employment as moderate, stonemasons as moderate or fair, painters and decorators as good, plasterers as quiet.

Textile Trades.—Employment is good with cotton weavers, surgical bandage makers, hard silk winders, drawers and doublers; moderate with elastic web weavers; good with lace workers, hosiery workers, dyers and bleachers, calico printers and engravers.

Coachbuilding and Woodworking Trades.—Employment continues good with railway carriage and wagon builders; with coopers it is improving slightly. Most timber yards are fairly well employed.

Clothing Trades.—Employment is reported as slack with bespoke tailors. Factory tailoring operatives continue fully employed. Boot and shoe operatives in Derby and Chesterfield report employment as mcderate; dress and mantle makers as fair.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress and lithographic printers, bookbinders and machine rulers report employment as good.—C. White-Deacon.

#### Nottingham and District

Lace Trade.—Employment generally has improved. It is good in the principal branches at Nottingham; improved at Beeston; fair at Bulwell and Stapleford.

Hosiery Trade.—Employment continues good throughout the district.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineers report employment as moderate at Nottingham, Mansfield and Beeston; fair at Newark, and good at Grantham; boilermakers as good at Nottingham, moderate at Newark; brassfounders as quiet; cyclemakers and machine workers as fair; the other branches as good generally. Branches with 3,361 members have 61 (or 1.8 per cent.) unemployed compared with 64 (or 1.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of lanuary.

Coal Mining.—Employment continues good throughout the county. Collieries employing some 16,000 men have worked an average of 54 days per week during the month.

Building Trades.—Employment is reported as dull with joiners, painters and plumbers; as good with bricklayers, slaters and tilers and masons; as not so brisk with plasterers.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Coachmakers report employment as good at Nottingham, quiet at Newark; coopers and boxmakers as good; packing-case makers as not so good; cabinetmakers as moderate; upholsterers as rather quiet.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as good at Nottingham and Retford; lithographic artists and lithographic printers as moderate; bookbinders as fairly good.

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoe operatives report employment as not so brisk at Nottingham, as moderate at Hucknall and Mansfield; bespoke tailors as quiet; tailoring operatives as good Mantle-makers are busy.

Miscellaneous.—Gasworkers report employment as fair: colliery enginemen, stationary engine drivers, engine and cranemen as good; bakers as fair; cab and hackney drivers as quiet; female cigar makers as fair.—W. L. Hardstaff.

#### Leicester and Northampton District.

Boot and Shoe Trade.—Employment is fairly good at Leicester: Higham and Rushden; moderate at Northampton; improving at Hinckley and Kettering.

Other Clothing Trades.—Wholesale clothiers report employment as good; bespoke tailors as slack. It is improving with milliners; quiet with silk and felt hatters; and fairly good with capmakers. Corsetmakers and dressmakers are fully employed.

Hosiery and Wool Spinning.—Hosiery workers throughout the district are making full time. Employment continues brisk with dyers and trimmers. In the wool spinning factories workpeople are fully engaged.

Elastic Web Trade.—Employment with cord and braid workers is good. In the shoe-web branch no improvement is reported.

Engineering Trade.—Engine builders, winders, and machine builders at Loughborough and Northampton are slack; cyclemakers rather better employed. Otherwise employment generally is good.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment continues good in the South Leicestershire coal mines, and with limestone and ironstone workers.

Printing and allied Trades.—At' Leicester letterpress printers are not so fully employed; at Loughborough, Northampton and Rugby work is fairly regular. Lithographic printers and bookbinders report employment as good.

Building Trades.—Employment is rather slacker with bricklayers; dull with painters; good with stonemasons; moderate with joiners, plumbers and plasterers.

Furnishing and Coachmaking Trades.—Employment is good with French polishers; slackening with cabinetmakers and upholsterers. It is fairly good with coachmakers at Leicester, and moderate at Northampton. Tram and road car builders are working overtime. Railway wagon builders report employment as good.

Leather Trades.—Curriers and leather dressers are well employed at Leicester and Northampton, but work is still slack with tanners at Market Harborough.

Miscellaneous.—With railway servants employment is rather slacker at Rugby, but continues good elsewhere. With cigarmakers, basket-makers, farriers and boxmakers it is good; with millsawyers moderate.—T. Smith.

#### Potteries District.

Pottery Trades.—Hollow-ware pressers report employment as good. Sanitary pressers report a slight decline. Flatpressers continue busy. Throwers, turners and handlers in the electrical department, and printers and transferrers report an improvement. Other branches continue well employed.

Iron and Steel Trades.—A further improvement has taken place in both branches.

Engineering and Metal Trades. — Engineers, boilermakers and moulders in North Staffordshire continue busy. Employment is good at Crewe, Oakamoor, Froghall, Rugeley and Uttoxeter. At Stafford it continues moderate.

Mining and Quarrying.—Throughout North Staffordshire coal and ironstone miners continue busy, and at Cheadle improvement is reported. At Alton and Hollington employment in the stone quarries has been interfered with by the weather.

Textile Trades.—At Leek employment in the silk trade maintains the improvement recently reported. At Congleton silk dressers, pickers, throwsters, and dyers are fully employed; fustian cutters continue busy. At Cheadle and Tean silk and tape operatives are working well.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors report employment as slack. Boot and shoe makers at Stafford have been better employed.

Building Trades.—Joiners have been fairly busy. Other branches have been affected by the weather.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers in the Potteries report a slight decline. At Stafford employment continues good. Lithographic artists and printers are moderately busy. Bookbinders and machine-rulers continue busy.

Miscellaneous.—Railway servants are busy. Brushmakers report employment as poor. Gasworkers are well employed.—I.S. Harvey.

## EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)-MIDLAND (contd.); E. AND S.W. COUNTIES.

#### Wolverhampton and District.

Iron and Steel Trades.—In South Staffordshire, East Worcestershire and Shropshire all branches continue well employed.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Employment continues moderate in the engineering trade, and is good with moulders, bridge, boiler, girder, tank and gasometer makers. There is no further improvement in the cycle trade. At Walsall and Madeley employment is good. It is slack in Coalbrookdale, except in the engine department.

Hardware Trades.— Employment is good with makers of nuts and bolts, tubes, spring and coach iron work, electrical and gas fittings, black castings, spring traps, builders' ironmongery, gunlocks, malleable nails and protectors, stamped hollow-ware, and with galvanizers and stampers and piercers. It is moderate with makers of iron fences, hurdles, edge-tools, tips, cut-nails, horseshoes, and steel toys, and with filesmiths, and brass and tinplate-workers. Makers of locks, keys, latches and spectacle frames are slack. In the ironplate trade employment is moderate at Wolverhampton and Bilston; a slight falling-off is reported at the Lye; with chainmakers and strikers at Old Hill and Cradley Heath it is good; with anchor-smiths at Cradley, and with wrought nailmakers at Halesowen it is fair. At Dudley anvil and vicemakers are less brisk. All branches at Wednesbury are brisk.

Coal Mining.—In Staffordshire and Shropshire the pits are all working full time.

Building Trades.—Bricklayers, carpenters and plumbers report employment as moderate. Plasterers are busy. Painters are quiet.

Glass Trades.—Flint glass makers at Wordsley and Stourbridge are quiet.

Leather Trades.—All branches at Walsall continue well employed.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the carpet trade at Kidderminster is fairly good. At Bridgnorth it continues good. The Tamworth tape mills are on full time.

Clothing Trades.—The ready-made and bespoke tailoring departments have been slack; boot and shoe makers are well employed.—C. Anthony.

#### Birmingham and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 21,428 members have 422 (or 2.0 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 396 (or 1.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Engineering.—Nine branches of engineers in Birmingham return employment as moderate, and three as good. Pattern makers, smiths and strikers, and ironfounders again report employment as good; toolmakers as moderate. At West Bromwich and Coventry employment is fairly good; at Redditch moderate. Employment in the cycle industry is rather quiet, but has improved, and is reported as fair at Redditch. In the motor industry it continues fair.

Brass and Copper Trades.—Employment in the brass trade is reported as fair. Solid drawn brass and copper tube makers report employment as brisk; brass and copper wire drawers as moderate; fender and fire brasses makers as quiet. In the Dudley district the fender-makers are slack.

fewellers, Silversmiths and Electroplaters. — Glass bevellers and silverers report employment as fair; jewellers as moderate; electroplaters as quiet; Britannia metal workers as slack.

Other Metal Trades.—Edge tool makers, iron and tinplate workers, bedstead makers, cut nail and scale makers, report employment as fair; wire nail makers as improving; machine-made rivet makers as moderate; other hardware ranches as good. At West Bromwich and Redditch employment generally is good.

Building Trades.— Employment throughout the district is reported as moderate or quiet.

Glass Trades.—The flint-glass makers report employment as fairly good, but declining; flint-glass cutters as slack. At West Bromwich employment is good.

Clothing Trades.—The boot and shoe makers, the bespoke tailors, and Jewish tailors report employment as bad.

Woodworking Trades.—The sawmill workers and woodworking machinists report employment as good; coachmakers, coopers, and carvers as fair; cabinetmakers as quiet, but improving. In the railway and wagon shops, employment continues fair.

Miscellaneous.—Saddlers and gasworkers return employment as good; gun workers as good in the military, bad in the sporting branch; printers as moderate; brickmakers as quiet. At Coventry, the watchmakers are fairly employed; weavers are quiet.

A. R. Fephcott.

#### ENGLAND: EASTERN COUNTIES. Norfolk and neighbouring District.

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoe operatives and bespoke tailors report employment as fair in all parts of the district. Tailoring factories in Norwich are on full time.

Building Trades.—Painters are better employed. Other branches are fairly well employed.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—General engineers are well employed, except at Great Yarmouth, where a dispute has affected the trade. Electrical engineers at Norwich are busy; boiler. makers and ironfounders are fully employed. Shipwrights Yarmouth, Gorleston and Lowestoft are well employed.

Fishing. - Fishing at Yarmouth and Lowestoft is dull.

Printing and Bookbinding Trades.—Letterpress printers are fairly well employed. Lithographic printers and bookbinders are fully employed.

Textile Trades.—Crape, silk, mat and matting-weavers are well employed.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is good with flour, oil-cake and saw millworkers, horticultural builders, coachbuilders, navvies, general labourers, maltsters, and cocoa, chocolate, and confectionery workers. Organ-builders are on full time. Brushmakers are fairly well employed.—G. Cleverley.

#### Suffolk, Essex and District.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Trades.—Engineers report employment as good at Colchester, Chelmsford, Bury St Edmunds, and Beccles; moderate at Ipswich, Halstead and Earl's Colne; boilermakers and moulders as good; shipwrights as moderate.

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoe operatives are slack at Ipswich.
Wholesale tailoring operatives and corset-makers are well
employed.

Textile Trades.—Employment is reported as fairly good with silk weavers at Sudbury; good with silk factory workers at Halstead. It is fairly good with mat weavers.

Building Trades.—Painters and plumbers report employment as dull, otherwise it is fairly good throughout the district.

Furnishing Trades.—Employment is reported as moderate.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as good at Colchester, moderate at Ipswich; lithographers and bookbinders as steady.

Miscellaneous.—Shipping and dock labour has been dull at Ipswich; fair at Harwich and Parkeston. Employment has been good with brickmakers, farriers, horticultural builders and maltsters; bad with general labourers at Ipswich, fair elsewhere.

R. W. Mather.

## ENGLAND: SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES. Bristol and District.

General.—Societies with 9,845 members have 148 (or 1.5 per cent.) unemployed, as against 154 (or 1.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoe operatives report a decline in employment. Bespoke tailors are busier, and employment is brisk in the wholesale tailoring branch. Hatters report employment as improving; glovemakers as quiet.

ment as improving; glovemakers as quiet.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Employment is reported as either good or fair in all branches.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment in the coal trade continues good, the pits working full time; stone quarries are well employed,

Building Trades.—Employment generally is reported as good at Gloucester, Cheltenham, Weston-super-Mare, and Taunton; as fair in Bristol and at Clevedon; as moderate at Bath, and quiet at Bridgwater and Tiverton.

Textile Trades.—In the Trowbridge district employment is good on covert coatings and ladies' dress goods; fair on worsteds, and slack on heavy woollens. At Twerton-on-Avon the weavers are making about five days per week; mill-workers full time. The West Somerset cloth-mills are busy. Employment in the silk industry continues good. Cotton operatives are well employed.

Woodworking Trades.—The railway coach and wagon builders report employment as good; the coopers as fair; the cabinet-makers, turners, carvers and woodcutting machinists as moderate.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers describe employment as fair or good; lithographic artists and printers as moderate; bookbinders as dull; papermakers as good.

Transport Trades.—Sailors and firemen report employment as

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EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)-s.w. counties; wales; scotland.

good; railroad men and carters as steady; dock labourers at Gloucester and Bristol as slack.

Glass and Pottery Trades.—Glass bottle-makers, glass bevellers and stone jar and bottle-makers are well employed; red ware potters moderately so.

Miscellaneous.—Cocoa, chocolate, and tobacco workers continue busy. Employment is good with brush-makers, quiet with polishers and upholsterers, moderate with bakers and confectioners.

7. Curle.

#### Plymouth and South-Western District.

Mining, Quarrying, and China Clay Industries.—Tin and copper mining continues to improve; few miners are reported as not working, but several have left during the month for foreign mining districts. In granite and limestone quarries work continues up to the average; in slate quarries it is moderate. China clay workers are fully employed.

Engineering and Shipbuilding,—Engineers report employment as moderate at Plymouth and Devonport; good at Newton, Hayle and Redruth; boilermakers and ironfounders as good in Plymouth and Devonport, quiet in Cornish towns; brassworkers, timplateworkers and shipwrights as good. In the Government yards work continues brisk. Branches with 2,650 members have 10 unemployed compared with 12 in January.

Building Trades.—Carpenters, stonemasons and plumbers report employment as fair; bricklayers and plasterers as quiet, but mproving; painters as quiet.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Work is dull among book and job printers and lithographers; news compositors are busy. Bookbinders and paper-rulers are well employed.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Work is quiet and seems to be still declining.

Clothing Trades.—Bespoke tailors continue slack; in the clothing factories work is improving a little; boot and shoe makers are fairly employed.

Dock and Quayside Work.—General labour on the quays has been up to the average; with timber and grain carriers it has been quiet; with coal lumpers fair.

Fishing Industry.—Apart from storms, trawling has been fair, but the hook and line boats have done badly all along the coast. Prices have been high.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with navvies, excavators, and brickyard workers is fair; with bakers quiet; with brushmakers busy. In market and fruit gardens there is plenty of work, but the weather has hindered employment.—W. Hedge.

#### WALES.

#### North Wales District.

Mining.—Employment throughout the North Wales coalfields ontinues brisk, and is good at the lead and blende mines.

Quarrying.—Employment continues good at the slate, granite sett, freestone, and lime and roadstone quarries, though there has been some loss of time owing to the weather.

Building Trades.—At Wrexham bricklayers and joiners report employment as fair; painters as bad. At Llandudno employment is quiet with joiners, moderate with painters, improving with plasterers. At Oswestry employment is moderate.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers at Sandycroft and Iswestry report employment as moderate; at Ruabon as quiet; t Cefn as good. Employment with iron and steel workers and in ther branches of the metal trades is good generally.

Clothing and Textile Trades.—Employment in the woollen and tweed industries has been steady; with the bespoke tailors quiet.

Brick and Terra Cotta and Chemical Trades.—Employment continues good in the brick and terra cotta industry in Buckley, Ruabon and Cefn; in the Wrexham district it is reported as slack. Employment at chemical works has been good.—G. Rowley.

#### South Wales District.

Coal Mining.—All collieries continue working with exceptional regularity, but in some districts not to their full capacity through scarcity of hands.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment continues brisk throughout the district.

Ship Repairing and Engineering.—Employment in all branches shows little change, and in the greater number of the returns is described bad. Branches of engineers and ironfounders with 2,948 members have 79 (or 2.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 55 (or 19 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Building Trades.—Employment generally has not been so good, partly owing to the weather. Branches of carpenters and joiners and plumbers with 1,779 members have 143 (or 8 o per cent.) un-

employed, as against 83 (or 4.6 per cent.) of their membership at the end of January.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Coal shipments have been average;

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Coal shipments have been average; general cargo business (export and import) good. Iron ore and pitwood imports gave good employment. Corn porters and general hoblers have been rather irregularly employed.

Miscellaneous.—Fuel factories are fairly busy, especially at Swansea. Wagon builders and lifters report employment as good; Lithographic and letterpress printers as moderate. Metallurgical and chemical workers as dull.—T. Davies.

Tinplate Trade in South Wales, Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire.— Employment shows a slight further improvement. At the end of February 405 mills in this district were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of black plates) giving employment to 20,600 workpeople. These figures compare with 405 mills giving employment to 20,334 workpeople at the end of January, and 344 mills employing 17,216 workpeople a year ago.

#### SCOTLAND.

#### Edinburgh and District.

General.—Branches of societies (excluding the building trades) with 11,013 members have 332 (or 30 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 271 (or 2.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Coal Mining.—Employment continues good.

Shale Miners and Oil Workers.—Returns from mines employing 3.094 workpeople show that all these mines worked full time during the four weeks ended February 24th,

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Branches with 2,226 members have 44 (or 2°0 per cent.) idle, as against 60 (or 2°7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January. Branches in Falkirk with 3,624 members have 63 (or 1°7 per cent.) idle, as against 19 (or 0°5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Shipbuilding.—Branches with 617 members have 12 idle, the same number as at the end of January.

Textile Trades.—Employment with woollen spinners and weavers is good in Selkirk and Galashiels, though not quite so good in Hawick. Employment is good with hosiery workers in Hawick and Selkirk and carpet-weavers in Midlothian.

Building Trades.—Except the plasterers, who are fully employed, the building trades are generally quiet. The masons in particular

have a large percentage of unemployed.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Branches with 1,269 members have 126 (or 9.9 per cent.) idle, as against 81 (or 6.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January. The upholsterers and some of the sawmillers and coopers are working short time.

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

Printing and kindred Trades.—Branches with 2,284 members have 70 (or 3 1 per cent.) idle, as against 83 (or 3 6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Misseilaneous.—The settmakers report employment as good, the bakers, saddlers, curriers and glassmakers as fair; the glasscutters and shoemakers as quiet; the tailors as bad.

#### 7. Mallinson.

### Glasgow and West of Scotland.

Shipbuilding.—The output has been up to the average, but at present there is little demand for new work, although employment is still fairly good. Branches with 14,872 members return 346 (or 2.3 per cent.) as idle, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of January.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment is still fairly good. Branches with 29,630 members return 749 (or 2.5 per cent.) as idle, as against 870 (or 2.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of Ianuary.

Building Trades.—Employment is much the same. The weather has interfered with work in many cases.

Mining.—Employment has been good in Stirlingshire, Lanarkshire, Dumbarton, Ayrshire and Renfrewshire.

Clothing Trades.—Employment is quiet in the bespoke tailoring trade, busy in the ready-made department; fair on waterproofs and mantles. Boot and shoe operatives are fairly well employed; slipper makers very well employed; knee boot and shoe makers are quiet; curriers are well employed.

Textile Trades.—Except at Greenock and among silk weavers at Glasgow, and carpet weavers at Newmilns, textile workers generally are well employed.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Letterpress and lithographic printers and lithographic artists are still dull. Bookbinders electrotypers, and stereotypers are fairly well employed.

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### EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)-SCOTLAND; IRELAND.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

Glass Trades.—Flint glass cutters and makers report employment | founders, boilermakers, whitesmiths and electricians; fair with as hardly so good; decorative glass workers as fair; glass bottle makers are fully employed

Transport Trades.—Railway men and tramway men are busy. Carters and hackney carriage drivers have been less busy; sailors and firemen and dock labourers are dull.

Miscellaneous.-French polishers, brushmakers, tcbacco pipe makers and finishers, sett makers, paviors, saddlers, scale beam makers, potters, spindle and flyer makers, cork cutters, and general labourers are busy. Gilders and calico engravers are quiet. A. J. Hunter.

#### Dundee and District.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the jute and linen mills and factories continues good, with a scarcity of workers in certain

Coal Mining.—Employment at the collieries throughout Fifeshire remains steady. Returns from pits employing 12,358 workpeople show an average of 5 6 days per week worked during the four weeks ending February 24th.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Employment is moderate in engineering shops, fairly good at the shipbuilding yards. Branches of societies with 2,229 members return 65 (or 2.9 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 58 (or 2.6 per cent, of their membership) at

Building and Furnishing Trades.—Employment has been affected in the building trades by the weather and the masons' dispute. Cabinetmakers and upholsterers are still slack. Branches, excluding masons, with 1,137 members report 57 (or 50 per cent.) as unemployed, as compared with 62 (or 5'4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Dock Labour.-Employment has been slack.

Fishing.—Fishing operations have been interrupted by bad

Miscellaneous.-Letterpress and lithographic printers and bookbinders continue steadily employed. Tailors report an improvement. Boot and shoe makers continue fairly well employed. Bleachfield workers and floorcloth and linoleum-makers are still busy .- P. Reid.

#### Aberdeen and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 6,574 members have 529 (or 8.0 per cent.) idle, as against 413 (or 6.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January

Quarrying.-The quarrymen and masons report employment as fair; tettmakers as good; granite polishers as dull.

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

Transport Trades.—The railway servants report employment as good; carters as fair; dock labourers as moderate.

Shipbuilding and Engineering - Branches of societies with 1,391 members have 28 (or 20 per cent.) unemployed, as against 38 (or 2.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January. The boilermakers, iron and steel shipbuilders, hole-cutters and drillers report employment as moderate; shipwrights and patternmakers as fair; engineers, tinplate-workers, blacksmiths, brassfinishers and horse-shoers as good and ironmoulders as fairly

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

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

Fishing.—In February at the Port of Aberdeen, trawl and line boats landed 60,028 cwts., with a value of £43,714, a decrease both in quantity and value as compared with January.

Miscellaneous.—The combmakers and sawmillers report employment as good; bakers, upholsterers, and cabinet-makers as fair; hackney carriage drivers and saddlers as dull -W. Johnston.

#### IRELAND.

#### Dublin and District.

Building Trades.-Employment is good with bricklayers; fair with slaters and tilers, plasterers, and glaziers; improving with painters; dull with carpenters and joiners.

Iron Trades,-Employment is returned as good with the iron-

the brassfinishers and moulders; dull with the engineers, tinsmiths and gasfitters.

Woodworking Trades.-The upholsterers and saw mill machinists report employment as bad. In other branches it is fair.

Clothing and Textile Trades.—The tailors report employment as dull; the silk weavers as good.

Printing and allied Trades.—The lithographic printers report employment as bad; other branches as fair. Branches with 1,461 members have 106 (or 7.3 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 103 (or 7.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Miscellaneous.—The bottle-makers, dockers, railway servants and general labourers report employment as good; the bakers, paviors and stationary engine drivers as fair .- 7. P. Nannetti.

#### Belfast and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Branches of societies with 8,543 members have 223 (or 2 6 per cent,) unemployed, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of January. The blacksmiths, smiths' helpers and strikers, ironfounders, engineers and furnishing trades report employment as moderate; carpenters and joiners as quiet; brassfounders, machine workers, enginemen. cranemen and firemen as fair; boilermakers and iron shipbuilders drillers and holecutters, steam-engine makers, pattern-makers shipwrights, tinplate workers, general labourers and platers helpers as good.

Linen Trades.—Societies with 4,001 members have 47 (or 1.2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 33 (or 0.8 per cent. of their member ship) at the end of January. The beetling enginemen, flax roughers yarn bundlers report employment as fair; the flax dressers, hackle and gill makers, linen lappers, tenters, yarn dressers and women workers as good.

Building Trades. - Branches of societies with 1,987 members have 140 (or 7.0 per cent.) unemployed as against 158 (or 8.2 percent. of their membership) at the end of January. The bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, and house painters, report employment as bad; plumbers as dull: hodsmen as fair.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades .- Branches of societies with 808 members have 54 (or 6.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 66 (or 7.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January. French polishers report employment as bad; upholsterers and millsawyers as dull; cabinetmakers as quiet; coachbuilders as improving; coopers and packing-case makers as fair.

Printing and allied Trades.—Branches with 900 members have 62 (or 6.9 per cent.) unemployed, as against 63 (or 7.0 per cent.0 their membership) at the end of January. The lithographic printers report employment as bad; letterpress printers as dull; bookbinders as quiet; lithographic artists as fair

Clothing Trades .- The tailors are fairly employed. The boot and shoe makers are slack.

Miscellaneous. - Societies with 1,945 members have 58 (or 30 per cent.) unemployed, as against 52 (or 2.8 per cent. cf their member ship) at the end of January. Employment amongst the carters is moderate; with bakers, butchers, railway servants and municipa employees fair; with locomotive engine drivers and paviors good.

#### Cork and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering .- Boilermakers and iron shipbuilders report employment as good in Passage West and Haulbowline, fair in Cork; all branches of the engineering trade as good in Cork, fair in Limerick and Waterford; shipwrights and sailmakers as moderate.

Building Trades.- Employment generally is slack except with plumbers and gasfitters in Cork, and stonecutters, who report it as

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades .- Millsawyers and woodworking machinists, cabinetmakers, packing case-makers, and coopers report employment as quiet; coachmakers as moderate; corkcutters as dull.

Printing.-Letterpress printers report employment as fair in Cork, Limerick and Tralee, quiet in Waterford.

Clothing Trades.-Employment with flax, tweed and feather operatives throughout the district is steady; with boot and shoe operatives and tailors it continues dull.

Miscellaneous .- Gasworkers, railway and tramway employees and stationary enginemen report employment as good; general quay labourers, coal porters and bakers as dull .- P. O'Shea.

#### INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN FEBRUARY.

(Based on information furnished by the Home Office and the Board of Trade.) THE total number of workpeople reported as killed by accidents during February was 371, or 22 less than in January, and 33 less than in February, 1899.

In the first group of industries shown in the following summary table, including railways, mines, quarries, shipping, and factories, and employing 5,447,140 persons (according to the latest available figures), 352 were killed, and 7,358 reported injured by accidents in February, as compared with 379 killed and 6,949 reported injured in February, 1899. These figures give one death in February, 1900, for every 15,475 persons employed in those industries. During the two completed months of 1900, 714 persons were reported killed and 14,363 injured, as against 781 reported killed and 13,658 injured in the corresponding period of 1899.

In the remaining occupations included in the tables, 19 persons were reported killed, and 922 injured in February, as compared with 25 killed and 924 injured in February, 1899.

#### SUMMARY TABLE.

	Ki	lled.	Inj	pred.	Number
Principal Princi	Feb.,	Feb., 1899.	Feb., 1500.	Feb., 1899.	Employed according to latest Returns.
Railway Service—			Paris in	Marie Marie	
Accidents connected with move- ment of vehicles	48	39	456	382	534,141
Other Accidents	3	2	998	903	3341141
Total Railway Service	51	41	1,454	1,285	534,141
Mines	84	88	344	384	741,125
Quarries (over 20 feet deep)	8	12	82	113	134,478
Shipping	140	173	326	206	230,372*
Pactories	69	65	5,152	4.961	3,807,024
Total of above	352	319	7.358	6,249	5,447,140
Workshops			23	10	1
Under Factory Act, 1895, Ss. 22,	17	20	739	740	Cannot be stated.
Under Notice of Accidents Act,	2	5	160	174	

The state of the	Killed.	In- jured.	Killed.	ln- jured.	Killed:	In-	
	Mover	cidents ted with nent of icles.	dents	er accion the anies' nises.	Total.		
Brakesmen and Goods Guards Engine Drivers Firemen Guards (Passenger)	5 3	92 42 52 11	1111	44 62 75 14	5 3	136 104 127 25	
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers) Porters Shunters Miscellaneous (including Contractors' Servants)	9 4 3 24	70 61 71 107	<u></u>	78 232 17 476	10 5 3 25	98 293 88 583	
Total for Feb., 1900	48	456	3	998	51	1,454	
Total for Feb., 1899	39	382	2	903	41	1,285	
Mines—	Under	ground.	Sur	face.	То	tal.	
Explosions of Firedamp Falls of ground	4 41 4 28 77 79	17 130 6 143 296	7 7 9	48 48	4 4 25 84	17 130 6 191 344 384	
Quarries over 20 feet deep.		ide.		side.		tal.	
Explosives or Blasting Falls of ground During Ascent or Descent Miscellaneous	2 5 1	15 17 — 40			2 5 1	15 17 — 50	
Total for Feb., 1900	8	72	-	10	8	82	
Total for Feb., 1899	9	. 83	3	20	32	311	

	Killed.	In-	Killed.	In-	Killed.	In- jured.
200	By Wr		By	other dents.	To	tal.
N. J	Casi	daity.	Accid	lents.		1
Shipping*— On Trading Vessels—			E STATE		1	
Steam On Fishing Vessels—	34	-4	20 42	35 273	37 76	35 277
Sailing Steam	19	=	8	13	27	1 13
Total for February, 1900	70	4	70	322	140	326
Total for 3 months Dec.,	9077			T (c)	1	
Total for 3 months Dec., 1898, to February, 1899	145	12	190	883	335	835
1898, to February, 1899	390	5	235	920	625	925
	Ma	les.	Fen	ales.	To	tal.
Factories—						
(a) Accidents reportable by Certifying Surgeons—						
Adults	6t	1,212	1	119	62	1,331
Young Persons Children	6	471	=	95 I	6	566
Total	68	1,703	T	215	69	
(b) Other Accidents—		-1/-3	****	***5	og	1,918
Adults	-	2,719	-	60	_	2,779
Children	=	423 1	=	30	=	453
Total	-	3,143	-	91	-	3.234
Total Factories— February, 1500	68	4,846	1	106	60	
February, 1899	64	4,649	-1	312	65	5,152 4,961
		-,020	-	010	00	¥,501
Workshops-					The state of	
Adults Young Persons	_	4	=	I	=	18
Children	-	-	-	-	-	5
Total Workshops— February, 1900		21		2		22
February, 1819		10				10
					-	
actories & Workshops (classified by trades).  Textiles—	Mal	les.	Fem	ales.	To	tal.
Cotton	4	219	_	118	4	337
Wool and Worsted Other Textiles	5	83 49	- I	37 31	5	120
Non-Textiles— Extraction of Metals	2	78	1000	_	2	78
Founding and Conver- sion of Metals	13	833	1	2	13	835
Machines, Engines and Engineering	10	1,025.	-	7	10	1,032
Ship and Boat Building	5	577 276	-	-	5	577
Chemicals, &c	5 4	127	=	5	5 4	276 132
Other Non-Textile In- dustries	20	1,600	-	108	20	1,708
Total February, 1900	68	4,867	1	308	69	5,175
Total February, 1899	64	4,659	1	312	65	4,971
			1	1		
nder Factory Act, 1895, 8s. 22, 23						
Docks, Wharves and Quays	10	320	-	-	10	320
Warehouses	2	299	-	2	2	301
Buildings to which Act applies	5	87	-	1	5	88
Laundries	_	4	_	26	-	30
Total for February, 1900  Total for February, 1899	17	710		29	17	739
Total for Petraury, 1099	19	733	1	7	20	740
	Constr	uction	Use	or		
nder Notice of Accidents Act, 1894—	orrep	air.	Work	ting.	Tot	al.
ridge	- 1	2	- 1	- 1	- 1	2
anal ailwayt		59	_	3	-	3
ramroad	-	-	-	-	2	59
unnel	9-	2 22	_	20	=	22
ther Works‡	Act 3	50	-	2	-	<b>22</b> 52
raction Engines	Act doe		-		-	-
otal for February, 1900	2	135		25	-	16.
letel for February 7000				25	2	160
* The figures relate to seam	en who	have he	en renor	36	5	174
ave been killed or injured by they were members of the crew the Priville Lebesde were						

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 1898, and remaining on the Register at the end of that year.

† Accidents during the working of railways, being reportable under other Acts, are not notified under the Act of 1894.

† Authorised by any local or personal Act of Parliament.

§ Or other steam engine or machine in the open air.

## CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN FEBRUARY, 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 rates of wages reported during February affected about 15,700 workpeople. The net effect of all the changes on the wages of those affected was an increase of about 1s. 61d. per head.

Increases. —The principal increases were those granted to 5,900 coal-miners in Cumberland; to 555 engineers at Bradford; to 2,600 bedstead workers at Birmingham; and to 1,018 gas-workers at Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Decreases.—The principal decreases were those sustained by 1,450 building trade operatives in Scotland.

Methods of Arrangement.—Changes affecting about 200 workpeople were preceded by disputes, causing stoppage of work. One change affecting 2,600 workpeople was arranged by a Wages Board; and the remaining changes, affecting about 12,900 workpeople, were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or their representatives.

Summary for First Two Months of 1900 .- For the two months, January and February, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) reported as having received advances or sustained decreases is about 708,900. Of these 707,050 obtained a net average increase of 1s. 4½d. weekly per head, and 1,850 sustained a net average decrease of 2s, 11/4d. weekly per head. The general effect of all the changes was a rise of 1s. 41/2d. weekly per head in the wages of the 708,900 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.

Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which change	work	ber of people ed by	Particulars of Change.  Estimated Rate of wages in a full week,*†  Increase or Decrease in full week.*
Locality.	Occupation	takes effect in 1900.	Inc.	Dec.	(Decreases in Italics.)  Before change. Increase. Crease.
The state of the		o Wandanaa	20	9111	LDING TRADES. 3 Decreases -1,450 Workpeople.
	2 Increases—61	o workpeol	pie.	BUI	s. d.   s. d.   s. d.   s.
Southport	Bricklayers	5 Feb.	IIO		Advance of 1d. per hour (81d. to 9d.) 33 111 35 111 1 113
Aberdeen	Masons			1,100	Decrease of \( \frac{1}{2}d. \) per hour (8\frac{1}{2}d. to 8d.) 35 0\frac{1}{2} 33 0 2
Edinburgh	Plasterers	5 Mar.	500		Advance of \( \frac{1}{2} \)d. per hour (9d. to 9\frac{1}{2} d.) 36 II\( \frac{1}{2} \) 39 0\( \frac{1}{4} \) 20\( \frac{1}{2} \) 36 6 34 5\( \frac{1}{2} \) 2
	Masons			200	Decrease of Au. per nour (Su. 10 bau.)
Kirkcaldy	Carpenters and Joiners	I June		150	Decrease of 3d. per hour (83d to 8d.)   34 103 32 104   2
	4 Increases—5,98	3 Workpeo	ple.	MIN	ING AND QUARRYING. Decreases-Nil.
	Underground Workers	26 Feb.	5,000		Advance of 10 per cent
Cumberland	Winding Enginemen	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	72		Advance of 4d. per shift 2 4
Haltwhistle	Settmakers	T-L	II	10000	Advance of is. per ton on various kinds of setts, stated - 4 0
(Northumberland)				PROPERTY.	to be equal to an increase in earnings of 4s. per week
Whitehaven	Coal Hewers	20 Jan.	900	1	Advance of 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> d. per ton (1s. 3d. to 1s. 4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> d.)
1	1 Increases.—1,459 Work	people.	IRC	N ANI	D STEEL MANUFACTURE. Decreases—Nil.
			21		Advance of 7½ per cent
Middlesbrough		I Jan.	76	-	Advance of 5 per cent
Sheffield	Blastfurnacemen Steel Works Labourers	Feb.	25		Advance of \( \frac{1}{2} \) d. per hour (4\frac{1}{2} \) d. to 4\frac{3}{2} \)
	Blastfurnacemen		36		Advance of 5 per cent
Sheffield (near)	Blastfurnacemen		28		Advance of 3d. per shift
Alfreton	Steelworkers		150		Advance of 21 per cent,
Brierley Hill Nottingham (near)	Blastfurnacemen, &c		168		Advance of 10 per cent
Blaina	Blastfurnacemen	- D-L	250		Advance of 5 per cent., making wages 15 per cent
Diama	T. C.				above standard
Cardiff	Blastfurnacemen	. I Jan.	355		Advance of 5 per cent
Landore	Blastfarnacemen	19 Feb.	270		Advance of 5 per cent
Glasgow (near)	Foundry Labourers	.   22 Jan.	80		Advance of \( \frac{1}{2} \) per hour
6 Increases -3	448 Workpeople.	METAL.	ENG	INEER	ING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES. Decreases-Nil.
	E-deser and	Jan. &	50		Advances varying from is. to 2s. per week
Darlington	Engineers and Patternmaker		30	d Steel	
Bradford	D . D	First full	555		Advance of 1s. per week   1 0
Bradford	Makers and Machin		1		
	Workers	April	1000		
Wakefield	Ironfounders	Feb.	125		Advance of 2s. per week 36 0 38 0 2 0
Birmingham	Bedstead Workers .	2 Mar.	2,600		Additional 5 per cent. bonus (35 to 40) granted by Wages Board
Briton Ferry	Engine Drivers, Stoker		26		Advances varying from 2s. to 5s. per week
Dittom	and Mechanic				Advance of 6d. per day (5s. 4d. to 5s. 10d.) 32 0 35 0 3 0
Llanelly	Ironmoulders	I Feb.	92	1	Advance of 6d. per day (5s. 4d. to 5s. 10d.) 32 0 35 0 3 3 0
THE REAL PROPERTY.	5 Increases—180	Workpeople	3.	TEXT	ILE TRADES. Decreases—Nil.
D 16-1	. Dyers	2 Feb.	1 13		Advance of is. per week 24 0 25 0   I
	Daniel Y showers and	3 Mar.	81	1	Advance of 1s. per week 1 0
Diagram			of the second	120	
Halifax		ni	1		
Halifax	Warehousemer		12		Advance of &d. per lb. on 18's. counts
	Warehousemen		12 40		Advance of \( \frac{1}{2} \) d. per lb. on 18's. counts

<sup>\*</sup> 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.

† A system has also been introduced by which a man who is advanced from one grade to the next receives an increment of is, per week every six months until he eaches the maximum of that grade.

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

Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which Change takes effect	Approximate Number of workpeople affected by		Number of workpeople Particulars of Change.			of Was	ted Rate ges in a week.*	Decre	ase or ease in veek.*
The state of the s	a stugar	in 1900.	Inc.	Dec.		Before change.	After change.	In- crease.	De- crease.		
4 Inc	creases-469 Workpeople.	EN	MPLO	YEES	OF PUBLIC AUTHORITIES. Decreases-	-Nil.		o'A ni			
Halifax {	Lamplighters Valvemen Steam, Electric and Horse Car Drivers, Conductors, &c.	to Jan. r April 3 Mar.	40 3 382		Advance of 1s. per week	s. d. 22 o 28 o	s. d. 23 0 30 0	s. d. 1 0 2 0	s. d		
Norwich Swansea	Navvies and Labourers Horse Drivers	19 Jan. 21 Feb.	33		Advance of \( \frac{1}{2}d. \) per hour (4\( \frac{1}{2}d. \) to 5\( \frac{1}{2}d. \)	21 2½ 22 0	23 6½ 24 0	2 4 2 0			
	7 Increases-1,849 Wo	orkpeople.		MISCEL	LANEOUS TRADES. Decreases—Nil.	4 40					
Newcastle-on-Tyne River Tees		1 Feb. 5 Feb.	1,018		Advance of 2d per cent.  Advance of 1d. per ton for discharging foreign cre, stated to be equal to an increase of between 11 and	Light of the last	I I				
Goole	Marine Engineers	ı Jan.	60	-	12½ per cent. on previous earnings Advances of 3s. per week to chief engineers and of 2s. per week to second engineers		-		10/18		
Leeds and Hull	Telephone Wiremen and Labourers		160		Advance of 2s. per week		BE	2 0			
Mexborough and District	Founders, Kilnmen and Teasers (Glass Bottle Trade)	2 Mar.	70		Advance of 4d. per day		NO ERO	2 0			
Barrow-in-Furness Crewe	Carters	I Jan. 17 Feb.	45 21	::	Advance of 1s. 6d. per week	31 6 23 0	33 O 24 O	1 6 1 0			

2000	Increase	8—170 Workpeople.	SE	AMEN.	Decreases-28 Workpeople.				NEW TOWN
Port. Voyage.		Occupation.	No. shipped at new Rate during Feb.		Particulars of Change.	Jan.	Feb.	In-	De-
		LANGE OF STREET	Increase.	Decrease.		Jan.	reb.	crease.	crease.
	Steam Yessels.			(Sengue)			Monthly	y Rates.	
London	Cape, Natal and E. Africa	Able Seamen Firemen Trimmers	66 78 18		Increase of 10s. per month Increase of 10s. per month Increase of 10s. per month	90 0	s. d. 90 0 100 0 90 0	s. d. 10 0 10 0 10 0	s. d.
Sunderland	Paradia America						Weekly	Rates.	
Bristol	Running Agreements in Foreign Trades Running Agreements in Foreign Trades	Able Seamen Able Seamen	8	13 15 	Decrease of 1s. 2d. per week  Decrease of 1s. 2d per week  Advance of 2s. per week	32 8 32 8 28 0	31 6 31 6 30 0	2 0	I 2 I 2

Rise in Agricultural Wages.—In some of the districts of Dorset, Kent and Hampshire wages of agricultural labourers were increased per week; in parts of Cheshire, Cumberland, Hampshire and Yorkshire wages were advanced from 1s. to 2s. per week. (For further

Erratum.—The numbers of clickers and pressmen at Bristol affected by the advance in minimum rates on 1st Jan. were incorrectly stated in the February Gazette: the figures should have been 75 and 25.

#### CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN FEBRUARY, 1900.

ONLY two cases of changes in hours of labour, affecting of workpeople, were reported during February, the eductions averaging 0.41 hours per week.

			Date from	Approxi- mate	Hours of in a full		
Localit	у.	Occupation.	which change takes effect in 1900.	number of work- people directly affected.	Before change.	After change.	Re- duction per week.
Leeds		Cleaners (Public Electric	2 Feb.	7	Hrs. 60'00	Hrs. 56'00	Hrs. 4'00
Dundee		Light Works) Carpenters and Joiners	Feb.	600	49.50	49'13	0'37

## NATIONS FOR MINING MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.

South Wales District .- An examination for Certificates of mpetency as Under Manager of a Mine will be held on the 15th and 16th May, 1900, and an Examination for First Class Certificates Competency as Manager of a Mine will be held on the 17th and 18th May, 1900. Intending candidates should communicate on or before the 30th April, 1900, with the Secretary of the Examnation Board, Mr. Robert T. Rees, Aberdare.

Liverpool District.—An examination for Certificates of Cometency as Manager or Under Manager of a Mine will shortly be held. Intending candidates should at once communicate with the ecretary of the Examination Board, Mr. Thos. Ratcliffe Ellis, King Street, Wigan.

Exclusive of overtime.

Where the winter and summer hours are known to differ in any trade the tekly hours given in the table are, in the absence of exact figures, the result averaging the hours for five summer and two winter weeks.

## 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 February, and also during the two completed months of 1900, with comparative figures for

				Month of	February.	Two mor	nths ended
		1-		1900.	1899.	1900.	1899.
Imported Forwarded Towns	from	Ports	to Inland	Bales. 308,366 272,030	Bales. 415,228 268,302	Bales. 674,326 615,916	Bales, 1,217,273 577,415
Exported				32,641	55,513	71,122	102.684

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 21 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended March 3rd, amounted to £5,994,303, a decrease of £84,721 (or 1'4 per cent.), as compared with the corresponding period of 1899. The receipts from passenger traffic were £2,231,362, a decrease of £59,229, and from goods and mineral traffic £3,762,941, a decrease of £25,492.

Fishery Statistics.—The total value of the fish (including shellfish) landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom during February was £594,164, a decrease of £8,098, as compared with February, 1899. In England and Wales and in Ireland there were decreases of £7,765 and £2,654 respectively, while in Scotland there was an increase of £2,321.

Bankruptcies.-The bankruptcies gazetted during February, numbered 370, being 30 more than in February, 1899, and 22 more than in February, 1898 and 1897.

#### 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-three fresh disputes were reported as having begun in February, 1900, compared with 37 in January, 1900, and 36 in February, 1899. In these 33 disputes 8,698 workpeople were directly and 2,659 indirectly, a total of 11,357, which compares with 11,305 in January, 1900, and 5,348 in February, 1899.

Trades Affected.—In the building trades 3 disputes took place, involving 640 workpeople; in the coal mining industry, 3 disputes, involving 2,574 workpeople; in the metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades, 4 disputes, involving 3,042 workpeople; in the textile trades, 21 disputes, involving 4,854 workpeople; and in miscellaneous trades, 2 disputes, involving 247 workpeople.

Causes.—Of the 33 disputes, 25 arose chiefly on wages questions, 3 on questions of the employment of particular classes or persons, 3 on questions of working arrangements, and 2 on other questions.

Results.—Twenty-nine new disputes, involving 10,683 workpeople, and 3 old disputes, involving 817 workpeople, were reported as having terminated. Of the 32 new and old disputes terminated, 12, involving 2,871 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 5, involving 1,822 persons, in favour of the employers; and 12, involving 3,126 persons, resulted in compromise. With regard to the remaining 3 disputes, involving 3,681 persons, certain points are still under consideration. At the end of February, 9 old disputes were reported to be still unsettled, involving altogether about 1,000 workpeople.

Duration of Disputes in Working Days.— The aggregate duration in February of all the disputes, new and old, was about 70,000 days, compared with 90,000 in January, 1900, and 118,000 in February, 1899.

Locality.	Occupation.*	Work	nber of speople ected.  Indirectly.*	Dispute began.		Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
maria com		11				H BEGAN IN FEBRUARY, 1900.	
	The same of the sa	-	3 Disput			DING TRADES. 610 Workpeople affe	oted.
Bradford	Plumbers	200	-	Feb.	-	For advance in wages from 8d. to 9d. per hour and alterations in working rules as to appren- tices and winter hours	
Middlewich Dundee and Lochee	Masons	20 4 <b>2</b> 0	=	24	=	For advance in wages from 41d. to 5d. per hour Against proposed reduction in wages of 1d. per hour (builders 91d. to 9d., hewers od. to 81d.)	No set lement reported. Still unsettled.
			3 Di	isputes.	CC	OAL MINING. 2,574 Workpeople affected	
Aberdare Llanbradach	Hewers, &c., and	1,000 350	50	5	10	Dispute as to use of certain explosives Against change in system of working	the men.
(Glam.) Llanhilleth (Mon.)	Miners			27	2	For discontinuance of custom of unloading rubbish in stalls	
THE PROPERTY OF	4 Disputes.	MET	AL. E	NGINE	ERING	AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES.	3,042 Workpeople affected.
Chepstow	Strikers, Labourers,	73	20	13	5	Refusal of employers to discharge a certain non- unionist before February 17th	work resumed.
Morriston	Smiths and Platers Tinplate Workers	300		3	7	For reinstatement of certain workpeople and remedy of various alleged grievances as to wages, speed of machinery, &c.	Work resumed pending arbitration, which resulted in a settlement of the points at issue (See p. 72).
Swansea (near) The Clyde (upper reach)	Rivet Heaters, Rivetters and		220 1,800	28 22	4 12	For reinstatement of a discharged workman Against proposed change in system of payment, alleged to involve reduction in wages	Work resumed on employers' terms.
No selection of	Holders-on		12 100				
CHANGE EN			21 Dispu			(TILE TRADES. 4,854 Workpeople aff	Work resumed pending inquiry by em
Accrington	Cotton Weavers, Winders, Warpers, &c	300	58	9	13	tion for alleged bad material	ployers, which resulted in the advance being granted.
Blackburn Bolton	Catton Woomage and	180 67	40	9 14	6	Alleged bad material Against instruction in "fancy" weaving of a "plain" loom weaver older than 16 years	employers and workneople.
	Cotton Weavers	170		5	2	Alleged bad material	of complaint, with result that employers promised better material.
	Cotton Weavers, Winders, Beamers,	187	16	23	81/2	Alleged failure of employers to provide better material as promised after the preceding	cent. granted as compensation.
	Overlookers, &c. Cotton Weavers	277		5	5	fellow workman	discharged workman reinstated.
Burnley	Cotton Weavers,	IIO	6	5	7	miceou bas materials	Better material promised.
19943	Cotton Weavers	174	22	5	15	Tot temporary at the state of	Modified advance granted.
	and Other Workpeople Cotton Weavers	130		16	21	Alleged bad material	Temporary advance in prices granted as compensation on certain work.
5 5 5 5 5 5	Cotton Weavers	150		24	2		Temporary advance in prices of 25 per
Chorley (near)	Cotton Weavers, &c	350	]	19	12		Complaints to be considered after
	Cotton Weavers, Winders, and Other	191	51	2	6		Employers promised to investigate com- plaint after work was resumed.
Hindley	Twisters and Drawers	16		2			Modified advance granted to drawers; twisters resumed work at old prices.
Macclesfield Padiham	Cotton Weavers Cotton Weavers and Overlookers	500 331	9	1 12	3 3	Alleged excessive fining by over ooker	Employers promised to investigate
Rochdale (near)		138	62	ı	3		as compensation.
Stalybridge	Cotton Weavers and Overlookers	145	5	8		Against proposed reduction in wages	Better material promised. Still unsettled.
Leicester Kilbirnie,	Hosiery Operatives Flax Roughers, Sorters,	34 35	100	27 5	25	For advance in wages of 2s. 6d. per week	Advance of 2s. granted.
Ayrshire Paisley	Cop Winders, (Thread Manufacture)		200	19	34	change in system of working Alleged failure of manager to give effect to promise	Manager promised to take steps to remedy complaint. Work resumed on employers' terms.
Paisiej	Cop Winders, Reel Winders and Twiners	500	203	20	10	made when preceding dispute terminated	
							hmente where the dispute occurred,

<sup>\*</sup> The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly affected," i.e. thrown out of work at the establishments where the dispute occurred, 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.  Di- Indirectly.*	Date when Dispute began.  Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
-			Total Teams I		The same of the sa

### I .- DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN FEBRUARY, 1900-(continued).

	2 L	disputes.	MISCE	LLANE	EOUS TRADES.	247 Workpeople affe	cted.
Leeds and Hull	Telephone Wiremen, Labourers, &c.	200	 Feb. 22	3	For advance in wages of recognition of trade union	2s. per week, and	Employers' representatives met union officials, and granted the advance to
Dublin	Dock Labourers	47	 17				Amount of fines refunded to men.

### II. - DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE FEBRUARY, 1900, AND TERMINATED IN THAT MONTH.

(Durham) London (Victoria and Albert Docks)	Coal Hewers, &c  Coal Porters  Ship Joiners and Apprentices (Repairing)	127 600 90		1899 Dec. 23 1900 Jan. 29 1899 Nov. 6	-	Refusal to agree to night-shifts being worked  For employment of 7 men per "winchmen's gang" and 3 men per "steam barge gang" instead of 6 and 2 respectively as formerly For advance in wages, reduction in hours, and other alterations in working conditions	worked for four years.  Men returned to work on old terms.
--	---	------------------	--	--	---	---	--

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

#### WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT. BUREAUX IN from 21 to 46. Out of 34 openings for superintendents, FEBRUARY.

uring February 595 fresh applications for work were egistered by eight bureaux (see Labour Gazette, ebruary, 1899, p. 36) furnishing returns, and 784 offers situations were made by employers; work was found 1 202 persons, of whom 102 were domestic servants uding lady nurses, working housekeepers and others' helps).

The returns for the London Girls' Friendly Society ness agency and the Manchester, Liverpool and inburgh Bureaux are for the present grouped together the following table, which shows the work done by eight bureaux during February. A return from the ndee Labour Bureau is appended, but not included

#### Work done in February.

	Situations offered by Employers.	No. of Fresh Applications of Work- people	No. of Workpeople engaged by Employers.	
	Employers.	seeking Situations.	Permanently.	Tem- porarily
	Sui	mmary by	Bureaux.	ari .
Central Bureau— 60, Chancery-lane, W.C Society for Promoting Training and Employment—	38	48	10	4
Y. W. C. A.—	39	42	8	22
the Bureaux (1)	597 69 41	352 100 53	83 31 14	15 12 3
Total of 8 Bureaux	784	595	146	56
And American	Sumi	mary by Oc	cupation	is.
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc Shop Assistants	34	46	3	1
Dressmakers Milliners oto	58	13 76		
	18	38	30	16
	22	6	4	2
Domestic Servants	596	301	87	15
	55	115	16	7
Total Number in February, 1900	784	595	146	56
Total Number in January, 1900	934	695	122	56
Total Number in February, 1899	845	668	2.	18
Dundee Labour Bureau	56	37	16	6

The applications for domestic servants fell from 745 nuary, to 596 in February, the number of servants lying falling from 350 to 301; but the number aged through the bureaux fell very slightly, from 102. The demand for dressmakers and milliners from 63 to 58; and the supply from 86 to 76; the aber engaged through the bureaux rose, however,

(of which 12 were at the Central Bureau), only 4 were

Of the 56 situations offered at the Dundee Labour Bureau, 36 were for mill and factory operatives. Of the 22 who obtained situations, 10 were domestic servants; 6 were charwomen, and 6 were mill and factory operatives.

## DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

(Compiled from returns supplied by the Home Office.)

THE following table shows the number of cases (fatal and non-fatal) of lead, &c., poisoning, and of anthrax reported during February, as having occurred in factories and workshops. Cases include all attacks, fatal or otherwise, reported during the month and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months. Fatal cases include all deaths reported during the month, whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not. Of the 67 cases of lead poisoning reported during the month 18 (15 males and 3 females) occurred in white lead works and 19 (7 males and 12 females) in the china and earthenware industry, the number of cases in these industries in February, 1899, being 32 and 28 respectively.

One death in the china and earthenware industry

was reported during the month.

In addition to the cases included in the table, 7 cases of lead poisoning were reported among journeymen painters and plumbers, not strictly under the Factory Acts. In three of these cases lead poisoning is stated to have been a contributory cause of death.

Disease and Industry.	Adı	ılts.		ung sons.	Total	Total Feb. 1899.
X 生 14 生   第二級 16 16 16	M.*	M.* F.* M.* F.*				
Lead Poisoning-						
White Lead Works	15	3	-	-	18	33
Litho-Transfer Works	7	II	-	I	19	88
Red and Yellow Lead Works, Glass	5		-	-	5	-
Cutting, Enamelling, Iron Plates, Elec- trical Accumulator Works	3		2		5	)
Manufacture of Paints and Colours	2	I		_	8	Charles and the same of the sa
Smelting, Tinning and Enamelling of Hollow-ware, Brass Works	I	-	-	-	1	-70
Plumbing, Soldering, Printing, File Cutting	4	-	-	_	4	
Coach Making, Shipbuilding, &c	7	-	-	-	7	1 a
Other industries	5	-			5	)
Total Lead Poisoning	49	15	2	1	67	130
Phosphorus Poisoning:— Lucifer Match Works		1				-
Anthrax	1000	1	100	1 7	1	1

PAUPERISM IN FEBRUARY.

(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 in February was 338,677, corresponding to a rate of 209 per 10,000 of the estimated population of these districts in 1900.

Compared with January, 1900, there is an increase of 4,852 in the number relieved, and of 3 in the rate per 10,000 of population. Twenty-seven of the districts show increased rates, the largest increases being in the Dublin and Hull districts (12 per 10,000), Manchester and Coatbridge and Airdrie (8), and Central London and Edinburgh (7). In five districts the rates have decreased slightly, and in three districts there is no change.

Compared with February, 1899, the number relieved shows a decrease of 3,296, and the rate per 10,000 of the population a decrease of 5. The rate has decreased in 25 districts, the most marked falling-off being in the Stockton-on-Tees district (36 per 10,000), Bristol (28), Leicester (25), Wolverhampton (16), and Barnsley, Belfast and Cork, Waterford and Limerick districts (14). Increased rates are shown in nine districts, the largest occurring in the Dublin district (26 per 10,000), Coatbridge and Airdrie (17), West Ham (14), and Galway (8). In one district (Manchester) no change in the rate is shown.

and a standard server	0.000		e day in		Increas decreas rate pe	r 10,000
Selected Urban Districts.	In- door.	Out- door.	TOTAL.	Rate per 10,000 of esti- mated Popula- tion.	compar	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.*						
Metropolis.		- 00			Sec. 2	
West District	11,290	2,709	13,999	173 217	- I	- 5
North District	15,021	8,410	23,431	475	- I + 7	- 3
Central District	7,563	3,017	17,865	246	+ 1	- 4 - I
East District	13,430	19,366	40,723	234	+ 3	- 5
South District	68,661		106,598	233	+ 2	- 4
Total Metropolis		37.937	10,856	281	+ 5	+ 14
West Ham	2,457	8,399	10,050		- 3	- 14
Other Districts.				410		7 2 2 2 3
Newoastle District	1,769	3,980	5.749	148	+ 2	- 4
Stockton & Tees District	1,114	3.872	4,986	149		- 36
Bolton, Oldham, &c	3,535	7,678	8,753	216		- 7 - 8
Wigan District	1,839 8,858		16,261	184	+ 8	
Manchester District	10,304	7,403	17,465	188	+ 3	- 4
Liverpool District	1,318	2,770	4,088	112	+ 2	- 13
Bradfird District	1,107	3,461	4,568	121	+ 3	- 2
Halifax & Huddersfield Leeds District	1,964	5,460	7,424	168	+ 2	- 10
	641	2,944	3,585	168	- 2	- 14
at at 11 mt-1-1-1	2,560	3,123	5,683	148	+ 3	- 3
H 1	1,320	5,308	6,628	270	+ 12	+ 7
North Staffordshire	1,747	6,131	7,878	229	+ 4	- 6
Nottingham District	1,773	5,301	7,074	186	+ 1	- 4
Leicester District	1,146	2,795	3,942	189	- 3	- 25
Wolverhampton District	3,308	13,025	16,333	290	+ 1	- 16
Birmingham District	4,632	2,465	7,097	130	+ 3	+ 5
Bristol District	2,632	6,887	9,519	266	+ 4	- 28
Cardiff & Swansea	1,784	6,834	8,618	236	+ 6	- 7
Total "Other Districts"	53,35 t	103,513	156,864	187	+ 3	- 8
SCOTLAND.*				004		
Glasgow District	4,028	15,159	19.187	221 206	+ 5	+ 2
Paisley & Greenock District	681	2,575	3,256 6,994	192	+ 1 + 7	- II + 5
Edinburgh & Leith District	1,636	5,358	3,847	192		+ 5
Dundee & Dunfermline	1,045	2,712	3,243	234	+ 4 + 5	+ 7
Aberdeen	335	1,325	1,660	183	+ 8	+ 17
Total for the above Scottish )	8,256	29,931	38,187	210	+ 5	+ 1
IRELAND.+	100	TO SERVICE STATE OF THE PARTY O		AND STATE		The Property lies
Dublin District	6,909	4.725	11,634	329	+ 12	+ 26
Belfast District	3,890	283	4,173	124	- 3	- 14
Cork, Waterford & Limerick			9,609	416		The World
District 5	4,767	4,842	10000	\$100 may 25	+ 4	- 14
Galway District	375	381	756	217	+ 3	+ 8
Total for the above Irish Districts	15 941	10,231	26,172	274	+ 4	+ 1
Total for above 35 dis-	148.666	190,011	338,677	209	+ 3	- 5

<sup>\*</sup> 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

#### LABOUR BUREAUX IN FEBRUARY

March, 1900.

During February the 10 bureaux furnishing returns registered 1,778 fresh applications for work, as compared with 1,813 in February, 1899, a decrease of 35. Work was found during the month for 1,829 persons, of whom 486 (327 males and 159 females) were engaged by private employers, 1,113 by Local Authorities, and 230 males by the Salvation Army.

The number remaining on the registers at the end of February was 1,330, as against 1,500 a year ago.

#### (I.) Work done in February.

	App	Fresh olica- is by people	tions of	Situa- offered ployers	No. c	of Works Vork by	people fo Bureaux	uad .
Name of Labour Bureau.	du	ring		ing	Pri	ed by vate oyers.	Engag Lo Autho	cal
	Feb., 1900.	Feb., 1899.	Feb., 1900.	Feb., 1899.	Feb., 1900.	Feb, 1839.	Feb., 1900.	Feb., 1899.
London.								
St. Pancras	173	213	126	222	59	77	484	
Battersea	98	137	27	50	19	42	8	8
Islington	297	360	73	77	60	73	525	40
St. Martin	144	III	127	124	64	45	89	
Hackney	94	125	20	30	( 6	39 1	09	133
Salvation Army	205	190	14	47	230*	176*		***
Provincial.		1000			, , , ,			1
Ipswich	22	28	30	29	17	19		
Plymouth	171	143	137	146	113	93		2
Liverpool	170	113	7	5		I	6	I
Glasgow	404	393	170	164	140	107	I	5
Total of 10 Bureaux	1,778	1,813	731	894	716	685	1,118	189

#### (II.) Employments found for Workpeople during February, 1900.

District Control of the Control of t	No. per- manently engaged.	No. tem- porarily engaged.	Total.
Engaged by Private Employers Men:			
Building Trades	23	17	40
Carmen, Stablemen, Horsemen, &c	36	2I 26	57 61
Porters and Messengers Other Occupations	35 54	41	95
Lads and Boys	67	7	74
AND THE RESERVE TO SERVE TO SE			
Total Males	215	112	327
Women and Girls:-		SECRETARIES.	Maria San
Dressmakers and Sempstresses			
Domestic Servants	63	10	73
Charwomen, daily work, &c	13	68	81
Other Occupations	5		5
Total Females	81	78	159
Total engaged by Private Employers	295	190	486
Engaged by Local Authorities			
Men, Lads and Boys:-			
Roadmen		77	77
Dustmen	6		6
Stone Breaking		25	25
Other Occupations	I	1,004†	1,005
Women and Girls			
Total engaged by Local Authorities	7	1,106	1,113
Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities		110000000000000000000000000000000000000	
Men		230	230
Grand Total for 10 Bureaux	303	1,526	1,829

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

6.	No. on Reg	ister at end of	
Occupation.	Feb., 1900.	Feb., 1899	
Men.		Sarria Sarria Sarria	142
Building, Engineering and Metal Trades	***	146	155
Carmen, Stablemen, Horsemen, &c		100	58
Clerks and Warehousemen		70	126
Porters and Messengers		133	
General Labourers		336	452
Other Occupations	***	149	170
Total Men		934	1,103
Lads and Boys		133	148
Women and Girls.			THE STATE OF
Charman Daily Work for	100	169	159
Campanta		68	49
0.1	***	26	41
Otners	***	20	
Total Women and Girls		263	249
Grand Total for 10 Bureaux		1,330	1,500

Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities

## FOREIGN TRADE OF THE 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 February.

The trade returns for the month of February, 1900, show an ancrease as compared with the corresponding month of 1899 in the imports from foreign countries and British possessions, and in the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures, but a lecrease in the exports of foreign and colonial merchandise. The imports for February, 1900, were valued at £37,604,808, as compared with £35,539,109 in February, 1899, an increase of £2,065,699, as against £25,260,516 in February, 1899—an increase of £3,34,658, of which British and Irish produce and manufactures lone were valued at £23,219,849 in February, 1900, and 19,382,406 in February, 1899—an increase of £3,837,443, or 98 per cent. The value of foreign and colonial merchandise exported in February, 1900, shows a decrease as compared with behavary, 1899, of £302,785, or 51 per cent.

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

	Month ende	d Feb. 28th.		Decrease.	
	1899.	1900.	Increase.		
	£	£	£	£	
lood, Drink and Tobacco	14,701,013	14,070,062		630,951	
detals Chemicals, Dyestuffs, and Tanning	1,982,379	2,122,573	140,194	-	
Substances	744,967	546,629		198,338	
ils	739,383	602,070		137,313	
Naw Materials for Manufactures Manufactured and Miscellaneous	9,154,588	11,367,316	2,212,728	-	
Articles	8,216,779	8,896,158	679,369	-	
Total £	35,539,109	37,604,808	2,065,699		

The decrease in articles of fcod and drink is principally due to the smaller quantity of corn imported. Wheat has decreased by  $\frac{1345,100}{1345,100}$  cwts. in quantity and  $\frac{1}{2491,626}$  in value; wheat meal and flour by  $\frac{969,554}{1340}$  cwts. in quantity and  $\frac{1}{2468,497}$  in value, and barley by  $\frac{846,990}{1340}$  cwts. in quantity, and  $\frac{1}{224,036}$  in value. Maize or Indian corn also shows a decrease in quantity and value of  $\frac{1}{221,940}$  cwts. and  $\frac{1}{2286,946}$  respectively.

With regard to the imports of raw materials for textile manufactures, the imports of raw cotton show a decrease of 367,602 cwts. in quantity, but an increase of £272,058 in value. Flax also shows a slight decrease as regards quantity (210 tons), but an increase in value of £30,904. Sheep or lamb's wool shows the large increase of 21,899,806 lbs. in quantity and £1,372,192 in value, the imports in February, 1900, from Australasia alone having more than doubled in value as compared with February, 1899. The value of the imports of South American wool is also nearly twice as much, while the value of wool from British South Africa has, from obvious causes, decreased from £321,082 in February, 1899, to £74,205 in February, 1900,

Exports.—The following table shows the value of the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures for the month ended 28th February, 1900, as compared with a similar period of 1899.

	Month end	ed Feb. 28th.			
	1899.	1900.	Increase.	Decrease.	
Animals living	£ 69,291	£ 66,828	£	£ 2,463	
THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF TH	769,514	867,433	97,919	2,403	
Articles Manufactured and Partly	1,890,836	2,963,238	1,072,402	-	
Metals, and Articles Manu-	8,066.213	8,777,143	710,930	-	
	2.587,965	3,856,669	1,268,704	_	
Ships por Millwork	1,373,601	1,442,188	68,587	-	
British)	205,032	556,129	351,097	-	
	4,419,954	4,690,221	270,267	-	
Total £	19,382,406	23,219,849	3,837,443	-	

The exports of coal, coke, and fuel have increased 136,816 tons quantity, and £1,051,182 in value.

The exports of cotton yarn show a decrease in quantity of 3,799,200 lbs., but an increase in value of £16,936. Cotton piece-

goods have increased 5,117,800 yards in quantity and £350,332 in value, larger shipments of these goods having been made to Belgium, Dutch East Indies, China, Japan, Straits Settlements, and Australasia. Jute yarn and piece-goods show a decrease, but increases in both quantity and value are found under the headings of linen and worsted yarn and woollen and worsted tissues.

#### Tonnage of Yessels 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 the month of February, 1900, amounted to 2,336,634 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,098,619 tons, as against 2,401,135 tons entered, and 3,134,289 tons colored in February, 1899. With regard to the coasting trade, 1 tonnage entered during February, 1900, amounted to 2,311,161 ons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,287,687 tons, as against 2,404,819 tons entered, and 2,377,608 tons cleared in February, 1899.

#### EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration,—During February 12,244 passengers left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe, or 1,871 more than in February, 1899. Comparing the two completed months of 1900, with the corresponding period of 1899, there is an increase of 2,813 viz., from 19,025, in 1899, to 21,838 in 1900.

British and Irish.—Of the 12,244 passengers in February, 7,216 were of British or Irish origin, or 584 more than a year 2go. The most noticeable increase occurs in the number proceeding to the United States, while those going to South Africa show a marked decrease.

For the two months of 1900, the total number of British and Irish origin was 12,779, as compared with 12,593 in the corresponding period of last year, showing an increase of 186.)

The following table gives the figures for the different periods:-

Destination.		Destination.		Destination.		Destination.		February,	February,	Total for two months ended—			
		Paris .		19co.	1899.	February, 1900.	February,						
United States British North Australasia South Africa Other places	Amer	ica		4,097 463 936 741 9 <b>79</b>	2,927 666 780 1,311 948	6,988 647 1,620 1,591	5,317 1,025 1,496 2,769 1,986						
Total				7,216	6,632	12,779	12,593						

Foreign.—The remainder of the 12,244 passengers in February, viz., 5,028, were foreign, or persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being an increase of 1,287 as compared with February, 1899. This is mainly accounted for by the increase in the number proceeding to the United States.

The total number of foreigners, &c., passengers who left the United Kingdom during the two completed months of 1900, was 9,059, as compared with 6,432 in the corresponding period of 1899. The numbers proceeding to the United States in the two periods were 6,064 and 3,881 respectively.

Alien Immigration.—The number of aliens that arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent during February was 7,307; of these, 3,176 were stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, compared with 1,711 so stated in February, 1899. Those not stated to be on their way to America or other places out of the United Kingdom numbered 4,131 (including 1,078 sailors), the corresponding figure for February, 1899, being 3,699 (including 1,005 sailors). The figures for February, 1900 and 1899, and also for the two months ended February in each year are as follows:—

1 1 1 1 1 1	February,	February,		we months
	1900.	1899.	February,	February, 1899.
Allens not stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom and Allens en route to America or	4,131*	3,699*	8,256*	7,358*
other places out of the United Kingdom	3,176	1,711	4,785	2,778
Total	7,307*	5,410*	13,041*	10,156*

<sup>\*</sup> These figures are inclusive of sailors, to the number of 1.078 in February 1900; 1,005 in February, 1899; and 2,336 and 2,188 respectively, for the two months ended February in each year.

## INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN FEBRUARY.

#### I.-Under Factory and Workshop Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Cases taken.	Con- victions		of altie		(	ount of osts.	
By Owners, Managers, &c.:-			£	s.	d.	£	8.	d.
Neglecting to Limewash	I	I		0		0	7	0
Neglecting to Fence Machinery	II	II	36	12	6	5	II	6
Employing Young Persons without necessary	1							
Certificates	33	33	25	4	0	17	4	0
Illegal Hours or Times of Employment—		1	-			0	-	
Before or after the legal hour	79	79	16	10	0	18	6	0
During meal times, or without proper		1	-				0	6
intervals for meals	7	7	1	15	0	3	3	6
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day		1	-	-	0	0	19	0
substituted	6	4 4	7	0	0	0	8	
At night	0	4	3	U	0	-	0 .	10
Employing children full time, otherwise	4	4	0	17	6	0	19	0
than in morning and afternoon sets, &c.  Neglecting Rules as to Registers, Abstracts,	4	4		-/	-	0	19	ĭ
Notices. &c.—								
Not keeping Registers	17	14	14	I	6	6	15	0
Not affixing or properly filling up Notices		200		-			-5	
and Abstracts	6	6	4	2	6	I	13	C
Not sending Notices required by Act	5	5	9	IO	0	2	6	6
Making false entry in Register	I	I		0	0	0	17	0
Obstructing an Inspector in the execution of								1
his duty	I	I	0	IO	0	0	2	6
Prosecutions for Breach of (or not affixing)	1000	1000				-		W.
Special Rules	7	6	6	0	0	5	10	6
Prosecutions under Cotton Cloth Factories					- 61			
Act, 1889	3	-		-	1		II	(
Prosecutions under Truck Acts	2	2	10	I	0	I	I	(
By Parents:-	1							
Connivance at personation of young persons	2	2	I	0	0	I	10	. (
Total for February, 1900	189	180	138	4	0	69	10	4
7.10 51 3000	206	199	151	19	0	70	17	-
Total for February, 1899	200	199	101	10	0	10	.,	ı

#### II.-Under Mines and Quarries Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu-	Con- victions.	Cases with- drawn.	Cases dis- missed.		ine	8
New York S	1	Under T	HE MINE	s Acts.		Vin	
By Owners, Managers, &c.:— Registers, Notices, Returns, Plans, &c Ventilation Shafts and Manholes Miscellaneous	1 1 2 3				£ 12 6 11	11	d. o 6 o
By Workmen:  Safety Lamps Shot-firing and Explosives Timbering Lucifer Matches, Smoking, &c. Riding on Trams Miscellaneous	2 2 5 4 4 7	2 - 5 4 4 3		- 2 - - 4	4 4	18 - 10 8 15 6	0 6606
Total for Feb., 1900	31	33	10-14	9	47	16	0
Total for Feb., 1899	52	51	-	1	57	2	6
		Under '	THE QUA	ARRIES A	CT.	100	4
By Owners, Managers, &c.:— Registers, Notices, Returns, &c Fencing Other Special Rules	1 3 2	1 3	Ξ		-	s. 8 4	d. 0 0
Total for Feb., 1900	6	4	-	2	11	12	0
Total for Feb., 1899	3	3	-	-	3	16	6

#### III.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts.

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

(S#PFire of the		35335 357		
Nature of Offence.	Prosecu-	Convic-	Total Penalties.	Total Costs.
By Owners or Masters of Ships :- Submersion of Disc	ı	I	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Boarding-House Keepers:- Illegal Supply	8	8	14 2 0	490
Total for Feb., 1900	9	9	39 2 0	4 9 0
Total for Feb., 1899	6	6	11 0 0	4 7 0

#### Illinois Bureau of Labour Statistics.

The tenth biennial report of this body has been forwarded to the Department. It consists of two parts, the one giving the results of an investigation into the private and municipal ownership of gasworks, waterworks, and electric and power plants, and the other dealing with public employment offices or labour bureaux in the various states of the Union and in certain foreign countries, including Great Britain.

#### INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS

REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN FEBRUARY

(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 February it will be seen that 5 Trade Unions, 4 Co-operative Associations for Distribution, 5 Co-operative Associations for Production, one Miscellaneous Industrial and Provident Society, 8 Friendly Societies, and 35 branches of existing Friendly Societies were added to the Register of the United Kingdom during February. One Trade Union, 10 Industrial and Provident Societies, 14 Building Societies, and 27 Friendly Societies (including 8 branches) are reported as having ceased to exist, commenced to "wind-up," or had registration cancelled.

#### ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—Scarborough Builders' and General Labourers' Union, Friendly Societies' Hall, Northstreet, Scarborough; Liverpool French Polishers' Association, 201, London-road, Liverpool; Liverpool Section of the Amalgamated Society of Boot and Shoe Makers, 64, Great Newtonstreet, Liverpool; Notts Lace and Net Dressers' Assoc, 1, King John's Chambers, Nottingham; National Amal. Association of Nut and Bolt Makers, 63, Vicar-street, Dudley. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—(A) Associations for Distribution—England and Wales.—Llanberis, Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Co-operative Stores, Llanberis, Carnarvon; Llanrug Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Llanrug, Carnavon; Scotland.—None. Ireland.—Athlone Co-op. Poultry Federation, Athlone, co. Westmeath; Erne Co-op. Poultry Soc., Ltd., Bellell, co. Fermanagh; (B) Associations for Production.—England and Wales.—Basford Wickerwork Manufacturers' Assoc., Ltd., Rock Works, Stockhill-lane, Old Basford, Nottingham; Kirkby-in-Ashfield Manufacturers, Ltd., Prospect-street, East Kirkby, Nottingham. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—Glarryford Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Glarryford, co. Antrim; Drumaal Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Randalstown, co. Antrim; Knockcroghery, Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Knockcroghery, co. Roscommon. (c) Miscellaneous.—England and Wales.—Temperance Male Nurses and Masseurs Co-op., Ltd., 15, Great Marylebone Street, London, W. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Friendly Societies.—(A) New Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—Ordinary Friendly, 4; Specially Authorised, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 1. Scotland.—Ordinary Friendly, 1. Ireland.—Ordinary Friendly, 1. (B) New Branches of Existing Societies.—England and Wales.—23. Scotland.—9. Ireland.—3.

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

#### ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—Chesterfield and District Working Men's Unionist Assoc., Old Feathers Inn, Chesterfield. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—England and Wales.—Dissolved by Instrument: Gayton Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 5, High-street, Gayton; Eighth Albion Ind. and Prov. Land Soc., Ltd., 2, County Buildings, Hull. Registry cancelled by request.—Metropolitan Window Cleaners', Ltd., 5, Curlew-street, Horselydown, S.E.; Clipstone Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Church-street, Clipstone; Bradford Mutual Coal Supply Assoc., Ltd., 240, Sunbridge-road, Bradford; Sheffield House Painting and Decorating Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 18, Cemetery-road, Sheffield. Liquidators' final return received.—Paddock Friendly Co-op. Trading Soc., Ltd., East-street, Paddock, Huddersfield; Primrose Hill Workingmen's Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 2, Primrose Hill, Huddersfield; Swansea and South Wales Land Soc. Ltd., 14, Fisher-street, Swansea; Converted into a company—Canterbury Co-op. Tanners, Ltd., 25, Stow-street, Canterbury, Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—By instrument of dissolution: Ordinary Friendly, 8; Dividing, 2; Branches none. Registration cancelled: Ordinary Friendly, 6; Juvenile 1; Specially Authorised, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 1. Dissolved otherwise: Branches, 8. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Building Societies.—England and Wales.—By instrument of dissolution, 4; notice of commencement of dissolution, 1; notice of termination of dissolution, 7. Scotland,—By instrument of dissolution, 1; notice of commencement of winding-up, 1. Ireland.—None.

Printed by Veale, Chifferiel & Co., Ltd., 31 to 37 Cursitor Street, London, E.C. and Published for Her Majesty's Stationery Office by Horace Marshall & Son, Temple House, Temple Avenue, London, E.C. Sole Advertising Agents—RATCLIFFE, Dunbar & Co., 1, Lombard Court, Lombard Street, E.C.—Mar., 1903.