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STATE OF EMPLOYMENT IN JULY.

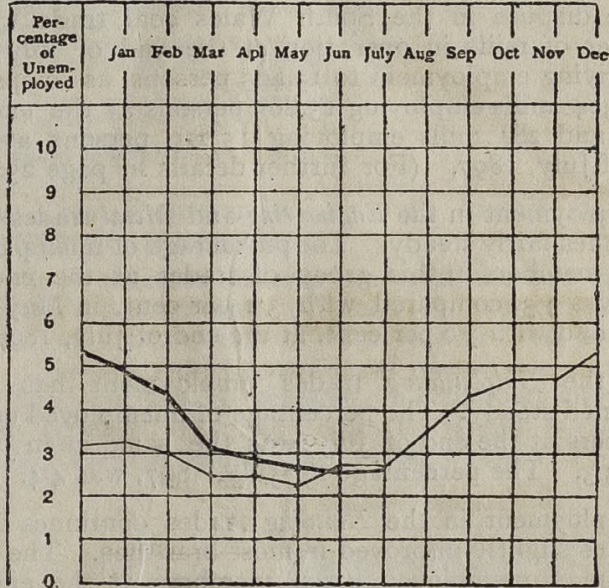
[Based on 2,423 returns, viz.: 1,696 from Employers, 550 from Trade Unions, and 177 from other sources.]

EMPLOYMENT generally was good in July, except in industries affected by the coal dispute in South Wales.

In the 117 trade unions making returns, with an aggregate membership of 464,754, 12,137 (or 2.6 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of July, as in June, compared with 2.7 per cent. in the 113 unions, with a membership of 465,561 from which returns were received for July, 1897.

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

Chart showing the percentage of unemployed members of the trade unions making returns at the close of each completed month of 1897 and 1898. [The thick line applies to 1898, the thin line to 1897.]



The table below classifies the membership of the 117 unions making returns according to the percentage proportion of their members that each union had unemployed at the end of the undermentioned periods:—

Percentage of members unemployed.	At end of July, 1898.		Corresponding Percentages for		
	Number of Unions making Returns.	Total Membership of such Unions.		A Month ago.	A Year ago.
		Number.	Percentage.		
Under 1 per cent.	32	161,357	34.7	32.3	30.2
1 and under 2 per cent.	18	44,012	9.5	10.0	28.4
2 " 3 "	16	52,897	11.4	11.5	9.6
3 " 5 "	25	169,371	36.4	35.6	10.1
5 " 7 "	9	16,105	3.5	6.5	16.6
7 " 10 "	4	5,050	1.1	1.6	3.6
10 per cent. and upwards	13	15,882	3.4	2.5	1.5
Total	117	464,754	100.0	100.0	100.0

Employment in Various Industries.—Coal Mining.

—Employment in South Wales and Monmouthshire continues to be greatly affected by the coal dispute. In other districts employment continues better than a year ago. Excluding South Wales and Monmouthshire, 1,162 pits, employing 374,874 workpeople, worked on an average 5.13 days per week in the four weeks ended:

July 23rd, as compared with 4.84 days per week in the corresponding period of 1897. (For further details see page 234.)

Iron Mining.—Employment remains practically unchanged, as compared with a year ago. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended July 23rd, at mines employing 17,334 workpeople, was 5.71 per week, as compared with 5.78 days in July, 1897. The slight falling off in the average is due to the continuance of a dispute at one of the mines. (For further details see page 235.)

Pig Iron Industry.—Returns relating to the works of 109 ironmasters show that they had 342 furnaces in blast at the end of July, or 3 less than at the end of June, and 2 less than at the end of July, 1897. The estimated number employed was 22,499, or 116 less than a month ago, and 319 more than a year ago. In districts other than Glamorgan and Monmouth (where employment is affected by the dispute in the coal trade) there are 9 more furnaces in blast, and 1,254 more workpeople employed than was the case a year ago. (For further details see page 235.)

Employment in the *Iron and Steel Industries* has fallen off slightly, and is now not so good as a year ago. The number employed at the works of 213 employers at the end of July was 76,665, or 399 less than at the end of the previous month, and 1,525 less than a year ago. The average number of shifts worked in the last week of the month was 5.48 in July, and 5.49 in June, 1898, and in July, 1897. (For further details see page 236.)

Tinplate Trade.—Employment in this industry has fallen off considerably, chiefly owing to the continuance of the dispute in the South Wales coal trade. The number of mills in operation at the end of July was 268, giving employment to 13,495 persons, as compared with 304 mills employing 15,865 persons at the end of June, and 284 mills employing 15,219 persons at the end of July, 1897. (For further details see page 236.)

Employment in the *Engineering and Metal* trades still continues fairly steady. The percentage of unemployed union members in this group of trades at the end of July was 3.3, compared with 3.1 per cent. in May and June, and with 3.0 per cent. at the end of July, 1897.

In the *Shipbuilding* trades employment has also remained steady. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of July was the same as in June, viz., 3.3. The percentage for July, 1897, was 4.4.

Employment in the *Building* trades continues brisk and has slightly improved in most branches. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of July was 1.0, compared with 1.2 in June and 1.3 per cent. at the end of July last year.

The *Furnishing* trades, though scarcely so brisk in some branches, are still well employed. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of July was 1.6, compared with 1.3 in June and 1.9 per cent. in July, 1897.

Employment in the *Printing and Bookbinding* trades has improved in some branches, and is now on the whole very good for the season. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of July was 3.0, compared with 3.8 in June and 3.1 per cent. in July of last year.

In the *Paper* trade employment has improved, the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of July being 2.8, compared with 3.3 for June. The percentage for July, 1897, was 6.0.

In the *Glass* trade the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of July was 8.6, compared with 10.2 in June, and 11.6 per cent. in July, 1897.

Employment in the *Leather* trades remains steady. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of July was 4.8, compared with 4.7 in June, and 3.5 per cent. in July of last year.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the *Boot and Shoe* trade is fairly good; in the ready-made branch it is bad.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the *Tailoring* trade is dull; in the ready-made branch it has declined in most centres and is only moderate.

Employment in the *Spinning and Weaving* branches of the cotton trade continues fairly good.

Employment in the *Worsted* trade remains moderate, but shows a very slight improvement. Employment in the *Woollen* trade continues fair on the whole and shows a further slight improvement in the heavy branches; in Scotland it remains slack. In the *Hosiery* trade employment is fair in some branches, slack in others.

As regards the employment of *women* in the *Textile* trades, information respecting 513 mills employing 84,700 women and girls, shows that 76 per cent. were in mills giving full employment during the month, compared with 78 per cent. in June and 68 per cent. in July, 1897. (For further details, see page 239.)

Dock and Riverside Labour in London.—Employment improved during July, but showed a marked decline as compared with a year ago. The daily average number of labourers employed at the docks and principal wharves was 13,785 in July, 13,595 in June, and 15,282 in July, 1897. (For further details, see page 238.)

Agricultural labourers were generally fully employed during July at hoeing and getting in the hay crop, which was a heavy one. In many districts employers found it difficult to get sufficient labour. (For further details, see page 236.)

Trade Disputes.—Thirty-three fresh disputes occurred in July, 1898, involving 8,753 workpeople. The corresponding number of disputes for June was 49, involving 12,087 workpeople, and for July, 1897, 62 disputes, involving 46,520 workpeople. Six disputes took place in the building trades, 8 in mining and quarrying, 7 in the metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades, 5 in the textile trades, 3 in the clothing trades, and 4 in other industries. Of the 36 new and old disputes, involving 9,902 workpeople, of which the settlement is reported, 9, involving 688 persons, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 10, involving 2,944 persons, in favour of the employers; and 17, involving 6,270 persons, resulted in a compromise. The coal dispute in South Wales and Monmouth was still unsettled at the close of the month. (For further details see page 252.)

Changes in Rates of Wages.—Changes in the rates of wages of about 95,000 workpeople were reported during July, of which number 94,000 received advances, and 1,000 sustained decreases. The increases were mainly in the metal, engineering and shipbuilding trades (86,455). The net result was an increase estimated at about 1s. 1½d. per head in the weekly wages of those affected. Changes affecting 2,900 workpeople, or 3 per cent. of the total number, were preceded by strikes. Changes affecting 20,600 workpeople were arranged under sliding scales; changes affecting 3,300 workpeople were settled by arbitration and conciliation without strikes. The other changes, affecting about 68,200 workpeople, were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or their representatives. (For further details see page 248.)

Pauperism.—In the 35 selected urban districts of the United Kingdom, 323,722 persons were relieved on one day in the second week of July. This number corresponds to a rate of 204 per 10,000 of the estimated population of those districts, or 3 per 10,000 more than a year ago. (For further details see page 255.)

Emigration.—The number of British and Irish passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during July was 10,862, as compared with 13,141 in July, 1897. (For further details see page 251.)

EARNINGS OF RAILWAY SERVANTS.

ONE of the most important groups of occupations in which the Department has hitherto been unable to obtain full and exact information as to changes in wages is that of railway servants. The principal difficulty arises out of the fact that, as a rule, the remuneration of railway servants is regulated by graduated scales of pay.

A selected number of the more important companies have, however, furnished returns showing the total number employed in the coaching, goods, locomotive and engineers' departments, and the total amount of wages paid to those workpeople in the first week of December, 1896 and 1897 respectively, the intention being to indicate the total effect of all changes in the wages of railway servants, whether arising out of:—

- (1) Real changes in the scale of pay.
- (2) Ordinary advances under existing scales.
- (3) Overtime or short time.

The 17 companies making returns employ nearly 90 per cent. of all the railway servants in the United Kingdom, and the results may be regarded as fairly representative. The returns have been grouped together in the following table:—

District.	1896.			1897.		
	Number of Workmen employed in first week of December	Amount of Wages in that Week.	Average.	Number of Workmen employed in first week of December	Amount of Wages in that Week.	Average.
England and Wales (12 companies).	311,796	£ 381,399 s. 211	s. d. 24 5½	327,269	£ 497,338 s. 4 5	s. d. 24 10½
Scotland (3 companies).	38,350	£ 43,446 s. 6 4	s. d. 22 8	39,676	£ 44,592 s. 16 5	s. d. 22 5½
Ireland (2 companies.)	7,213	£ 7,982 s. 10 3	s. d. 22 1½	7,202	£ 8,074 s. 6 10	s. d. 22 5
TOTAL for 17 companies.	357,359	£ 432,827 s. 19 6	s. d. 24 2½	374,147	£ 460,005 s. 7 8	s. d. 24 7

The changes brought out by this method are changes in earnings rather than in rates of wages, and in this respect the changes shown differ from those collected by the Department with regard to other occupations.

Taking, however, the figures as they are, we find that the general average wage, for all the seventeen railways has risen in the year from 24s. 2½d. to 24s. 7d.—a rise of 4½d. per head, or about £6,328 a week, computed on the basis of the number employed in December, 1896.

It may be observed that the numbers employed have gone up from 357,359 to 374,147, and this increase of 16,788 in the numbers employed probably to some extent disguises the real advance in rates of wages that has taken place, the large influx at the minimum rate tending to counteract the effect of the increases in rates of pay, on the average earnings of the whole number employed.

The average wage for Scottish railway servants is less than that for English by about 2s. per week, and also shows some decline between 1896 and 1897. The returns from two Irish companies yield an average of 22s. 1½d. a week in 1896 and 22s. 5d. in 1897, amounts which correspond very closely with those paid by the three Scottish companies.

SHIPPING CASUALTIES.

THE returns to the Board of Trade of shipping casualties from July 1st, 1896, to June 30th, 1897 (C.—8917. Price 4s. 8d.) show that in vessels belonging to the United Kingdom other than H.M. ships, the number of lives lost in connection with casualties was 1,037. These lives were lost in 197 casualties. Of the total 1,037 lives, 991 were members of crews and 46 were passengers. The number of seamen lost in 1896 was lower than in any of the previous twenty years, and the number of passengers lost was lower than in any of those years except 1880-1. Of the 991 seamen who lost their lives, 506 were employed on sailing vessels and 485 on steam vessels. The number of seamen's lives lost from the various classes of casualties was as follows:—Foundering, 57; strandings, 252; collisions, 42; missing vessels, 501; other causes, 139. In vessels belonging to British possessions abroad the loss of life attending all the casualties was 210. One hundred and seventy-four lives were lost by 26 casualties to foreign vessels on or near the coasts of the United Kingdom and British possessions abroad.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION SCHEMES.

IN the July GAZETTE, a complete list of the 13 Compensation Schemes that had been approved by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies up to the 13th July last, was given.

In the following list, which is made up to 12th August, 17 other schemes are included.

Title of Scheme.	Nature of Employment.	Situation of Works.	No. of Work-people affected.
Thorncliffe and Rockingham Miners' Permanent Relief Society	Coal Mining	Near Sheffield	2,019
Burnley Miners' Permanent Relief Society	Collieries, Coke Ovens and Works	Burnley	1,458
The New Townley Workmen's Permanent Relief Society	Collieries and Sanitary Pipe and Brick Works	Burnley and Portsmouth	543
Rossendale Collieries Workmen's Compensation for Accidents and Burial Society	Coal Mining	Rossendale	about 120
Whitwood Collieries' Mutual Accident Fund	Coal Mining	Near Normanton	3,430
Arscott Colliery Accident Fund	Coal Mining	Near Shrewsbury	87
The Newbury Workmen's Insurance Fund	Collieries, Quarries, and Coke Manufacturing	Near Bath	344
Llay Hall Colliery Works Accident and Superannuation Fund	Coal Mining and Brick Making	Cefn-y-Bedd, near Wrexham	*
Lord Bute's Collieries' Scheme	Coal Mining	Treherbert and Hirdwin, Glamorganshire	*
Newport, Abercarn, Black Vein Steam Coal Company, Limited	Coal Mining	Near Newport, Mon.	700
The Dowlais Iron Company	Coal Mining	Glamorganshire	*
Isalah Piggot & Sons	Colliery Sinking	Near Cardiff	134
Thornhill Iron Works' Accident Fund	Puddling and Iron Rolling	Near Dewsbury	120
Salter's Workpeople Compensation Scheme	General Manufacturers in Iron and Brass	West Bromwich	905
The Rugby Portland Cement Company's Workmen's Insurance Scheme (2)	Portland Cement Manufacturing	Newbold-on-Avon, Rugby	*
Oldbury Alkali Works Provident Society (Accident and Relief Branch)	Manufacturers of Chemicals and Portland Cement	Oldbury	599
London, Brighton & South Coast Railway Company—Railway Servants' Insurance against Accidents	Railway Service	Various	10,933

The Chief Registrar had on 12th August 13 other schemes under consideration.

Of the 30 schemes hitherto approved, the two largest relate to railway servants. Fifteen relate to coal miners, 7 to various classes of metal workers, and 6 to pottery, glass, chemical, cement, and sugar operatives. In the case of 23 of the 30 schemes, the numbers of workpeople affected are given, and the results so far as recorded, may be summarised as follows:—

Trades.	Number of Schemes.		Number of workpeople affected.
	Total number passed up to 12th August.	Number for which the number of workpeople is returned.	
Railway Servants	2	2	34,033
Coal Mining	15	12	15,919
Metal Trades	7	4	3,507
Miscellaneous Trades	6	5	4,483
Total	30	23	58,942

FIFTH REPORT ON CHANGES IN WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.†

THE Fifth Annual Report of the Department on Changes in Wages and Hours of Labour which is issued to-day, at an earlier period of the year than has hitherto been possible, deals with the changes in rates of wages and hours in 1897, in comparison with those of 1893-6.

The changes recorded in the market rates of wages and recognised hours of labour of workpeople in 1897 are stated in detail, and also analysed in a series of summary tables. The summary tables are further brought to a point in a Detailed Report, and the main conclusions are given in a General Report. In the Appendix attention is drawn to the new and revised

* Not stated.
† C. 8,975. Can be obtained through any bookseller. Price 1s. 2½d.

Piece Price Lists of 1897, and specimens of some of the more important Agreements by which the changes were settled are also given.

In the General Report the sources of information are described; a change in rates of wages defined; and a distinction drawn between rates of wages and earnings.

A table is also given showing the proportion of the working population affected by changes in rates of wages, from which the conclusion is drawn that rates of wages are, on the whole, very steady from year to year, and that the net amount of all the changes of 1897, or of any of the preceding years (1893-6), if spread over the entire wage-earning population, would cause a quite inappreciable change in the average rate of wages.

It is stated that the year 1897, like 1896, was a year of rising wages, all the principal groups of industries sharing more or less in the advance, and that the net result of all the changes recorded was a rise of about £45,000 a week, of which the greater part is accounted for by the engineering and shipbuilding, mining, and building industries.

With regard to Changes in Hours of Labour, the year 1897 is remarkable for the large number of reductions reported, and for the considerable average reduction in the weekly hours of labour of the persons affected. Most of these reductions took place without any corresponding decrease in weekly wages, and in some cases, especially in the Building Trades, were accompanied by actual increases in the rates.

In tables dealing with the methods by which changes were arranged it is shown that mutual arrangement between the parties directly concerned was, as usual, the principal method by which changes in wages and hours of labour were settled, and that a very large proportion of the changes took place without labour disputes.

The changes in the earnings of railway servants are dealt with in a separate article on page 227.

LABOUR DISPUTES IN FRANCE IN 1897.*

THE number of labour disputes in France in 1897 was 356, this number being considerably less than in 1896 in which year it was 476; but more workpeople were involved, and the loss of working days was greater in 1897, as may be seen from the following statement:—

	1896.		1897.	
	Directly	Indirectly	Directly	Indirectly
Number of Workpeople involved in disputes	49,851	12,952	68,875	5,999
Number of Days lost by Workpeople involved in disputes	473,006	170,262	720,511	60,433

The extent to which the principal groups of trades were affected by disputes in the two years is shown by the following statement, in which the figures for 1896 are taken from the report for that year:—

GROUPS OF TRADES.	Disputes.	Work-people directly involved.	Working days lost by all workpeople affected.	
			1897	1896
			Building Trades	76	16,870	305,794	61,870
Mining and Quarrying	23	9,786	174,161	118,197
Metal Trades	61	4,682	56,637	253,321
Textile Trades	87	8,814	120,287	185,154
Seafaring, Dock Labour and Transport	16	1,234	6,093	1,681
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing	15	21,082	65,095	32,735
Miscellaneous Trades	78	6,407	58,877	143,610
Total	356	68,875	780,944	644,768

Demands for an increase, or opposition to a reduction, of wages were amongst the objects or causes of 223 disputes, participated in by 50,607 workpeople, and entailing a loss of 620,626 working days in 1897.

The following statement shows the extent to which

* Statistique des Grèves et des Recours à la Conciliation et à l'Arbitrage survenus pendant l'Année 1897. (Office du Travail.) On sale at establishment of M.M. Berger-Levrault et Cie, Paris.

workpeople engaged in disputes in the two years were successful or otherwise:—

Result.	Percentage of workpeople engaged in disputes of which the results were as stated in Col. 1.	
	1897	1896
In favour of workpeople	28.8	23.2
Compromise	41.8	34.2
In favour of employers	29.4	42.6

PROFIT-SHARING IN 1897-8.

IN continuation of the Report on Profit-Sharing published by the Department in 1894 (C. 7,458 of 1894), and of the statements on this subject contained in the GAZETTE, July 1895, pp. 207, 208, July 1896, p. 208, September 1896, p. 275, and July 1897, pp. 195, 196, the following details, obtained by correspondence with the firms concerned, are submitted, bringing the information previously published up to date. Returns have been received from 79 out of the 94 firms with which profit-sharing was, at the date of the statements made in the GAZETTE of 1897, known to be in force (75 in the United Kingdom, 4 in British Colonies). In regard to five cases (including one case in which profit-sharing was adopted in 1895, but which has not been previously included in the particulars published by the Department, because the firm was not known to practise this method) profit-sharing has ceased to be in operation, the particulars being returned by the firms as under:—

Profit-sharing Schemes that have ceased to exist.

Duration of Profit-sharing.	Name.	Business.	No. of Em-ployees.	Cause of cessation of Profit-sharing.
1890-1897	W. & J. Mackay & Co., Ltd.	Printing, book-binding, &c.	72	Apathy of employees.
1892-1897	J. Devereux & Sons	Grocers, etc.	46-50	Dissatisfaction of employers with results. Liquidation.
1893-1897	Brownfield's Guild	Pottery Manu-facture	262	New responsibilities of employers under Work-men's Compensation Act, 1897.
1895-1898	Smith & Forrest, Manchester	Oil, tar and resin distillers and merchants	30-40	Liquidation.
1896-1898	Kensington Co-operative Stores Ltd. (dress-making department)	Dress-making &c	10-18	Liquidation.

Particulars have been received as to seven cases in which firms practise profit-sharing, but particulars as to which have not previously been published, because these firms were not known to practise this method, or had not, previously, permitted the publication of the details:—

Additional Cases of Profit-sharing.

Date of Adoption of Profit-sharing.	Name.	Business.	No. of Em-ployees.	How Bonus Treated.
1838	The Guild of Handi-craft, Ltd., London	Furniture Makers, Metal Workers, Jewellers, Decorators, etc.	16-30	Cash.*
1888	W. Frank Hatheway, St. John, N. B., Canada	Wholesale Grocer ...	14	Cash.
1890	Western Counties Agricultural Co-operative Association, Limited, Plymouth, Bristol, etc.	Corn, Cattle Food, Manures, Seeds, and Implement Merchants	150-200	Cash†
1892	Y. Trotter & Son, Limited, Chirnside Paper Mills, Berwickshire	Paper Manufacturers	200	Cash‡
1892	Geo. Anderton & Son, Ltd., Cleckheaton	Worsted Spinners ...	664	Cash.
1895	G. W. Chitty & Co., Dover	Flour Millers ...	42-43	Part Cash, part Provident Fund§
1896	Alexr. Morton & Co., Darvel, Ayrshire	Curtain and Carpet Manufacturers	580	Provident Fund.

The total number of persons employed by the 93 firms now known to practise profit-sharing, (varying according to seasons, &c.) is minimum 48,258, maximum 50,476 (46,846-49,039 employed by 87 firms in the United Kingdom, 1,412-1,437 by 5 firms in British Colonies; the number of employees of one Colonial firm

* Ratio of bonus to wages paid in 1888-97 inclusive was 5 per cent.
† Ratio of bonus to wages paid in 1891-97 inclusive was 5 per cent.
‡ Ratio of bonus to wages paid in 1892-97 inclusive was 19 per cent.
§ Ratio of bonus to wages paid in 1896-97 inclusive was 99 per cent.

is not known). The corresponding number of firms a year ago was 94, with 46,078-48,060 employees (44,824-46,781 employed by 89 firms in the United Kingdom, 1,254-1,279 by 4 firms in British Colonies; the number of employees of one Colonial firm was not known).*

With respect to the addition made to the wages of the participating employees by the bonus allotted in 1897, details in regard to 72 cases† (69 with 21,871 employees in the United Kingdom, 3 with 437 employees in British Colonies) are available, and are as shown below:—

Ratio of Bonus to Wages in 1897.

Ratio of Bonus allotted in 1897 to Wages.	No. of cases in which the Bonus in col. 1 was paid.	No. of Em-ployees (mean between minimum and maximum) in 1897.	Number of Participants in 1897.
Nil	12	1,209	1,558
Under 1 per cent.	7	1,613	753
1 and under 3 per cent.	7	969	955
3 " " 5 " "	14	2,380	2,760
5 " " 7 " "	6	4,398	4,236
7 " " 9 " "	10	5,263	577
9 " " 11 " "	4	697	247
11 " " 13 " "	1	1,231	330
13 " " 15 " "	4	130	245
15 " " 16 " "	1	245	209
16 " " 17 " "	1	580	332
22 " " 23 " "	1	38	30
23 " " 24 " "	1	38	1
32 " " 33 " "	1	3,080	2,832
43 " " 44 " "	1	93	38

The figures show a mean bonus of 7.2 per cent. on wages paid in the above 72 cases (compared with 4.9 per cent. in 1896). Excluding 12 cases in which no bonus was earned, the bonus allotted in the remaining 60 cases was (taking into account the number of participants in each case) at the mean rate of 11.4 per cent. (compared with 10.3 per cent. in 1896).

MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION IN LABOUR DISPUTES ON UNITED STATES RAILWAYS.

By an Act passed on June 1st, and repealing the former Act of October 1st, 1888, provision is made for mediation and arbitration in labour disputes on railways engaged in inter-state commerce in the United States. In case of a dispute involving serious interruption of business, the Chairman of the Inter-State Commerce Commission and the Commissioner of Labour are, upon the request of either party, to endeavour to bring about a settlement, or, failing such settlement, to induce the parties to submit the matter to arbitration. Every submission to arbitration is to contain certain specified provisions, including a provision that the award may be enforceable by legal process, but no such process is to compel the performance by any labourer against his will of a contract for personal service. An appeal lies on certain points of law from any award to the Circuit Court, and to the Circuit Court of Appeals.

While an arbitration under the Act is pending, it is declared unlawful for an employer who is a party to the proceedings to discharge employees also parties thereto except for inefficiency, violation of law, or neglect of duty, and for the employees to strike. For three months after an award has been made, an employer, who has been a party to the arbitration, is not permitted to discharge employees, parties to the proceedings, except for the causes above specified without 30 days' notice, nor may the employees without just cause quit his service without like notice. A breach of this provision subjects the offending party to liability for damages. But this is not to prevent ordinary reductions of staff due to the state of business.

When a society is incorporated as a National Trade Union, its constitution must provide that a member

* In regard to 19 firms the number of employees is stated according to figures supplied by the firms in previous years, no information on this point having been supplied in 1898; the same course was adopted in regard to 20 firms in 1897. In addition to the firms (93 in 1898, 94 in 1897) known to practise profit-sharing, there are at present 7 firms (3 in 1897) which are known to have adopted profit-sharing, but as to which it has not been found possible to obtain information, these firms not having sent replies to the inquiries addressed to them for several years in succession.

† In 3 cases (all in the United Kingdom), in which the bonus is calculated separately for distinct branches of a business, the ratios are stated separately for each branch. The 72 cases include 2 (both in the United Kingdom) in which profit-sharing ceased to be in force after the date in 1897 for the distribution of bonus.

shall cease to be such by participating in, or by instigating force or violence against persons or property during labour disputes, or by seeking to prevent others from working through violence, threats, or intimidations.

When a railway is in the hands of a receiver appointed by a Federal Court, the employees are to have the right to be heard in such Court upon all questions affecting the conditions of their employment.

It is unlawful for an employer coming within the scope of the Act to make it a condition of employment that an employee shall agree not to belong to a trade union, or to discriminate unjustly against trade unionists as such, or to require an employee to contract that he will contribute to any fund for charitable, social, or beneficial purposes, or will release his employer from legal liability for personal injury by reason of any benefit received from such fund beyond the proportion of the benefit arising from the employer's contribution. Employers are also forbidden to attempt to prevent an employee who is no longer in their service from obtaining employment. Breach of these provisions is made a misdemeanour punishable by fine (from 100 to 1,000 dollars).

THE DISPUTE IN THE SOUTH WALES COAL TRADE.

IN the July number of the LABOUR GAZETTE, an account was given of the events that led up to the request made by the men's Provisional Committee on July 13th, for a further meeting with the employers to discuss a proposed basis of settlement. The following were the terms of the letter sent by the men's secretary to the secretary of the Coal Owners' Association on that date:—

Park Hotel, Cardiff, July 13th.

Mr. W. Gascoyne Dalziel, Secretary Coal Owners' Association, Cardiff.

Dear Sir,—Having been informed by Sir Edward Fry that you are not prepared to accept his intervention, but that you are prepared to meet and discuss matters with the authorised representatives of the workmen, we therefore beg to offer the following terms as a basis of discussion:—

1. That the principle of the selling price of coal, automatically applied, shall operate in the regulation of wages according to a scale of figures to be agreed upon, subject to the following reservation:—That in the event of the average selling price of coal coming down below or going above a certain point to be agreed upon, that the wage rate shall be fixed by a Conciliation Board, to have a system attached thereto that will ensure a decision in all cases.

Such Conciliation Board to deal with all matters of dispute arising out of the agreement.

With regard to "Mabon's Day," my committee is prepared to discuss a modification of the existing practice.

My committee will, in the event of a meeting with your committee, be prepared to discuss the amount of immediate advance upon which work shall be resumed pending the fixing of wage under a new agreement, work to be resumed immediately after the signing of an agreement.—I am, yours faithfully,

(Signed) LEWIS MILES, Secretary.

A joint conference took place on July 16th, when these proposals were discussed. No agreement was, however, arrived at, the coalowners refusing to agree to submit to the decision of a third party any question affecting the control or working of their collieries.

On July 18th new terms on which the owners were prepared to settle were posted at the associated collieries in substitution for the terms of April 11th. These terms were:—

1. The terms and conditions of the sliding-scale agreement (known as the "old scale"), which terminated upon the 31st of March last, to be embodied in an agreement, which shall continue in force until the 1st of January, 1902, and be determined by six months' notice on either side, to be given on the 1st of July, 1901, the 1st of January, 1902, or any other following 1st of July or 1st of January.

2. The monthly holiday known as Mabon's Day shall be abolished, and no other holiday of a like nature will be permitted.

3. That an immediate advance be given of 5 per cent. above the wages in force on March 31st last, which shall merge into or form part of such advance as shall be found to be due under the scale.

On July 22nd Sir Edward Fry again met a number of the members of the Provisional Committee.

On July 25th a conference took place at Cardiff of delegates representing over 100,000 colliers. A letter from Sir Edward Fry was read at this meeting, in which he expressed his willingness to consult with the delegates or the Committee, if desired. His services, however, were not called upon. A resolution was passed approving the course taken by the Provisional Committee in acting on the suggestion of the Conciliator. It was, however, decided not to entertain further a sliding scale, but to propose the substitution of a Conciliation Board with an umpire and a minimum wage of 22½ per cent. above the standard of 1879. This minimum wage would involve an advance of 10 per cent. on the rates actually paid at the commencement of the dispute. These proposals were transmitted to the employers on July 26th, and on July 30th a reply was sent in which the Employers' Committee refused to entertain these terms or any others than those fixed at the pitheads.

The correspondence respecting proceedings under the Conciliation Act of 1896 in relation to the dispute has been presented to Parliament.

The legality of the action of the Merthyr Tydvil Board of Guardians in opening the stoneyard to able-bodied miners, idle through the dispute, has been challenged by the Powell Duffryn Steam Coal Co., and legal proceedings are pending. The stoneyards have not been open since August 6th.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES IN FRANCE.

A NEW law, regulating the position of Friendly Societies in France, was passed on April 1st, 1898. Friendly Societies in France have, up to now, been divided into three classes: (1) authorised societies, possessing no civil rights but recognised as legal associations; (2) approved societies, which have had various civil rights, including the right to rent immovable property; and (3) societies officially recognised as institutions of public utility, which have had privileges identical with those enjoyed by the approved societies, together with certain additional privileges, including the right to own (as well as rent) immovable property. (See LABOUR GAZETTE, March, 1897, pp. 69, 70). Under the new law there will again be three classes of societies; the "free" societies, which will enjoy a large part of the privileges hitherto confined to the second and third of the classes of societies above mentioned, including the right to rent immovable property for use as offices, &c.; the approved societies, which will now be allowed to possess and acquire immovable property not exceeding in value three-fourths of their funds; and the societies recognised as of public utility.

The new law contains provisions relating to the investment of the funds of societies approved or recognised as of public utility, and to the granting by such societies of old-age pensions. These societies are allowed to make deposits with the National Trust Deposit Bank either (a) on current account, or (b) on special deposit, non-withdrawable so long as the society shall exist—thus forming a permanent fund applicable for the purpose of providing for the payment of old-age pensions granted on the security of the monies so deposited. A society, which, before the passing of this law may have already formed a common old-age pension fund (for the benefit of its members collectively) must not put an end to this fund, but must deposit it either with the National Deposit Bank, or with the National Old-Age Pension Fund. All deposits made in pursuance of these provisions with the National Deposit Bank, whether made on current account or as a permanent fund, or with the National Pension Fund, are to be credited with such interest as may for the time being be paid by the National Pension Fund (3½ per cent. in 1897); but with regard to deposits with the National Deposit Bank, it is provided that the difference between the National Pension Fund rate and the rate of 4½ per cent. (the rate allowed on deposits of friendly societies with the National Deposit Bank under

the previous law) shall be paid to each society in proportion to the amount which it may have on deposit with that bank (whether on current account or on non-withdrawable account) out of moneys to be annually granted by Parliament.

In addition to the annual grant just referred to, Friendly Societies will receive assistance of the following nature: (1) Subventions to encourage societies providing old-age pensions secured upon non-withdrawable funds of the nature above mentioned. (2) Grants in aid of sufficient amount to make up all old-age pensions becoming payable after January 1st, 1895, which, together with this grant in aid, would not exceed £14 8s. per annum, to that amount, and (3) subventions to societies not providing old age pensions. Sums are also to be granted to assist societies, which, owing to epidemics or other causes beyond their control, may be temporarily unable to fulfil their engagements. The various amounts coming to the friendly societies in respect of the grants and subventions in question will be provided, in part out of the interest on the Friendly Society Endowment Fund, in part by annual votes of Parliament, similar to those which have hitherto been made in aid of Friendly Societies.

The new law creates a Higher Council of Friendly Societies, before which will be laid the annual reports of these societies required by the law. This Council will advise the Government in regard to all measures to be taken with respect to the regulation of Friendly Societies, and especially with regard to the apportionment of the subventions and other grants above referred to.

SETTLEMENT OF LABOUR DISPUTES BY INDUSTRIAL COURTS IN GERMANY.

THE question of the efficiency of Industrial Courts as agencies for averting and settling strikes and lock-outs has recently been discussed by the Reichstag Commission for considering Petitions, in connection with two memorials on the subject, presented by federations of workmen's societies, in favour of the amendment and extension of their powers.

Some idea of the work done by the courts as agencies for averting or settling strikes and lock-outs is furnished by the following statement, the original of which was laid before the Commission, and published in the official account of its proceedings:—

Years.	No. of applications for intervention of courts.	No. of agreements brought about.	No. of decisions pronounced by courts.	No. of cases in which such decisions have been		Unsuccessful attempts of courts to bring about agreements without pronouncing decisions.
				Accepted by both parties.	Rejected by both parties.	
1893	5	3	—	—	—	2
1894	16	7	3	1†	4†	2
1895	19	13	3	—	2	—
1896	44	18	11	2	9	8

The Industrial Courts (of which there were 284 at the end of 1896) exist primarily for the settlement of disputes having reference to the fulfilment of existing labour contracts, and in such cases their decisions are final, so long as the sum in dispute does not exceed £5. Each court consists of a president (nominated by the Communal authorities), who must be neither an employer nor a workman, and a number of assessors holding office for at least one year and elected, one-half by the employers and one-half by the workpeople belonging to the locality and engaged in the trades over which the Court has jurisdiction.

In the event of a strike or a lock-out, or of a dispute which might result in either, the Industrial Court must intervene when both parties ask it to do so. The Court may also intervene on its own initiative, or at the request of either party, but it has no power to compel parties to attend.

* Berichte der Kommission für die Petitionen. No. 196—201 Reichstag 6 Legislatur-Periode. V. Session, 1897-98.

† This figure is given as printed in the Report.

When acting as a Board of Conciliation, an Industrial Court consists of the president and at least four assessors, half employers and half workpeople, none of the assessors to have any personal interest in the dispute. The parties are represented by delegates—as a rule, not more than three from each side—concerned in the dispute. The proceedings are as follows:—The Court first of all ascertains from the delegates the points in dispute, and elicits any information it may require in order to be able to form an opinion. A joint conference then takes place, and an endeavour is made to induce the parties to agree. If an agreement be arrived at, it is signed by all the members of the Court and by the delegates of both sides, and published. Failing an agreement, the Court itself must endeavour to arrive at a decision as to the terms of settlement which both parties may reasonably be expected to accept. Such a decision, to be valid, must be approved by a majority of the Court. In the event of a tie, in which the whole of the employers' assessors are on the one side and those of the workpeople on the other, the president may withhold his vote and declare the Court unable to arrive at a decision. He may not withhold his vote, however, when each of the sides to the tie includes both employers' and workmen's assessors.

The decision of the Court is communicated to the delegates, who are allowed a certain time in which to notify their acceptance of its terms. Failure to notify acceptance within the time allowed is regarded as a refusal to submit to the Court's decision, which is then published, together with any observations made by the delegates in respect thereto.

MANUFACTURE OF LUCIFER MATCHES IN FRANCE.

A REPORT of a visit of inspection to French match works, at Aubervilliers, Pantin and Marseilles, in June, 1898, by Dr. Oliver, has been issued by the Home Office (C. 8952. Price 1½d.). The manufacture of matches is in France a State monopoly, under the direction of the Minister of Finance. Dr. Oliver reports that the Government has, to some extent, already succeeded in manufacturing a match capable of striking anywhere, yet free from white phosphorus, but that owing to difficulties in the production still to be overcome this match has not yet been placed within the reach of the people. Until recently the matchmakers in certain of the French factories suffered severely from phosphorus poisoning; at the present time there is apparently a reduction in the severer forms of the illness. This reduction is attributed to greater care exercised in the selection of the workpeople, raising the age of their admission into the factory; medical examination on entrance; subsequent close supervision; repeated dental examination; personal cleanliness on the part of the workers; early suspension on the appearance of symptoms of ill-health; and improved methods of manufacture.

RECENT CONCILIATION & ARBITRATION CASES AND COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS.

(a) UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT, 1896.

Paper Makers.

ON July 9th an application was made to the Board of Trade for the appointment of a Conciliator by the Secretary of the Original Society of Paper-makers, Maidstone. The matter in dispute related to a claim for an advance of wages made on the Employers of Carded Labour. The Board appointed Mr. G. R. Askwith, barrister-at-law, as Conciliator. The following letter has been received from the parties:—

August 5th, 1898.

SIR,—With reference to the dispute between the Employers of Carded Labour and the Original Society of Paper Makers, upon the question of wages, in which the Board of Trade were requested to appoint a Conciliator under the Conciliation Act, 1896, we have the honour to inform you that having taken the suggestions of the Conciliator, Mr. G. R. Askwith, into consideration, and fully discussed the matter both by deputies before the Conciliator, and by ascertainin

the views of the employers on the one side and the vote of the employed on the other, both parties have agreed to the settlement of the dispute upon the following terms, viz.: a rise in wages of sixpence per day to vatmen and couchers for week's work of six days and over, but no further payment to outside men.

The question of readjustment of wages between outside men will be discussed in conference between masters and men at a subsequent date, if the men should desire to hold such a conference and approach the masters upon the subject.

We are, Sir,

Your obedient Servants,

T. A. HODGKINSON,
Secretary to Employers of Carded Labour.

GEO. E. WRIGHT,
Secretary to the Original Society of Papermakers.

(Witness) G. R. ASKWITH, Conciliator.

The agreement, which settles a dispute which has been pending for several years, affects about 13 mills in various districts.

Bristol Building Trades.—Bricklayers' Dispute.

In the last number of the GAZETTE (page 199), an account was given of the arbitration in the building trades at Bristol, and it was stated that the masons and bricklayers were not parties to the proceedings. The masons subsequently agreed to accept the rules as amended by Mr. Hudson's award, and resumed work on July 18th. The bricklayers, however, still remained on strike and demanded a promise of a further advance of ½d. in April, 1899, and modifications in the rule with regard to "walking time."

On July 28th, an official of the Board of Trade had interviews with the secretary of the Master Builders' Association and with the workmen's Committee, as a result of which a meeting was arranged between the parties. This meeting was held on July 30th, His Honour Judge Austin acting as independent chairman. The Judge recommended the bricklayers to accept the rules adopted by the other trades, and suggested that the employers might see their way to make the advance of ½d. take effect immediately. This the men at first declined to accept, but on August 5th the local secretary, together with a representative of the Executive Council of the Society, had an interview with the officials of the Master Builders' Association, which resulted in the employers agreeing to give the immediate advance, if the men would sign the rules. The men resumed work on August 8th on these conditions.

On August 10th the Master Builders' Association agreed to recommend their members to concede the immediate advance to the other branches of the building trades.

(b) OTHER CASES.

Arbitration in the Stockton Steel Trade.

The manager at an iron and steel works having proposed a reduction of 2s. per ton in the wages of men employed in the sheet mill, a strike commenced on April 4th which affected in all about 80 persons. On April 14th it was agreed to submit the dispute to the arbitration of Sir Benjamin Hingley, and work was resumed on April 20th. The case was discussed before the arbitrator on June 29th, and the award published on July 9th. The following is the final portion of the award:—

I now, having taken all the circumstances into consideration, decide that the agreement acknowledged by both sides to have been made when the works were started, and upon which agreement the business has been established is fair and reasonable, namely, that the wages are to be the Staffordshire rates plus 2½ per cent. I therefore award that the said agreement is to continue in force, the extra called "pile" money to be also continued.

B. HINGLEY.

Arbitration in the London Newspaper Printing Trade.

Differences having arisen between the proprietors of a London evening newspaper and the London Printing Machine Managers' Trade Society, regarding the practice of apprenticing labourers for seven years to work rotary printing machines, it was agreed to submit the matter in dispute to arbitration. The arbitrators chosen were Mr. T. Burt, M.P., and Mr. W. C. Steadman, M.P., with Mr. W. Hazell, M.P., as umpire. The result was a decision in favour of the proprietors, with a rider by one of the arbitrators, recommending consultation with the Union in all cases of apprenticeship, with a view of avoiding friction in the future.

PRICES OF COAL AND IRON.

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

Product and District.	Number of work-people.	Period over which prices were ascertained at last audit.	Date from which last audit affects wages.	Average ascertained selling price per ton.		
				According to last audit.	According to previous audit.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in price per ton.
Coal.						
Northumberland:— (Average for all classes of coal at pit's mouth)	30,000	Mar., Apl., May	—	s. d. 5 10'96	s. d. 5 2'96	+ 0 8'00
Pig Iron.						
Cumberland ...	1,350	Apl., May, June	July 1	50 3'264	48 11'850	+ 1 3'414
Cleveland ...	5,500	Apl., May, June	July 2	40 3'30	40 6'47	- 0 3'17
Manufactured Iron.						
North of England:— (Rails, plates, bars and angles)	6,000	May, June	August 1	104 2'99	102 9'42	+ 1 5'57
Midlands:— (Bars, hoops, sheets, plates, and strips)	20,000	May, June	August 8	121 2'1	120 7'73	+ 0 6'37

The increase in the average selling price in the Midlands was not sufficient to give an advance in wages under the sliding scale agreement, but at a meeting of the wages board the following decision was arrived at:—

"The employers having considered the exceptional position of affairs in respect to the wages in the Midland district, it was decided by them to deal with the question by conciliatory means, according to rule No. 2, and to anticipate that the next ascertainment will advance sufficiently to make puddlers' wages 7s. 9d. per ton, and tonnage men in proportion, to commence on Monday, August 8th, and to continue to October 1st next, it being understood that if the needed increase does not give the above-named advance of wages, it will become necessary to reconsider the basis of the sliding scale."

In the North of England, as the result of the ascertainment, wages remained unchanged.

The figures for the other districts are unaltered, no audit having been made since the last publication of the table.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

(1) EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACT.*

Negligence by Dock Company.—Absence of Life-Saving Apparatus.—The plaintiff, who was the widow of a bargeman, applied for a new trial of an action brought under Lord Campbell's Act, to recover damages for the death of her husband, owing to the alleged negligence of the defendants, a Dock Committee. The deceased, on the night of the accident, was navigating two laden barges fastened together in a dock. The deceased did not come home that night, and two days later his body was found in the dock. There was no evidence to show how the deceased got into the water. At the time when the barges were brought into the dock there was a space of fourteen feet between the surface of the water and the top of the wall. There were four feet of water in the dock and a considerable amount of mud at the bottom. There were no facilities, such as chains or ladders, at the dock walls for persons who fell into the water, to get out again. Evidence was given to show that on previous occasions two other men and three children had been drowned in the dock, and that complaints had been made to the defendants as to the dangerous condition of the dock. There was evidence that the deceased could swim. At the close of the plaintiff's case the Judge held that there was no evidence of negligence causing the death of the deceased and directed judgment for the defendants.

The Court of Appeal allowed the application. They said that the defendants knew that there was no means of escape if a man fell in the water, that they knew that the dock was in a dangerous condition to persons using it, and that there was ample evidence of knowledge on their part of the dangerous condition of the dock and evidence to go to the jury of negligence causing the death of the deceased.—*Court of Appeal, July 23rd.*

* Under this heading are also included actions at Common Law to recover from employers compensation for injuries to workpeople.

Conforming to the Orders of a Foreman—Negligent Order.—The plaintiff, the widow of a workman, who had brought an action to recover damages for the death of her husband under Lord Campbell's Act and the Employers' Liability Act, appealed to the Court of Appeal from the judgment of the Divisional Court. The defendant was a builder, and the deceased was a ganger, and at the time of the accident was in the defendant's employment, and was acting under the orders of a working foreman, who told the deceased to pull down a small house with his men. The deceased began to take down a partition when the joists supporting the ceiling came down with the roof and killed him. The negligence alleged on the part of the working foreman was that he ought to have examined the house before ordering the deceased man to pull it down, especially as the deceased had no previous experience of pulling down houses. In the County Court the jury found a verdict for the plaintiff for £120 damages. The Divisional Court held that there was no evidence to go to the jury, and entered judgment for the defendant, and the plaintiff appealed.

The Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, and restored the verdict and judgment. They found that there was evidence that the working foreman, to whose orders the deceased was bound to conform, gave a negligent order, as he had not examined the house before it was pulled down; and that the deceased, who had no experience of pulling down houses, was killed in consequence of his conforming to the order given to him.—*Court of Appeal, July 30th.*

(2) TRUCK ACT 1896. S. 3.

Making Deductions from Wages without Affixing a Notice giving Particulars.—A firm of tailors was fined £6 and £4 10s. costs for making deductions from the wages of six employees without affixing a notice containing particulars of the same.—*Colchester Borough Police-court, June 30th.*

(3) FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1891. S. 9.

Special Rules.—Not Wearing Guards while Bottling.—An aerated water bottler was fined 2s. 6d. and 7s. 6d. costs for neglecting to comply with special rules in not wearing guards while bottling.—*West Hartlepool Borough Police-court, July 4th.*

Special Rules.—Failure to Supply metal basin and soap for Operative Brasscasters.—A brasscaster was convicted and required to pay 7s. 6d. costs for failure to observe special rules by not supplying metal basin and soap for operative brasscasters.—*Victoria Law-court, Birmingham, July 15th.*

LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.*

(Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 31 Broad-way, Westminster, S.W., from official and other reports, newspapers, &c., mostly dated June and July last.)†

Canada.—Farm hands going to Canada should start at once, so as to arrive before harvest work is over. A report from Toronto states that there continues to be a surplus of every kind of labour in the city; in some other parts of Ontario, however, men are required. A report from Montreal states that there is any amount of unskilled labour seeking employment in that and other large towns of Canada, and strongly advises such labourers not to emigrate; that skilled mechanics, such as plumbers, brassfinishers, practical engineers, machinists, &c., are in moderate demand; that practical farm hands who can milk, plough, and do all kinds of farm work are always in demand, and should go to the North-West; that young lads from 14 to 18 years of age willing to learn farming and work hard can be found good places on farms near Montreal; and that domestic servants with good references and competent to do general house work are in very great demand, but not shirtmakers, milliners, dressmakers, or shop employees.

New South Wales.—The first annual report on the working of the Factories and Shops Act of 1896 in Sydney states that 1,673 factories were registered in 1897, employing 29,503 persons, of whom 7,009 were females. The principal classes of factories in which females were employed were those connected with clothing, boots and shoes, upholstery, folding and sewing books and paper, making paper bags, boxes, &c., with tobacco, cigars and cigarettes, and with laundries.

Victoria.—A scarcity of employment continues. The completion of some Government contracts, and the consequent discharge of hands, has added to the number of men out of work. Other works, however, are being started, and it is expected that many persons will find employment on railway construction, or on irrigation works.

* And the South African Republic (Transvaal).

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

South Australia.—The labour market is very dull in all trades; fewer shearers than usual will be wanted this year, the pastoral industry being still in an extremely depressed condition. The Northern Territory is doing badly.

Western Australia.—The Colonial Government proposes to form a Labour Bureau. At first the bureau will be in the form of a registry office, where employers and workmen may be brought into contact; but the bureau may be subsequently extended. The report on the disposal of Crown Lands in 1897 shows a large increase of area taken up for pastoral and agricultural purposes; there were 562 selections of free homestead farms, of an average size of 151 acres. A considerable number of public works are being carried out in all parts of the Colony, such as hospitals, courthouses, telegraph stations, schools, roads and bridges, reservoirs and wells, harbour works, railways, &c. Owing, however, to the completion of some of these works, many hands have been discharged, and are available to supply any demand that may arise elsewhere. The timber and agricultural industries are doing well, and the output of gold continues to increase.

New Zealand.—A good deal of work is going on in the building trades (except at Christchurch) and in the engineering and boot trades; but in many parts there is an over-supply of unskilled labour.

Transvaal.—There is considerable distress in Johannesburg owing to the scarcity of work. A private labour bureau has been opened, and a soup kitchen helps the most necessitous cases.

LABOUR ABROAD.

FRANCE.

Employment in July.*—Employment continued good in the mining, quarrying, tanning, glövemaking, carpentry and joinery, metal (smelting and manufacture), engineering, tin boxmaking, and building trades. An improvement has taken place in the silk industry and in carriage-building; but the falling off in employment in printing, flax and cotton-spinning and weaving, garment-making, hatmaking and pottery trades has become more marked.

Labour Disputes in July.*—Thirty-one disputes directly involving 3,069 workpeople were reported to the French Labour Department in July, compared with 25 disputes involving 2,827 workpeople reported in June. All except 3 of the July disputes were confined to single establishments. Thirteen of the disputes were in the textile trades, 3 in the building trades, 2 each in the metal and leather trades, and one in each of the following trades:—slate workers, brickmakers, pasteboard-makers, dock labourers, clerks, incandescent lampmakers, miners, harvesters, sardine fishers, sugar refiners, and printers. Amongst the causes of the disputes were 10 demands for higher wages (coupled in 2 cases with a demand for shorter hours); in 9 cases the dispute was caused by opposition to a reduction of wages, in 4 cases by demands for the dismissal of officials or workpeople, and in 4 cases by questions connected with workshop rules. Out of a total of 23 disputes terminated in July, 11 were compromised, 9 ended unfavourably, and 3 favourably for the workpeople.

Conciliation and Arbitration.—Three attempts to apply the Conciliation and Arbitration law were reported in July. In two cases, affecting 300 spinners and weavers at Rouen and 800 iron and steelworkers at Fourchambault (Nièvre), a conciliation committee was formed, but without result, and the strikes are still in progress. In the third case a strike of rivet-heaters for an advance of wages at St. Nazaire, which ultimately spread to other trades employed at the works, was dealt with by a conciliation committee, but without immediate result. Work, however, has subsequently been resumed, various classes of workpeople having obtained advances. The rivet-heaters themselves have resumed work at the old rates of wages, advances offered at the commencement of the dispute having been subsequently withdrawn.

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the French Labour Department.

Coal Mining in June.*—The average number of days per week on which coal was hewn and wound in June was 5'93, compared with 6'00 in the preceding month. In June, full time (6 days and over) was worked by 69 per cent., and from 5 to 6 days by 31 per cent. of the miners, whilst in the previous month the percentages were 89 and 10 respectively. The pits making these returns employ over 100,000 workpeople, or three-fourths of the coal miners of France.

GERMANY.

Labour Disputes in July.—According to *Der Arbeitsmarkt*, the disputes reported to have begun in July were 47 in number, compared with 35 in June. The total number of workpeople reported to have taken part in 14 disputes was 5,168. The trades affected were as follows:—Building trades, 16 disputes (12 in June); metal, engineering and allied trades, 10 (3 in June); trades involving work in stone, clay, &c., 6; woodworking trades, 5; trades engaged in the preparation of foods, drinks and tobacco, &c., 4; and trades not included in any of the foregoing groups, 6 disputes. The most noteworthy disputes occurred in the building trades, 1,436 men being involved in Breslau, and 1,500 in Lübeck. According to the *Deutscher Reichs-Anzeiger*, the object of the Breslau strike, which began on July 11th, was to obtain a 10 hours day and 53d. per hour; the same paper states that the Lübeck dispute, which began on July 9th, was caused by the master masons and bricklayers giving notice of discharge to all labourers who belonged to a trade union.

Operations of Public Labour Registries in July.—The total number of situations offered by employers in July at 45 of the municipal and other public labour registries which have sent returns to *Der Arbeitsmarkt* was 29,714, as compared with 30,563 in the preceding month, and 29,182 in July, 1897. The number of situations sought during the month was 34,068 compared with 35,097 in the previous month, and 31,814 in July, 1897. The number of situations found was 20,941, compared with 21,095 in June, and 20,092 in July, 1897.

Accidents in 1897 in the Mining and Smelting Industries.—The mean number of workpeople in Germany insured in 1897 under the Accident Insurance Law, by the Associated Employers in the Mining and Smelting Industries was 468,953, of whom 371,985 were employed in coal and lignite mining. The total number of persons reported as having sustained accidents during the year in the mining and smelting industries was 46,034. Of these, 961 were injured fatally, 69 were totally, and 2,302 partially, incapacitated for life; and 2,339 were temporarily and partially incapacitated. The total number of persons, therefore, who sustained injuries in 1897 entailing compensation was 5,671, or 12'09 per 1,000 insured, compared with 12'11 per 1,000 in 1896. The year 1897 was the first in which the proportion had not risen in comparison with the previous year. The proportion of fatal accidents per 1,000 insured, was 2'05 in 1897, and has fluctuated very little since 1886, when it was 2'13. In 1897 there were 170 deaths and 12 cases of total and permanent disablement per 1,000 accidents entailing compensation, whilst in 1886 the proportions were 382 and 42 respectively. The proportion of such accidents resulting in partial incapacity has, however, increased during the same period, viz. from 244 to 406 per 1,000 in the case of permanent, and from 332 to 412 per 1,000 in the case of temporary incapacity. Of the accidents entailing compensation, 69'70 per cent. were due to dangers inherent to the occupation, 25'52 per cent. to the fault of the injured persons themselves, 1'16 per cent. to defective appliances, &c., and 3'62 per cent. to the fault of other workmen. The cost of insurance amounted in 1897 to 16s. 11d. per workman on an average, and to 17s. 4d. per £50 of wages paid.

BELGIUM.

Employment in July.—Production is being carried on with great activity in coal mines and in quarries, as also in blastfurnaces, rolling mills, puddling furnaces, and steel works. In the engineering trade the situation is described as being on the whole favourable, and in the miscellaneous metal trades (including tools, cutlery, bicycles, and arms) as prosperous. Brickmaking is stated to afford more than the average amount of employment this season. An improvement has occurred in the plate-glass making trade. The slack season in the clothing trades has been both earlier in coming and more marked in its effects than usual. The situation

* Bulletin de l'Office du Travail, July, 1898.

† Includes quarrying, brick, tile, pottery, porcelain, glassworking, &c.

‡ Includes (in addition to work in wood) work in bone, ivory, and similar materials which admit of being carved.

§ The *Knaippchafts-Berichtswirtschaft*, from whose report for the year 1897 just issued, the above particulars are taken.

¶ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Belgian Labour Department.

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—TINPLATE INDUSTRY; IRON AND STEEL TRADES; AGRICULTURE.

(d) EMPLOYMENT AT TINPLATE WORKS IN JULY.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry fell off considerably during July, chiefly owing to the continuance of the dispute in the South Wales Coal Trade.

At the end of the month 35 works, with 155 mills, had all their mills at work, and at 25 other works, 113 were running out of a total of 179. Thus only 268 mills were running, as compared with 304 at the end of June. The number of persons employed has fallen during the same period from 15,865 to 13,495. A year ago 284 mills were running, and 15,219 persons employed; but at this period 53 mills were idle on account of disputes, chiefly in connection with wages.

The following table shows the number of mills and workpeople employed at the establishments which were fully or partially working at the three periods:—

	No. of Works open.	No. of Mills in such Works.			Estimated No. of Work-people employed.
		Working.	Not Working.	Total.	
Works giving full employment	35	155	—	155	6,817
Works giving partial employment	25	113	66	179	6,678
Total at end of July, 1898	60	268	66	334	13,495
Corresponding Total for June, 1898	63	304	36	340	15,865
Corresponding Total for July, 1897	87	284	37	321	15,219

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 in the table are believed to give approximately the total number of works, mills and persons actually employed.

The Exports of tinplates and sheets from the United Kingdom during July amounted to 22,010 tons, as compared with 17,782 tons in June, and 18,235 tons in July, 1897. Of these quantities the United States took 4,850 tons in July, 4,840 tons in June, and 5,484 tons in July, 1897.

(e) EMPLOYMENT AT IRON AND STEEL WORKS IN JULY.

The number employed in these industries shows a slight falling off as compared with a month ago, and is noticeably less than a year ago. The average number of shifts worked per week was practically the same at all three periods.

According to returns received from 213 employers, 76,665 persons were employed by them in the last week of July, or 399 less than in the last week of June, and 1,525 less than in the last week of July, 1897. The following table gives the changes in the number employed in England and Wales and in Scotland:—

District.	Numbers Employed.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in July, 1898, as compared with	
	Numbers employed in last week of			a year ago.	a month ago.
	July, 1898.	July, 1897.	June, 1898.		
England and Wales	64,013	66,346	64,333	-2,333	-320
Scotland	12,652	11,844	12,731	+ 808	- 79
Total	76,665	78,190	77,064	-1,525	-399

Information covering more than 90 per cent. of these workpeople has also been received with regard to the number of shifts worked, and is summarised in the table below. The average number of shifts worked was 5.48 in the last week of July, as compared with 5.49 in the last weeks of June, and of July, 1897.

Average Weekly Number of Shifts worked per Man.

Number of Shifts worked per man.	Number employed in July, 1898, so far as returned.	Percentage Proportion to Total.	Corresponding Percentage in July, 1897.
Under 5 per week	4,572	6.5	8.8
5 " "	26,015	37.0	32.0
5½ " "	2,178	3.1	1.9
6 " "	36,173	51.4	55.3
Above 6 " "	1,397	2.0	2.0
Total	70,335	100.0	100.0

On the assumption that the workpeople not included here worked the same average number of shifts as those included, the total number of shifts worked by all the workpeople employed by the 213 employers may be estimated at 419,782 in the last week of July, 422,947 in the last week of June, and 429,518 in the last week of July, 1897.

(f) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN JULY.

THE agricultural correspondent to the Department, on the basis of 250 returns from various parts of the country, reports as follows:—Generally speaking agricultural labourers were very regularly employed during July getting in the hay crop, which is said in all counties to have been a heavy one, and also at hoeing. The weather during the month was very favourable for outdoor employment. In the Western Counties harvest began during the last week of July, and at the end of July oats had begun to be cut in some of the Eastern and Home Counties. Reports from all parts of the country state that the corn crops are generally heavy, but that they are a good deal laid in many districts, which will cost the farmers more to harvest, as a good deal of cutting will have to be done by hand instead of by machine.

The dry weather during July is said to have been injurious to the root crops in some parts of the Western Counties, and consequently much labour for hoeing was not required. In other parts of the country the root crops are described as good. Reports frequently state that it has been often very difficult, if not impossible, to obtain sufficient labour for hoeing, and also for hay harvest, and a number of employers say that they have had to pay higher prices for piece work this year than in 1897. In certain districts in Wiltshire and Somersetshire, men returned to their homes from the collieries in South Wales owing to the strike, and got employment at farm work.

Northern Counties.—Reports from Northumberland and Westmorland state that farm labourers were fully employed during the month of July. In the county of Cumberland agricultural employment is said to be quite regular in the Unions of Bootle, Carlisle, Cockermouth, Penrith, Whitehaven, and Wigton. All hands were busy at haymaking, for which the weather was very favourable, extra hands, it is said, being difficult to obtain. In Lancashire, in the Unions of Fylde, Garstang, Lancaster, and Ulverston, there is said to be plenty of employment, and also in Durham, in the Unions of Chester-le-Street, Durham, and the Darlington Union (Durham and Yorks, W.R.). A correspondent from the Chester-le-Street Union states that, as the hay crop was a good one, and the weather during hay harvest fine, there was a great demand for extra hands, and that all available labour was fully engaged. A report from the Darlington Union also states that in many cases labour is scarce. Reports from Yorkshire state that all agricultural labourers have been fully employed in the Unions of Beverley, Easingwold, Guisborough, Malton, Knaresborough, Ouseburn, Pocklington, Ripon, and Thirsk. In all these districts in Yorkshire it is stated that extra labour has been very difficult to obtain for turnip hoeing, and also to get in the hay crop, which is generally a heavy one, and that wages for this work, both to English and Irish hands, have been higher than usual. An employer from the Ripon Union writes as follows: "Labourers have been largely in request during July for both haymaking and turnip hoeing. The hay crop has been exceptionally heavy, and turnips and weeds have both grown apace, so that it has been very difficult to keep abreast with the work. In

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—AGRICULTURE.

some of the villages occasional labourers have taken advantage of the busy time and demanded more money for haymaking."

Midland Counties.—In Cheshire agricultural labourers are said to be fully employed in the Unions of Macclesfield, Nantwich, and Tarvin. All reports from this county refer to a considerable scarcity of labour for haymaking. A report from the Tarvin Union states that "more men could be employed, and the paucity of labourers makes it impossible to keep the work under hand." An employer in the Nantwich Union, who also refers to a scarcity of labour, says that a number of Irishmen, who would otherwise be available for farm work, have been taken on by the London and North-Western Railway Company on the work in connection with the extension of the station accommodation at Crewe. In Derbyshire employers state that employment is plentiful, and that in some districts extra men for hay harvest were difficult to obtain, in the Unions of Ashbourne, Hayfield, Chapel-le-Frith, in the Derbyshire portion of the Burton-on-Trent Union (Staffs and Derbyshire), the Derbyshire portion of the Worksop Union (Notts, Derbyshire, and Yorks, W.R.), and the Derbyshire portion of the Mansfield Union (Notts and Derby).

Reports of a favourable character come from Shropshire from the Unions of Bridgnorth, Ellesmere, Market Drayton (Staffs and Salop portions), Oswestry, Wellington, Wem, and Whitchurch. It is stated that the hay crop was a heavy one, and that the men were fully engaged at hay harvest and hoeing. Reports from the Bridgnorth and Market Drayton Unions refer to a scarcity of extra hands for this work in July. In Staffordshire employment is said to be quite regular in the Unions of Leek, Lichfield, and Tamworth. A report from the Tamworth Union states that agricultural labour is very scarce, and if it was not for the Irish hands it would be impossible to get the work done.

In Warwickshire work is said to be regular in the Unions of Alcester, Coventry, Foleshill, Meriden, Stratford-on-Avon, and Warwick. Reports from the Unions of Foleshill, Stratford-on-Avon, and Warwick refer to a scarcity of labour. Favourable reports come from Leicestershire from the Unions of Barrow-on-Soar, Blaby, Market Bosworth, Market Harborough, Loughborough, and Lutterworth (Leicester and Warwick). A report from the Market Drayton Union states that the demand for labour exceeded the supply in some districts.

In Nottinghamshire agricultural labourers are said to be well employed in the Unions of Bingham, Southwold, and Retford; in Rutland in the Union of Oakham; in Worcestershire in the Unions of Evesham, Martley, Shipston-on-Stour (Warwick and Worcester), and Tenbury. In some parts of the Evesham, and Martley Unions extra labour is said to be very difficult to obtain. A correspondent writes from the Martley Union as follows:—There has been an insufficient amount of labour to gather in the very large hay crop and to do the other farm work, causing much inconvenience, and in some cases, a loss to farmers. This is certainly unusual."

Reports from Oxfordshire state that employment is generally regular in the Unions of Thame, Witney, and Wallingford (Oxon and Berks) and in the Oxfordshire portion of the Abingdon Union (Oxon and Berks). Some scarcity of labour is said to exist in parts of the Thames Union. Agricultural labourers are said to be fully employed in Northamptonshire, in the Unions of Brackley, Brixworth, Hardingstone, Kettering, Potterspury, Towcester, and Wellingborough, and in the Northamptonshire portion of the Banbury Union (Oxon, Northants and Warwick). Several reports from this county refer to a scarcity of labour.

Favourable reports come from Huntingdonshire from the Unions of Huntingdon, and St. Neots (Hunts and Beds). In the Beds portion of the Union labour is said to be scarce and general farm work in arrear owing to the heavy crop of hay which had to be got in. In Bedfordshire employment is said to be regular in the Unions of Leighton Buzzard, and in a district in the Luton Union. Reports from these districts state that there has been a scarcity of labour for hoeing turnips and also for harvesting the hay, which was a heavy crop.

Eastern Counties.—In Essex employment is said to be regular, and labour in good demand in the Unions of Billericay, Braintree, Colchester, Dunmow, Halstead, Maldon, Orsett, Tendring, and in certain parishes in the Saffron Walden Union. Several employers state that they paid higher piecework prices in July this year than in 1897. Agricultural labourers in Norfolk are said to have been fully employed with the hay crop, and also with hoeing, in the Unions of Aylsham, Blofield, Depwade, Docking, Downham, East and West Flegg, Erpingham, Forehoe, Freebridge Lynn, Giltcross, Loddon and Clavering, Mitford and Launditch, Smallburgh, St. Faith's, Swaffham, Thetford, and Walsingham. Reports generally state that a large hay crop has been secured in good

condition, and that, as a rule, the roots are a good crop. A number of employers state that piecework rates are higher this year than last.

Regularity of work is also said to be general in Suffolk, in the Unions of Bosmere and Claydon, Cosford, Hartismere, Hoxne, Mutford and Lotheringland, Plomesgate, Risbridge, Samford, Sudbury, and Thingoe. A large employer from the Bosmere and Claydon Union writes that everybody, whether young or old, can have work if they desire it. He further states that corn harvest will be pretty general by the 10th or 12th August, that the crops are heavier than last year, and will also give additional trouble to harvest, as wheat and barley are much laid. Favourable reports come from Cambridgeshire from the Unions of Caxton and Arrington, Chesterton, North Witchford, and Wisbech; from the Cambridgeshire portion of the Peterborough Union (Northants, Cambs, Hunts and Lincoln), and from the Cambridgeshire portion of the Royston Union (Cambs and Herts). A report from the Caxton and Arrington Union of August 4th states that the hay crop has been a heavy one, that the cutting of winter oats had begun, and that in some parishes there is a scarcity of labour. In Lincolnshire, agricultural labourers are said to be fully employed in the Unions of Boston, Brigg, Gainsborough, Grimsby, Grantham, Lincoln, Louth, Sleaford, Spilsby, and Stamford, and in the Lincolnshire portion of the Newark Union (Lincoln and Notts).

Home Counties.—In Buckinghamshire work is said to be quite regular in the Unions of Aylesbury, Buckingham, Newport Pagnell, and Winslow. All reports from this county state that extra labour has been very difficult to obtain. Favourable reports come from Berkshire from the Unions of Bradfield, and Wantage; from Surrey from the Unions of Farnham (Surrey and Hants), Godstone and Hambledon. Some employers state that rather higher rates were paid for piecework in July 1898, than in 1897. In Kent, agricultural labourers are said to be well employed in the Unions of Bridge, Cranbrook, Elham, Faversham, Hollingbourne, Hoo, Sevenoaks, and Tenterden. Several reports from this county refer to a scarcity of labour. Reports of a favourable character come from Hertfordshire from the Unions of Barnet, Hatfield, Hitchin, and St. Albans, and from a district in the Hemel Hempstead Union.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—In Sussex agricultural labourers are said to be fully employed in the Unions of Battle, Chailey, Cuckfield, Hailsham, Horsham, Lewes, Newhaven, Petworth, Rye, Ticehurst, and Uckfield. Most employers reporting from this county refer to a scarcity of labour. Reports from the Lewes and Newhaven Unions state that the corn is much laid, that in many places machines cannot be used, and that men are asking high prices for cutting. In Hampshire work is said to be plentiful in the Unions of Basingstoke, Christchurch, Doxford, Fareham, Hartley Wintney, Havant, Kingsclere, Lymington, Petersfield, and Whitchurch, and in the Hampshire portion of the Farnham Union (Hants and Surrey). All reports from this county refer to a great difficulty in getting sufficient men for harvest. An employer from the Havant Union writes that men for harvest used to come into that district from other parts of the county, but they all write now and say that they cannot come, as they have abundant work.

Agricultural labourers are said to be fully employed in Dorsetshire in the Unions of Blandford, Bridport, Dorchester, Wareham and Purbeck. In the Wimborne and Cranborne Union one employer writes that all labourers were not able to get work until harvest commenced, chiefly owing to failure of the turnip crop. Another employer, writing from another part of the same union, says that employment is plentiful. An employer in the Wareham and Purbeck Union, writing on August 3rd, states that labour has been very scarce, and that there was still some water-meadow hay uncarried, as no extra labour could be got to cut it.

In Wiltshire employment is said to be regular in the Unions of Amesbury, Bradford-on-Avon, Chippenham, Cricklade and Wootton Bassett, Devizes, Highworth and Swindon, Marlborough, Mere, Pewsey, Warminster, Westbury and Whorwellsdown, and Wilton. Employers generally state that the labourers have been fully employed getting in a heavy hay crop, but in some districts there has not been much root hoeing owing to the dry weather. The corn crops are said to be heavy and much laid in some districts, which will require extra labour to cut them as the machines cannot do so. A report from the Westbury and Whorwellsdown Union states that farmers found some difficulty in getting sufficient hands for the hay harvest, and that all extra hands find employment at a higher rate of wages on the Great Western Railway works. A few of the South Wales colliers out on strike whose homes are in the district have been assisting at farm work.

Favourable reports come from Gloucestershire from the Unions of

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—SEAMEN; DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR.

Barton Regis, Cirencester, Dursley, Gloucester, Northleach, Stow-on-the-Wold, and Thornbury. Reports state that the hay crop has been a heavy one, and sufficient labour often difficult to obtain. Agricultural labourers in Herefordshire are said to be fully employed in the Unions of Bromyard, Dore (Monmouth and Hereford), Ledbury and Ross. Reports from this county state that the hay crop has been a heavy one, and that extra hands have been difficult to obtain. Agricultural employment is said to be quite regular in Somersetshire in the Unions of Bridgwater, Chard, Clutton, Langport, Taunton, Wellington, Wells, Wincanton, and Yeovil. Several reports from this county refer to a scarcity of labour for hay harvest, and the hay and corn crops are said to be heavy and to be giving plenty of employment. An employer in the Yeovil Union states that dry weather in July greatly affected the root crops, and that consequently there was not much hoeing to be done. The labourers were therefore employed to do this by daywork instead of piecework, and, in consequence, did not earn so much. In the Langport Union the coal strike in South Wales has occasioned the return of many hands who have been obtaining temporary employment in the harvest fields. In Devonshire agricultural labourers are said to have been fully employed in the Unions of Barnstaple, Crediton, Holsworthy, Kingsbridge, South Molton, Tavistock, and Torrington. In one district in the Axminster Union a few were in irregular work owing to the partial failure of the root crop, due to dry weather. An employer in another part of the Union states that employment is plentiful. In Cornwall employment is said to be regular in the Unions of Bodmin, Camelford, and Stratton. The hay and corn crops are said to be heavy ones. The root crops early in August were said to be in need of rain.

(g) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN JULY.

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

THE number of men shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels from certain selected ports (at which over 80 per cent. of the total tonnage of vessels in the foreign trade is entered and cleared) was 37,824 in July, or 4,328 less than in July, 1897. Omitting Newport and Cardiff, the two ports principally affected by the disturbance in the South Wales coal trade, the number of men shipped in July, 1898, shows an increase as compared both with a month and a year ago. At most of the ports the demand for, and the supply of, men is reported as nearly equal. At Bristol, Leith and Belfast, however, the supply of seamen and firemen exceeded the demand, while at Grimsby, on the other hand, the supply did not equal the demand.

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 July 1898 and 1897 respectively, together with the number* shipped in the seven months ended July in each of these years:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Men, &c., shipped in July, 1898.*			Total in July, 1897.*	Total number shipped in seven months ended July*	
	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in July, 1898.		1898.	1897.
ENGLAND.						
East Coast.						
Tyne Ports	78	5,317	5,395	5,268	27,128	24,889
Sunderland	2	895	897	886	4,888	4,802
Middlesbrough	3	556	559	554	2,513	3,512
Hull	69	2,009	2,078	1,888	9,885	8,757
Grimsby	17	338	355	388	985	776
Bristol Channel.						
Bristol	—	221	221	374	1,500	1,545
Newport, Mon.	—	339	339	1,893	4,740	9,162
Cardiff	237	1,664	1,901	5,926	24,311	39,785
Swansea	214	965	1,179	1,185	4,827	5,134
Other Ports.						
Liverpool	411	10,631	11,042	9,751	71,301	66,654
London	310	6,452	6,762	7,634	43,026	43,112
Southampton	—	1,916	1,916	1,231	10,837	9,308
SCOTLAND.						
Leith, Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth	—	1,469	1,469	1,419	6,232	5,329
Glasgow	89	2,888	2,977	2,940	17,491	16,562
IRELAND.						
Dublin	4	151	155	195	764	693
Belfast	40	454	494	328	2,055	1,725
Total, July, 1898	1,479	36,246	37,824	—	232,283	—
 Ditto, July, 1897	2,032	40,120	—	42,162	—	241,544

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

(h) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN JULY.

EMPLOYMENT in July at the docks and wharves showed a marked decline as compared with a year ago, though it improved during the month.

The daily average number of labourers employed at all the docks and at 115 of the principal wharves was 13,785 during the four weeks ended 23rd July last, as compared with an average of 13,595 in the preceding four weeks, and 15,282* in the corresponding period of July, 1897. The estimated number employed ranged from 12,611 on 28th June to 14,775 on the 19th July.

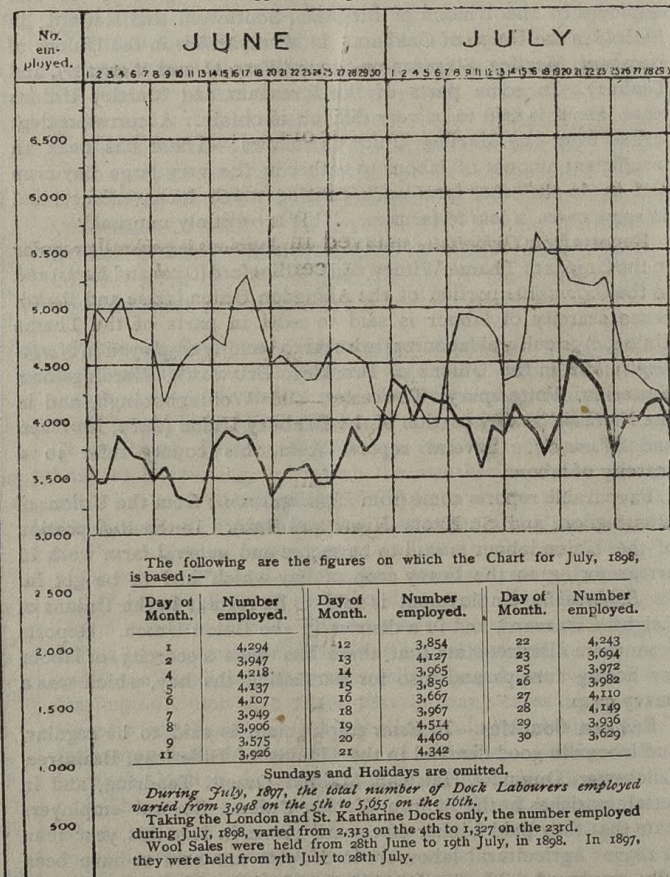
Detailed Figures.—(1) The following table shows the estimated daily average number of dock and wharf labourers employed in each week of the month:—

Period.	Labourers employed in Docks			Labourers employed at 115 Wharves making Returns.	Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
1st week of July	5,845	2,433	8,278	5,185	13,463
2nd " "	5,795	2,234	8,029	5,198	13,227
3rd " "	6,499	2,410	8,909	5,220	14,129
4th " "	6,640	2,198	8,838	5,481	14,319
Average for 4 weeks ending July 23rd, 1898	6,195	2,319	8,514	5,271	13,785
Average for July, 1897	7,606	2,464	10,070	5,212*	15,282*
Average for June, 1898	5,685	2,431	8,116	5,479	13,595

(2) The daily fluctuation in the number of dock labourers employed by the London and India Docks Joint Committee during June and July is shown on the chart below. The numbers in July ranged from 3,575 on the 9th to 4,514 on the 19th.

Chart showing the total number of Dock Labourer employed by the Joint Committee at the London, St. Katharine, East and West India, Victoria and Albert Docks, and the Town Warehouses, for each day during the months of June and July, 1898. The corresponding curve for June and July, 1897, is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1898, and the thin curve to 1897.]



Work in mid-stream is reported as moderate to fair, the first two weeks of the month not being so good as the last two. Employment with deal porters has been

* Amended figures.

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—DISTRICT REPORTS—LONDON.

fair to busy; with lightermen and coal porters fair; with lumpers and stevedores fair and rather better than in June; with corn porters fair at the Millwall and India Docks, slightly improved at the Surrey Docks, and moderate at the Victoria and Albert Docks.

With the fruit porters in Thames-street employment has been slack, but rather better than in June, the daily average number of men employed being 168 in July, compared with 119 in June.

(j) EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN THE TEXTILE TRADES IN JULY.

ACCORDING to returns from women correspondents, employment for women during the month showed practically no change in the cotton, woollen and worsted trades. Information has been received with regard to 513 cotton, woollen, worsted, and silk mills, employing about 84,680 women and girls, and is summarised in the following table, which also gives for comparison the corresponding figures for the previous month and for a year ago:—

Trade and Month.	Percentage ordinarily employed in Mills which were			
	Working full time.		Working Short Time.	Closed for repairs, bad trade, disputes, or other causes.
	With Full Employment.	With Partial Employment.		
Cotton Trade—				
July, 1898	80	17	1	2
June, 1898	81	16	1	2
July, 1897	67	29	3	1
Woollen and Worsted Trade—				
July, 1898	69	24	6	1
June, 1898	71	24	3	2
July, 1897	71	22	6	1
Silk Trade—				
July, 1898	52	16	32	—
June, 1898	61	12	27	—
Total of above Trades—				
July, 1898	76	19	4	1
June, 1898	78	18	2	2
July, 1897*	68	25	3	1

Cotton Trade.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the cotton mills reported on is 61,380; of these 80 per cent. were employed in mills working full time (to be compared with 81 per cent. among those for whom returns were received in June, and with 67 per cent. in July, 1897); 17 per cent. in mills running full time, but giving only partial employment; 1 per cent. in mills running short time; while mills employing 2 per cent. were stopped during the whole or part of the month.

Woollen and Worsted Trades.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the woollen and worsted mills reported on is 19,260; of these 69 per cent. were employed in mills running full time (to be compared with 71 per cent. among those for whom returns were received in June, and 71 per cent. in July, 1897); 24 per cent. in mills running full time, but giving only partial employment; 6 per cent. in mills running short time; while mills employing 1 per cent. were stopped during the whole or part of the month.

DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

LONDON.

Employment in Various Industries.—The state of employment during July was scarcely so good as in June, several important industries showing a slight falling off. Returns from 420 branches of 110 unions, having an aggregate membership of 72,165, show that 2,455 (or 3.4 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.9 in May and June. The percentage for July, 1897, was, however, the same, namely, 3.4.

* Exclusive of silk trade.

Employment in the Engineering, Metal, and Shipbuilding trades remained steady. Reports from 122 branches of 26 unions, with an aggregate membership of 20,459, show that 683 (or 3.3 per cent.) were unemployed, as in June. The percentage for July, 1897, was 3.6. Sailmakers continued slack.

The Building trades continued briskly employed. Returns from 179 branches of 6 unions paying unemployed benefit, with a membership of 11,130, show that 102 (or 0.9 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.0 per cent. in April, May, and June, and with 1.2 per cent. in July, 1897. The bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, stonemasons, stonecarvers, and millwrights describe employment as good; the plasterers as fair; the painters and decorators and plumbers as moderate.

Employment in the Furnishing trades continued to decline slightly in some branches. Reports from 44 branches of 10 unions, with a membership of 6,520, show that 189 (or 2.9 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.1 per cent. in June and 2.9 per cent. in July, 1897.

Coopers remained busy. Two societies with a membership of 990 report 8 (or 0.8 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 0.2 in June and 0.3 per cent. in July of last year.

Coachbuilders and Wheelwrights were well employed. Returns from 13 branches of 8 unions, with a membership of 1,344, show that 25 (or 1.9 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.5 per cent. in June and 1.6 in July, 1897.

The Printing and Bookbinding trades still continued to show falling off, compositors being better employed but machine-minders being less busy. Returns from 22 unions, with a membership of 22,407, show that 811 (or 3.6 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.0 per cent. both for June, 1898, and for July of last year.

Employment in the Clothing trades remained moderate. The West End bespoke tailoring trade was dull; the East End bespoke trade fair; the contract trade fair; the wholesale trade bad the military uniform trade moderate; the ladies' tailoring and mantle making trade fair. Employment with hatters still continued dull; with capmakers it was fair. With fur skin dressers and furriers it was bad. Employment with silk weavers continued fair.

Boot and Shoe Trades.—Employment in the West End hand-sewn branch was fairly good; the East End sewound trade slightly improved; with boot and shoe operatives employment was bad.

Employment in the Leather trades continued to fall off. Returns from 6 unions, with a membership of 1,695, show that 70 (or 4.1 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.8 in June, and 3.2 per cent. in July, 1897.

In the Glass and Pottery trades, returns from 8 unions, with a membership of 1,478, show that 81 (or 5.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.2 in June, and 5.1 per cent. in July of last year.

Hair, Fibre, and Caneworkers.—In these trades, returns from 5 unions with a membership of 891, show that 31 (or 3.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.6 in June and 1.8 per cent. in July, 1897.

Gold and Silverworkers were steadily employed. Returns from 8 unions with a membership of 1,103 show that 21 (or 1.9 per cent.) were unemployed as in June, compared with 1.8 per cent. in July of last year.

Employment in the Tobacco trades was fairly good for the season. Returns from 4 unions with a membership of 2,419 show that 145 (or 6.0 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 5.7 in June and 7.8 per cent. in July, 1897.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—At the docks and principal wharves the daily average number of labourers employed was 13,785 in July, as compared with 13,595 in June, and 15,282 in July, 1897. Work in midstream was moderate to fair, the first two weeks of the month not being so good as the last two. Employment with deal porters has been fair to busy; with lightermen and coal porters fair; with lumpers and stevedores fair, and rather better than in June; with corn porters fair at the Millwall and India docks, slightly improved at the Surrey docks, and moderate at the Victoria and Albert docks; with fruit porters slack, but rather better than in June. (For further details, see page 238.)

Labour Bureaux.—Returns received from eight labour bureaux show that 1,349 fresh applications for work were registered during July, 1898, as compared with 1,375 in July, 1897. Of these, 471 i

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—NORTHERN COUNTIES AND LANCASHIRE.

July, 1898, and 505 in July, 1897, were applications by women and girls. Work was found by these bureaux during July for 813 persons (including 129 women and girls), compared with 790 (including 148 women and girls) in the corresponding month of 1897. The number of persons on the register at the end of July, 1898, was 1,563, or 4 less than a year ago. (For further details see page 255.)

Pauperism.—The number of persons relieved on one day in the second week of July was 98,190, being 1,081 less than on the corresponding day in June. As compared with July, 1897, there is an increase of 1,976, the district showing the largest increase being the South district (increase of 720), followed by the North district (427), West district (388), East district (357), and Central district (84).

On the same day in July 818 vagrants were relieved, as compared with 1,071 on the corresponding day of June, and with 810 a year ago.

In West Ham the number of persons (exclusive of vagrants) relieved on one day in the second week was 8,707 in July, 8,910 in June, and 8,183 in July, 1897. (For further details see page 255.)

ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES.

Tyne and Wear District.

Coal Mining.—*Northumberland.*—The pits have worked much better during the four weeks ending July 23rd, steam coal collieries averaging 5'26 and house coal pits 5'32 days per week, as against 5'11 and 5'17 days respectively in June. The 7½ per cent. advance in wages conceded in April last is to be continued for another three months. Of the 20,884 union miners, 31 (or 0'14 per cent.) are unemployed, the same number as at the end of June. Of the 1,340 engine and firemen and mechanics, all are at work. *Durham.*—Collieries have worked less time owing entirely to "breakages" and holidays. Pits producing a mixed class of coal, and those hewing gas, coking, house and manufacturing coal have averaged respectively 5'41, 5'20, 5'24, 5'15 and 5'47 days per week, as compared with 5'57, 5'12, 5'62, 5'43 and 5'50 days in June. Returns from 133 pits, employing 65,757 men and boys, show an average of 5'36 days per week, as against 5'46 days in June. Of the 60,738 union miners 347 (or 0'57 per cent.) are off work through bad trade, as against 318 (or 0'52 per cent.) last month exclusive of 451 idle from other causes. Coke workers are busy, especially in yards producing foundry coke. Of the 2,836 union deputies and colliery enginemen, 15 (or 0'5 per cent.) are unemployed.

Metal Mining.—Lead miners in Weardale continue busy; iron ore miners are steadily employed.

Quarrying.—Whinstone quarries are busy; limestone quarries fairly so. Employment in stone quarries at Blyth continues good.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—*On the Tyne.*—Riveters, platers and frame benders in all yards are exceptionally busy. Boiler shops are working night and day. Electrical, locomotive, and engine shops continue brisk, nearly all employing double shifts. In the lower reaches of the river employment in repair shops has been fairly regular. Of the 12,530 union members of these trades 249 (or 2'0 per cent.) are idle, as against 210 (or 1'7 per cent.) in June. *On the Wear.*—Iron shipbuilders are still busily employed. Continued activity also prevails in engine shops. Forges are brisk. Shipsmiths are fully employed. Of these trades, with 4,693 members 17 (or 0'4 per cent.) are off work, as against 36 (or 0'8 per cent.) in June.

On both rivers shipwrights are in good demand. Iron and steel moulders, brass-finishers, and patternmakers, with a membership of 2,325, have 16 (or 0'7 per cent.) idle. Of the 1,245 drillers and hole cutters 5 are unemployed. Steel smelting shops, plate and angle mills at Spennymoor, Consett and Newburn have worked full time; iron mills and chain makers 5 days per week.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Quayside labour is reported as good. Tyne watermen have had fuller employment. Sailmakers are brisk at Sunderland; slack on the Tyne. The coal porters, trimmers, and teamers on both rivers continue in fairly full employment. The demand for sailors and firemen has been moderately brisk.

Building Trades.—Except with the plumbers and painters, employment generally is good throughout the district.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Employment with letterpress printers on the Tyne and at Sunderland has much improved; with bookbinders it continues good. Five paper mills have worked 122 shifts out of a possible 235. Three other mills have worked full time.

Woodworking Trades.—On the Tyne cabinet-makers, upholsterers and mill-sawyers are fairly busy. Coopers are slack in chemical factories; in breweries and whitelead works employment is better.

Other Metal, Glass and Chemical Trades.—Four pressed glassmaking works are slack; bottle-makers are slack. In branches with 958

members of these trades, 70 (or 7'3 per cent.) are unemployed. Employment in cement, whitelead, and copper works continues steady. Chemical factories continue quiet.

Fishing.—There has been a fair supply of trawl and line fish; very few herrings, however, have been landed. Prices are reported as below the average.—*J. Ratcliffe.*

Middlesbrough, Stockton, and District.

Ironstone Mining.—Employment has been fairly good with the Cleveland miners, the number of days worked averaging 5'76 days per week during the four weeks ending July 23rd, as compared with 5'71 days per week during the week ending July 24th, 1897.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment in all branches of these trades is reported as generally good.

Engineering.—The engineers, ironfounders, and pattern-makers report employment as good throughout the district. Branches with 3,462 members have 15 (or 0'4 per cent.) unemployed, as against 17 (or 0'5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Shipbuilding.—All the yards are reported as busy. Shipwrights and shipjoiners report employment as good, with none unemployed.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Sailors and firemen report employment as fair at Middlesbrough; moderate at the Hartlepoons. Dock labour is reported as good at Middlesbrough, quiet at the Hartlepoons; riverside labour as good at some parts of the river, moderate at others.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is good throughout the district.

Miscellaneous.—The letterpress printers and the tailors report employment as good.—*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.—Employment in this industry continues good. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended July 23rd at pits from which returns have been received was 5'79 per week, as compared with 5'49 in July, 1897. The number of workpeople employed was 6,147, an increase of 21 as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

Iron Mining.—Employment continues good at the Cumberland and North Lancashire mines. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended July 23rd at the 48 mines from which returns have been received was 5'94 per week, as compared with 5'95 in July, 1897. The number of workpeople employed was 6,258, as compared with 6,332 in the corresponding period of last year.

Pig Iron Manufacture.—Returns received from Cumberland and North Lancashire show that at the works covered by the returns the number of furnaces in blast at the end of July was 47, the same number as at the end of June, and 4 more than in July, 1897. The number of workpeople employed at these furnaces was 3,682, an increase of 36 as compared with June, and of 263 as compared with July, 1897.

LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS.

Oldham and District.

Cotton Trade.—*Spinning.*—In Oldham and the surrounding districts the mills are still being worked full time. The spinners in Rochdale, Ashton-under-Lyne, Dukinfield, and Stockport report employment as good; in Mossley as moderate; in Stalybridge as fair. Ring frame spinners and throstle frame tenters report employment as good, mule twiners as moderate. Card-room workers report employment as fair, reelers as slack, winders as moderate. *Weaving.*—The powerloom overlookers and weavers report employment as bad in velvets and fustians, and as moderate in calicoes and sectional and ball-warping.

Woolen and Silk Trades.—Employment in the woolen trade continues slack in Rochdale, Milnrow, and Stockport districts. Silk dressers report employment as bad, short time being worked generally.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers, tinplate workers, and gas meter makers report employment as moderate; iron grinders and glazers as fair; pattern-makers, plate and machine moulders, ironfounders, brassfounders, and boiler-makers as good; toolmakers as fair in machine shops and slack in cycle departments.

Building Trades.—Employment is good throughout the district.

Coal Mining.—Miners in Royton and Crompton districts report employment as good, and in Chadderton district as moderate, five to six days per week being worked. In the Ashton district employment is reported as slack, with four days' work per week.

T. Ashton.

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—LANCASHIRE AND YORKSHIRE.

Bolton and District.

Cotton Trade.—*Spinning.*—In Bolton and immediate vicinity employment is reported as not so brisk; although at present all mills are working full time, employment is slightly less regular. In Bury, Chorley, Wigan, and Farnworth employment is reported as good. Cardroom operatives are reported as moderately well employed in Bolton, Bury, and Wigan. *Weaving.*—Employment in Bolton in calicoes is fairly busy; in coloured goods it is less active and somewhat irregular. In Bury and Wigan employment is reported as moderate; in Chorley as good on white goods; slack on coloured.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment in the engineering trades continues good. It is reported as active in iron machine-making firms. The braziers and sheet metal workers are not busy. Branches of the engineers with 2,362 members, have 129 (or 5'5 per cent.) unemployed, as against 153 (or 6'5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. In Bury, Wigan and Chorley employment with engineers is good; in allied trades moderate. Ironfoundry labourers continue fairly well employed in Bolton and district, but are irregularly employed at Chorley and Wigan.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is reported as good in Bolton and Bury, moderate in Wigan, and slack in Chorley.

Coal Trade.—In Bolton and district employment is moderate; at Wigan, Ince, Hindley and Westhoughton it is reported as good, the collieries working an average of five days per week.

Miscellaneous.—Leather workers, printers, paper mill-workers, shoemakers and tailors are reported as moderately employed.—*R. Tootill.*

Blackburn, Burnley, and District.

Cotton Trade.—*Weaving.*—Employment in the Blackburn, Burnley, and Preston districts is fair; in Darwen some 650 looms are stopped, together with a few standing for warps; in Colne and Nelson a slight improvement is shown, with fewer stoppages for want of warps. The hardwaste weavers generally are fairly well employed. Employment in the coloured goods trade is moderate. Twisters and drawers, and winders and beamers are fully employed. *Spinning.*—Employment is reported as fair in Preston and Darwen; good in Blackburn and Accrington; slack in Burnley. Cardroom workers report employment as good throughout the district. Branches of twisters and drawers, cotton spinners, and warp dressers, with 3,937 members, return 171 (or 4'3 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 145 (or 3'7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Building Trades.—Painters generally are well employed. Plumbers are slack. Employment is quiet with joiners, masons, wallers, and labourers; fair with brickmakers.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—Engineers report employment as fair; ironfounders and brassfounders as good; machine shops continue brisk.

Mining and Quarrying.—Coal miners in the Accrington and Townley districts report employment as moderate; in Burnley about 100 men are on four days per week, the remainder being on full time. Stone quarrymen are brisk.

Miscellaneous.—Tailors report employment as fair; cabinet-makers as quiet in Colne and Nelson, fair in Burnley; letterpress printers and calico printers and dyers as slack.

W. H. Wilkinson.

Manchester and District.

General.—Branches with 21,232 members have 674 (or 3'2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 783 (or 3'7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineers, boiler-makers, smiths, and strikers and sheet metal-workers in Manchester report employment as moderate; ironfounders, brassfounders and finishers, and machine-workers as good. In Northwich boiler-makers, engineers and smiths and strikers are moderately well employed. In Macclesfield fitters are busy; moulders are slack. In Warrington tinplate-workers are not busy; wireweavers are fully employed; wire-drawers, filesmiths and the iron trades in general are fairly well employed.

Building Trades.—Employment in Stockport and Warrington is fairly good. Bricklayers are busy in Manchester and moderately so in Northwich; the stonemasons and bricklayers' labourers are busy throughout the district; carpenters and joiners, painters and plasterers are moderately well employed; plumbers are slack; fret lead glaziers and painters are busy.

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—Coachmakers in Warrington are moderately well employed; in Manchester in both the

private trade and the railway shops they are busy. Cabinet-makers in Manchester, Stockport and Warrington are busy; upholsterers moderately so; coopers are fully employed.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Letterpress printers in Manchester report employment as good, and throughout the district it is fair; lithographic printers and lithographic artists are only moderately employed; bookbinders and pattern card makers are slack.

Textile Trades.—Cotton spinners in Manchester and Stockport report employment as moderate; doublers as fair. In Macclesfield cotton operatives are not so busy; silk workers continue slack; fustian cutters are not quite so slack. The bleachers, dyers and finishers report employment as moderate, and the dressers, dyers and finishers as bad.

Clothing Trades.—Employment with bespoke tailors is moderate; amongst the Hebrew tailors it is slightly better. Felt hatmakers are busy on ladies' felts, slack on men's felts. Boot and shoe makers are slack. Employment in the wholesale tailoring, ready-made mantle and waterproof garment trades is quiet. Capmakers and shirtmakers are moderately well employed.—*G. D. Kelley.*

Liverpool and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—The boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders report employment as fairly good. The pattern-makers, turners, fitters, smiths, ironfounders, brassfounders, iron and steel-dressers, drillers, and hole-cutters as good; the whitesmiths and shipwrights as fair; the shipjoiners as moderate; the ship-painters and shipscrapers as quiet. Branches with 4,252 members have 317 (or 7'5 per cent.) unemployed, the same percentage as at the end of June.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Cabinet-makers, upholsterers, and mill-sawyers and woodcutting machinists report employment as fair; coachmakers and coopers as moderate.

Transport Trades.—Seamen and firemen at South Docks report employment as moderate, at Northend and Bootle Docks as good; dock labourers as good at Northend, slightly improved at Central Docks, and fairly good at Southend; timber porters as fair; Mersey flatmen as fair; quay and railway carters as moderate.

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

Clothing Trades.—All branches of the tailoring trade report employment as good; the boot and shoemakers as fair.

Building Trades.—Plumbers report employment as moderate; all other branches are fully employed.

Coal Mining and Quarrying.—The coal miners report an average of five days work per week; quarrymen are fully employed.

Glass and Chemical Trades.—Glass bottle makers continue busy. Sheet glass flateners, and decorative glassworkers report employment as good; chemical workers as moderate.—*C. Reuse.*

A report from Winsford states that employment in the salt trade is dull; in the building trades good; moulders at Winsford report employment as moderate; fustian-cutters at Winsford and Middlewich as slack; chemical workers at Middlewich as normal.

YORKSHIRE.

Hull and District.

Shipbuilding, Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment for all sections is reported as good at Hull, Beverley, Grimsby, New Holland and Selby; at Goole as good with engineers, shipwrights, and smiths; and moderate with boiler-makers; at Doncaster as quiet with engineers.

Building Trades.—The masons and plumbers report employment as moderate. In other branches employment generally is good.

Transport Trades.—The seamen and firemen engaged in the short voyage trades report employment as good; those engaged in the longer voyage trades as fair. Employment for dock labour at Hull, Goole, and Grimsby is reported as fairly good. The railway workers report employment as good.

Fishing Industry.—Employment with the trawl fishermen, the steam fishing vessel engineers and firemen, and the general fish market labourers and curing house workers is reported as fair.

Seed-crushing, Oil, Colour, and Paint Trades.—Employment in the seed-crushing mills is reported as slack; most of the mills are either closed or working short time. Employment in the paint and colour works is reported as good.

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

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—YORKSHIRE AND MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—The cabinet makers at Hull report employment as good; the coopers and coachbuilders as moderate.

Leather Trades.—The tanners, lace-cutters, and leather belt makers at Hull, and the curriers and leather dressers at Doncaster report employment as moderate.

Miscellaneous.—The brushworkers report employment as bad; the bakers and confectioners as good; the gasworkers and general labourers as moderate.—*W. G. Millington.*

Leeds and District.

General.—Branches with 7,733 members have 167 (or 2.2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 204 (or 2.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment with the engineers, ironfounders, boiler-makers, machine-workers, brassworkers, smiths, and strikers, and stovegrate workers is good; with pattern-makers and steel workers fair; with spindle and flyer-makers moderate. At Wakefield employment in the engineering and iron trades is moderate. At Stanningley ironfounders are well employed.

Clothing Trades.—In the ready made tailoring industry employment has only been moderate; Jewish operatives are slack; bespoke tailors are quiet. In the boot and shoe trade employment is quiet; slipper-makers are slack.

Textile Trades.—Employment in some mills in Leeds is fair; in others only moderate. Willeyers and fettlers report employment as slack; blanket-raisers as moderate; flax and linen workers as fair; the dyers as quiet, particularly in the stuff branch. At Wakefield the woollen and worsted mills are fairly employed.

Building Trades.—Except with painters employment is good throughout the district.

Mining.—Employment in the Leeds pits has dropped down from five to four days per week. At Pontefract most pits are on full time. Ironstone miners are fully employed.

Leather Trades.—Tanners report employment as fair; leather shavers as slack; saddlers and harness-makers as only moderate.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Employment with letterpress printers has been good; with lithographers fair; with bookbinders and machine rulers moderate.

Glass Trades.—Glass bottle-makers at Leeds and Wakefield report employment as good; at Castleford as not so good as usual at this season.

Miscellaneous.—Brushmakers are slack, cabinet-makers and coach-makers are well employed, terra-cotta workers continue busy.

O. Connellan.

Bradford, Huddersfield, and District.

Worsted Trade.—Employment is still quiet in Bradford, and does not show much improvement. The woolsorters report employment as good, and the woolcombers as fair. In Halifax and the Worth Valley employment continues quiet, but in Huddersfield it continues fairly good and shows a slight improvement.

Woollen Trade.—Employment in and around Huddersfield is still fair. There is not quite the same nightwork and overtime as there was some months ago, but there is a little overtime still being worked in the Colne Valley. In the heavy woollen district of Dewsbury and Batley employment seems to be improving, but is not considered good; a few firms are working overtime, but others are still working short time.

Other Textile Trades.—Employment in the silk trade at Brighouse is again reported as only moderate; at Manningham as fairly busy; and the improvement at Halifax has been maintained. Employment in the cotton trade is reported as slack in Brighouse. The improvement in the carpet trade in Halifax has been maintained.

Metal Trades.—Employment in the engineering industry is again reported as good at Halifax, Keighley and Dewsbury, and moderate at Huddersfield and Bradford. The ironfounders in Bradford, Halifax, and Keighley report employment as good, in Huddersfield as moderate; wireworkers at Brighouse as good, at Halifax and Lindley as moderate.

Building Trades.—Employment in these trades is good throughout the district.

Miscellaneous.—The dyers at Bradford and Brighouse report employment as only moderate, at Huddersfield as still bad; the tailors and printers as quiet; the glassworkers as good.—*A. Gee.*

Sheffield, Barnsley, and Rotherham District.

Iron and Steel Industries.—The engineers, ironfounders, Siemens steel smelters, steam engine-makers, merchant iron rollers, stovegrate workers, kitchen-range and hot-water fitters, coremakers, iron

and steel dressers, and all departments of the steam service report employment as good; railway spring fitters and smiths and strikers as fairly good; boiler and steel girder makers and Bessemer steel workers as moderate and improved; best crucible steelmakers as busy; wireworkers as quiet. At Barnsley engineers and ironfounders are well employed. At Parkgate and Rotherham the ironworkers are fairly employed; steelworkers in all branches are busy. Branches of these trades, with 5,096 members, return 45 (or 0.9 per cent., as unemployed, as against 56 (or 1.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Cutlery and Tools.—Employment is reported as good with tool-makers, edge tool forgers and grinders, and scythe and sickle forgers and grinders; as fair with sawsmiths; as quiet with handle makers; as slack with the table knife forgers, grinders and hafters pen and pocket knife cutlers, razor makers, and handle and scale pressers and cutters; as moderate with the filemakers.

Other Metal Trades.—Silversmiths and hollow-ware finishers report employment as good; buffers as fair; platers and gilders, spoon and fork filers, silver and metal stampers, and general brassworkers as moderate. At Rotherham, Mexborough and Masbro' brass workers in all sections are well employed.

Coal Mining.—Returns from 74 of the principal collieries show an average of 5.18 days worked per week, the average being reduced by the disputes with the boys at several large pits. Colliery surface men report employment as fair. Owing to a change of ownership at one colliery, 150 men and boys have been stopped.

Building Trades.—At Barnsley employment is only moderate; it is good generally throughout the rest of the district.

Glass Trade.—Bottle-makers at [Barnsley, Mexbro', Rotherham, and Castleford report employment as good, and flint glass workers all through the district are busy.

Clothing Trades.—Employment with bespoke tailors is quieter; with ready-made tailoring operatives moderate. At Barnsley employment in the boot and shoe trade is improving.

Linen Trades.—Employment continues moderate.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Letterpress and lithographic printers and bookbinders report employment as good.

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—Coachmakers are busy. Railway carriage and wagon builders are fairly well employed. Employment with cabinet-makers is fair in Sheffield, slack at Barnsley. Box and bobbin-makers are well employed.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with paper-makers, saddlers, and harness makers is good; with down-quilt-makers, potters, and chemical-workers moderate.—*S. Utley.*

ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Derbyshire District.

General.—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with 7,410 members have 79 (or 1.1 per cent.) unemployed, as against 113 (or 1.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Engineering and kindred Trades.—Employment continues good at the locomotive works, and in bridge, girder, and boiler yards; ironfounders in Derby, Butterley, and Somercotes, brassmoulders and finishers in Derby and Burton, stove grate workers in Derby, Belper and Langley Mill and wire drawers in Ambergate, report employment as good; farriers in Derby, blastfurnacemen and pipe-moulders in Ilkeston as fair; lace machine builders in Long Eaton as improving; cycle-workers in Long Eaton and Draycott as still slack.

Coal Mining.—At collieries employing upwards of 32,000 men an average of 5 days per week has been worked, as compared with 4.5 days in June.

Quarrying.—Employment in limestone quarries has been fair. Chert quarries are busy in Bakewell.

Building Trades.—Employment generally continues good.

Coachbuilding and Woodworking Trades.—Employment continues good with railway carriage and wagon builders in Derby and Long Eaton, and with carriage builders in private shops. Coopers at Burton-on-Trent report employment as improving.

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoe operatives report employment as moderate. Employment with tailors and dress and mantle makers is good. Wholesale garment makers have been well employed.

Textile Trades.—Employment with cotton weavers and spinners continues good generally; with hosiery workers in Heanor, Belper and Ilkeston it has slightly improved. Lace workers in Ilkeston and Long Eaton report employment as still bad; calico printers and engravers in Hayfield, Glossop and New Mills as moderate;

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—DISTRICT REPORTS (continued)—MIDLAND COUNTIES.

surgical bandage makers in Derby as good; elastic web weavers as bad; dyers and bleachers in Belper district as fair.

Printing Trades.—Employment is reported as moderate in all branches.—*C. White-Deacon.*

Nottingham and District.

Lace Trade.—Employment in nearly every branch is slack throughout the district.

Hosiery.—Framework knitters report employment as slack; circular hosiery workers as moderate; hand frame workers as improved; rib top workers as fair. Wool shawl makers at Hucknall Torkard report employment as declining; the hand frame branch at Sutton-in-Ashfield as busy on best silk goods; as slack on common goods; the power frame branch as moderate at Sutton and fair at Mansfield; elastic bandage makers as not so brisk; hand frame workers at Carlton, Ruddington, Kirkby-in-Ashfield and Arnold as quiet; hosiery trimmers at Basford, Bulwell and Nottingham as moderate.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Cycle-makers are slack at Nottingham, Beeston and Lenton. Engineers report employment as moderate in machine-building, fair on general work at Nottingham, moderate at Newark and Grantham, busy at Mansfield, ironfounders as good; boiler-makers as good at Nottingham, slack at Grantham; tool machinists as slack at Beeston and Nottingham, busy at Grantham; steam engine makers as slack; iron and steel dressers as moderate; machine-workers, smiths and strikers, wheelwrights and smiths and farriers as good; kitchen range-fitters as quiet; blast furnace men, engine men and crane men, bobbin and carriage-makers and carriage-straighteners as good; brassworkers and brassfounders as rather slacker. Branches with 2,741 members have 175 (or 6.4 per cent.) unemployed, as against 136 (or 4.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Building Trades.—Most branches have been affected by the labourers' dispute (now settled), and report employment as moderate. Plumbers are slack. Brickmakers report employment as improving; painters as fair. All branches report employment as good at Mansfield, Newark, Retford, Workson, and Beeston.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Cabinet-makers, upholsterers, and French polishers report employment as good; coach-makers as fair; boxmakers as only moderate; picture-frame makers as quiet.

Mining.—Returns from 35 pits, employing 17,500 workpeople, show an average of slightly over 4.5 days per week, as against 4.5 for June. Employment continues fair in North Notts; it is moderate in the Leen Valley, and rather slack in South Notts.

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

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoemakers report employment as bad at Nottingham, good at Mansfield, moderate at Hucknall Torkard; bespoke tailors as rather dull at Nottingham, fair at Grantham, Mansfield, and Newark; ready-made tailoring operatives and mantle makers as good.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is slack with silk dressers, cotton doublers, bakers and gas stokers; good with basket makers and female cigar makers.—*W. L. Hardstaff.*

Leicester and Northampton District.

Boot and Shoe Industry.—Nearly all departments of the boot and shoe trade throughout this district are slack. Numbers of workpeople are on short time, and many are wholly unemployed in the rivetting, finishing, and machinery branches of the industry.

Other Clothing Trades.—Employment has continued good both in the wholesale and bespoke clothing trade. Dressmakers and milliners have been busier, and corset makers are again fully employed. There is no improvement in the hatting trade.

Hosiery and Wool-spinning Trades.—In most branches of the hosiery trade at Leicester employment is fairly regular. At Loughborough workpeople engaged on circular rib and seamless goods are in regular work, but employment is slack in the pant and half-hose departments. Employment is fairly good with dyers and trimmers, except at Hinckley, where it is quiet. It is moderate with woolspinners.

Elastic Web Trade.—Both in the home and export branches workpeople are only moderately well employed.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Electrical engineers, ironfounders, and boiler-makers report employment as good. It is fairly good with general engineers, rather slack with shoe machinery makers, and continues regular in the cycle industry.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment at the South Leicestershire coal pits remains about the same. Stone quarrymen are still

working full time, and iron and limestone workers are regularly employed.

Printing and Bookbinding Trades.—Employment with letterpress printers continues good; it is quieter with lithographic printers; good with bookbinders.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is good throughout the district.

Furnishing and Coachmaking Trades.—Workpeople in the carriage-making, and tram, road and railway coach and wagon building trades are in full work. Employment is still quiet in the upholstering trades, but cabinet-makers connected with the electrical and coach-making trades are busier, and mill-sawyers are well employed.

Leather Trades.—Nearly all departments of the leather currying industry are depressed, and work is generally slack.

Miscellaneous.—Employment continues good in all grades of the railway service, also with brick and sanitary pipemakers and bakers. It is slack with cigar-makers and gasfitters, and bad with brushmakers.—*T. Smith.*

Potteries District.

Pottery Trades.—Employment has further declined in all branches except the electrical department, which continues brisk. Hollow-ware pressers and flat-pressers did not average three days per week during the first three weeks, but were busier towards the close of the month. Sanitary pressers are fairly busy. Printers and transferers, throwers and handlers, ovenmen, kilnmen, and dippers, are averaging less than three days per week. Encaustic tilemakers are well employed.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Puddlers continue busy. Rollers in all departments are better employed. Blastfurnacemen are busy.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineers and boilermakers in North Staffordshire continue busy. Moulders report an improvement. At Crewe employment is plentiful in all branches. At Stafford overtime is general. Agricultural engineers at Uttoxeter and Rugeley are actively employed. Copper workers are working full time.

Coal Mining.—At all collieries in the Talk-o'-th'-Hill district, miners continue busy. Around Kidsgrove an improvement is reported. In the Potteries, both in the coal and ironstone seams, miners are averaging five days per week. At Cheadle an improvement is reported, the average being five and a-half days per week.

Textile Trades.—At Leek trimming weavers report a decline; twisters are fairly busy; winders and throwers are fully employed; pickers generally are working short time; braid trimmers and dyers are busy. At Congleton trimming weavers are slack; dressers are busy; towel weavers continue busy; fustian cutters report two-thirds as unemployed, and the rest on short time. At Cheadle and Tean silk and tape operatives are working full time.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors in the Potteries and at Crewe continue busy. Boot and shoe makers at Stafford report employment as scarce, the majority working short time; at Stone a slight falling off is reported. Corset-makers at Uttoxeter are busy.

Building Trades.—Employment is good throughout the district.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Employment in the Potteries for the first fortnight was slack, but afterwards improved. At Stafford employment was good. Lithographic artists and printers are fairly employed; bookbinders and machine-rulers are moderately busy.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with stone quarrymen at Alton and Hollington is busy; with bakers moderate; with brushmakers good; with railway-workers fair.—*I. S. Harvey.*

Wolverhampton and District.

Iron and Steel Trades.—In South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire employment in the steel smelting, angle and hoop, iron bar, and steel trades continues good. In South Shropshire the mills and forges are, with one exception, steadily employed.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Employment with engineers is not so good, owing to the cycle shops discharging men. The electrical shops are working overtime; moulders, and boiler, bridge, girder, tank and gasometer makers report employment as good. Employment is good at Coalbrook Dale and Madeley; malleable ironworkers at Walsall are only working 3 to 4 days per week.

Hardware Trades.—Employment is reported as good with brassworkers and makers of tubes, springs, traps, nuts and bolts, iron fences, hurdles, axles and springs, coach iron work, wrought iron work and hinges. It is moderate with grinders, stampers and piercers, and makers of malleable cycle and electrical castings, nails, protectors, gunlocks, builders' ironmongery, tips, cut nails,

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—EASTERN AND S.W. COUNTIES.

tacks, spectacle frames, light hollow-ware, locks and black castings. Edge toolmakers are quiet at Wolverhampton and Wednesbury, busy at Cannock. Ironplate workers are better employed at Bilston, slack at Wolverhampton and Lye. In Dudley and district vice and anvil makers report no change; block and chain makers, strikers and anchor makers report employment as good. The wrought nailmakers at Halesowen report employment as fallen off.

Coal Mining.—On Cannock Chase the pits are averaging only 1½ days per week. At Tamworth the miners are well employed. In the Oldbury, Tipton and Old Hill districts the pits are averaging 4½ days per week. In Shropshire they are working full time.

Building Trades.—Employment in the Wolverhampton district is fair. At Shrewsbury it remains at a standstill on account of a dispute.

Glass Trades.—Flint glassmakers at Wordsley and Stourbridge are working short time. The glass bottle makers at Brierley Hill report employment as moderate.

Leather Trades.—Employment at Walsall is fair except with the brown saddlers, who report employment as bad.

Carpet Trade.—Employment at Kidderminster is quiet, the mills running full time, but giving only partial employment. At Bridgnorth employment continues good.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the ready-made and bespoke tailoring trades has fallen off. In the boot and shoe trade it is fair.—C. Anthony.

Birmingham and District.

General.—Branches with 21,997 members have 953 (or 4·3 per cent.) unemployed, as against 602 (or 2·6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. About 600 of those unemployed are gun-makers.

Engineering.—Four branches of engineers return employment as bad, four as moderate, one as good; toolmakers and machinists as moderate. Smiths and strikers and pattern-makers as good. In West Bromwich and Coventry employment is good; in Redditch moderate. In Birmingham, Coventry and Redditch employment in the cycle trade is quiet, many men being discharged or on short time.

Brass and Copper Trades.—The brassworkers return employment as good. Tubeworkers are fairly well employed. Metal-makers and metal-rollers are busy. Fender and fire brassmakers are quiet.

Jewellers, Silversmiths, and Electro-platers.—Jewellers return employment as quiet, but the men employed in ladies' chain work have continued fairly busy; electro-platers continue quiet, and Britannia metal-workers are only moderately employed.

Other Metal Trades.—The gunmakers return employment as bad, with a number unemployed; bedstead-makers report employment as good, ironfounders and file cutters (by hand) as moderate, ironplate workers as quiet, wrought iron and steel hinge-makers, cut nail makers, steel and wrought iron, rivetted and welded tube workers as good; wire nail makers as improving; cycle tube workers as quiet. Employment at Coventry in the watch trade is fair; at Redditch in the needle trade good; in the fish-hook trade quieter; at West Bromwich in hollow-ware and ironfoundry fair; in the spring trade quiet.

Building Trades.—Employment is good throughout the district.

Glass Trades.—Employment is returned as good with the flint glass makers; fair with the flint glass cutters and silverers. In West Bromwich employment is returned as good.

Coachbuilding and Woodworking Trades.—The cabinet-makers and coachmakers return employment as good; the coopers as dull; the mill-sawyers as fair. Employment in the railway wagon shops continues good.

Clothing Trades.—The boot and shoe makers return employment as quiet, with many working short time; the tailors as slack.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is reported as good with letterpress printers at Birmingham, fair at West Bromwich; as quiet with brushmakers; improving with the saddlers and harness-makers; slack with bakers and confectioners; quiet with gasfitters, and good with gasworkers. In Coventry employment in the ribbon trade continues quiet.—A. R. Jephcott.

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

Clothing Trades.—Bespoke tailors are fairly busy in all parts of the district. Ready-made tailoring factories are on full time. The boot and shoe makers at Cambridge are fairly busy; at Norwich employment is bad, few men are working full time, and large numbers are not working half-time.

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

Building Trades.—Employment is good throughout the district.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Engineers and boiler-makers are fully employed; shipwrights and boat builders at Lowestoft are busy. At Yarmouth work for shipwrights has improved.

Textile Trades.—Mat and matting weavers at Diss are busy. At Norwich and Yarmouth the silk and crape factories are running full time.

Fishing Industry.—Fishing generally has not been good.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is reported as good with cabinet-makers, horticultural builders, electric light workers and navvies. Corset-makers are not busy. Brushmakers are slack.—G. Cleverley.

Suffolk, Essex, and District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Engineers report employment as good at Bury and Colchester, fair at Chelmsford and Beccles, moderate at Ipswich. The boiler makers and shipwrights at Ipswich are well employed.

Clothing Trades.—The boot and shoe operatives at Colchester and Ipswich report employment as slack. In the wholesale tailoring trade employment has been good at Ipswich, quiet at Colchester. With corset makers employment is good at Sudbury, moderate at Ipswich.

Textile Trades.—Employment with mat and matting makers is reported as good at Glemsford, Lavenham, and Hadleigh, fair at Long Melford, moderate at Sudbury; with horsehair weavers at Lavenham as good. Silk workers have been well employed at Sudbury, Halstead and Earl's Colne.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is good.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Letterpress printers at Beccles report employment as bad, elsewhere as good; bookbinders and lithographers as steady.

Miscellaneous.—Shipping and dock labour at Ipswich has been dull. General labourers and gasworkers have been well employed. R. W. Mather.

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

General.—Societies with 7,399 members have 113 (or 1·5 per cent.) unemployed, as against 97 (or 1·3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Engineering and allied Trades.—The boiler-makers, iron and brass founders, and toolmakers report employment as good; the engineers and brass finishers as moderate. Some of the railway shops are on short time, and the shipwrights report work as slack.

Building Trades.—Employment with plumbers is slack; with plasterers moderate; in other branches it is good.

Woodworking Trades.—The mill-sawyers, machinists and turners report employment as fair; the coopers and packing case-makers as slack; the lathrenders as moderate; the cabinet-makers as steady.

Printing Trades.—Employment is reported as good at Bath, Hereford and Gloucester, and fair in Bristol.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the boot and shoe trade in the Kingswood district has improved slightly; in Bristol it remains slack. The wholesale clothing operatives report employment as slack in the home trade, fair in the export trade. Bespoke tailors and hatters are slack; glovemakers at Yeovil are in steady work.

Dock Labour.—Employment in the grain and provision trade is reported as dull; in the deal and timber trade as improving.

Coal Trade.—Employment continues good in the Forest of Dean, and the improvement in the Radstock district has been fully maintained. In the Bristol coalfield full time is being worked, but 392 men remain idle through the stoppage of two pits in May.

Miscellaneous.—Stone quarrymen and brick and tile makers report employment as good; cotton operatives as fair; curriers and bakers as bad; basket makers as slack.—J. Curle.

Plymouth and South-Western District.

Mining, Quarrying, and China Clay Industries.—The slight improvement in the metal-mining industry has been maintained. Employment continues good in the limestone and granite quarries, and fair in the slate quarries; the china clay workers are a little busier.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—The engineers report employment as moderate throughout the district. Among boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders work has somewhat declined. With ironfounders, shipwrights, and brass and tinplate workers employment is good. Dartmouth and Brixham shipwrights are fully employed. Branches with 2,203 members have 23 (or 1·0 per cent.) unemployed, as against 9 (or 0·4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is good. Branches with 2,578 members have only 9 unemployed.

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—WALES AND SCOTLAND.

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh and District.

General.—Branches with 16,088 members have 168 (or 1·0 per cent.) unemployed, as against 177 (or 1·1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Coal Mining.—Employment in the coal industry continues good; the miners generally continue to work full time.

Shale Miners and Oilworkers.—Returns from 37 pits employing 3,789 workpeople (as compared with 3,779 in July, 1897) show that 2,209 were employed in pits at which full time was worked during the four weeks ended July 23rd, and 1,528 were at pits which worked 20 and under 24 days, while the remaining 52 persons were at pits which worked 17 days in the same period.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Branches with 2,354 members have 29 (or 1·2 per cent.) idle, as against 33 (or 1·4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. Branches in Falkirk, with 2,919 members, have 41 (or 1·4 per cent.) idle, as against 5 (or 0·2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Shipbuilding.—Employment in the shipyards at Leith has improved. Branches with 600 members have 28 (or 4·7 per cent.) idle, as against 70 (or 12·1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Textile Trades.—In the woollen industry in Galashiels and Selkirk employment continues bad; in Hawick weavers are fairly well employed, but spinners are slack. Employment in the hosiery industry continues good in Selkirk and Hawick, except in the hand-made department in Hawick. The carpet weavers in Midlothian report employment as good.

Building Trades.—Branches with 5,863 members have 3 idle, as against 6 at the end of June.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Branches with 1,111 members have 7 (or 0·6 per cent.) idle, as against 17 (or 1·5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

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

Printing and kindred Trades.—Branches with 2,255 members have 36 (or 1·6 per cent.) idle, as against 21 (or 0·9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

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

Glasgow and West of Scotland.

Shipbuilding.—Employment has been good. Branches with 11,724 members have 135 (or 1·2 per cent.) idle, as against 107 (or 0·9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment on the Clyde and in the surrounding districts is still busy. Branches with 27,234 members return 355 (or 1·3 per cent.) as idle, the same number as at the end of June.

Building Trades.—Employment is good throughout the district.

Mining.—In Stirlingshire the pits are working full time. In Dumbartonshire the men are still fully employed on a five days per week working policy. In Lanarkshire employment is good, nearly all the men working full time. In Ayrshire coal and ironstone miners are reported to be well employed. In Renfrewshire coal and ironstone miners are working five days per week, and in some cases six.

Textile Trades.—In Glasgow employment is reported as good with cotton weavers; quiet with silk weavers; fair with rope spinners and hemp dressers; improved with dyers. In Glasgow and Paisley employment in carpet weaving is fair. In Kilbirnie the thread factories are running full time, but employment is dull. In Paisley thread mills are fully employed.

Clothing Trades.—The tailors are rather dull after the holidays. The clothiers' operatives report employment on specials as fair, and on stock work as busy. The tailors' machinists and pressers report employment in the stock trade as fairly busy. Boot and shoe operatives report employment as dull; the knee shoemakers as quiet.

Shipping, Dock and Transport Labour.—The improvement among sailors and firemen has been maintained. Dock labourers report employment as good. Carters, tramway men and railway men, and hackney carriage drivers are well employed.

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

Clothing and Textile Trades.—Work in both the ready-made and bespoke departments of the tailoring trade is only moderate. Boot and shoe makers report employment as fair. Lacemakers continue busy.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress and lithographic printers report employment as fair; the bookbinders as quiet; the paper-rulers as moderate.

Dock and Quayside Labour.—Work on the quay side is reported as slack during the month, in the docks as fair; bargemen and lightermen are fairly well employed.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Mill-sawyers and machinists are well employed, cabinet-makers fairly so, upholsterers quiet.

Fishing Industry.—Trawlers have not done well during the month at Brixham, Plymouth and Newlyn. The hook and line boats have been getting good catches of whiting, bream, &c., but the mackerel fishing is bad.

Miscellaneous.—Employment among general labourers and excavators, and brick and tile-makers continues good; brushmakers are slack; bakers report work as quiet; in the market and fruit gardens work has fallen off considerably.—W. Hedge.

WALES.

North Wales District.

Mining.—Employment continues exceedingly brisk at the collieries in every district of North Wales. Employment at the lead and blende mines continues good.

Quarrying.—Employment in the slate, granite, salt, limestone, roadstone, and freestone quarries is reported as good.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineers at Ruabon report employment as quiet; at Oswestry as moderate; ironworkers and ironfounders as good.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is good.

Brick and Terra-Cotta Industries.—Employment continues steady in every district.

Chemical Industry.—Employment at one chemical works is reported as slack; at another as good.

Clothing and Textile Trades.—Employment in the tweed and flannel industries is reported as irregular, and several mills are on short time. Employment in the ready-made departments is reported as good; with bespoke tailors as fair.—G. Rowley.

South Wales District.

Coal Mining.—All the Associated Collieries are still idle, and the non-associated are manned and worked to the utmost capacity.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Coal shipments have been small; three-fourths of the coal trimmers, including numbers of the constant gangs, have hardly had a day's work. The iron ore, pitwood, timber, and corn imports have been below the average. The shipment of crews has been dull.

Ship Repairing and Engineering.—The boiler-makers return 40 per cent., as unemployed, the shipwrights 75 per cent., and the shipjoiners 5 per cent. at the end of July. Branches of the engineers with 2,526 members have 251 (or 9·9 per cent.) unemployed, as against 214 (or 8·4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. Excepting the permanent way men, railway men average from 2 to 3 days a week. Employment with sailmakers is bad.

Building Trades.—Employment, except in the western part of the district, is bad. Branches of carpenters and joiners with 1,344 members have 31 (or 2·3 per cent.) unemployed, as against 49 (or 3·7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Returns from Ebbw Vale, Tredegar, Cyfartha, and Dowlais report all mills and plant as idle, and mechanics and mechanics' labourers have, in many instances, been put on 3 or 4 days a week. At Blaenavon a mill worked one week during the month, and at Morriston two steel works have been stopped. Works at Briton Ferry, Neath, and Rogertone are going regularly.

Miscellaneous.—Employment in the patent fuel trade is reported as moderate generally, brisk at Swansea; chemical and metallurgical works are quiet; wagon-builders and lifters are not so busy; moulders and compositors and bookbinders report employment as quiet.—T. Davies.

Tinplate Trade in South Wales, Monmouthshire, and Gloucestershire.—At the end of July only 13,495 persons were employed in this industry at the 268 mills which were at work, as compared with 15,865 persons at 304 mills at the end of June. This falling-off in employment is chiefly attributable to the continuance of the dispute in the coal trade. A year ago 284 mills were at work, and 15,219 persons employed, 53 other mills being at work on account of disputes.

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—SCOTLAND AND IRELAND.

Glass Trades.—The flint glassmakers and cutters and decorative glassworkers report employment as good.

Miscellaneous.—The scale beam-makers, settmakers, paviors, carriers, gilders, saddlers, corkcutters, potters, and calico engravers report employment as good.—A. J. Hunter.

Dundee and District.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the jute industry remains satisfactory, and in the linen trade manufacturers are keeping their operatives well employed. The mills were stopped for holidays for a week and in some cases longer.

Coal Mining.—Reports from collieries employing upwards of 10,000 workpeople show an average of 4.6 days per week worked during the four weeks ending July 23rd, as compared with 5.5 days per week in the month of June, the falling off being largely attributable to the holidays.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Considerable activity still prevails in all branches. Branches of societies with 2,357 members, report 34 (or 1.4 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 29 (or 1.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Building and Woodworking Trades.—The building trades generally continue well employed. Societies with 1,358 members have only 5 idle. The furniture trade dispute remains unsettled.

Fishing Industry.—The white fishing has been moderately successful. At Arbroath and Montrose the herring fishing has been disappointing. The net salmon fishing improved towards the end of the month, and takes have been good on the lower reaches of the Tay, although still light on the upper reaches.

Dock Labour.—Labour at the docks and jetties has been fairly good.

Miscellaneous.—Employment in the printing and kindred trades has been good; in the tailoring and boot and shoe trades quiet. Linoleum and floorcloth-workers are busy.—P. Reid.

Aberdeen and District.

General.—Societies with 6,814 members have 33 (or 0.5 per cent.) unemployed, as against 30 (or 0.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Quarrying.—The quarrymen, borers, blockers, cranemen, labourers, settmakers, stonecutters, and granite polishers report employment as good.

Building Trades.—Employment is good generally.

Transport Trades.—Railway workers, carters, dock and general labourers report employment as good.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—All branches report employment as good.

Clothing and Textile Trades.—The tailors, boot and shoe makers (hand sewn), boot and shoe riveters and finishers report employment as good. The operatives at a large linen factory, which will shortly be closed, are being gradually discharged.

Printing and kindred Trades.—All branches report employment as good.

Fishing.—In July, at the port of Aberdeen, trawl and line boats landed 59,745 cwt., with a value of £25,429, as compared with 62,582 cwt., with a value of £33,511 landed in June. The herring fishing is now going on all along the North-east coast.

Miscellaneous.—The sawmillers and woodcutting machinemen, cabinet-makers, upholsterers, saddlers, bakers, and combmakers report employment as good.—W. Johnston.

IRELAND.

Dublin and District.

Building Trades.—Except with plumbers, employment in all branches is good.

Metal Trades.—Employment generally is fairly good; with the gasfitters it is dull. Branches with 865 members have 23 (or 2.7 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 30 (or 3.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Woodworking Trades.—Employment is good with the cart and wagon builders and coachmakers with overtime in tram shops; bad with the cabinet-makers; fair with the upholsterers.

Clothing Trades.—Employment is dull with the tailors, fair in the boot and shoe trade.

Printing and allied Trades.—The letterpress printers have been busy; the lithographers, stereotypers, and machine-minders report employment as fair; the bookbinders as dull. Branches with 1,296 members have 37 (or 2.9 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 95 (or 7.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Miscellaneous.—All classes of labourers report employment as good; ropemakers as fair; bottle-makers as good; corkcutters as moderate; bakers as fair.—J. P. Nannetti.

Belfast and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Branches with a membership of 10,388 have 132 (or 1.2 per cent.) unemployed, the same percentage as at the end of June. Employment in all branches is fair.

Linen Trades.—Societies with 3,970 members return 128 (or 3.2 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 121 (or 3.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. Employment is reported as bad generally, a number of mills and factories only working 4 days per week.

Building Trades.—Branches with 2,315 members have 49 (or 2.1 per cent.) unemployed, as against 41 (or 1.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. The plumbers report employment as bad; carpenters and joiners as quiet; bricklayers, hodsmen and house painters as good.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Societies with 762 members have 30 (or 3.9 per cent.) unemployed, as against 13 (or 1.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. The cabinet-makers, coopers, and packing-case makers report employment as fair; French polishers, upholsterers and coachbuilders as good; mill-sawyers as dull.

Printing and allied Trades.—Societies with 929 members have 34 (or 3.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 47 (or 5.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. The bookbinders and machine rulers report employment as bad; lithographic printers as moderate; letterpress printers as fair; and lithographic artists and designers as good.

Clothing Trades.—Employment is good with the tailors, and fair with the boot and shoe makers.

Miscellaneous.—Branches with 1,750 members report 34 (or 1.9 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 51 (or 3.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. The bakers, butchers, carters, railway servants, municipal employees, and glass embossers report employment as fair; the locomotive engine drivers and the paviors as good.—R. Sheldon.

Cork and District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Employment is reported as fair with smiths, turners, and iron and brass moulders in Cork, Limerick, Waterford, and Passage West; dull with fitters and millwrights; fair with boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders; dull with shipwrights, sailmakers, and riggers.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is good throughout the district.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors report employment as affected in Limerick by a dispute, and as fair elsewhere; hand-sewn boot-makers and boot and shoe riveters as dull.

Furnishing and Woodworking.—Millsawyers and woodworking machinists report employment as steady; cabinet-makers, coopers, and cork cutters as dull; coachmakers as good.

Miscellaneous.—Letterpress printers report employment as dull; railway and tramway employees as good; coal porters and gas workers as steady.—P. O'Shea.

AN AUSTRIAN LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

A NEW department, attached to the Ministry of Commerce, and bearing the title of "Imperial and Royal Department of Labour Statistics," will enter upon its functions on October 1st. According to a Ministerial Proclamation of July 25th, the duties of the new Department are to consist "in the systematic collection and working-up of statistical data relating to labour, and in the periodical publication of the same, for purposes of economic and social legislation and administration."

The Department is to have the assistance of a permanent Council of Labour, consisting of 32 members, 8 of whom will represent various Government offices. Of the remaining 24 members, who will be appointed for 3 years by the Ministry of Commerce, 8 will be employers, 8 workmen, and 8 will be other persons specially qualified to assist the Council in its labours. Any of these 24 members who are non-residents in Vienna, will be paid (besides travelling expenses) a daily allowance (13s. 4d.) for each attendance at the Council, and workmen members resident in Vienna, will be allowed 8s. 4d. per day's attendance.

The new Department is created by a Resolution of the Emperor (dated July 21) and not by legislation, and its officials will possess no compulsory powers.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN JULY.

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

The total number of persons reported as killed during July was 263, being 13 more than in June, but 58 less than in July, 1897.

In the first group of industries shown in the following summary table, including railways, mines, quarries, shipping, and factories, and employing 5,280,942 persons (according to the latest available figures), 250 persons were killed, and 5,981 injured by accidents in July as compared with 299 killed and 4,782 injured in July, 1897. These figures give one death in July for every 21,124 persons employed in those industries. During the seven completed months of 1898, 2,055 persons were reported killed and 36,368 injured, as against 2,433 killed and 34,054 injured in the corresponding period of 1897.

In the remaining occupations included in the tables, 13 persons were reported as killed, and 724 injured last month, as compared with 22 killed and 457 injured in July of last year.

SUMMARY TABLE.

	Killed.		Injured.		Number Employed according to latest Returns.
	July, 1898.	July, 1897.	July, 1898.	July, 1897.	
Railway Service—					
Accidents connected with movement of vehicles	46	46	303	311	465,112
Other Accidents	3	4	664	919	
Total Railway Service	49	50	967	1,230	465,112
Mines	67	68	325	396	725,803
Quarries	6	11	132	67	112,829
Shipping	89	130	339	261	233,780*
Factories	39	40	4,218	2,828	3,743,418
Total of above	280	299	5,981	4,782	5,280,942
Workshops	—	—	7	4	Cannot be stated.
Under Factory Act, 1895, Ss. 22, 23	6	18	581	341	
Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894	7	4	136	112	

DETAILED TABLE.

	By Accidents connected with Movement of Vehicles.		By other accidents on the Companies' Premises.		Total.
	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	
Railway Service—					
Brakemen and Goods Guards	4	54	—	14	4
Engine Drivers	1	25	—	25	1
Firemen	3	27	—	38	3
Guards (Passenger)	—	15	—	6	—
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	13	12	—	69	13
Porters	3	49	—	154	3
Shunters	4	54	—	9	4
Miscellaneous (including Contractors' Servants)	18	67	3	349	21
Total for July, 1898	46	303	3	664	49
Total for July, 1897	46	311	4	919	50

	Underground.		Surface.		Total.
	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	
Mines—					
Explosions of Firedamp	—	17	—	—	—
Falls of ground	29	134	—	—	29
In shafts	3	4	—	—	3
Miscellaneous	22	129	13	41	35
Total for July, 1898	54	284	13	41	67
Total for July, 1897	56	359	12	37	68

	Inside.		Outside.		Total.
	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	
Quarries over 20 feet deep					
Explosives or Blasting	3	6	—	—	3
Falls of ground	—	16	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	3	43	—	67	3
Total for July, 1898	6	65	—	67	6
Total for July, 1897	9	60	2	7	11

	Killed.		Injured.		Total.
	By Wreck or Casualty.	By other Accidents.	By Wreck or Casualty.	By other Accidents.	
Shipping*—					
On Trading Vessels—					
Sailing	8	—	22	42	30
Steam	17	1	40	280	57
On Fishing Vessels—					
Sailing	—	—	6	—	6
Steam	—	—	2	10	2
Total for July, 1898	25	1	64	338	89
Total for 3 months May, 1898, to July, 1898	85	5	208	718	293
Total for 3 months May, 1897, to July, 1897	301	38	173	625	474

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	
Factories—					
(a) Accidents reportable by Certifying Surgeons—					
Adults	32	890	—	127	32
Young Persons	4	370	—	92	4
Children	3	12	—	4	3
Total	39	1,272	—	223	39
(b) Other Accidents—					
Adults	—	2,293	—	34	—
Young Persons	—	363	—	30	—
Children	—	2	—	1	—
Total	—	2,658	—	65	—
Total Factories—					
July, 1898	39	3,930	—	288	39
July, 1897	40	2,585	—	243	40

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	
Workshops—					
Adults	—	5	—	—	—
Young Persons	—	2	—	—	—
Children	—	—	—	—	—
Total Workshops—					
July, 1898	—	7	—	—	—
July, 1897	—	4	—	—	—

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	
Factories & Workshops (classified by trades).					
Textiles—					
Cotton	1	161	—	96	1
Wool and Worsted	—	77	—	42	—
Other Textiles	1	34	—	30	1
Non-Textiles—					
Extraction of Metals	6	62	—	—	6
Founding and Conversion of Metals	4	566	—	—	4
Machines, Engines and Engineering	2	1,047	—	—	2
Ship and Boat Building	6	645	—	—	6
Wood	—	110	—	1	—
Chemicals, &c.	3	99	—	4	3
Other Non-Textile Industries	16	1,136	—	115	16
Total July, 1898	39	3,937	—	288	39
Total July, 1897	40	2,589	—	243	40

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	
Under Factory Act, 1895, Ss. 22, 23					
Docks, Wharves and Quays	4	347	—	—	4
Warehouses	2	177	—	—	2
Buildings to which Act applies	—	41	—	—	—
Laundries	—	2	—	14	—
Total for July, 1898	6	567	—	14	6
Total for July, 1897	18	323	—	18	18

	Construction or repair.		Use or Working.		Total.
	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	
Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894					
Bridge	—	2	—	—	—
Canal	—	1	1	4	1
Railway	1	58	—	—	1
Tramroad	—	—	—	—	—
Tramway	—	6	—	21	—
Tunnel	—	6	—	—	—
Other Works	2	38	—	—	2
Traction Engines	—	—	2	—	—
Total for July, 1898	4	111	3	25	7
Total for July, 1897	3	95	1	17	4

* The figures relate to seamen who have been reported during the month to have been killed or injured by accidents at sea, or in rivers and harbours, whilst they were members of the crews of sea-going vessels (except yachts) registered in the British Islands under Part I. of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894 (this includes all trading vessels and about a half, say 3,000, of the fishing vessels, of 15 tons and upwards). Injuries to members of the crews of fishing vessels employed in and out of Scottish ports and of vessels trading exclusively between Scottish ports, or to Asiatics serving under Asiatic articles of agreement, are not included. With these exceptions injuries, however trivial, are included. The number of persons stated to be employed is the sum of the number of persons engaged for the first crew of each vessel employed during 1896, 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 JULY, 1898.

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

Summary.—The changes in wages reported during July affected about 95,000 workpeople, and the net effect of all the changes on the weekly wages of these workpeople was an increase of about 1s. 1½d. per head.

Increases.—The principal increases were the almost general advance in piece and hourly rates in the shipbuilding and engineering trades, particularly in Scotland, the North-East Coast of England, Barrow-in-Furness, and the Mersey District, and the advance to 20,000 puddlers and millmen in the Midlands.

Decreases.—The only decrease reported was that of 6d. per week to 1,000 handkerchief makers at Lurgan.

Methods of Arrangement.—Changes affecting about 92,100, or 97 per cent. of the total number of workpeople affected, were settled without cessation of work, including 20,600 where wages are regulated by sliding scales, and 3,300 which were settled by arbitration and conciliation.

Totals for First Seven Months of 1898.—For the seven months, January to July, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) reported as having received advances or sustained decreases is about 528,500, compared with 381,000 for the corresponding period of 1897.

Notes.—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.

Table with columns: Locality, Employment, Date from which change takes effect in 1898, Approximate Number of workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in full week.

Table for BUILDING TRADES, Deceases—Nil. Includes entries for England & Wales (Jarrow-on-Tyne, Sunderland, Kendal, Barnsley, Hebden Bridge, Leeds, Rotherham, York, Crewe, Lichfield, Nottingham, Banbury, Newmarket, Margate, Looe, Cornwall, Morriston, Swansea, Scotland—Airdrie and Coatbridge, Forres, Greenock, Hawick, Motherwell).

Table for MINING AND QUARRYING, Deceases—Nil. Includes entries for Bangor, Fife, Kinross, and Clackmannan.

Table for METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES, Deceases—Nil. Includes entries for England & Wales—Durham, North-East Coast.

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

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

Main table for METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES—(Continued). Includes entries for England & Wales (North-East Coast, Tyne and Blyth, River Tyne Dist., Tees and Hartlepool, Barrow-in-Furness, Liverpool, Mersey District, Derby, Midlands District, South Staffordshire, Peabroke Dock, Scotland—Aberdeen, River Clyde, Falkirk, Edinburgh and Leith, Glasgow (East), Leith).

* Exclusive of overtime.

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

Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which change takes effect in 1898.	Approximate Number of workpeople affected by		Particulars of Change. (Decreases in Italics.)	Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week.*		Increase or Decrease in full week.	
			Inc.	Dec.		Before change.	After change.	Increase.	Decrease.
1 Increase—4 Workpeople. CLOTHING TRADES. 1 Decrease—1,000 Workpeople.									
Hull ...	Cordwainers ...	1 July	4	...	Advance averaging about 8½ per cent.	...	...	...	...
Lurgan ...	Handkerchief Makers (Veiners)	4 July	...	1000	Decrease of 6d. per week	...	...	...	...
6 Increases—213 Workpeople. EMPLOYEES OF PUBLIC AUTHORITIES. Decreases—Nil.									
Hull ...	Cablemen (Electric Lighting)	28 July	2	...	Advance of 2s. 6d. per week	...	...	2 6	...
Sheffield ...	Hackers, Road Repairers and Steam-roller Men	5 Aug.	50	...	Advance from 6d. to 6½d. per hour	...	26 6 28 8½	2 2½	...
Leigh, Lanc.	Carters (Sanitary Dept.)	6 July	83	...	Advance of 1s. per week. Wages after change—Daymen 24s. per week, nightmen 25s.	...	...	1 0	...
Liverpool (Mersey Docks)	Beaters and Labourers	29 July	16	...	Advance from 5½d. to 6d. per hour to beaters, 5d. to 5½d. to labourers, and 4d. to 4½d. to scavengers	...	...	...	...
Dublin ...	Paviors	11 July	25	...	Advance of 1s. 6d. per week	...	33 0 34 6	1 6	...
Dublin ...	Men in Cleansing Dept.	5 July	22	...	Advance of 1s. per week	...	...	1 0	...
6 Increases—638 Workpeople. MISCELLANEOUS TRADES. Decreases—Nil.									
Leeds ...	Deal Carriers	6 Aug.	100	...	Advance from 5½d. to 6d. per hour on time rates, and of 3d. per standard on piece, estimated at an increase of 3s. per week	...	...	...	...
Leicester ...	Co-operative Employers (Shop Assistants and Carters)	2 July	20	...	Advance to a minimum wage of 24s. per week to all over 21 years of age	...	...	...	...
Tamworth ...	Terra-cotta Workers	20 July	170	...	Advance of about 5 per cent.	...	...	...	...
Plymouth, Stonehouse, and Devonport	Letterpress Printers	27 June 1899	190	...	Advance of 2s. per week, with increase of ¼d. per hour in overtime rate	27 0 29 0	2 0	...	...
Aberdeen ...	Dock Labourers	18 July	134	...	Further advance of 1s. per week, and further increase of ¼d. per hour in overtime rate	29 0 30 0	1 0	...	...
Aberdeen ...	Dock Labourers	18 July	134	...	Advance from 7s. to 8s. 4d. per 100 tons to 120 lifters, and from 3½d. to 4d. per ton to 14 lifters	32 0 33 0	1 0	...	...

* Exclusive of overtime.

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN JULY, 1898.

The only changes of hours of labour reported in July were 3 decreases, involving altogether 836 persons.

Locality.	Occupation	Date from which change takes effect.	Approximate number of workpeople affected.	Hours of labour in a full week (exclusive of overtime).		Extent of change per week.
				Before change†	After change†	
DECREASES.						
Rotherham...	Plasterers*	July	22	50:57	48:78	1:79
Loughborough	Electricians	13 July	750	54:00	52:50	1:50
Looe, Cornwall	Engineers and Car Builders	...	19	...	...	...
Looe, Cornwall	Stonemasons*	...	16	...	...	...
Looe, Cornwall	Carpenters and Joiners*	...	...	...	...	...
Looe, Cornwall	Painters*	4 July	4	56	54	2
Looe, Cornwall	Plumbers*	...	2	...	...	...
Looe, Cornwall	Labourers*	...	21	...	...	...
Looe, Cornwall	Plasterers*	...	2	...	...	...

EXAMINATION FOR MINING MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.

South-Western District.—An examination will be held in Bristol for Certificates of Competency as Manager or Under-Manager of a Mine. The First Class examination will take place on September 6th, and the Second Class examination on September 13th. Intending candidates should communicate at once with the Secretary to the Examination Board, Mr. Sydney J. Thomas, Coleford, Glos.

EXPLOSIVES IN COAL MINES ORDER.

A new Order was issued from the Home Office on July 11th, repealing the Order of February 4th, 1898 (see GAZETTE for March, page 91), and re-enacting it with the addition of eight new explosives to the schedule of permitted explosives.

Copies of the Order (price 1½d.) may be obtained of Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode, East Harding-street, E.C.

* See also under Changes in Rates of Wages.

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

THE STATE AND PROVISION AGAINST SICKNESS IN SWEDEN.*

The principle of State assistance for making provision against sickness has been applied in Sweden since July 1st, 1892, the date of the coming into operation of the law of October 30th, 1891, concerning registered sick funds. Like the corresponding Danish law of April 12th, 1892, described in the GAZETTE for March, 1898 (p. 71), the Swedish law aims at fostering voluntary provision against sickness by conferring certain advantages on sick funds which have obtained certificates of registration from the Government. The law of October 30th, 1891, fixes the conditions to be fulfilled in order to be accorded registration. Any society or fund for granting relief in sickness composed of at least 25 members, and conforming to the provisions of the law may be registered. The funds of a registered society may not be used to pay any benefits other than sick and (if provided in its rules) funeral benefit.

The obligations imposed upon a registered society are few. They include the submission each year of its balance-sheet to auditors duly elected by the members of the society, and the making of annual returns, in a prescribed form, to the Government.

The advantages conferred by registration include among others the right to sue and be sued in a court of justice. It also gives the society a right to a State grant on the following basis: Each registered society receives for every member who belonged to it during the past year, 1s. 8d. for each member up to 100; for every further member up to 300, 1s. 1½d.; for every further member over 300, 6½d.; the maximum grant being £83 6s. 8d. (Up to the end of 1897 the grant was on a lower scale, but it was found that out of the total number of existing sick funds—about 1,800—scarcely one-third had been registered.)

There were 572 registered sick funds in 1895, compared with 477, 344, and 221 in the years 1894, 1893, and 1892 respectively.

The aggregate membership of 523 registered societies

* Based upon "Die Arbeiter-Versicherung im Auslande," bearbeitet von Dr. Zacher, Kaiserl. Geh. Regierungsrat im Reichs-Versicherungsamt. Heft III. Berlin, 1898. Verlag der Arbeiter-Versorgung.—A. Treschel.

at the end of 1895 was 64,967 (50,346 males and 14,621 females), the number of cases of sickness returned by these 523 societies being 15,860 (13,043 for males and 2,817 for females).

The accounts of 563 societies making complete returns for 1895 showed the following figures:—

Receipts.			Expenses.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Entrance fees	1,058	12 3	Sick benefit	23,642	13 4
Current contributions	30,700	13 4	Funeral benefit	3,551	14 5
State subvention	2,064	18 11	Administration	2,575	17 9
Other receipts	6,029	12 2	Other expenses	2,356	10 0
Total	39,853	16 8	Total	32,126	15 6

HOURS OF LABOUR IN FRANCE.

The report on Wages and Hours of Labour in France,* which embodies the results of an investigation (covering the years 1891-93) made by the French Labour Department, gives information with respect to the average length of the regular working day (overtime not included, but periods of short time being allowed for), from which the particulars which follow have been compiled. The figures are given separately for Paris, and for France outside of Paris.

Hours Worked in Paris.

In the principal Metal Trades the length of the regular working day is 10½ to 11 hours (10½ in brass foundries). In the leading Textile Trades the regular day is of 10½ hours in rope-making, sewing cotton manufacture, weaving, hosiery manufacture and embroidery work. The working day in the Clothing Trades varies from 9½ and 10 hours in certain minor branches to 10½ in the manufacture of ready-made clothing, 10½ in millinery, and 11 in boot and shoe making (grouped with saddlery). The usual hours worked in most branches of the Building Trades are 10 to 10½ (in house painting, 9 hours). Among workmen in the Woodworking Trades, those engaged in wagon-building and in joinery factories have a working day of 9½ hours, cabinet-makers of 10, but sawmill operatives work 10½ hours. Paper-makers and Stainers have a working day of 10½, Printers and Bookbinders of 10 hours. In corn-mills and some other branches of Food Preparation 10½ hours, but in sugar refineries and distilleries 11, and in breweries 11½ hours are worked. In Saddlery (grouped with boot and shoe making) the day is of 11, in India Rubber Manufacture of 10½ hours. In the major Chemical Trades the regular working day is of 11½ hours, in Glass-works and in Brickmaking of 10½, in China and Stoneware Manufacture of 10½. Employees of the State in Paris work 10 hours as a regular day.

Hours of Labour in the Provinces.

In the Metal Trades outside of Paris the regular working day in blast-furnaces, steelmaking, puddling, and iron foundries is of 10½ hours, in most branches of engineering, 10½; but in brass foundries of 10. The day is of 9½ hours in Coal Mines, of 9½ in Metalliferous Mines, in Quarries of 10½ (except Slate Quarries, 10). In Cotton Spinning, Doubling, and Weaving, and in Velvet Manufacture 11½ hours are worked, 11½ in Woollen Spinning and Weaving (other than cloth weaving), 11 in Woolcombing, in Cloth Weaving, and in Hosiery Manufacture, and 10½ in Carpet Manufacture. Among the Principal Clothing Trades 10½ hours are worked in the manufacture of ready-made clothing (except military uniforms, 9½), and 10½ in most other branches, but 11 to 11½ in boot and shoe making. The usual hours in the Building Trades are 10½ (in joinery, 10½). In the Woodworking Trades the hours are 11 among coachmakers and coopers, 10½ with cabinet-makers. Paper-makers work 11 hours in most branches; Printers, 10½. Corn-mills and Sugar Refineries work 11½ hours. In Distilleries, Wine and Cordials Making, and Chocolate and Jam Factories 10½ hours are worked. Among Fur-dressers and Leather-dressers a day of 10½ hours obtains; among Tanners and Curriers of 10½; among Saddlers, of 11½; in India-rubber Manufacture of 10½. In the major Chemical Trades 10½

* Salaires et Durée du Travail dans l'Industrie Française. Paris: Imprimerie Nationale, 1893-97.

hours are worked; 10½ in Gasworks, Lime-burning and Cement Works. In Glass Works 9 hours are worked in making glass bottles, 10½ in other departments (except table-glass making, 10½; and the manufacture of art and looking-glass, 11). In Brick and Tilemaking and Pottery the duration of the regular working day is 10½ hours. Employees of the State and of Municipal Authorities (outside of Paris) work 10½ hours per day.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The number of passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during July was 15,859, as compared with 18,681 in July, 1897.

British and Irish.—Of the 15,859 passengers, 10,862 were of British or Irish origin, a decrease of 2,279 as compared with a year ago. This decrease was shared by all the countries named in the table below, the most noticeable falling off being in the numbers bound for the United States. The total number of British and Irish passengers for the first seven months shows a decrease of 3,973 when compared with the corresponding period a year ago. The figures for the different periods are given in the following table:

Destination.	July, 1898.	July, 1897.	Total for seven months ending—	
			July, 1898.	July, 1897.
United States ...	5,884	7,284	47,615	46,546
British North America ...	2,130	2,322	10,888	9,937
Australasia ...	624	847	5,081	5,310
South Africa ...	1,727	1,994	10,494	10,823
Other places ...	497	694	5,053	5,408
Total ...	10,862	13,147	73,151	77,124

Foreign.—The remainder of the 15,859 passengers, viz., 4,997, were foreigners or persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being 543 less than in July, 1897.

Alien Immigration.—The number of aliens that arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent during July was 7,622. Of these 2,153 were stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, compared with 2,131 so stated in July, 1897. Those not stated to be on their way to America or other places out of the United Kingdom numbered 5,469 (including 1,120 sailors), the corresponding figure for July, 1897, being 5,382 (including 880 sailors). The figures for July, 1898 and 1897, and also for the seven months ended July 31st in each year, are as follows:—

	July, 1898.	July, 1897.	Total for 7 months ending	
			July, 1898.	July, 1897.
Aliens not stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom ...	5,469*	5,382*	30,260*	28,672*
Aliens en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom...	2,153	2,131	18,985	18,676
Total ...	7,622	7,513	49,245	47,348

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

Table showing number of cases of Lead and Phosphorus poisoning and Anthrax reported as having occurred in factories and workshops during July, classified by industries [M.—Males, F.—Females]:—

Disease and Industry.	Adults.		Young Persons.		Children.		Total.	Grand Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Lead Poisoning—								
China and Earthenware	21	43	4	3	—	—	25	51
Lead Works ...	28	9	—	—	—	—	28	37
Paints and Colours ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	4
Smelting ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	6	6
Tinning and Enamelling of Iron and other metals	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Other Industries ...	31	—	1	—	—	—	32	32
Total Lead Poisoning	90	53	5	3	—	—	98	131
Corresponding Total for July, 1897	67	38	3	1	—	—	60	97
Phosphorus Poisoning...								
Didto July, 1897	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Anthrax ...								
Didto July, 1897	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
Didto July, 1897	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	2

* These figures are inclusive of sailors, to the number of 1,120 in July, 1898, 880 in July, 1897; and 7,552 and 6,470 respectively in the seven months ended July 31st, in each year.

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 number of working days lost exceeded 100.

Number and Magnitude.—Thirty-three fresh disputes were reported as beginning in July, 1898, compared with 49 in June, and 62 in July, 1897. In these 33 disputes 5,362 workpeople were directly, and 3,391 indirectly affected, a total of 8,753, which compares with 12,087 in June, and 46,520 in July, 1897.

Trades Affected.—In the building trades 6 disputes took place, involving 972 workpeople; mining and quarrying, 8 disputes, involving 3,482 workpeople; metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades, 7 disputes, involving 1,739 workpeople; textile trades, 5 disputes, involving 1,906 workpeople; clothing trades, 3 disputes, involving 960 workpeople; and in the miscellaneous group of industries, 4 disputes, involving 504 workpeople.

Causes.—Of the 33 new disputes, 21 were chiefly on wages questions, 3 on the matter of working hours, 3 on questions of working arrangements, and 6 arose from other causes.

Results.—Twenty-two new disputes, involving 6,111 workpeople, and 14 old disputes, involving 3,791 workpeople, were reported as settled. Of the 36 new and old disputes terminated, 9 involving 688 persons, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 10, involving 2,944 persons, in favour of the employers; and 17, involving 6,270 persons, resulted in a compromise. At the end of July 21 disputes were known to be still unsettled, involving together about 107,000 workpeople (including 100,000 Welsh miners).

Number of Working Days Lost.—The number of working days lost in July owing to labour disputes, new and old, was about 2,527,000, compared with 2,445,000 in June, and 761,000 in July, 1897.

Total Disputes for First Seven Months of 1898.—For the seven completed months of 1898 the aggregate number of workpeople involved in the 358 disputes which commenced in those months was 181,051, as compared with 162,068 in the 607 disputes reported in the corresponding period of 1897. The number of working days lost was about 11,900,000, as compared with about 2,781,000 for the same period of 1897. The engineering trade dispute, which continued through January of the present year, and the present coal mining dispute in South Wales, largely account for the preponderance of working days lost in the first seven months of 1898 over those of 1897.

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

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN JULY, 1898.

		6 Disputes.		BUILDING TRADES.		972 Workpeople affected.	
North Shields	Stonemasons ...	30	...	July 4	...	For advance in wages from 9d. to 10d. per hour, with a code of working rules	No settlement reported.
Hebden Bridge	Carpenters and Joiners	22	...	1	7	For advance in wages from 7½d. to 8d. per hour...	Advance granted.
Crewe ...	Plasterers' Labourers	20	35	1	7	For advance in wages from 5d. to 6d. per hour and a code of working rules	Demands conceded.
Newmarket ...	Builders' Labourers and Bricklayers	29	6	26	3	For advance in wages from 4½d. to 5d. per hour	Advance granted, but some places filled by other men.
Bristol ...	Bricklayers and Stonemasons	800	...	1	—	For advance in wages and other alterations in working rules	Stonemasons resumed work on July 18th, bricklayers on Aug. 8th. (For full terms of settlement, see p. 231).
Forres ...	Carpenters and Joiners	30	...	1	4	Failure to agree upon a code of working rules, including an advance in wages	Concessions on both sides resulted in adoption of a code of working rules embodying an advance in wages from 6½d. to 6¾d. per hour.

		8 Disputes.		MINING AND QUARRYING.		3,482 Workpeople affected.	
Sherburn ...	Coal Miners ...	381	...	11	...	Against dismissal of two hewers for refusal to comply with the working custom of the colliery	No settlement reported.
Weardale ...	Limestone Quarrymen, Engine Drivers, Labourers, &c.	125	32	14	2	Against dismissal of a fellow workman for refusal to break the limestone as required by employer	Work resumed on the advice of union executive; question in dispute to be considered by manager and union secretary.
Near Barnsley	Pit Boys, Coal Hewers, &c.	150	800	27	1	For reduced hours of labour, a desired advance in wages having been conceded	Work resumed without the reduced hours.
Barrow, near Barnsley	Pit Boys, Coal Hewers, &c.	174	1,120	20	...	For advance in wages ...	No settlement reported.
Dukinfield ...	Pit Boys, Coal Hewers, &c.	40	170	7	8	For advance in wages of 2d. per day to boys under 16 years of age	Employers agreed to remove all reasonable grievances, and work was resumed
Ammanford ...	Coal Miners ...	50	...	9	...	Failure to agree upon a list of prices for a new seam of coal	No settlement reported.
Bangor ...	Masons and Labourers (Slate Works), and other workers	60	300	2	31	Against introduction of time sheet system, and for advance in wages	Advance of 2s. per week granted, with concession on the other point.
Fauldhouse ...	Coal Miners ...	80	...	25	5	Dispute as to tare of hutch...	Work resumed pending conference between manager and union executive

		7 Disputes.		METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES.		1,739 Workpeople affected.	
Bradford ...	Ironmoulders, Brassmoulders and Boys	35	11	8	—	Men locked out for refusing to conform to alteration in hours of commencing and leaving work	Non-union men employed.
Stanningley ...	Ironfounders ...	10	...	—	...	Refusal to accept piecework system or to increase output	No settlement reported.
Darlston ...	Bucket Makers and Galvanisers and other workpeople	45	51	22	...	Against proposed reduction in wages of 5 per cent.	No settlement reported.
Derby ...	Boiler Welders, and other workpeople	14	32	4	...	Against proposed reduction in piece rates of 25 per cent.	No settlement reported.
Dukinfield ...	Electrical Engineers...	27	...	15	9	For same amount of earnings on change from piece to day work system	Work resumed on old conditions by four of the strikers, the remainder being replaced.
Llanelly ...	Tinplate Makers, Mechanics, Labourers, and Female Operatives	1,200	300	1	9	Against proposal that workpeople should continue to work, after June, for another three months at 15 per cent. reduction, the workpeople desiring a nine month's agreement	Agreed that the 15 per cent. reduction from 1874 list of prices should remain in force for further six months, i.e., to the end of 1898.
Newton, Glasgow	Enginemakers, Firemen, &c. (steel works)	14	...	—	—	Against proposed abolition of 6 shifts pay for 5 nights work	Settled by arbitration in favour of the men.

		5 Disputes.		TEXTILE TRADES.		1,096 Workpeople affected.	
Burnley ...	Cotton Weavers, Warehousemen, Tachlers, &c.	510	90	20	5	Objection to discharge of a fellow workman and refusal to allow substitutes after annual holidays according to usual custom	Settled by employer and union officials that all weavers except one should be allowed to resume work.
Cloughfold ...	Twisters and Drawers	12	†	13	...	Alleged excessive employment of child labour ...	No settlement reported.
Nelson ...	Overlookers ...	11	...	21	1	Against proposed introduction of the poundage system instead of a fixed wage	Work resumed on previous system, pending conference on the question.
Rishton ...	Cotton Weavers ...	320	...	20	...	Dispute on question of prices for satens...	No settlement reported.
Dundee ...	Jute Weavers, and other workpeople	109	44	22	...	Against proposed reduction in wages of ½d. per cut	No settlement reported.

* The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly affected." The statement of cause and result does not apply to those persons. † In consequence of this dispute the spinning and weaving departments were put on short time.

TRADE DISPUTES IN JULY—(continued).

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

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN JULY, 1898—continued.

		3 Disputes.		CLOTHING TRADES.		960 Workpeople affected.	
Middlesbro'	Tailors ...	30	...	July 9	—	Against system of giving out work to be done outside by non-unionists	Places filled by non-unionists.
Denton ...	Felt Hat Makers ...	130	...	4	4	Refusal to work with two non-unionists, and for alteration in mode of doing certain work	Settlement effected on the work question; matter of the non-unionists reserved for further consideration.
Lurgan...	Handkerchief Makers (Veiners) and other workers	400	400	4	—	Against proposed general reduction in wages ...	Reduction accepted.

		4 Disputes.		MISCELLANEOUS TRADES.		504 Workpeople affected.	
Tyne Dock ...	Dock Labourers ...	140	...	19	3	For advance in wages of 1d. per ton on discharging iron ore from other districts.	Work resumed on old terms, pending negotiations.
Leeds ...	Deal Carriers ...	100	...	31	5	For advance in wages ...	Advance conceded.
Liverpool ...	French Polishers ...	250	...	18	...	For advance in wages from 7½d. to 8½d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	No settlement reported.
Dundee ...	Woodcutting Machinists and Turners	3	11	15	18	For reduction in working hours from 56 to 53½ per week	Compromised by winter hours (for six months) being reduced to 51 per week, summer hours to remain as before.

II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE JULY, 1898, AND WERE SETTLED IN THAT MONTH.

		5 Disputes.		BUILDING TRADES.		1,000 Workpeople affected.	
Barnsley ...	Slaters and Tilers ...	16	...	2 May	54	For advance in wages from 8d. to 9d. per hour ...	Advance of ½d. per hour accepted.
Certain Lancashire Towns	Stonemasons and Labourers	959	10	2 to 17 May	—	Proposal of Employers' Association to abolish the rule as to introduction of ready-dressed stone from other districts. In some instances, questions of increased wages and reduced working hours were involved	Compromise effected on the question of ready-dressed stone. Immediate advance of ½d. per hour conceded at Manchester, Bury and Preston, and a similar advance to come into force on 1 March, 1899 in certain other towns.
Tiverton ...	Bricklayers ...	44	...	2 May	54	For advance in wages from 5½d. to 6d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules and conditions	Advance in wages granted, and general agreement arrived at on the question of working rules.
Newport (Mon.)	Carpenters and Joiners	200	...	8 April	71	One shop blocked by Union because of refusal to pay an extra rate for overtime, and general lock-out by Employers' Association	Work resumed on old rules as regards wages and hours, but no overtime to be worked pending further consideration of question of payment.
Swansea ...	Stonemasons and Labourers	203	80	2 May	59	For advance in wages from 8d. to 9d. per hour; also objection of men to introduction of ready-dressed stone	Advance from 8d. to 8½d. per hour conceded, and employers agreed to introduce no more ready-dressed stone.
Morrison ...	Stonemasons and Labourers	28	8	2 May	59	For advance in wages from 8d. to 9d. per hour ...	Advance from 8d. to 8½d. per hour conceded.
Hawick ...	Stonemasons ...	53	...	2 May	36	For advance in wages from 8d. to 9d. per hour, with other alterations in working rules	Advance granted, and agreement arrived at on other points in dispute.

		2 Disputes.		MINING AND QUARRYING.		1,000 Workpeople affected.	
Near Barnsley	Pit Boys, Coal Hewers, &c.	120	680	28 June	20	For advance in wages of 6d. per day to boys over 17 years of age, and of 3d. per day to boys under that age	Work resumed upon a revised scale of wages.
Near Barnsley	Pit Boys, Coal Hewers, &c.	136	799	27 June	21	For advance in wages as above ...	Work resumed upon a revised scale of wages.

		2 Disputes.		METAL ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES.		1,000 Workpeople affected.	
Newcastle-on-Tyne	Blast Furnacemen, Fillers, Weighers, &c.	7	22	29 June	—	For working shifts of eight hours (now general) instead of 12 hours	Demands conceded.
Clydebank ...	Ship Painters ...	51	...	20 May	—	Against alleged breach of agreement as to demarcation of work between painters and red-leaders	Work resumed unconditionally.

		3 Disputes.		MISCELLANEOUS TRADES.		1,000 Workpeople affected.	
Farnworth ...	Cotton Weavers, Winders, Warpers, &c.	72	70	30 June	16	Against alteration of price list ...	Revised price list accepted, giving decreases of from 5 to 10 per cent.
Tamworth ...	Terra Cotta Workers	170	...	22 June	25	For advance in wages of about 10 per cent. ...	Advance granted, averaging about 5 per cent.
Kilbirnie ...	Thread Finishers and Pinners, and other workers	41	21	23 May	39	For advance in wages of 2s. per week ...	Advance of 1s. per week conceded.

III.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE JULY, 1898, AND WERE STILL UNSETTLED AT THE END OF THAT MONTH.

The following 21 disputes which have been previously reported, were still unsettled at the end of July. The number of workpeople then involved was about 107,000, including 100,000 Welsh miners. The month in which each dispute commenced is stated in brackets. **Building Trades:**—Bricklayers, Hereford (April); bricklayers, Stroud; bricklayers' labourers, Shrewsbury (since settled—August); plasterers, Torquay; and joiners, York (all commencing in May). **Mining:**—Coal miners, Castleford (July, 1897); Normanton (Sep., 1897); Abernant—2 disputes (Oct., 1897); Castleford (Jan. 1898); South Wales and Monmouthshire (April); ironstone miners, near Kilbirnie (April); coal miners, Lintz Green (May); pit boys, W. s. Yorkshire (3 disputes—June) (one of these is since settled—August); Coal Miners, Pontefract (April). **Other Trades:**—Boilermakers, Ebbw Vale (July, 1897); cabinet-makers, Glasgow, Beith, Dundee, and Dalry (March, 1898); tailors, Limerick (May); silk weavers, Macclesfield (June).

* The occupations in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly affected." The statement of cause and result does not apply to these persons.

RECENT PROGRESS IN CO-OPERATION.

RETURNS collected by the Co-operative Union and published in its Annual Report show that at the end of 1897, 429 co-operative societies in the United Kingdom had capital amounting to £2,622,711 (compared with 420 societies and £2,150,582 in 1896) invested in house and cottage property which was let on rental, or sold on mortgage to their members.

Of this amount £2,359,417 belonged to 363 retail distributive societies in England and Wales, and £248,612 to 56 in Scotland, the remaining £14,682 being divided between the English Co-operative Wholesale Society and nine productive societies.

From the same report it appears that 211 co-operative retail distributive societies, employing 10,359 persons, paid bonus on wages to their employees amounting to £23,760 during the year 1897, equivalent to 6.2 per cent. upon their wages.

The following summary contains, in addition to the above, particulars relating to 36 productive societies and the Scottish Wholesale Society which were supplied to the Labour Department direct. From these it appears that 248 societies in the United

Kingdom, employing a total of 19,212 persons and paying wages in 1897 amounting to £759,168, allotted £44,752 of their profit to the employees, amounting to an average of 5.9 per cent. upon wages.

Table showing the amount and ratio of profit allotted to their workers by 248 co-operative societies making returns for the year ended December 31st, 1897.

Class of Society.	No. of Societies making returns.	No. of employes.	Amount of wages paid.	Amount of profit allotted to employes.	Ratio of profit allotted to wages.
Retail Distributive Societies	211	10,359	383,921	23,760	6.2
Scottish Wholesale Society	1	4,607	169,310	7,431	4.4
Various Manufacturing Societies	33	3,261	162,918	7,807	4.8
Bread Baking and Food Preparation Societies	2	980	42,816	5,744	13.4
Irish Dairy Society	1	5	203	10	4.9
	248	19,212	759,168	44,752	5.9

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THE Trade returns for the month of July show a decrease in the imports, and in the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures, while in the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures, while in the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures, while in the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures...

Imports.—The following table shows the value of the imports for July, 1898, as compared with July, 1897, according to the different categories of merchandise.

Table with columns: Month ended July 31st (1897, 1898), Increase, Decrease. Rows include Food, Drink and Tobacco; Metals; Chemicals, Dyestuffs, and Tanning Substances; Oils; Raw Materials for Manufactures; Manufactured and Miscellaneous Articles; Total.

It will be seen from the above that the classes of goods of which the imports are lower in value are—metals, chemicals, dye stuffs and tanning substances, oils, raw materials for manufactures, and manufactured and miscellaneous articles, one category only, viz., food, drink, and tobacco showing an increase. Copper, and iron and silver ore all show diminished values, while there is an increase in the imports of lead. The imports of petroleum fell off to the extent of £100,466. In raw materials, while in July last there were increased imports of cotton, flax, hemp, silk, caoutchouc, gutta percha and manures, there was a considerable falling off in the imports of jute, gum, hides, paper-making materials, tallow and stearine, and wood and timber, the decrease in the value of the latter in July last, as compared with July, 1897, having been £912,403. In manufactured articles, cotton goods, iron and steel manufactures, straw plaiting and woollen yarn all show increases, but leather, paper and jute, silk, and woollen manufactures, a falling off.

Exports.—With regard to the exports for the month, the following table shows the values for July, 1897, and July, 1898, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

Table with columns: Month ended July 31st (1897, 1898), Increase, Decrease. Rows include Animals living; Articles of Food and Drink; Raw Materials; Articles Manufactured and Partly Manufactured, viz.—Yarns and Textile Fabrics; Metals, and Articles Manufactured therefrom (except Machinery); Machinery and Millwork; Miscellaneous; Total.

The decrease in the value of the exports of raw materials is in a great measure to be accounted for by the decline in the values of the exports of coke, coal, and fuel, and sheep and lambs' wool. In yarns and textile fabrics there is an increase in cotton piece goods to the extent of 42,331,500 yards in quantity, and £265,567 in value. Silk manufactures also show an increase, but there is a falling off in other textile fabrics, in cotton and linen yarn, and in alpaca and mohair yarn. Of worsted tissues the exports were 3,553,500 yards less in quantity and £199,504 less in value; and of linen piece goods 3,498,000 yards and £76,717 less than in the corresponding month of 1897. Iron, unwrought and wrought, has fallen off, and also telegraphic wires and apparatus, apparel and slops, leather, unwrought, leather boots and shoes, alkali, cycles and parts thereof, and wool, combed and carded.

Taking now the trade for the first seven months of 1898, as compared with the corresponding period of 1897, the value of the

imports from foreign countries and British possessions amounted to £271,881,490, as compared with £261,343,266, showing an increase of £10,538,224; the exports of British produce and manufactures were valued at £132,598,057, as compared with £138,911,904, a decrease of £6,313,847. For the seven months, the decrease in the exports of yarns and textile fabrics alone reaches the total of £3,477,383, being more than half the total decrease for the period. This decrease in the exports of yarns and textile fabrics may be said to be chiefly due to a considerably smaller export of woollen and worsted tissues.

The exports of foreign and colonial merchandise amounted in value to £37,216,563, as compared with £37,378,975, a decrease of £162,412.

Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared.—The tonnage of vessels entered at ports of the United Kingdom from Foreign Countries and British Possessions during July amounted to 3,037,908 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,328,043 tons, as compared with 3,346,294 tons entered and 3,734,107 tons cleared in July, 1897. The tonnage of vessels entered coastwise amounted to 2,601,666 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,559,111 tons, as against 2,755,491 tons and 2,698,797 tons respectively in July, 1897.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Cotton Statistics.—The imports of raw cotton during July show an increase as compared with July of both 1897 and 1896, due to a large extent, in both cases, to increased imports of American cotton. The imports for the seven months ended July 31st are also much greater than for the corresponding periods of 1897 and 1896. The quantity forwarded from ports to inland towns in July was less than in either July, 1897, or July, 1896.

The following are the figures for the different periods:—

Table with columns: Imports, Bales; Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns, Bales; Exports, Bales. Rows include July 1898, 1897, 1896; Seven Months ended July 1898, 1897, 1896.

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 21 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the five weeks ended August 7th amounted to £9,040,066, an increase of £192,488 (or 2.2 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1897. The receipts from passenger traffic were £4,924,320, an increase of £116,098, and those from goods and mineral traffic £4,115,746, an increase of £76,390.

Fishery Statistics.—The total value of the fish (including shell fish) landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom during July amounted to £874,188, an increase of £167,704 as compared with a year ago. In England and Wales there was an increase of £30,299, in Scotland of £132,149, and in Ireland of £5,256.

Bankruptcies.—The bankruptcies gazetted during July numbered 370, being 8 less than in July, 1897, 7 less than in July, 1896, and 13 less than in July, 1895.

CLEARING HOUSE ARRANGEMENTS FOR BAVARIAN LABOUR REGISTRIES.

A DECREE of the Bavarian Ministry of the Interior, dated May 1st, provides for the creation of Clearing-House arrangements in relation to the labour registries of that kingdom. There are to be 6 district registries, each of which will co-operate with the outlying registries situated within the area assigned to it. The outlying registries will co-operate with the Communal Administrations. Employers in outlying localities, when in need of workmen, will apply either to the nearest local labour registry or to the district registry. Workmen in outlying districts in search of employment apply to the Communal Authority of their town, &c., filling in a form which that Authority will forward to the nearest local registry or, failing that, to the district registry. A local registry receiving an application (from employer or workman) in the first instance will itself endeavour to supply the want, and if unable to do so, will forward the application to the district registry with which it is affiliated.

The district registries will draw up lists of vacant situations, and of applications for work which they have been unable to meet, and may distribute the same amongst communes of more than 3,000 inhabitants situated within the district. With respect to agricultural labourers, the district committee is to publish the necessary details at regular intervals in certain newspapers.—Allgemeine Zeitung.

LABOUR BUREAUX IN JULY.

DURING July, the 13 bureaux furnishing returns, registered 2,108 fresh applications for work, as compared with 1,893 in July, 1897, an increase of 215. Work was found for 1,045 persons by these bureaux during the month, compared with 992 in July, 1897. The number remaining on the registers of the 13 bureaux at the end of July, 1898, was 2,264 (including 1,305 men, lads, and boys, and 959 women and girls) compared with 2,286 (including 1,276 men, lads, and boys, and 1,010 women and girls) a year ago.

(I.) Work Done in July.

Table with columns: Name and Address of Labour Bureau; No. of Fresh Applications by Workpeople during July 1898, 1897; No. of Situations offered by Employers during July 1898, 1897; No. of Workpeople found Work by Bureaux (Engaged by Private Employers, Engaged by Local Authorities) for July 1898, 1897. Rows include London (St. Pancras, Battersea, Islington, St. Martin, Hackney, Salvation Army, Y.W.C.A., Provincial), and Total of 13 bureaux.

(II.) Occupations of Workpeople on Registers at end of July.

Table with columns: Name of Labour Bureau; Men (Build-ing, Engi-neer-ing and Metal Trades, Carpen-ters, Stable-men, Horse-men, &c., Clerks and Ware-house-men, Porters and Messen-gers, General Labour-ers, Other Occu-pations, Total Men). Rows include London, Provincial, and Total Number.

Table with columns: Name of Labour Bureau; Women and Girls (Lads and Boys, Char-women, Daily Work, &c., Servants, Dress-makers and Semp-stresses, Others, Total Women and Girls) for July 1898, July 1897. Rows include London, Provincial, and Total Number.

* Permanent employment. † Temporary employment.

‡ These were engaged by Salvation Army authorities.

§ Women and Girls are not registered.

PAUPERISM IN JULY.

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

THE number of persons relieved in the 35 selected urban districts of the United Kingdom on one day in the second week of July was 323,722. This number corresponds to a rate of 204 per 10,000 of the estimated population of these districts in 1898.

Compared with June, 1898, a decrease is shown of 2,975 in the number relieved, and of 2 in the rate per 10,000. Twenty-six of the districts show decreases in the rate, the most marked falling-off being in Central London (9 per 10,000), and Cork, Waterford and Limerick District (7). In four districts the rate is unchanged, while in the remaining 5 districts increases are shown, the largest increases being in the Galway district (7), and Dublin (5).

Compared with July, 1897, the number relieved has increased by 8,481, and the rate per 10,000 of population by 3. The largest increases are in the Galway District (282 per 10,000), Dublin (24), Leicester (20), Cardiff and Swansea (16), Belfast (16), and Stockton and Tees (10). In two districts there is no change in the rate, while in 13 districts there are decreases, the falling off being most marked in North Staffordshire (15), Paisley and Greenock (13), Coatbridge and Airdrie (12), and Hull (11).

Table with columns: Selected Urban Districts; Paupers on one day in second week of July, 1898 (In-door, Out-door, TOTAL); Rate per 10,000 of estimated Population; Increase (+) or decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of population as compared with Month ago, A year ago. Rows include ENGLAND & WALES* (Metropolises, West District, North District, Central District, East District, South District, Total Metropolises, West Ham) and Other Districts (Newcastle District, Stockton & Tees District, Bolton, Oldham, &c., Wigan District, Manchester District, Liverpool District, Bradford District, Halifax & Huddersfield, Leeds District, Barnsley District, Sheffield District, Hull District, North Staffordshire, Nottingham District, Leicester District, Wolverhampton District, Birmingham District, Bristol District, Cardiff & Swansea, Total "Other Districts").

Table with columns: Name of District; Paupers on one day in second week of July, 1898 (In-door, Out-door, TOTAL); Rate per 10,000 of estimated Population; Increase (+) or decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of population as compared with Month ago, A year ago. Rows include SCOTLAND* (Glasgow District, Paisley & Greenock District, Edinburgh & Leith District, Dundee & Dunfermline, Aberdeen, Coatbridge & Airdrie, Total for the above Scottish Districts) and IRELAND† (Dublin District, Belfast District, Cork, Waterford & Limerick District, Galway District, Total for the above Irish Districts, Total for above 35 districts in July, 1898).

Table with columns: Name of District; Paupers on one day in second week of July, 1898 (In-door, Out-door, TOTAL); Rate per 10,000 of estimated Population; Increase (+) or decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of population as compared with Month ago, A year ago. Rows include SCOTLAND* (Glasgow District, Paisley & Greenock District, Edinburgh & Leith District, Dundee & Dunfermline, Aberdeen, Coatbridge & Airdrie, Total for the above Scottish Districts) and IRELAND† (Dublin District, Belfast District, Cork, Waterford & Limerick District, Galway District, Total for the above Irish Districts, Total for above 35 districts in July, 1898).

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

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

INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN JULY.

I.—Under Factory and Workshop Acts.*†

Nature of Offence.	Cases taken.	Con- victions	Amount of Penalties.	Amount of Costs.
By Owners, Managers, &c.:			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Neglecting to Fence Machinery ...	11	10	84 1 0	4 16 6
Employing Young Persons without necessary Certificates ...	29	25	18 7 6	12 15 6
Illegal Hours or Times of Employment—				
Before or after the legal hour ...	138	136	57 2 9	49 8 10
During meal times, or without proper intervals for meals ...	31	31	23 5 0	10 16 0
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day substituted ...	48	48	12 8 9	17 8 0
On Sundays or holidays, or children on successive Saturdays ...	1	1	0 10 0	0 10 0
At night ...	17	17	15 0 0	6 15 0
Employing children full time, otherwise than in morning and afternoon sets, &c.	2	2	0 13 6	1 6 0
Employment in factory or workshop, and in shop beyond total legal period ...	9	9	3 0 6	5 18 0
Employment outside factory or workshop, after employment therein before and after dinner ...	2	2	0 2 0	1 1 0
Neglecting Rules as to Registers, Abstracts, Notices, &c.—				
Not keeping Registers ...	31	30	15 9 0	9 19 10
Not affixing or properly filling up Notices and Abstracts ...	14	11	6 9 6	3 15 6
Not sending Notices required by Act ...	6	6	9 1 0	1 5 2
Prosecutions for Breach of (or not affixing) Special Rules ...	2	2	5 0 0	1 4 6
Prosecutions under Truck Acts ...	6	6	6 0 0	4 10 0
Other offences ...	2	1	2 0 0	0 7 6
By Workmen:				
Allowing Children to clean machinery in motion, &c. ...	1	1	0 2 6	0 14 6
Employment during meal times, or without proper intervals for meals ...	2	2	0 5 0	1 15 0
Prosecutions for Breach of Special Rules ...	1	1	0 2 6	0 7 6
By Parents:				
Allowing children to be illegally employed ...	2	2	0 15 0	2 9 0
Total for July, 1898 ...	355	343	259 15 6	137 3 4
Total for July, 1897 ...	4521	455	207 9 6	218 7 11

II.—Under Mines and Quarries Acts.*†

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Con- victions.	Cases with- drawn.	Cases dis- missed.	Amount of Fines and Costs.
UNDER THE MINES ACTS.					
By Owners, Managers, &c.:					£ s. d.
Ventilation ...	5	1	1	3	10 0 0
Miscellaneous ...	12	—	—	12	—
By Workmen:					
Safety Lamps ...	5	5	—	—	3 6 6
Shot-firing and Explosives ...	5	5	—	—	7 2 6
Timbering ...	17	17	—	—	21 3 0
Lucifer Matches, Smoking, &c.	6	6	—	—	4 15 6
Riding on Trams ...	5	5	—	—	4 4 0
Miscellaneous ...	11	11	—	—	11 13 0
Total for July, 1898 ...	66	30	1	15	62 4 6
Total for July, 1897 ...	31	27	—	4	32 0 6
UNDER THE QUARRIES ACT.					
By Owners, Managers, &c.:					
Registers, Notices, Returns, &c.	3	3	—	—	4 10 6
Fencing ...	4	4	—	—	3 6 0
By Workmen:					
Explosives and Blasting ...	8	8	—	—	2 17 0
Total for July, 1898 ...	15	15	—	—	10 13 6
Total for July, 1897 ...	7	7	—	—	4 2 2

III.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts.

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

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Convic- tions.	Total Penalties.	Total Costs.
By Owners or Masters of Ships:			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Submerging Disc ...	1	1	5 0 0	1 7 0
Not providing Life Saving Appli- ances ...	1	1	10 0 0	2 16 0
Total for July, 1898 ...	2	2	15 0 0	4 3 0
Total for July, 1897 ...	6	6	21 0 0	5 1 10

Inspectors of Factories.—Appointments.—Dr. T. M. Legge has been appointed Medical Inspector of Factories and Workshops. His address is Home Office, Whitehall, S.W.

Mr. W. Lauder, of 310, Cathcart-road, Glasgow, has been appointed an Inspector of Factories and Workshops.

* Supplied by the Home Office.

† The figures relating to Prosecutions under the Mines and Quarries Acts for July, 1898, include prosecutions by H.M. Inspectors of Mines under the Factory and Workshop Acts in factories and workshops connected with Metalliferous Mines and Quarries. In the figures for July, 1897, given in the above tables, such prosecutions are included in the Table of Prosecutions under the Factory and Workshop Acts. The difference owing to the change of tabulation is not, however, very material.

‡ In this case the number of convictions is greater than the number of informations laid, the practice being in Scotland to lay one information against one person, however many offences he is charged with.

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS

REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN JULY.

(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 July it will be seen that 2 Trade Unions, 5 Co-operative Associations for Distribution, 11 Co-operative Associations for Production, 8 Miscellaneous Industrial and Provident Societies, 23 new Friendly Societies, 29 new branches of existing Friendly Societies, and 2 Building Societies have been added to the Register for the United Kingdom during July. One Trade Union, 3 Industrial and Provident Societies, 26 Building Societies, and 21 Friendly Societies (including 5 branches) are reported as having ceased to exist, to have commenced "winding-up," or to have had registry cancelled during the month, while 2 Industrial and Provident Societies are reported as having amalgamated.

ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

Trade Unions.—*England and Wales.*—Manchester Printers and Stationers' Cutters' Union, 129, Oldham Street, Manchester; Leicester and District Male and Female Costermongers' and Street Vendors' Trade Protection Society, Hollybush Hotel, Belgrave Gate, Leicester. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—(A) *Associations for Distribution.*—*England and Wales.*—Diss Co-op. Society, Ltd., Denmark Green, Diss; Ingrow Industrial Co-op. Society, Ltd., 1, Ingrow Lane Ingrow, Keighley; Totnes and District Co-op. Society, Ltd., 2, Mill Lane, Totnes; Selby and District Co-op. Society, Limited, New Lane, Selby; Chirk Green Co-op. Society, Ltd., Chirk Green, Chirk, Ruabon. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

(B) *Associations for Production.*—*England and Wales.*—Dewsbury and District Co-op. Brewery Society, Ltd., Eightlands, Dewsbury; Optical and Scientific Instrument Society, Ltd., 157, Kennington Park Road, S.E.; Newport General Builders, Ltd., 26, Wheeler Street, Newport, Mon. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—One Agricultural Society at Ivery, Ballylough, Kilkenny; three Agricultural and Dairy Societies at Smithboro, Aghadowney and Whitecross; and four Home Industries Societies at Clifden, Rossmuck, Carna, and Carraroe.

(C) *Miscellaneous.*—*England and Wales.*—Kirby Musloe New Freehold Land Society, Ltd., 2, Westbourne Cottages, Kirby Musloe; Poplar Inn Loan Society, Ltd., Poplar Inn, Ilkeston; Gregory's Loan Society, Ltd., Old Wine Vaults, Ilkeston; Co-operative Educational Committees' Association, Ltd., 69, Radcliffe Road, Bolton; Desborough New Freehold Land and Builders' Society, Ltd., 11, Station Road, Desborough, Market Harborough; Folkestone Liberal Club and Institute Society, Ltd., 35, Tontine Street, Folkestone; Grayshott and District Refreshment Association, Ltd., Messrs. Chapman & Lowry's, Hindhead Road, Grayshott, Haslemere. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Northern Book Society, Ltd., 95 and 97, Donegall Street, Belfast.

Friendly Societies.—(A) *New Friendly Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—Ordinary Friendly, 7; Dividing, 9; Juvenile, 1; Medical, 1; Specially authorised, 2. *Scotland.*—Ordinary Friendly, 1. *Ireland.*—Specially authorised, 2.

(B) *New Branches of Existing Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—24. *Scotland.*—5. *Ireland.*—None.

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

ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

Trade Unions.—*England and Wales.*—River Thames Pier Hands, Swan Tavern, Church Road, Battersea, S.W. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—*England and Wales.*—Resolution to wind up received:—Equitable Land and Investment Association, Ltd., 44, Finsbury Square, E.C.; Easingwold Union Steam Flour Mill Co., Ltd., Long Street, Easingwold. Liquidator's final returned received:—Borough of Tynemouth Trading Bank, Ltd. Amalgamation:—Tindale Co-op. Society, Ltd., Tindale Spelter Works, Milton, near Carlisle, with Naworth Collieries Co-op. Industrial Society, Ltd. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Friendly Societies.—*England and Wales.*—By instrument of dissolution, 7 (including 2 branches); registration cancelled, 7; dissolved otherwise, 7 (including 3 branches). *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Building Societies.—*England and Wales.*—By instrument of dissolution, 4; notice of commencement of dissolution, 3; notice of termination of dissolution, 17; notice of termination of winding-up, 1. *Scotland.*—By instrument of dissolution, 1. *Ireland.*—None.

NOTICE.

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