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STATE OF EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY.

I.—GENERAL SUMMARY.

The effect of the severe frost in interrupting outdoor work is seen clearly in the returns of the state of employment at the end of January. The Building Trades in particular have been wholly or partly stopped in many districts, and the increase in the unemployed in these industries accounts almost entirely for the rise which has taken place in the percentage of unemployed members of trade unions making returns.

Seventy-six trade unions with an aggregate membership of 370,335 have made returns to the Department, showing the total number of unemployed members at the end of January to be 30,433, or 8·2 per cent., compared with 7·7 per cent. in the 67 unions from which returns were received for December,* and 7·0 per cent. in the 37 unions making returns for January 1894.

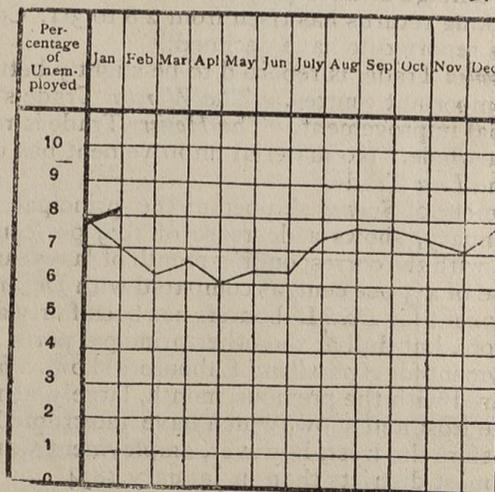
The proportion of unemployed in the 76 unions making returns may be classified as follows:—

	Unions.	Members.
Under 3 per cent.	14	27,490
3 and under 5 per cent.	13	75,148
5 and under 7 per cent.	17	53,774
7 and under 10 per cent.	12	126,647
10 per cent. and over	20	87,276
Total	76	370,335

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

Chart showing the percentage of unemployed members of the trade unions making returns at the close of each month of 1894 and of January 1895.

The thick line applies to 1895, the thin line to 1894.



Employment in Various Industries.—Coal Mining.—Returns received from the owners of 1,135 pits, at which 280,382 workpeople were employed, show that in most districts there has been some falling off in employment. The average number of days worked per week by the collieries was 4·70 in January, compared with 4·97 in December. Returns from the North of England also show an increase in the proportion of unemployed members of Miners' Unions from 0·9 to 2·7.

* The figure for January is strictly comparable with that for December, since the returns from the nine fresh unions do not alter the percentage.

* The purely Statistical Tables have now been collected together, and will, in future, always appear at the end of the GAZETTE.

EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY—SPECIAL INDUSTRIES (continued).

(c) IRON MINING INDUSTRY IN JANUARY.

The average number of days worked by the 85 iron mines and openworks respecting which returns have been furnished by the owners, was 5.43 per week during the four weeks ended January 26th, as compared with 5.85 in each of the two previous months. The slight falling off in the general average is due to the New Year's holidays in Scotland, the average for which district was 4.47 days per week in the first fortnight as compared with six days per week in the second. In the other districts the two fortnights showed little variation, the average for the four weeks being 5.72 days per week in the Cumberland and Lancashire district; 5.40 days in other English districts and six days in Ireland.

The number of workpeople employed at these 85 iron mines was 17,404 on the last pay day in the period under review, and of these 2,735, or 15.72 per cent., were employed at mines working full time or 24 days in the four weeks; 5,054, or 29.04 per cent., at mines working 22 and under 24 days; 8,600, or 49.41 per cent., at mines working 20 and under 22 days, and 1,015, or 5.83 per cent., at mines working less than 20 days.

(d) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN JANUARY.

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

The number of seamen shipped at the principal ports in the United Kingdom during January, was 29,897, a decrease of 3,675 as compared with January 1894. The largest decreases were (as in the previous month) at Cardiff and on the Tyne, the falling off in the number of men shipped at the former port amounting to 1,298. The other Bristol Channel ports also show considerable decreases. Middlesbrough, Liverpool, Dublin, and Belfast report increases, but they are very slight.

Seamen were stated to be rather scarce at Newcastle, and for sailing vessels at Dublin, but at all the other ports named in the table the supply of seamen equalled or exceeded the demand.

The prevailing rates of wages paid during the month remain the same as in December at all ports, except Swansea, where a decrease of 5s. per month in the wages of able seamen and firemen is reported to have taken place.

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 January 1895 and 1894 respectively:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Men, &c., shipped in January 1895.			Total in Jan. 1894.	In-crease in 1895.	De-crease in 1895.
	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in Jan. 1895.			
ENGLAND.						
East Coast.						
Tyne Ports ...	59	2,213	2,272	2,988	...	666
Sunderland ...	13	443	456	838	...	382
Middlesbrough ...	8	395	403	377	26	...
Hull ...	25	1,042	1,067	1,190	...	123
Grimsby ...	9	87	96	114	...	18
Bristol Channel.						
Bristol ...	...	247	247	344	...	97
Newport, Mon. ...	41	1,166	1,187	1,302	...	115
*Cardiff ...	542	4,482	5,024	6,322	...	1,298
Swansea ...	69	369	438	809	...	371
Other Ports.						
Liverpool ...	306	8,937	9,243	9,211	32	...
London ...	290	5,300	5,590	5,834	...	244
Southampton ...	30	1,340	1,370	1,381	...	11
SCOTLAND.						
Leith, Kirkcaldy and Grangemouth ...	16	542	558	734	...	176
Glasgow ...	73	1,606	1,679	1,920	...	241
IRELAND.						
Dublin ...	25	82	107	90	17	...
Belfast ...	9	151	160	138	22	...
Total January 1895 ...	1,495	28,402	29,897	...	...	3,675
Ditto, January 1894 ...	1,477	32,094	...	38,572	...	...

* Including Barry and Penarth.

(e) DOCK LABOUR IN LONDON IN JANUARY.

Note.—The following information is in continuation of the reports on dock employment in London which have been included in the articles on employment in London in previous numbers of the GAZETTE. For convenience the subject is now dealt with under the head of "Special Industries."

The total average daily number of dock labourers employed during January in all the docks in the Port of London* whether by dock companies, or shipowners, or contractors, shows a slight diminution compared with the previous month, having fallen from 8,955 to 8,811. The numbers were smallest at the beginning of the month, and gradually rose towards the end, mainly owing to the wool sales from January 15th onwards.

Detailed figures.—(1) The total estimated number of dock labourers employed by all the dock companies in the Port of London for each week is as follows:—

	Estimated average daily number of Dock Labourers engaged by the Dock Companies.		
	1895.	1894.	Increase Decrease
1st week of January ...	6,458	6,326	132
2nd " " ...	6,405	6,923	518
3rd " " ...	7,482	8,441	959
4th " " ...	7,595	8,272	677
Average for January	6,985	7,491	506
Ditto for December ...	7,293	7,505	212

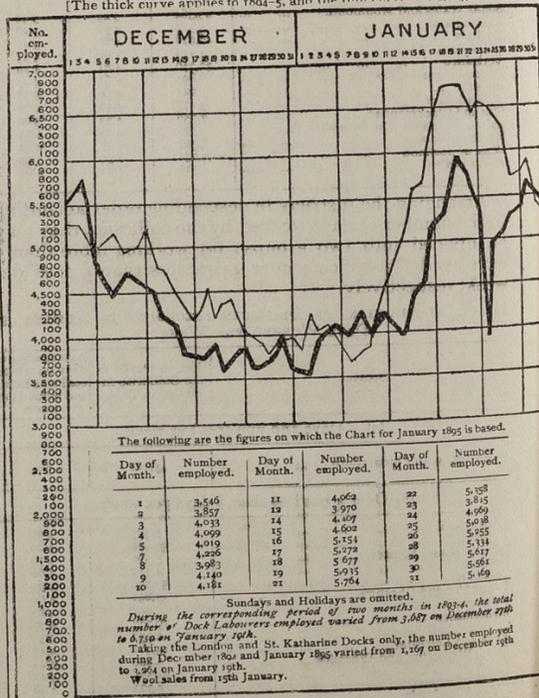
(2) The daily average number of waterside labourers employed by shipowners and others directly, in the Albert and Victoria Docks, is returned as follows:—

	Jan. 1895.	Dec. 1894.
Dock Labourers ...	1,826	1,602
Stevadores ...	510	578
"Coalies" ...	246	210

(3) The following chart shows the daily fluctuations of dock employment by the London and India Docks Joint Committee during January. It will be seen that the number of labourers employed varied from 3,546 on January 1st to 5,935 on January 19th. The marked depression on January 23rd is attributable to the weather on that day:—

Chart showing the total number of Dock Labourers employed by the Joint Committee at the London, St. Katharine, East and West India, Victoria and Albert Docks, and the Town Warehouses, for each day during the months of December 1894 and January 1895. The corresponding curve for December 1894 and January 1894 is also given for comparison. Dock Labourers employed by Shipowners direct, Stevadores, and Coal Porters are not included.

(The thick curve applies to 1894-5, and the thin curve to 1893-4.)



* Tilbury is excluded. † These figures are supplied by the courtesy of the Shipping Federation.

EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY.—SPECIAL INDUSTRIES (continued).

(4) The Wharves.—The fruit wharves in Thames Street have been very quiet. Employment is reported as having been very fair at the wharves at Wapping engaged in the Coasting Trade, and also among those working at the wharves on the south side of the river. (The labourers employed at the wharves are not included in the total number of dock labourers given above, which only includes those employed in the docks.)

(f) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN JANUARY.

The Agricultural Correspondent to the Department on the basis of returns from 130 districts, three Agricultural Labourers' Unions, and from the reports of two investigators from the Department who visited certain districts in the Eastern Counties, reports as follows:—

Generally speaking, employment in the month of January has been of an unfavourable character, chiefly owing to the snow and the severity of the frost, which in many districts almost entirely prevented field work. But in some districts the scarcity of employment was also partly due to the forward state of farm work up to Christmas. However, notwithstanding the severity of the weather, the reports state that employment has not been less satisfactory in the majority of cases than in the month of January 1894. In comparing the state of employment it must be borne in mind that there was a most disastrous harvest in 1893, and that consequently both the out-door and in-door work in the winter of 1893-4 was seriously curtailed, while the harvest in 1894 was an abundant one, and, notwithstanding the low price of agricultural produce, and the inferior quality of a considerable portion of the grain, farmers have had a good deal more work for their men at threshing, dressing, chaff-cutting, cleaning and pulping roots, delivering corn, feeding stock, and manure-carting. Again, it is important to observe that in most districts a reduction of wages took place in the autumn of 1894, which enabled farmers to curtail their labour bills without discharging so many men, or giving such irregular employment, as might otherwise have been the case. In the low wage districts such as Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Huntingdonshire, Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Dorsetshire, Wiltshire, and parts of Cambridgeshire, there has been a considerable amount of distress among those men with families, whose employment has been interfered with by the weather for several days in each week during the latter part of the month.

ENGLAND.

Northern Counties.—In Northumberland and North Cumberland some drainers and roadmen have been in irregular work in January, owing to the deep snow and severe frost, but further south of Cumberland, at Penrith, and also in parts of Westmoreland and North and West Lancashire, employment of odd-men has been greatly interfered with. Many of the odd-men had found regular employment up to January, repairing the damages to farm premises and hill walls, which were caused by the autumn floods and storms. In Cheshire some odd-men have been in irregular work owing to the frost, but this does not appear to have been the case in the County of Durham, except in isolated cases, as agricultural labour is somewhat scarce. In the neighbourhood of York a considerable number of odd-men are reported to be in irregular work owing to the severity of the weather, but in the Knaresborough district the numbers out of work are said to be less than in January 1894.

Midland Counties.—In Shropshire the snow and frost has interfered with the employment of odd-men, but not generally of regular men. In Warwickshire, employment, which was fairly good up to Christmas, has not been satisfactory in January, chiefly owing to frost, but partly also to farmers having less work to be done. In Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, and Rutland the employment of odd-men has also been affected by the hard weather. In Worcestershire employment has been fairly favourable in the Pershore Union, but men are reported to be in irregular work on account of the weather in the Evesham District. In Huntingdonshire reports from 9 parishes state that employment has been irregular. In two of these parishes the numbers of unemployed are said to be greater than in January 1894, in two parishes about the same, and in 5 parishes less.

Eastern Counties.—From several districts in North Lincolnshire men are reported to be in irregular work owing to the hard weather.

In South Lincolnshire a number are in irregular work, and this is attributed chiefly to agricultural depression, but partly to the weather. Hedgers and ditchers particularly find work scarce, as farmers are curtailing their labour as far as possible.

At Littleport, in Cambridgeshire, a considerable number of farm hands were unable to get work on the land, but many of them were employed sweeping the ice for skaters in the Fens. At Upwell the men are reported to be in work, except a few drainers, though some are being irregularly employed at Parsons Drive, the small farmers there having finished most of the threshing work by Christmas. In the southern part of the county, at Barrington, Trumpington, Fulbourne, Chesterton, and Waterbeach, the number of men in irregular work is less than in January 1894, while in the neighbourhood of Rampton it is said to be more.

In the Braintree district of Essex employment is said to be more satisfactory than at the corresponding period of last year, owing to the better harvest. Weekly wages in the district are 9s., and in some cases 8s. In the neighbourhood of Burnham-on-Crouch some men are said to be in want of work, but in the Manringtree district the report is, on the whole, favourable.

In East Norfolk the severe weather considerably interfered with employment, and it is also stated that many farmers have been curtailing their labour bills as far as possible. In West Norfolk a number of men were in irregular work in January, chiefly owing to the severity of the weather. Up to the beginning of that month, the state of employment had compared favourably with that in the preceding year.

In the county of Suffolk the number of men irregularly employed in January 1895 is said to be about the same as that in January 1894, but before January, reports from most parts of the county stated that employment was certainly better than in the previous year. The irregularity of work in January was chiefly attributed to the exceptional severity of the weather, though it was stated in some districts that a good deal of the threshing and the work connected with the root crop was over. Further in some places farmers, who had given notice to quit at Michaelmas were employing fewer hands. In one parish five farms have been left derelict since Michaelmas, and the labourers have, in consequence, been thrown out of work.

Home Counties.—In the town of Luton a number of labourers are in irregular work owing to the state of the weather, but in the neighbouring villages employment is said to be fairly satisfactory. In Berkshire, at Reading and in the neighbourhood, a number of men are reported to be in irregular work, but not in larger numbers than in January 1894. In the Unions of Abingdon, Reading, and Wantage the state of employment is said to be more satisfactory than in the previous year, with the exception of four parishes; but in three of these a landowner has provided employment, and in another the Town Council is giving work three days a week at 2s. for a day of six hours. In the immediate neighbourhood of Buckingham no men are reported out of work, though this is said not to be the case in some of the surrounding villages. The reports from Hertfordshire, Surrey, Sussex, Kent, and Oxfordshire are not, on the whole, unsatisfactory, especially when the state of the weather is taken into account.

Western Counties.—In Wiltshire reports from Collingbourne, Warminster, Bishopstrow, and North Bradley state that employment is satisfactory. But the numbers of those in irregular work are reported to have considerably increased in January as compared with the previous months in the following places: Dunnington, Bishopstone, Tisbury, Pewsey, and Bishop Canning. It is reported that in the Herringstone Union of Dorsetshire the men are fairly employed. In Gloucestershire the month of January has been unfavourable to odd men, and this is attributed partly to the weather and partly to agricultural depression. In Herefordshire employment has been fairly satisfactory. In the Wells District of Somersetshire both the state of the weather and the curtailment of labour has made work irregular; while in the Crediton Union of Devonshire employment on the whole has not been unsatisfactory. In the St. Colomb Union of Cornwall it is reported that able-bodied men are all employed, but that in the Truro Union a considerable number are in want of work.

IRELAND.

According to returns sent by the clerks to certain Unions, and by employers, the state of employment in January 1895 does not compare unfavourably with that in January 1894, except in a few cases. It must be borne in mind that Ireland did not suffer like England from the great drought in 1893, and hence the employment of labour in the following winter was not affected as in England.

EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY—SPECIAL INDUSTRIES (continued).

(g) EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN THE TEXTILE AND HAT TRADES IN JANUARY.

REPORTS have been received from women correspondents with regard to employment in 289 textile mills employing women and girls. On the whole, the reports show some decline, only 67 per cent. of the mills reported on giving full employment, compared with 72 per cent. among those reported on in the previous month. In the Cotton Trade the decline appears both in weaving and spinning branches. In the former branch about one quarter and in the latter, one half of the mills reported on were giving less than full employment at the end of the month. In the Woollen and Worsted Trades one-third of the mills reported on have been working short time or waiting for beams.

The following is a general summary of the information received with regard to the 289 textile mills reported on:—

	No of Mills.
Full time	194
Ditto, but partial employment	47
Short time	34
Closed for repairs	5
" through disputes	3
" through bad trade	6
Total	289

Cotton Trade.—Reports have been received relating to 192 mills from 19 centres in Lancashire and Cheshire, and three in Yorkshire. Of these, 35 were engaged in spinning, 77 in weaving, 37 in both spinning and weaving. In the remaining 43 cases no statement on this point was made, but the majority were engaged in weaving. Of the 35 spinning mills, 18 have been running full time, 10 full time but giving only partial employment, 5 short time, while 2 have been stopped, one for repairs and one through a dispute. Of the 77 weaving mills, 61 have been running full time, 4 full time but giving only partial employment, 5 short time and 7 have been stopped, 2 for repairs, 2 through disputes, and 3 through depression of trade. Of the remaining 80 cotton mills included in the returns, 52 have been running full time, 25 full time but giving only partial employment, and 3 have been stopped, 2 for repairs, and one through depression of trade. The fullest returns are those for Darwen and Bolton. Out of 43 mills reported on in Darwen, 12 although running full time were slack, and in some of them the weavers have had only half work, working 2 looms instead of 4. In Bolton, although the mills have been running full time, full employment has not been given.

Woollen and Worsted Trades.—Reports have been received relating to 55 mills in the Woollen Trade, to 20 in the Worsted, and to 7 in both. Of the 55 woollen mills in Leeds, Morley, Slaithwaite, Dewsbury, Batley, Ravensthorpe, Hunslet, Bradford, Keighley, Rochdale, and Ramsbottom, 37 have been running full time, 6 full time but giving only partial employment, and 12 short time. Of the 20 worsted mills in Bradford, Keighley, Bingley, East Morton and Slaithwaite, 13 have been running full time, 1 full time but giving only partial employment, and 6 short time. The 7 woollen and worsted mills in Leeds, Huddersfield, Dewsbury, and Batley have all been running full time.

Silk Trade.—Reports have been received relating to 10 mills in Rochdale, Failsworth, and Congleton. Of these, 6 have been running full time, 1 full time but giving only partial employment, and 3 short time.

Linen and Flax Trade.—Of the 5 linen and flax mills reported on at Hunslet, 3 have been working short time, and 2 large flax mills are stopped.

Felt and Silk Hat Trade.—In Denton, out of 21 hat works reported on, 9 have given full employment, with overtime in 2 cases, 9 have been on short time, and 3 have been closed through failure.

(h) FISHING INDUSTRY IN JANUARY.

The declared value of the fish landed in January at ten principal ports in England and Wales again exceeded the average for the corresponding month of the four years 1891-94, although the increase was considerably less than that recorded last month. The increases were all on the East Coast, the amounts landed at the three ports on the South and West Coasts again showing a decrease.

Table showing the value of fish landed from the fishing grounds at the principal Ports in England in January 1895, as compared with the average for January in the years 1891-1894.

Ports.	Jan. 1895.	Average for Jan. 1891-94.	Increase in Jan. 1895.	Decrease in Jan. 1895.
EAST COAST.	£	£	£	£
N. Shields	11,895	10,148	1,747	—
Hull	47,987	40,516	7,471	—
Grimsby	121,860	115,180	6,680	—
Yarmouth	7,667	13,009	—	5,342
Lowestoft	39,534	35,225	4,309	—
Ramsgate	11,083	10,131	952	—
London	49,354	51,679	—	2,316
Total	289,380	275,879	13,501	—
SOUTH AND WEST COASTS.				
Plymouth	8,334	13,472	—	5,138
St. Ives	262	2,853	—	2,591
Millford	7,092	9,220	—	2,128
Total	13,688	25,545	—	9,857
Grand Total, Jan. 1895...	305,068	301,424	3,644	—
<i>Ditto for Dec. 1894...</i>	<i>324,136</i>	<i>298,684</i>	<i>25,452</i>	<i>—</i>

The total quantity of *white fish* landed in the United Kingdom in January 1895 was 590,256 cwts., valued at £454,722. Compared with the figures for January 1894, viz., 594,257 cwts., valued at £462,778, decreases of 4,001 cwts. in quantity and £8,056 in value are shown. The quantities and values for England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland, respectively are as follows:—

	Quantity.		Value.	
	Jan. 1895.	Jan. 1894.	Jan. 1895.	Jan. 1894.
	cwts.	cwts.	£	£
England and Wales	377,510	414,474	352,392	379,365
Scotland	190,177	158,641	92,612	75,205
Ireland	22,569	21,142	10,288	7,208
Total	590,256	594,257	454,722	462,778

The value of *shell fish* landed in England and Wales during the month was £10,719; in Scotland, £3,865; and in Ireland, £333. In January 1894, the corresponding values were £17,159, £4,053, and £361.

III.—DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.*

LONDON.

Employment in various Industries.—Returns have been received relating to 301 branches of 62 Trade Unions in the London District, with a membership of 53,368, of whom 4,003, or 7.2 per cent., were unemployed at the end of January.

In the *Engineering, Metal, and Shipbuilding Trades*, employment as a whole shows a slight decline. Reports from 93 branches of 21 unions connected with these trades show that out of a membership of 18,442, 1,550 (or 8.4 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of January, compared with 7.6 per cent. in December, and 6.8 in January 1894. The falling off in employment is chiefly among the boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders, the engineering group showing a slight improvement compared with the previous month.

The severe weather has greatly interrupted the *Building Trades*, employment in which shows a considerable decline at the end of the month. Reports from 157 branches of 7 unions paying unemployed benefit, with a membership of 11,506, show that 1,019 (or 8.9 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of January, compared with 5.6 per cent. in December and 6.0 per cent. in January, 1894. The carpenters, bricklayers, masons, and mill sawyers, with an aggregate

* When it is stated in these reports that "the carpenters," "the plumbers," &c., make certain reports, reference is usually made to the Unions connected with these trades, unless it is otherwise specified.

EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY—DISTRICT REPORTS—LONDON.

gate membership in the London district of 17,679, describe employment as dull; the plasterers, painters, plumbers, and stone carvers, with an aggregate membership of 5,954, as bad.

In the *Furnishing and Woodworking Trades* a falling off is again observable, 31 branches of 14 unions, with an aggregate membership of 5,119, returning 386 (or 7.5 per cent.), as unemployed, compared with 6.7 per cent. in December and 8.9 per cent. in January 1894.

The *Printing and Bookbinding Trades*, particularly the latter, have fallen off to some extent. Sixteen unions with an aggregate membership of 19,025, return 992 (or 5.2 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 4.8 last month and 5.9 in January 1894.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the West-end Tailoring Trade continues slack. The East-end trade has also been dull, but the ready-made clothing branch revived somewhat towards the middle of the month. Reports from Kensington state that dressmakers have been slack. The Hat Trade remains stationary. The furriers report increased numbers unemployed and on short time, full time being exceptional.

Boot and Shoe Trades.—There has been some little improvement in employment in the machine branch, but short time is still prevalent; the high-class bespoke branch is very slack; slipper-making is very quiet, as is usual at this season.

Nearly all departments of the *Leather Trades* show a falling off, returns from four unions with an aggregate membership of 1,276, showing that 56 (or 4.4 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 3.4 per cent. in December. The curriers describe trade as bad, short time being worked; the saddle and harness makers as good in brown riding saddles, but bad in harness; the portmanteau and trunk-makers as quiet; the pocket-book makers as bad; the bag and case-makers as fair for the time of year.

Glass and Pottery Trades.—The Glass Trades are depressed, the bottle branch particularly so. In the Pottery Trades the moulders and finishers are reported as slack, with 6 per cent. out of work; the throwers as very depressed, with 30 per cent. out of work and 20 per cent. on short time; the pipe machine hands as busy.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—The number of seamen shipped was 5,590, or 12.1 per cent. more than in the previous month, but 4.2 per cent. less than in January 1894. Employment for dock and river-side labourers has slightly fallen off as a whole, the average daily number employed in the docks both by the dock companies and the shipowners being 8,811 in January, compared with 8,955 in December. Fuller particulars are given on page 36. The wharves have been fairly employed, except in Thames Street, where work has been slack.

Miscellaneous Trades.—In the Tobacco Trades employment is generally speaking fair, but the strippers are not quite so well employed. The bakers and confectioners report employment as rather quiet, the proportion of unemployed having increased.

Disputes and Trade Movements.—Two fresh disputes were reported during the month, one among upholsterers in Shoreditch on the question of boy labour, which is still unsettled; and the other, affecting about 300 boot and shoe operatives in Spitalfields, owing to the alleged breach by an employer of the terms of the London agreement regulating the conditions of work in the trade.

Labour Bureaux.—The four Labour Bureaux which have previously made returns give the number of new applications from workpeople during January as 1,815, and from employers as 377. The corresponding figures for the previous month were 957 and 345 respectively. In addition a return has been received for the first time from the joint Labour Exchange of St. Martin-in-the-Fields and the Strand District Board of Works, where 131 applications from workpeople have been registered during the month, and 45 from employers. The number of persons found work through the above five Bureaux was 451, and of these 106 were employed by the local authorities by which the Bureaux are managed.

Winter Distress.—The severe weather during the latter part of the month has naturally caused a considerable increase in distress, the Building Trades having to a great extent been stopped by the frost. Of the 94 district reports dealing with parts of 29 out of 30 unions in London and of West Ham, 58 state that there is no exceptional distress. Of the remaining 36 districts, 19 are situated in South London, where a large proportion of building operatives reside. Almost all attribute the exceptional distress to the frost. A considerable amount of temporary work has been provided by various local authorities for the unemployed in clearing away snow, on the roads, &c., and labour yards have been opened by the Guardians in St. Olave's, Southwark, St. Saviour's, Southwark, Wand-

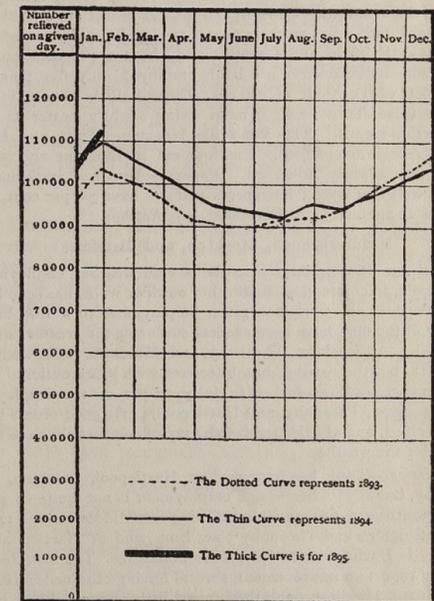
sworth, and Hackney. Besides the labour bureaux, which make monthly returns to the department, unemployed registers have been started by the local authorities in Hackney, Mile End, Bethnal Green, Camberwell, and elsewhere. Up to the end of the month about 6,000 names had been inscribed on the registers in the above four districts. In West Ham about 1,100 names had been entered up to the end of January on the unemployed register connected with the relief-work which has been started on Wanstead flats.

Pauperism.—The proportion of paupers in London on one day in the middle of January was again higher than in the previous month, the rates per 10,000 of population being 268 and 248 respectively. The rate in January 1894 was 260 per 10,000. In West Ham the rate per 10,000 last month was 286, as compared with 287 in January 1894 and 254 in December last.

The table below gives the proportion of paupers to population in the different districts of London, and in West Ham, on the last day of the second week in December 1894, and January 1895 respectively:—

District.	Rate of Pauperism per 10,000 of population.					
	In-door.		Out-door.		Total.	
	Jan. 1895.	Dec. 1894.	Jan. 1895.	Dec. 1894.	Jan. 1895.	Dec. 1894.
West District ...	150	147	33	28	183	175
North " ...	144	140	95	95	239	235
Central " ...	315	307	146	146	461	453
East " ...	195	188	71	62	266	250
South " ...	140	137	151	120	291	257
West Ham ...	52	51	234	203	286	254

The following chart shows the seasonal variations in the volume of pauperism in London at the middle of each month for the years 1893, 1894, and 1895:—



The above figures and chart relate to the 100,000 paupers in the second week of January. From later returns it appears that the rate has increased from 268 in the second week to 272 and 279 in the third and fourth weeks. The number of vagrants relieved on one day was 1,290 in the second week, 1,189 in the third week, and 1,236 in the fourth week.

ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES.
Tyne and Wear District.

Coal Mining.—*Durham.*—This industry declined in January, especially in the first half of the month. The colliers have 1,715, or 3.3 per cent., unemployed, as against 1.2 per cent. in December.—*Northumberland.*—The collieries are working somewhat irregularly, many of the pits being on short time. During the month a few collieries have not been worked more than two days per week. There are 250 men idle or 1.3 per cent. as against less than 1 per cent. in December. Owing to a fall in the average price of coal, a reduction in wages of 1 1/2 per cent. was agreed to at a meeting of the Conciliation Board on January 5th.

EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY—DISTRICT REPORTS (continued).—NORTHERN COUNTIES AND LANCASHIRE, &C.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—On the Tyne.—The shipyards have given little employment—largely owing to the severe weather—only about one-third of the platers being able to work, causing a general stoppage of riveters and caulkers. Work in the engine shops, upon the whole, shows improvement, several men having re-started work at one large firm on the river. The Elswick Ordnance Factory continues fairly busy. Repairing shops, dry docks, and pontoon work has been above the average. The boiler-makers, shipbuilders, and engineers have an increased number unemployed, 2,632 (or 26.3 per cent.), as against 227 in December, chiefly owing to the severe weather. On the Wear.—Shipbuilding continues quiet. Two or three yards, however, are preparing to lay down new work, a few orders having been recently booked. Outside work in the yards is greatly retarded. Engine builders, with about two exceptions, are fairly employed. Forge-men and shipsmiths are only moderately so. Dock work and repair shops are well employed. The engineers and shipbuilders have 1,156 (or 27.8 per cent.) unemployed. Shipwrights and joiners on both rivers are badly employed, having 18 and 14 per cent. respectively out of work. The local steel plate mills continue working well. The angle iron mills, however, are slack.

Dock Labour.—Coal-porters, teamers and trimmers have been badly employed during the month. General riverside labourers and wherry-men are slack.

Building Trades.—On the Tyne operations have been at a standstill owing to the severe weather. The bricklayers report fully half their members unemployed. The plasterers are in a similar position, but masons are not quite so badly off for work. On the Wear the same state of things prevails. On resumption of work, however, prospects are good.

Miscellaneous.—The mill-sawyers have 5 per cent. unemployed. The wage dispute at the chemical factories being finally arranged, work will be resumed. Cement and copper works are still slack. The pressed flint glass workers report two additional furnaces in operation at Millfield and Cornhill, and about 9 per cent. out of work. The bottle-makers are badly employed, only five tanks in the district working out of fifteen. There is little change in the Durham Coke Trade, employment being slightly better at the close of the month. The Wear-dale Ironstone Mines and Lead Industry remain unchanged. Employment in the lime and stone quarries has slightly fallen off. Paper makers and bookbinders continue well employed; letterpress printers have 3.8 per cent. unemployed as against 5.4 in December.—*J. Ratcliffe.*

Middlesbrough, Stockton, and District.

Shipbuilding.—Owing largely to the severe weather, employment in this trade, in common with all other outdoor work, has been bad. At Hartlepool, old work has given employment to a few, but a majority of the men have been suspended during the greater part of the month. At Stockton, Thornaby, and Middlesbrough, there is more work, but the weather has interfered with its execution. The joiners report trade as bad, with fully 17 per cent. unemployed; but at Stockton, Thornaby, and Hartlepool, fairly good orders have been obtained, and at Middlesbrough employment would have been fair but for the weather.

Engineering.—Trade has improved at Hartlepool, Stockton, and Thornaby, but at Middlesbrough employment is not quite so good as two months ago, the unemployed being—at Middlesbrough 12 per cent., at Stockton and Thornaby 5 per cent., and at Hartlepool 5.6 per cent. In Darlington there has been no change. The moulders at Stockton report an improvement, several having obtained work. At Stockton and Middlesbrough they report little change. Little more than half the pattern-makers have started in the district, but a number have obtained work in other districts.

Iron and Steel Trades.—The Finished Iron Trade is dull, and under the sliding scale the men had to accept a reduction of 3d. per ton and 2½ per cent. in their wages. The Pig Iron Trade is not so good, and work is slacker both at the blast furnaces and the Cleveland ironstone mines. The steel works with one or two exceptions continue fairly busy. At one firm at Middlesbrough between 500 and 600 men have received, under the sliding scale in force, an advance of one-half per cent. Foundries and bridge works report no change.

Building Trades.—These trades report work as slack throughout the district, apart from the stoppages on account of the weather. The sawmills at Hartlepool are slack, some only working three-quarter time. The joiners report 17 per cent. out of employment.

Miscellaneous.—The sailors and firemen report trade as quiet; riverside and dock labour has declined; the salt-workers are fairly

busy; the printers, tailors and most of the minor trades report employment as bad, and the number of general labourers idle has increased owing to the severe frost.—*A. Main.*

LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS.**Oldham and District.**

Cotton Trade.—The spinning branch of the Cotton Trade is not so good, and it is feared that many mills will either close or run short time. The operative spinners report 3.5 per cent. of their members out of employment. In Rochdale, Mossley, Stalybridge, Ashton-under-Lyne, and Stockport, trade is depressed, and the number of unemployed is increasing. The weaving and other branches of the Cotton Trade are rather worse than last month, and operatives are not so fully employed.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The millwrights, engine-fitters, turners, and general fitters are only partially employed. The machine-makers report trade as slack in many departments, but those employed in the making of looms, ring frames and throstles, are fairly well employed. The brass-founders and finishers are fully employed. The moulders and boiler-makers are slack, with more unemployed.

Building Trades.—The bricklayers and their labourers and the carpenters and joiners are only partially employed. The plumbers, painters, and decorators report trade as slack; the plasterers as fair. The flaggers and slaters have little work to do, in consequence of severe weather.

Miscellaneous.—The gas-workers are fairly well employed. General labourers are partially employed. The cabinet-makers and the wheelwrights report trade as slack; the skip-makers as dull; the wood-turners and wood-sawyers as quiet; the printers, brush-makers, tailors, tinplate-workers and coal-miners as moderate; the boot and shoe makers and the cloggers as good; the blacksmiths as busy; the millers as steady; and the paviors as bad. Railway and tramway employees have been in full work.—*T. Ashton.*

Burnley, Accrington, and District.

Cotton Trade.—This industry has shown a further decline, and a large number of looms have been stopped in the various weaving centres. During the month a uniform list of prices for weaving stave work has been signed by employers' and workmen's representatives, and will come into operation in February 1895. The Hard Waste Trade still keeps fair; neither the Coloured Goods Trade nor the Sateen Trade shows any marked improvement. Printed cloths are most in demand. The calico printers report no change.

Building Trades.—The various branches of these trades are practically at a standstill, especially the masons, bricklayers and quarrymen, owing to the weather. The joiners, painters and decorators report work as still slack, being mostly employed on inside jobs. The plumbers remain fully employed.

Miscellaneous Trades.—The Iron Trades show no material change, except that one firm which has worked overtime for some time has now ceased to do so. The Letterpress Printing Trade continues fair. Tailoring is reported as worse, with an increase in the number of unemployed. Coal miners report no change. The general trades are only moderate, and during the past few weeks the total of unemployed has increased.—*W. H. Wilkinson.*

Manchester and District.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment in these trades shows no improvement. The locomotive builders are slack. The braziers and sheet metal-workers are only moderately employed. The brass-founders and finishers have rather more unemployed, besides several men who are taking a few days' holiday in their turn. Wire-drawers and wire-weavers at Warrington are not so busy as they were. A slight improvement is felt amongst the iron-workers at Warrington.

Building Trades.—The Building Trades in Manchester, Macclesfield, Warrington, Northwich, and Stockport are all in a bad condition, the frost having made trade much worse. There is a great increase in the number of unemployed carpenters, joiners, and plasterers. The plumbers are moderately busy. The glass painters, embossers, and sheet-lead glaziers are moderately well employed.

Textile Trades.—Cotton spinning in Manchester and Warrington remains unchanged. Two mills continue on short time, and some other mills are standing altogether. In Macclesfield the Cotton Trade generally is fair. Employment in the weaving department of the Silk Trade is fairly good. The improvement in the Silk Trade generally is maintained, several who have been working short time

EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY—DISTRICT REPORTS (continued).—LANCASHIRE, &C.

YORKSHIRE.**Hull and District.**

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—These industries continue to improve; all branches have a fair amount of employment in repair work. The orders for new vessels have given employment to more men, and the number of unemployed has fallen. The boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders report employment as fair, with fewer unemployed. The shipwrights have only about 5 per cent. unemployed, as against 12½ to 15 per cent. in December. The ship-joiners also report a continued improvement, and fewer unemployed. The engineers report better trade, with 9 per cent. unemployed, as against 10 per cent. in December. The drillers and hole cutters, and sailmakers report employment as good, with no unemployed; the iron and steel dressers as moderate, with no unemployed. The pattern-makers, iron-founders, and brass-founders and finishers are well employed. The employment of unskilled labour connected with these trades also continues to improve, 5 per cent. fewer being unemployed.

Shipping and Seamen.—The severe gales and frosts have seriously affected the Shipping Trade. A number of vessels have been laid up and their crews discharged. This also affects the employment of dock, quay, warehouse, coal hoist, and other labour connected with the discharge and loading of vessels. Employment at the docks is worse than usual. Navigation to Goole and up the contributory rivers and canals has been obstructed by ice, except to the larger steam vessels, which could only proceed by daylight.

Building Trades.—Building operations generally, unless sheltered, have been at a standstill, the slaters and tilers report employment as fairly good, with none idle; the plumbers as moderate, with no unemployed; the carpenters and joiners as bad, with 8 per cent. idle; the mill-sawyers and woodcutting machinists as worse, with an increase of unemployed from 2½ to 4 per cent.; the painters as bad, with a large percentage out of work.

Fishing Industry.—A number of steam and sailing trawlers have been lost with all hands, and others have been seriously damaged. Fish at the beginning of the month was scarce and prices were high. The engine-room hands of the steam fishing vessels report employment as good. During the latter part of the month the industry has been more regular, giving employment to fish porters, packers, and smoke-house employees. The shore hands have been fairly well employed landing fish and getting the vessels ready for sea.

Seed Crushing, Oil, Paint, Varnish and Colour Trades.—Employment in the seed crushing mills is reported as fair, but there is also an improvement in the Paint and Colour Trades. Some of the works continue to be only moderately employed, and some are still working short time.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is reported as moderate by the cabinet-makers, with 4 per cent. unemployed; the letterpress printers, with 5 per cent.; the bookbinders and machine rulers, with 13 per cent.; the coopers, flour-millers, bakers and confectioners; as bad by the tailors; as good by the gas-workers. At Selby the lace mills are fairly busy; about 70 men at the railway works have been discharged.—*W. G. Millington.*

Leeds and District.

Metal Trades.—The engineers show no improvement, with about 14 per cent. unemployed. The textile machinery and locomotive departments are moderately employed, but tool-making is slack. At Wakefield trade continues dull, with more out of work. The iron-moulders in Leeds are still slack, and at Stanningley rather worse than in December. The Crane Trade at Rodley has slightly improved. The stove-grate workers are slack, with 7 per cent. unemployed. The boiler-makers are quiet. The machine tool-makers and whitesmiths are slack, both having upwards of 20 per cent. unemployed.

Building Trades.—During the greater part of the month work in most of these trades has been practically suspended owing to the severity of the weather. The plasterers are slack, but the joiners have been fairly employed. At Morley, Stanningley and Wakefield these trades are dull.

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoe operatives have been exceptionally busy; slipper-makers are fairly well employed. The Ready-made Clothing Trade has improved, but bespoke tailoring is slack.

Textile Trades.—The Flax Trade is dull. The woollen spinners are slack, with a number out of work. The willeys and tilters are busier. At Wakefield many of the mills are on short time, and at Stanningley there is no improvement. At Yeadon trade is rather better.

being now put on full time. Silk dyers are working full time, but silk dressers are slack.

Clothing Trades.—The Tailoring Trade is bad, and the Wholesale Clothing Trade is but little better. Employment in the ready-made Mantle Trade is moderate. Cap-makers are pretty well employed; shirt-making and waterproof garment making are moderate. The home trade in umbrellas continues dull, but the shipping trade is brisker. No improvement is manifest in the Felt Hat Trade.

Printing and Kindred Trades.—Letterpress printing has fallen off considerably; lithographic printing and bookbinding show no change.

Miscellaneous.—The upholsterers report trade as bad; coach-building is also bad except in the railway shops, where several extra hands have been taken on. The dressers, dyers, and finishers report trade as moderate; the coopers and cabinet-makers at Warrington, and the fustian-cutters at Macclesfield as good.—*G. D. Kelley.*

Barrow-in-Furness District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Marine engineering has been busy, and a number of men have been taken on, but every other branch of engineering is dull. The shipbuilders are busy, and all applying are taken on.

Iron and Steel Trades.—The Pig Iron Trade remains depressed, and stocks are accumulating. One firm, employing about 300 men, have announced their intention of closing their works unless the men accept a reduction of wages. The steel-workers are slack both in Barrow and in Workington.

Shipping and Railways.—There has been no revival in shipping; throughout the district the trade is dull. Railway traffic has only slightly improved.

Building Trades.—Employment in all branches of these trades is bad, and numbers of men are unemployed.

Miscellaneous.—Employment in the Printing and kindred Trades, the Baking and Confectionery, and the Tailoring Trades is moderate; the millers, the paper and pulp-makers are busy, but the jute workers are slack. All outdoor employment is dull.—*J. D. Couper.*

Liverpool and District.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—There has been a good demand for labour, owing to the heavy cotton imports, few being entirely unemployed, though a number are only employed about half-time. The Mersey flatmen report trade as moderate, partly owing to the withdrawal from the Atlantic trade, of one or two lines to which coal heretofore was conveyed by the Mersey flatmen.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—The Shipbuilding Trade shows no improvement; the riveters and boiler-makers return the same percentage of unemployed. The engineers return 157 out of 1,978 members unemployed, or 7.9 per cent.

Metal Trades.—The whitesmiths, with about 10 per cent. unemployed, the brass and tinplate-workers, the iron-moulders and core-makers report trade as unchanged.

Building Trades.—The carpenters and joiners report 119 out of 1,548, or 7.7 per cent., unemployed before the frost set in; the plasterers' labourers 5 out of 70; the house-painters, a large percentage of their members. During the frosty weather nearly all branches of the Building Trades have been suspended. All branches of these trades in St. Helens and Widnes are quiet, owing to the stoppage of large works and to severe frost.

Glass and Chemical Trades.—The Glass and Chemical Trades in Widnes and St. Helens District show little change, those employed only working half time. One colliery closed during December was re-opened towards the end of January, the men working about half time. The large glass manufactories and numerous chemical works are expected shortly to re-open.

Miscellaneous.—The cross city traffic has been brisk owing largely to the increased cotton imports; the railway goods men have also been fully employed. The shoe-makers are fully employed; the upholsterers report 31 out of 145 unemployed; the letterpress printers 80 out of 840, or 9.5 per cent.; the saddlers 6 out of 64; the tailors are moderately busy.—*J. Sexton.*

A report from Winsford states that the Salt Trade has been dull, although a slight improvement has taken place. The Chemical Trade is depressed. The Building Trades would be moderate but for the weather. The fustian-cutters report employment as moderate.

EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY—DISTRICT REPORTS (continued).—YORKSHIRE.

Leather Trades.—Tanners are not so well employed, and some are on short time. The leather shavers report trade as slack.

Glass Bottle Trade.—The severe depression continues. Of the ordinary glass bottle-workers upwards of 33 per cent., and of the medical bottle workers 22 per cent., are unemployed. A number of labourers dependent on this industry are also out of employment.

Miscellaneous.—The Letterpress Printing Trade has fallen off. Lithographic printing is fair. The cabinet-makers are quiet. The coach-makers are dull, with 8 per cent. unemployed. Brush-making is still slack.—O. Connellan.

Bradford, Huddersfield, and District.

Textile Trades.—The Woollen Trade round about Huddersfield shows a slight upward tendency. There are still firms working overtime, and firms working short time. In the Heavy Woollen Trade in Dewsbury, Batley, and surrounding districts, trade is improving a little, more overtime is worked, and fewer people are out of work. Carpet Weaving in this district is quiet. The Worsted manufacture is improving in the Huddersfield district, and one or two large firms are working overtime; but it is not good in Halifax, Keighley, or Bradford the latter town being exceptionally slack. Cotton spinning is dull in all the districts; the Silk Trade is quiet.

Metal Trades.—Employment in the Metal Trades is still quiet. In Halifax no change is reported. Improvement in Keighley has not been maintained; in Bradford these trades are slack. In Huddersfield the engineers have 16 out of 180 unemployed, and the iron-founders have improved, with 11 out of 90 unemployed. Wire drawing in Brighouse and district is moderate, one firm working overtime; other firms are not quite so busy.

Miscellaneous.—The Building Trades have suffered severely on account of the weather, and quarrying in every district has been stopped. The printers in Huddersfield report employment as good, but reports from other centres are not quite so favourable. Tailoring is quiet, and in some centres bad.—A. Gee.

Yorkshire Mining Districts (except Cleveland).

Coal Mining.—The Coal Trade is in much the same condition as in December. Some collieries are only working short time, while others are working four, five, and six days per week. Though the collieries in many instances are working short time, they have been able even under these conditions to supply all demands. About 250 men at Tankersley were thrown out of work during the month; about three-quarters of them are now employed. Several men at Nunery have been out of work for about six months, and thirty of them are still unemployed. A number of men at a colliery near Barnsley have been "playing" owing to water in the pit. About 150 men who were employed at some collieries near Bradford are unemployed owing to bad trade. Several men are still out of work at Flockton on account of the stoppage of some small collieries. About 600 men at Lofthouse Colliery have stopped work owing to a dispute.

Glass Bottle Trade.—There is much distress at Castleford on account of the stoppage of a glass works.—J. Wadsworth.

Sheffield and District.

Iron and Steel Industries.—There is a good demand for Siemens steel; several firms are enlarging their plant, and trade in this branch has improved. In the Bessemer department trade is quiet, the workers reporting 10 per cent. unemployed, and about 80 per cent. on short time. Pressmen, planers, drillers and slotters employed on armour plates are fully employed. Large forgings are quiet; flues and tubes unchanged. In the shot and shell department there is a slight improvement. Crucible steel makers are quiet. The iron and steel-founders report trade as better, with 13 per cent. unemployed, as against 16 per cent. in December, and with 7 per cent. partially employed, as against 11 per cent. Merchant iron rollers are better employed, with 2½ per cent. out of work, and another 2½ per cent. on short time. The railway spring fitters are slack, having 5 per cent. unemployed, and a number on short time. The engineers have 7 per cent. unemployed, and a number on short time. The wire-drawers report improvement, with no skilled workmen out of employment, and fewer men on short time. At Rotherham the Steel Trade is fairly good. Forge-men employed upon loco. forgings, cranks and axles have been making five and six tons per week. There has also been a fair demand for billets and railway springs, but the Iron Trade is bad. Bath-makers are busier; stove-grate workers are fairly well employed; the Brass Trade is only moderate. At Dronfield, spindle-makers are slack; spade and shovel makers moderate; brass-workers and iron-founders quiet.

Cutlery and Tools.—The prolonged holidays and stock-takings, in some cases extending to the second week in January, have seriously affected work. The skate makers have been exceedingly busy, The spring knife and table knife cutlers are rather quieter. The saw-smiths report trade as slightly improved, with 2 per cent. unemployed, and a number working short time. The Wool Shear Trade has improved. In machine knives and tools employment is slack, and the jobbing grinders report trade as worse, with 6 per cent. unemployed. Edge tool makers are quiet, with 7 per cent. unemployed, and 20 per cent. partially employed. The engineers' tool makers are slack, 5 per cent. being out of work, and 40 per cent. on short time. The Razor Trade is quiet, especially in common qualities. The grinders have about 10 per cent. unemployed, and a large proportion working short time.

Building Trades.—The stone masons report employment as slack; the bricklayers, carpenters, joiners, and painters are all slack, owing to the weather; the plumbers are well employed.

Miscellaneous.—The railway wagon builders are slack, but there is a fair amount of work in the carriage department; the coach-makers report trade as bad, with 6 per cent. out of employment, and 50 per cent. short of work; the Silver Trade generally is slack, a large percentage of the workmen being only partially employed; the brass chandelier-makers are moderately employed; the letterpress printers report employment as worse, with 10 per cent. unemployed; the bookbinders are well employed; the bakers and confectioners have improved, but 20 per cent. are still only partly employed. The potters are fairly well employed.—S. Utley.

ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Derbyshire District.

Coal Mining and Quarrying.—The Coal Trade remains quiet. Ilkeston and Clay Cross Districts from 3 to 4 days per week is the average. In Alfreton District cannel coal is being worked 6 days per week, hard and soft coal 5½ days. A stoppage of about 300 men has occurred at one pit in this district. In Codnor District, both in hard and soft coal, 4 to 5 days per week are being worked; in Kilburn and Ripley 5 to 6 days per week. Quarrying in all districts is reported as moderate, and the severe weather has interrupted operations.

Engineering and Machinery.—The engineers and machinists report a decline, with 9 per cent. unemployed. The locomotive works are moderately employed; the boiler-makers report 7 per cent. idle. The bridge and girder yards are dull. The iron-moulders report trade as slack, with nearly 25 per cent. unemployed; the brass-moulders and finishers as still good; the stove-grate workers, both in Derby and Belper Districts, as slightly improved; the shoeing and general smiths as fair. In Long Eaton lace machine builders continue well employed. Cycle-workers are slack. The Engineering Trades in Glossop, New Mills and Ripley continue moderate, but in Burton-on-Trent, Chesterfield, Ilkeston, and Long Eaton districts trade is dull, with 10 per cent. unemployed. The Iron Trade is quiet, particularly in Clay Cross, where 4 days per week are being worked. The Malleable Iron Trade continue fair.

Building Trades.—The bricklayers report trade as fair; the carpenters and joiners, plasterers, stonemasons, and gas-fitters as quiet; the plumbers as brisk; the house painters and decorators as slack, a large proportion being unemployed. The Building Trade is reported as busy in Long Eaton; fair in Belper district; moderate in Buxton; dull in Matlock and Burton-on-Trent; nearly all building operations being suspended owing to the severe weather.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress printers and bookbinders report trade as fair; the lithographers as improving.

Clothing Trades.—The Tailoring Trade is reported as moderate. Dress and mantle-makers are well employed. The boot and shoe operatives are dull, short time being the rule. The Hosiery Trade in Belper district continues dull. The Lea hosiery mills are fairly well employed.

Textile Trades.—The Lace Trade in Derby is quiet; in Long Eaton depressed, about 5 per cent. being out of employment. The Silk Industry is quiet. The Cotton Trade in Belper and Glossop districts remains slack.

Miscellaneous.—The surgical bandage-makers, elastic web weavers, dyers, brush-makers, and gas-workers report trade as fair; the upholsterers, cabinet-makers, coach-builders in private shops, bakers and confectioners, railway men, paper-makers, hide and skin workers as moderate; the paper stainers, colour mixers, and basket-makers as slack; the railway carriage and wagon builders as

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

dull; the sawyers and woodworkers as brisk. In Long Eaton district wagon repairers are slack; wagon builders are moderately employed. General labourers are dull.—C. White-Deacon.

Nottingham and District.

Lace Trade.—The plain net branch continues fully employed, but the levers, curtain, and warp lace branches have about 10 per cent. out of work. The warpers report trade as bad, with 5 per cent. unemployed; the designers and draughtsmen as moderate; the curtain readers and punchers as unchanged, with nearly 20 per cent. idle; the dyers as slack, with 8 per cent. unemployed; the bleachers as declining; the female operatives as rather slack, with 5 per cent. unemployed. In the chenille spotting and veiling department there has been a brisk demand for female labour. The threaders and menders are not fully employed. The lace dressers at Fulwell and Basford report trade as moderate, short time prevailing. At Beeston and Stapleford trade is not brisk, factories running short time.

Hosiery Trade.—Most of the men on patent and rotary power machines are working short time, and about one-third are entirely out of work. Female labour on the circular sock machine continues well employed, but seamers, turners-off, helpers and other classes of female labour are slack. The rib-top branch reports an improvement, and the circular branch is bad, with a few unemployed. Griswold knitters appear to be declining. The hand frame branch is fairly brisk locally on special lines. At Sutton-in-Ashfield, Kirkby, Carlton and Arnold, trade is bad in the plain hand branch. A few are better employed on silk lace ankle work of best quality. The power branch at Mansfield and Arnold is only moderate. At Hucknall trade is quiet.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—These trades continue bad in all branches. Lace machine and hosiery machine building is now slack, several only making three-quarter time, and many firms suspending workmen. The cycle branch is quiet. The engineers have 11½ per cent. unemployed; the iron-founders 20 per cent.; the tool machinists 25 per cent.; the iron dressers 6 per cent. The bobbin and carriage-makers are declining, with 15 per cent. idle; the brass-workers are quiet, with 15 per cent. unemployed. At Beeston trade has improved, with no unemployed. At Newark the boiler-makers and engineers are moderately employed, with 4 per cent. idle. At Mansfield engineering is moderate, but with no unemployed. The iron-founders report trade as bad, with about 10 per cent. unemployed. At Retford the iron-founders report 8 per cent. idle.

Building Trades.—Owing to the weather the carpenters and joiners report an increase of unemployed, with 10 per cent. idle; the plumbers report trade as quiet, with 10 per cent. idle; the bricklayers as quiet; the painters as bad, with a large percentage of unemployed; the mill-sawyers as slack, with 8 per cent. The builders' labourers have many out of work on account of the weather. At Newark trade is quiet, with about 8 per cent. unemployed; at Retford and Hucknall, fairly good; at Mansfield moderate, with about 4 per cent. unemployed; at Worksop moderate, with about 8 per cent. unemployed.

Railway Works.—Trade is fairly good at Colwick, Netherfield, and Toton sidings, and at Newark and Mansfield, with none unemployed. In the Worksop district trade is not brisk. Coal traffic is slack.

Miscellaneous.—The coach-builders report trade as bad, with 9 per cent. idle; the elastic bandage-makers, with 5 per cent. out of work, the tailors and the box-makers as slack; the lithographic artists, with 5 per cent. unemployed, the lithographic printers, the cotton doublers and silk throwsters, the boot and shoe operatives, as quiet; the wheelwrights and smiths, with 4 per cent. idle, the wholesale clothing and mantle-workers, and the women cigar-makers as moderate; the gas-workers, the printers at Retford and Mansfield, and the brush-makers as fairly good; and the farriers as busy.—W. L. Hardstaff.

Leicester and Northampton District.

Boot and Shoe Industry.—The Leicester Boot and Shoe Trade has improved, and the workpeople are more regularly employed. At Northampton the improvement is slow, and several are working short time. At Kettering employment is brisker, and a few firms are on overtime. Shoe mercery and leather houses report a larger output, and employment is also good with tanners and curriers.

Hosiery, Yarn, and Spinning Trades.—The Hosiery Trade has slightly improved. The Yarn Trade is still quiet, and among the operatives engaged in the Spinning Trades employment is less satisfactory.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—Business is slacker in the principal branches of the Engineering Trade, and about 4 per cent. are unemployed. Trade is good in electrical engineering and machine building, and the iron-founders report improvement. Employment is slack with boiler-makers and range fitters, good with shoe-machinery constructors, and moderate with hosiery-machine builders and needle-makers.

Building Trades.—Out-door work in the Building Trades has been almost entirely suspended, and the percentage of unemployed has largely increased. Bricklayers are short of work. The plasterers report 10 per cent. unemployed; the carpenters and joiners from 6 to 10 per cent., the builders' labourers 17 to 20 per cent.; the painters and house decorators 75 per cent., the plumbers, glaziers and gasfitters continue generally busy. Brick and tile makers have been slacker owing to the severe weather.

Coal Mining and Quarrying.—Colliers have been rather better employed at the South Leicester pits. Trade is quieter at the stone quarries, especially with men in the broken stone branch.

Miscellaneous.—The Wholesale Tailoring Trade is fairly busy; the bespoke department is slack. In the Elastic Web Trade workpeople are moderately employed in the making of cord, braid and garter fabrics, but work is short in the shoe webbing department. The Printing and Bookbinding Trades continue good, only about 2 per cent. being unemployed. The cigar-makers, cardboard box-makers, railway servants and gas-stokers report employment as good; the wool-sorters, dyers and trimmers as improving, the latter with 5 per cent. unemployed; the silk hatters, with about 12 per cent. unemployed, as moderate; the bakers, basket-makers and confectioners as not so good. Employment is bad with the coach-makers (12 per cent. being out of work), and with outdoor labourers of all branches except railway navvies.—T. Smith.

Potteries District.

Pottery Trades.—A slight improvement is apparent with America and the Colonies, but the home trade continues quiet. The hollow-ware pressers report a slight improvement in the general trade, with 1 per cent. out of work. The Sanitary Trade is quiet, fully 4 per cent. being unemployed, and only three to four days per week being worked. The flat-pressers report no change. The women's union report a slight decline, with 2 per cent. out of work. The ovenmen, kilnmen, and saggar-makers report no change. The printers and transferrers report a slight improvement. The crate-makers report no improvement.

Metal Trades.—The Iron Trade throughout the district is in a depressed state. The engineers, boiler-makers and iron-founders report no improvement, with 8 per cent. out of work. At Crewe trade is bad, with 2 per cent. unemployed in the engineering departments, and short time generally prevails. At Stafford trade is moderate, with none idle. At Congleton no improvement is manifest.

Coal Mining.—Throughout the district, coal is in better demand and a number of the unemployed miners have been found work. By the flooding of the mine at Audley, on the 14th of January, a large number of miners have been thrown out of work.

Textile Trades.—At Leek the trimming weavers report trade as better, with about 3 per cent. unemployed. The hard silk and braid departments report no change. At Congleton the silk dressers report no change; the thrown silk workers that trade is improving. At Cheadle the tape-workers are fairly well employed, trade being moderate.

Building Trades.—The Building Trades generally are bad, mainly owing to the weather. In the Potteries the bricklayers have 20 per cent. unemployed; the carpenters and joiners 10 per cent.; the plumbers and painters 10 per cent. The wood-sawyers and machinists have no unemployed, but are generally working short time. At Stafford the bricklayers report trade as moderate; the stonemasons as fair, with no unemployed; the carpenters and joiners as quiet, with 8 per cent. idle; the painters and plumbers as bad, with 25 per cent. unemployed, and 50 per cent. working less than half time. At Leek the carpenters and joiners have 12 per cent. out of work; the bricklayers, painters and labourers have also large percentages unemployed. At Crewe trade in all departments is dull.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress printers report trade as worse in the Potteries, with 10 per cent. out of work; as good at Stafford, with 2 per cent. unemployed. The lithographic artists and printers report trade as fairly good; the bookbinders as unchanged.

Miscellaneous.—The enginemen and stokers are fairly employed. The railway servants report no change. The tailors are slack. The

EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—MIDLAND COUNTIES (contd.).

bakers are better employed. The Boot and Shoe Trade has somewhat improved at Stafford and Stone. At Stafford the gas-workers are fairly well employed.—*I. S. Harvey.*

Wolverhampton and District.

Iron and Engineering Trades.—The Iron Trade has been depressed, and many puddlers have only been doing one or two turns a week. A blast-furnace has been blown out at Bilston, and furnacemen are doing very little. The auditors of the Iron Trade Wages Board have reported a decline of 2s. per ton in the average selling price, but wages remain as before for the next two months. Steel workers report a decline. In the Shropshire district the Steel and Iron Trades are worse, short time being worked and many unemployed. The engineers and constructive machinists report no change, with about 4 per cent. unemployed. In the Iron Door and Safe Trade short time is the rule, and many of the heavy iron-founders are also on short time. Bridge and girder constructors and tank and boiler-makers are fully employed. The tool makers and machinists report an improvement at the end of the month. The Cycle Trade is unusually busy. Full time continues to be worked by all branches at the railway sheds.

Hardware Trades.—The depression in the Hand-made Nut and Bolt Trade continues. The rivet-makers and the wrought-nail makers in the Halesowen, Dudley and Bromsgrove districts are slack. The number of unemployed chain-makers has largely increased, as is usual at this season. The Lock Trade is bad, and many men are only working two or three days a week. The padlock makers are slightly busier, and this is also the case at Walsall and Wednesfield. The spring-trap makers are only working three days per week, and the key stampers are slack. The Tinplate Trade continues depressed. Brass and copper workers are also slack. Those employed on gas and electrical chandeliers are somewhat better off. Short time has become general in the Ironplate Trade in the Lye district. The Electrical Trades are busy. The Vice and Anvil Trade is slack in the Dudley district, but steady in the Lye district. Makers of hinges, latches and catches are steadily employed. The Iron Hurdle and Fencing Trades have been well employed but for the weather. Edge tool makers are steady. Galvanisers and enamellers have been slack; the latter, however, are now improving. Japanning is on the decline. The file smiths and cutters are working longer hours. The Steel Toy, Cut Nail, and Tack Industries are slack. Small iron-moulders and hollow-ware casters are not so busy. The Cast Nail Trade shows a decline, but makers of malleable castings are busy. Tube workers have been slightly better in some branches.

Coal Mining.—In the Cannock Chase district there has been a slight improvement, but some pits are not working half-time, and many men are unemployed. Short time is still worked among the Black Country miners; but in South Shropshire there is an improvement, and the men are working four and five days a week.

Building Trades.—The weather has materially affected all branches of this industry. The carpenters have 35 per cent. of their members unemployed. The masons return trade as declining; the bricklayers, plasterers, and labourers, and brick-makers as bad; the painters and decorators as slack; the plumbers, mill-sawyers, and machinists as moderate.

Miscellaneous.—The tailors have been slack. The boot and shoe-makers report trade as moderate; the coopers, crate-makers, packing-case makers, cabinet-makers and upholsterers as bad, with many unemployed; the printers as worse, with 6 per cent. out of work; the oil, colour and varnish-makers are all fully employed. The wheelwrights, smiths and coach-builders are slack; the gas-stokers, bakers and confectioners, and railway men and carriers are fully employed. The Leather Trade in Walsall shows no change, short time being still general. The Hame Trade, chain-makers and casters of harness furniture at Wednesfield are still slack. The Glass Trade in the Dudley, Wordsley and Stourbridge districts is reported as quiet. The Sanitary Pipe Trade round "The Lye" is brisk. The Carpet Industry at Kidderminster is bad; the spinning mills are fully employed.—*W. F. Met.*

Birmingham and District.

Engineers.—The tool-makers and machinists report trade as quiet. General engineering is moderate; electrical engineering a little busier, a few are working overtime, but many are on short time, and about 4 per cent. are unemployed. The smiths and strikers have 10 per cent. unemployed. The file-smiths report improvement, but about one-third are on short time.

Brass and Copper-workers.—Cabinet brass foundry work has become depressed, and long holidays were given at the principal firms.

Chandelier and electric fitting workers are also slack, except on incandescent gas-light fittings. Workers on heavy hinges are busier, but not universally. Plain gas-fitting workers are fairly well employed, and plumbers' brass-workers are becoming busier. Copper-smiths find a little more work, and lamp-workers are fairly busy.

Jewellers, Silversmiths, and Electro-platers.—The Jewellery Trade is improving, some men are making overtime occasionally, only a few are on short time, and none are unemployed. Silversmiths' work has fallen off a little. Electro-plating is quiet, several firms being on short time. The Spoon and Fork Trade is good; there are, however, about 15 per cent. working short time.

Other Metal-workers.—The Bedstead Trade is steadily improving; all the firms are now members of the organisation, including both employers and employed. Steel-pen work is rather slack. The Cycle Trade is brisker. Metal-rolling is quiet. Stove-plate and all kinds of heating apparatus work is busy; some tube work has also been brisker. The Ironplate Trade is depressed.

Wagon and Carriage Building.—Railway wagon building is dull; in carriages the body makers are busy, and the finishers slack. The private coach-builders are dull, many are on short time, and 28 members are unemployed.

Furniture and Wood-working Trades.—Cabinet-makers report trade as quiet. The mill-sawyers have 27 men on short time and 17 unemployed. The packing-case makers are quiet, the majority being on short time and 12 per cent. unemployed.

Building Trades.—These trades are bad, partly owing to the weather. The carpenters have 10 per cent. unemployed, and 22 per cent. of the shops are on short time. Outdoor workers have all been suffering severely.

Miscellaneous.—Vegetable ivory button work is improving. Glass blowers are no busier, but bevellers are fairly well employed. The Brush Trade is bad, with 10 per cent. unemployed. There is a slight revival in the Sporting Gun Trade.

Trades in South Staffordshire.—Work in the Iron Trades is slack. Many who worked at Congreaves Works are still receiving charitable relief. Prospects in the Steel Trade seem good. The Enamelled Sign-plate Industry is busy, one firm employing a double shift of men. Good contracts are running for galvanized iron sheets. The brickworks are still busy.—*W. J. Davis.*

A report on **Coventry and North Warwickshire** states that the Cycle Trade is satisfactory; some works are slack, but others are working overtime. The general Engineering Trade continues to increase in volume, and the manufacturers of cycle parts are busy, but 7 per cent. of the engineers are unemployed. The Watch and Silk Trades continue depressed. The Hosiery, Woollen, Plush and Velvet Trades are fair. The Hatting Trade is quiet, and the ready-made Clothing Trade is depressed. The Printing Trade continues to improve. The Building, Quarrying, and out-door industries are at a standstill through the severe weather. The brick, tile, piping, and terra-cotta branches are fairly well employed.

ENGLAND: EASTERN COUNTIES.

Norfolk and District.

Engineering, Shipbuilding, and Metal Trades.—At Great Yarmouth the engineers have been fairly busy; at Norwich no improvement has taken place; at Thetford all are at work, but no overtime has been made; at Beccles trade is good, the men in some cases working two hours overtime per day, except on Saturdays; at Yarmouth and Lowestoft the shipwrights are fully employed.

Building Trades.—At Norwich, with the exception of plumbers who have been fairly busy, all branches have been slack; very few painters have had even partial employment. At Yarmouth, bricklayers are at a standstill, owing to the bad weather; the carpenter, and joiners are dull, but few are idle; the plumbers are all employed; about 300 labourers have been thrown out of work owing to the weather. At Cambridge every branch of the trade shows a decline, 25 per cent. of the carpenters and joiners being unemployed, and a larger percentage of bricklayers. At Beccles the carpenters and bricklayers are working three-quarter time, with few out of work; many labourers are idle in consequence of the weather. Trade is dull at Lowestoft, Cromer, and Wells; fair at Newmarket.

Clothing Trades.—At Norwich the Boot and Shoe Trade is depressed, and short time is being worked; at both Yarmouth and Beccles the trade is dull. The tailors report trade as bad at Yarmouth, and dull at Cambridge and Beccles.

Fishing is dull both at Yarmouth and Lowestoft, the herring boats being laid up for a time. Trawl fishing has, however, improved.

EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—EAST AND S.W. COUNTIES.

Miscellaneous.—The letterpress printers at Norwich, Yarmouth, Beccles and Fakenham are not so busy, and have many unemployed. The cabinet-makers at Norwich are slack; the maltsters are brisk, several hundred being employed in the district. The Norwich wire weavers have resumed full time. Coach-builders are fairly busy at Norwich, but slack at Beccles. The sail-makers at Yarmouth are well employed.—*G. Clewley.*

Suffolk, Essex, and District.

Engineering, Shipbuilding, and Metal Trades.—At Ipswich the engineers report trade as bad all round, though the percentage of unemployed has been reduced from 6 to 2.8; at Wickham Market, and Leiston as bad. At Colchester short time prevails, and men are being discharged; and at Chelmsford trade is only moderate, with fair prospects. The moulders and boiler-makers at Ipswich are only moderately employed; the shipwrights are slack.

Building Trades.—At Ipswich the carpenters report trade as depressed, with an increased percentage out of work; the bricklayers as bad with 20 per cent. unemployed, and the stonemasons as dull. The painters are quiet, several being unemployed. These trades are almost at a standstill at Colchester.

Clothing Trades.—At Ipswich both the wholesale and the bespoke branches of the Tailoring Trade are dull. At Colchester an improvement is reported. Employment continues fairly good with the stay and corset-makers. At both Colchester and Ipswich the Boot and Shoe Trades continue depressed, with several unemployed.

Mat-Making and Silk-Weaving.—The mat-makers report trade as good at Lavenham, moderate at Hadleigh, Long Melford and Glemsford, and bad at Sudbury. The Silk-Weaving Industry continues good at Sudbury.

Miscellaneous.—The cigar-makers are slack at Ipswich. A number of general labourers are unemployed, and dock labour continues slack. Letterpress printers at Colchester and Ipswich are dull, a number being unemployed. Trade is moderate at the horticultural works at Ipswich, and prospects are fair.—*R. W. Mather.*

ENGLAND: SOUTH WESTERN COUNTIES.

Bristol, Somerset, and Gloucestershire District.

Coal Mining.—Trade in the Bristol Coalfield is fairly good, the average time being quiet five days per week. There are still a number of miners out of employment. In some parts of the Radstock district trade has revived, full time being made. The largest collieries, however, are still working only four days a week. The Coal Trade in the Forest of Dean continues depressed, few pits working more than three days per week.

Engineering and kindred Trades.—The boiler-makers and iron-founders report trade as improving, the pattern-makers as fair, the wagon and carriage-makers as steady, the wheelwrights as slack, the engineers as moderate, with about 4 per cent. unemployed. The galvanizers and iron-workers thrown out of employment in November have not been able to resume work yet, and the distress among them is becoming acute.

Building Trades.—The percentage of unemployed has increased in consequence of the severe weather. The plumbers and gas-fitters report trade as moderate; the plasterers as bad. The number of unemployed carpenters and joiners has increased to 16 per cent. At Gloucester all branches are depressed except masons, who are reported as moderately employed.

Furnishing and Wood-working Trades.—The cabinet-makers and upholsterers report trade as fair; the shop and bar-fitters as steady; the brush-makers as slack; the basket-makers as improving; the coopers as quiet, many working short time. The Stick and General Wood-turning Trade at Stroud is reported as fair.

Clothing Trades.—The Ready-made Clothing Industry continues to improve; the bespoke branch is slack. The silk hatters report trade as a little better. In Bristol the Boot and Shoe Trade is steadily improving; in the district of Kingswood it has become quiet.

Textile Trades.—The Woollen Industry at Trowbridge has improved, especially in heavy woollens and coatings. At Westbury the Worst Trade is good, and overtime is being worked. Employment is reported as good in the cloth mills at Stroud. In Bristol the cotton operatives report trade as slack.

Printing and allied Trades.—The letterpress printers have been busy. The lithographic branch has declined and is now slack. Employment with paper bag and envelope-makers is reported as steady.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Employment has been scarce with sea-going men, and a number are reported idle. With sail-makers

trade is reported as fair. Dock labourers are fairly well employed; grain porters busy; general cargo hands moderately so.

Miscellaneous.—The carriers report employment as fairly good; the harness-makers as bad; the brown saddlers as slack; the cigar-makers as fair; the chocolate-workers as good. There is no improvement with bakers and confectioners. The number of general and unskilled workmen without employment has increased considerably.—*J. Curle.*

Plymouth and South Western District.

Dock Labour and Shipping.—Coal porters have been moderately employed, but general dock labourers have been quiet. The demand for seamen remains dull, many being in want of berths.

Engineering and Ship Repairing.—The engineering and kindred Trades remain depressed, but a slight improvement is reported, the number of unemployed being under 4 per cent.

Building Trades.—The depression among the majority of the branches in the Building Trades continues. The bricklayers are slack. The wall-masons have improved. The plasterers, carpenters, and joiners, plumbers, painters and glaziers, are still slack, with no decrease in the number of unemployed. Slackness is also reported at Exeter, Torquay, and the chief centres of Cornwall.

Clothing Trades.—The ready-made department of the Tailoring Trade has been fairly busy; the bespoke department quiet. The boot and shoe operatives have slightly improved in Plymouth, but are slack in Cornwall and quiet in Exeter, Torquay, and Crediton.

Mining and Clay Industries.—The Metal Mining Industry of Cornwall is reported as worse, and each week small numbers of men have left for South Africa. The Clay Industry is fairly busy.

Miscellaneous.—The letterpress printers and kindred Trades are reported generally as slack. The wheelwrights, saddlers, smiths and coach-builders are reported as fairly well employed, and in some cases busy. The Cabinet-makers, Upholsterers, and Furnishing Trades are still quiet. The bakers remain slack. The Fishing Industry is reported as bad. The general labourers have large numbers unemployed, the severe weather putting a stop to outdoor work.—*J. Welland.*

WALES.

Cardiff, Swansea, and South Wales District.

Building Trades.—Owing to the weather, the masons, plasterers, bricklayers, and builders' labourers have scarcely done any work during the past month. The painters and decorators have been nearly as badly situated. The plumbers have about 17 per cent. out of employment, and the carpenters about 8 per cent. in the principal towns in the district.

Ship Repairing and Engineering.—These industries have been fairly busy. The engineers' list of unemployed is only one-fourth of the number in December, and the boiler-makers have been fairly busy. The shipwrights have had an exceptionally busy month; to supply the demand for shipwrights in Cardiff all unemployed in Newport and Swansea had to be sent for. The labourers were also well employed. The moulders again report dull trade. The foundries and engineering works at Llanelly, Neath, Briton Ferry and throughout the colliery districts have been moderately busy.

Tinplate and Steel Trades.—Several of the tinplate works are running on a day-to-day contract, and may be stopped at any time. Several mills have been stopped, and a few works have been closed. At certain works where mills have been stopped the remaining mills have been put on the four-shift system to distribute the work as widely as possible. The tinplate-workers, in a number of works, have, during the past month, accepted reductions of 10 or 12 per cent., and have also agreed to an increased make. The steel works are in a dull condition.

Dock Labour and Shipping.—Coal shipping has been moderate, but general cargo shipments have not been so good as in December. The Import Trade has been dull, and dock labourers have not been so busy.

Miscellaneous.—The Patent Fuel Trade is slack, some works hardly making half time. The Smelting and Spelter Trades are sluggish, and the Chemical Industry shows no signs of immediate improvement.—*T. Davies.*

Further reports from South Wales state that steam coal collieries, with few exceptions have been worked fairly well; slackness of trade has been experienced in the house coal collieries. Nearly 6,000 men were idle for a week at the Ebbw Vale Collieries, owing to a dispute with the colliery enginemen, hauliers and fanmen, as to an advance in wages; 344 colliers re-started at Llanelly, on an arbitration award conceding an advance of 1½d. per ton to them.

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

The unwrought Copper Trade shows a steady improvement. There is an increase in the tin ingots, and an upward tendency in the trade, at least in quantity, but the price remains the same. The workmen in the Tinplate Trade have conceded reductions to the employers during the month; the number unemployed is very large.

The Steel Trade of Ebbw Vale has been at a standstill nearly the whole of January, partly owing to the dispute with the colliery enginemen, winders and stokers, and partly for the want of steel rail and tin bar orders. The engineering shops of Ebbw Vale were idle a fortnight also through this dispute, but are at present working full time, and some overtime. The boiler-makers, who also had to be idle for a fortnight, are fairly busy. The masons and bricklayers are slack, owing to the severe frost. The carpenters and wagon builders are fairly employed.

South Wales Mining District.

Coal Mining.—The Steam Coal Trade is still without animation, although a slightly better tone prevails, while in the House Coal Trade there is no alteration in the prices. There is but little change in employment. All the pits when working are doing full time, but there are frequent stoppages at a number of large collieries. About 400 men employed on two coal seams at Rhondda were thrown out of work at the end of the month. Three other colliery owners have given notice of termination of contracts at the end of February.

Tinplate Trade.—The Tinplate Trade has reached a most acute crisis. In a large number of instances the men have accepted reductions ranging from 10 to 12½ per cent. Notices have been served terminating contracts at the end of February at several works, while others have been brought to a standstill.—*W. Evans.*

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh and District.

Shipbuilding Trades.—Employment in the shipyards has been somewhat better; the shipwrights return 12.9 per cent. idle, and the boiler-makers 14.2 per cent. The ship-joiners have been fairly busy.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers and coppersmiths report trade as bad; the pattern-makers as improved the tinsmiths, gas-meter makers and brass-founders as declining; the blacksmiths as improving in Leith, but dull in Edinburgh. In the Falkirk district the iron-moulders report trade as fair; in the Edinburgh district the heavy branches as bad, the light branches as improving. Returns from 14 branches of unions show 10.1 per cent. idle.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—The Shipping Industry continues quiet, a number of seamen and firemen are out of employment; the coal porters have been fairly well employed; the dock labourers only moderately so.

Textile Trades.—Carpet weaving in Midlothian continues good. In Hawick and Galashiels the Woollen Industry has been bad, several factories running short time, and a considerable number of workers being unemployed. In Selkirk trade is not quite so bad. The Hosiery Trade in Hawick continues bad.

Building Trades.—The painters report trade as improving, but with a number out of work; the plumbers, slaters, joiners, glaziers, and lathsplitters as quiet; the plasterers as busy. The masons and bricklayers have been idle the greater part of January owing to the weather.

Coal Mining and Mineral Oil Trades.—The Coal Industry in the Lothians continues fairly steady, although in a few districts the miners have not been fully employed. With few exceptions the shale miners are fully employed. The Mineral Oil Industry continues active; all sections of workers are fully employed.

Cabinet-making and Furnishing Trades.—The cabinet-makers report trade as fair, with a reduction in the number unemployed; the brush-makers, upholsterers and French polishers as bad. Returns from seven branches of unions show 4.1 per cent. out of work.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The press and machine men and bookbinders report trade as fair, the stereotypers, lithographic printers and lithographic artists as good, the compositors as decidedly improved towards the end of the month. The typefounders are working five days per week. Returns from seven branches of unions show 1.8 per cent. idle.

Miscellaneous.—The glass-makers, glass-cutters, saw-mill operatives, horse-shoers, and stoneware throwers report trade as good; the sett-makers, gilders, paper-makers, and rope-workers as quiet; the basket-makers, and indiarubber-workers as fair; the tailors, bakers, and skippers as improved; the skippers and curriers as improved,

the latter with 7.1 per cent. idle; the coopers as declining, with 2.2 per cent. out of work; the saddlers with 8.9 per cent. idle, and the coach-builders, with 5 per cent., as bad; a large number of general labourers are unemployed.—*J. Mallinson.*

Glasgow and West of Scotland.

Mining.—The Coal Trade throughout the West of Scotland is not brisk, in several districts four days per week being worked, and in many districts work being irregular.

Shipbuilding.—Large orders have been booked on all the reaches of the Clyde, and greater activity is expected as soon as the weather improves. The shipwrights report trade as improved. The ship-joiners report trade as still bad, but improving. In Dumbarton shipbuilding yards are fairly busy, although there are still some carpenters and joiners idle. The ship-builders' helpers are nearly all employed from Glasgow to Greenock, and a similar report comes from Paisley.

Iron and Steel Trades.—The steel smelters report trade as better, with more furnaces working. The millmen report improved prospects in the Iron and Steel Trades, large orders being placed on the Clyde, but a large number are out of work.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers report trade as dull, but likely to improve. At Dumbarton, Kilmarnock, and Greenock trade is fairly good. The blacksmiths report improvement. The iron-moulders, owing to the severe weather, have suffered very much, and have close on 1,200 unemployed. In Falkirk the men are being restricted in their output in some of the foundries, while in others they are being dispensed with. In Paisley the moulders are badly employed. The iron-drillers are well employed in Glasgow, Govan and Partick. The brass-moulders report trade as satisfactory, with only a small percentage unemployed; the ornamental fitters as worse, with many idle, and a number on short time; the horse-sheers as good; the iron-dressers as dull, with several idle; the tinplate workers as unchanged. The sewing-machine makers report no change. All the cycle factories have begun to work full time. The file-cutters report trade as fair; the bolt, nut and rivet-makers as fluctuating; the Electrical Trades as fair; the pattern-makers as dull, with 10 per cent. idle; the tool-makers, and cycle and general machinists as rather dull.

Building Trades.—Owing to the weather little outside work in the Building Trades could be done. At Paisley masons are fully employed, and plumbers are busy. At Falkirk masons' work is plentiful, but at a standstill owing to the frost.

Wood-working Trades.—The coach-builders report no improvement, the number idle during the month increasing from 4 to 7 per cent. The saw-millers report trade as quiet, with 5 per cent. out of work; the wood-carvers as slightly improved; the wood-turners as dull, but good in Paisley; the lath renders as good; the coopers as worse, with 35 idle men; the cabinet-makers as dull in Glasgow, with 10 per cent. idle, and few working full time.

Textile Trades.—White cotton weaving is moderately busy; the coloured and silk weaving is still slack, but all the factories are working full time. In Paisley thread-workers are slightly duller; the carpet weavers are brisk; wire weaving is dull; the dyers report trade as still bad; the power-loom beamers as declining; the wipers as bad, with several idle, and the rest averaging 26 hours per week; the carpet weavers are on full time, but have frequently to wait.

Clothing Trades.—The tailors report trade as bad; the clothiers' operatives as better; the shoe-makers as still quiet; the boot and shoe operatives as dull, several factories being on short time; the pump, boot and slipper makers as dull.

Miscellaneous.—The upholsterers report trade as dull, with 10 per cent. out of work; the bookbinders as bad; the flint-glass cutters as worse; the hairdressers as dull, many working half time and several being unemployed. The bottle-makers in the medical branch have still over 50 per cent. idle. The engineers have not been busy; the cranemen have been well employed, with fewer men out of work. The lithographic printers report trade as moderate, with 3.1 per cent. idle; the letterpress printers as dull, with 100 men idle; the stereotypers and electrotypers as quiet. The cork-cutters, bakers, curriers, general and dock labourers give unfavourable reports. The sailors and firemen report no change.—*A. J. Hunter.*

Dundee and District.

Textile Industries.—The Linen Trade shows considerable improvement; one or two firms which have been working reduced hours have resumed full time. The Jute Industry is less satisfactory; the proportion of unemployed is estimated at about 5 per cent.

EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY—DISTRICT REPORTS (continued).—SCOTLAND AND IRELAND.

In the Kirkcaldy district employment in the linen manufactories is good; floor-cloth and linoleum-makers are busy.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—The boiler-makers and iron ship-builders report no change. The blacksmiths have fewer men idle. The moulders report improvement, but have fully 30 per cent. still idle. The engineers and pattern-makers are fairly well employed. The shipwrights report an improvement, with 11 per cent. unemployed. In Arbroath trade has much improved.

Building Trades.—The bricklayers report trade as satisfactory; the masons as rather unsteady; the plasterers as fair; the carpenters and joiners as improved, with only 3 per cent. unemployed; the plumbers as good, and the slaters as fairly busy. The painters report very few in employment, in consequence of a dispute.

Clothing Trades.—The Tailoring Trade is slightly better. Of the men recently locked out in Dundee, 98 are still in receipt of strike benefit. The boot and shoe operatives are fairly well employed.

Miscellaneous.—Letterpress and lithographic printers continue fully employed. The book-binders are fairly busy. The cabinet-makers and upholsterers show no improvement. The saw-millers, paviors, and dock labourers have been well employed; general labourers have suffered from the weather.—*P. Reid.*

Aberdeen and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—The boiler-makers and iron ship-builders report trade as bad, with 37.6 per cent. idle; the bridge-builders as moderate; the shipwrights as bad, with 19.3 per cent. idle; the iron-moulders as bad, with 32.3 per cent. idle; the engineers as dull; the pattern-makers as slightly improved; the blacksmiths as still bad; the tinplate-workers as moderate. The Iron Trade is unusually depressed.

Quarrying and Granite Works.—Quarrying has been practically at a standstill on account of the weather. The sett-makers report trade as good. Most of the monumental works have been idle on account of the scarcity of material.

Building Trades.—The masons, carpenters and joiners, plasterers, slaters, and painters are idle in large numbers on account of the weather, otherwise the Building Trades would have been very busy. The plumbers, saw-millers, and wood-cutting machinemen are well employed.

Fishing.—In January, the trawl boats landed 29,174 cwts. realising £22,010, and line boats 7,998 cwt., realising £5,999, a decrease in quantity landed, but an increase in value realised as compared with December.

Miscellaneous.—The letterpress printers report trade as improving; the lithographic printers, flax, cotton, jute, and paper-workers, as moderate; the coach-builders with 2.3 per cent. idle, the rope and twine spinners, hemp dressers and saddlers, as good; the boot and shoe-makers, bookbinders and machine rulers, and carpet weavers, as fair; the comb-makers as slightly improved; the cabinet-makers, chair-makers, tailors, and bakers, as dull; the upholsterers, with 13 per cent. idle, and the general labourers, as bad.—*W. Johnston.*

IRELAND.

Dublin and District.

Building, Woodwork, and Iron Trades.—In all branches of the Building Trades a number of men are idle. The Plastering Trade, though good, was considerably affected by the frost. The plumbers are dull. Brass finishing and gas-fitting are moderate. The sawyers, lath-splitters, and packing-case makers are fairly busy. The Building Trade both at the Curragh and Drogheda has been bad. Employment is fair with the upholsterers, coopers, and coach-builders, but is still dull with the cabinet-makers, smiths, boiler-makers and engineers. The horse-shoers are fairly busy, but the saddlers are slack.

Food and Clothing Trades.—Employment has been fair with the bakers and confectioners. The butchers and butchers' porters report trade as good; the poulterers as middling. The pork-butchers and bacon-curers, provis on dealers, grocers' assistants, hotel and club assistants as fair. The tailors and boot and shoemakers as very dull; dress-makers are slack.

Printing and allied Trades.—The letterpress printers have been fairly employed, although 260 signed the unemployed book for the month, 91 of whom drew the out-of-work allowance. The lithographic printers show no change, and a number of men are idle. The Bookbinding and Paper-ruling Trade is fair, but with several unemployed. The paper cutters, despatch-assistants, printing machine-managers and bookfolders are fairly busy; the stereotypers have some men out of work.

Miscellaneous.—The Bottle-making Industry has been fairly busy, but about 110 men are idle owing to a dispute. The organ-builders and mineral water operatives are fairly busy. Work with the cork-cutters, basket-makers, and brush-makers continues scarce. Employment is dull among the fishermen. The firemen and sailors are busier. Employment among the grain and coal labourers and dock labourers generally is fair. The tram men, railway servants, tobacco-workers and corn millers are fairly well employed. The textile-workers report slackness, but the mills are kept going. Employment generally in Drogheda has been bad during the month.

J. P. Nannetti.

Belfast and District.

General.—Employment has been quiet in all departments, the cause in some instances being seasonal. The returns received from 49 societies, with a membership of 18,328, show 1,259, or 6.9 per cent., to be unemployed as against 1,287, or 7.5 per cent. of the membership in December.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Of the 7,909 members employed in these trades from whom returns for the month have been received, 552, or 7.0 per cent. are unemployed, as against 598, or 8 per cent. of the membership at the end of December (3 branches having failed to send in returns in that month). The iron-founders, machine-workers, and engineers report trade as bad; the boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders as slack; the brass-founders and carpenters and joiners as dull; the blacksmiths' strikers and helpers as moderate; the general labourers and platers' helpers as improving, and the blacksmiths and the enginemen and cranemen as fair.

Linen Trades.—Of the 4,119 members in these industries, 283, or 6.9 per cent., are unemployed, as against 298, or 7.2 per cent. of the membership in December. The flax roughers, hackle and gill-makers report trade as bad; the beetling enginemen, power loom tenters and power loom yarn dressers as dull; the weavers and spinners as quiet; the linen-lappers as fairly busy, and the shirt-collar and apron cutters, flax-dressers, and spindle and flyer-makers as fair.

Building Trades.—Out of the 2,458 members employed in the Building Trades, 277, or 11.3 per cent., are reported as unemployed, as against 247, or 10.5 per cent. of the membership in December. The plumbers and house painters report trade as bad; the bricklayers and plasterers' assistants, carpenters and joiners and plasterers as dull; the bricklayers, mill-sawyers and machinists as fair.

Furnishing and Wood-working.—In this group of 5 societies, with 479 members, 43, or 9.0 per cent., are unemployed, as against 33, or 7.6 per cent., for the 4 societies reporting in December. The Furnishing Trades, including cabinet-makers, upholsterers and French-polishers, are reported as quiet. The coach-builders and packing-case makers report trade as dull, the brush-makers as quiet, and the coopers as good.

Clothing Trades.—The boot and shoe operatives report trade as moderate; the tailors as quiet.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The 4 societies in this group, with a membership of 778, report 44, or 5.7 per cent. unemployed, as against 37, or 4.9 per cent. of the membership in December. The letterpress printers report trade as dull, and the lithographic artists as quiet. The lithographic printers report 2.6 per cent., and the book-binders and machine rulers 8.7 per cent., out of work.

Miscellaneous.—In this group of 7 societies, with a membership of 1,870, 54, or 2.9 per cent., are unemployed, as against 52, or 2.8 per cent. of the membership in December. The hotel and club assistants and the butchers report employment as quiet, and the bakers, railway servants, and tinplate-workers as fair.—*R. Sheldon.*

Cork and District.

Building Trades.—The carpenters, masons, bricklayers and stone-cutters report trade as fair; the plasterers, stucco-workers, plumbers and gas-fitters as good, and the painters as bad. In Limerick these branches report trade as good.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—The blacksmiths, fitters, turners, brass-workers, coppersmiths, shipwrights, ship-joiners, riggers, sail-makers, block and pump-makers, boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders all report trade as bad in Queenstown, Passage West, Limerick and Cork. The shipwrights and ship-joiners particularly have been unsettled, in consequence of a disagreement as to demarcation of work.

Food and Clothing.—Beef and pork butchers, grocers and wine merchants' assistants, boot and shoe-makers, and boot riveters

report employment as fair; bacon curers in Cork and Limerick as good; flax and tweed operatives report trade as steady; tailors and bakers as bad.

Miscellaneous.—The mill-sawyers, bellows and brush-makers, cork-cutters, coopers, farriers, corporation labourers, dock and quay labourers, all report employment as good; the engine-men, firemen, and general railway servants as fair; the printers, book-binders, and coach-makers as bad. The beginning of the fishing season has been encouraging.—P. O'Shea.

FOREIGN PRISON LABOUR.

A VOLUME containing reports from Her Majesty's representatives abroad on Prison Labour has been published by the Foreign Office.* In Germany, three systems are in force. Under (1) the "Contract" system, the prison authorities farm out the labour of the prisoners to contractors, who supply materials, tools, and machinery, the work being carried out under the direction of the contractor and his foremen; this system is in force throughout Prussia. Under (2) the "Regie" system, the State supplies materials, tools, machinery, &c., the work being supervised by the prison officials; this system is stated to be confined to Bavaria, Baden, and Bremen. Under (3) the "Accord" system, also in force in Bavaria and Baden, the control of the work is retained by the State, but the contractor supplies the materials. It is stated that the daily average number of "prisoners whose work eventually reaches outside trade" in Prussia, Bavaria, Baden, and the Thuringian States combined is 29,200. In Saxony, the average number of persons employed in prison labour (otherwise than for the use of the prisons), in 1892, was 3,673. The average number of prisoners employed in Würtemberg (otherwise than for the prisons) was, in 1892-3, 1,269. At Hamburg, the average number of prisoners employed (otherwise than for the prison), in 1893, was 886. The work done by prisoners in Germany includes the manufacture of cigars, knitted goods, baskets, cane furniture, brushes, card-board work, portfolios, fancy paper, hemp sacks, cocoa matting, boots, paper bags, wicker work, straw and other mats, straw covers for bottles, buttons, metal fittings, lamps, and copper ware, tin soldiers and other toys, chairs, weighing-machines, tents, and straw-plaiting, as well as tailoring, carpentering, cabinet-making, wood carving, book-binding, weaving, needlework, making paper pulping and nails for boxes, feather beads, &c., &c. The total value of the work done in German prisons and sold in the outside market is not stated, but we are told that the receipts in Prussia for 1892-3 for wages on "contract" labour were £155,614, and from the sale of goods (including goods made for the Government) £37,090; while in Saxony the amount paid by or due from contractors for work done by prisoners in 1892 was £27,500, and in Würtemberg the value of the work done in 1892-3 by prisoners (excluding work done for the prison administration, but including goods consumed for State purposes) was £14,374. The figures given in relation to prison labour in Hamburg in 1893, other than labour for the needs of the prison, including the production of certain goods supplied to the State or City authorities, are £9,732 (the cost of material being included in regard to some, but excluded as to other items of this total). To what extent the output of German prison labour is imported into the United Kingdom cannot be stated. For in those places in which the "Regie" system obtains, "it appears to be quite out of the range of probability that the State exports, but the small merchants who buy" the surplus products disposed of by the State, "may or may not export eventually;" while as to the ultimate destination of goods made for contractors, no clue exists, the State exercising no control, save that in some cases the contractor is not allowed to sell "within a 10 kilometre [6½ miles] radius of the prison of origin."

In Switzerland, the "Regie" system of employment universal. The prisoners are engaged in weaving,

* Reports from Her Majesty's Representatives in certain Foreign Countries C.—7,550 of 1894. Price 9d.

joinery, shoemaking, tailoring, locksmith's work, farriery, bookbinding, straw-plaiting, firewood cutting, sewing, knitting, washing, &c. No statistics in regard to the number of persons employed or the value of their output are furnished; but the amount of goods made by prison labour and put upon the market is said to be insignificant.

In France, the prisoners are employed partly under the "Regie," partly under the "Contract" system, the former being the rule in the agricultural penitentiaries. In the central prisons the number of persons employed in industrial labour in December 1891 was 7,637, the value of whose output was £128,411; a large part of this output consisted of work done for the State. In correctional establishments the number of young persons employed in December 1891 in industrial labour (not including agriculture) was 2,411 (nature and value of product not given). The average number of persons employed in certain subsidiary prisons in 1891 was 11,857, the value of whose output (not including work done for the prisons or for the Department of the Seine) was £47,770. At certain prisons where hard labour is worked the average number of prisoners employed in 1891 (all working for contractors) was 323, and the value of the articles produced was £1,619. The work done by French prisoners includes boot-making, tailoring, and needlework, cabinet-making, leather dressing, wicker work, weaving, hat-making, the manufacture of lamp fittings, buttons, bedsteads, mattresses, straw plaiting, straw covers for bottles, brushes, carriage springs, and axles, umbrellas, hollow-ware, chairs, wire netting, pipes, mats, cane-work, artificial flowers, stays, &c., &c. To what extent any of these manufactures are imported into the United Kingdom cannot be stated; the goods made under the "Regie" system are exclusively for Government use, while "in prisons where labour is in the hands of contractors the produce belongs to the contractor, who disposes of it without the Government having any share in the transaction, or knowing the result produced." The Algerian prisons contained in 1891 an average number of 972 prisoners employed in industrial occupations, but the products do not appear to be such as are imported into this country from Algeria.

With respect to prison labour in the United States, Her Majesty's Ambassador at Washington refers to the Second Annual Report of the Commissioner of Labour, 1886 (Convict Labour), and the Second Special Report of the Commissioner of Labour, 1892 (Labour Laws). The number of prisoners employed, either under the "Public Account" (Regie), the "Contract," or the "Piece Price" (Accord) system, in "productive labour" is in the first of these documents given as 45,277. The work done included the manufacture of agricultural instruments, barrels, boots, bricks, brushes, carriages and wagons, clothing, furniture, saddlery, stoves, hollow-ware, &c., while large numbers of prisoners were engaged in mining and stone-cutting, and on public works. The "approximate or true value of goods made or work done" (excluding road-making and other public works) is given as £5,492,934. What proportion, if any, of this output reaches the United Kingdom does not appear. The tariff laws of the United States forbid the importation of goods made by convict labour.

SITUATION IN THE BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

In the November and December numbers of the GAZETTE some account was given of recent events in the Boot and Shoe Trade, including the withdrawal of the Employers' Federation from the National Conference, which appeared to threaten the break up of the previously existing arrangements for the amicable adjustment of trade questions. Since the issue of the last GAZETTE the new position thus created and the policy to be adopted have been under consideration by the National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives. A meeting of delegates from the branches of the Union was held at Leicester, the headquarters of the society, on January 24th and two following days. A report

the whole of the questions at issue, concluding with the recommendations of the Executive Council, was submitted as the basis of discussion. The recommendations were as follows:—

1. That this meeting of delegates, having carefully considered the employers' proposals do hereby decide to reject the same as being illegal, unjust, unworkable, and therefore impracticable.

2. That this meeting suggests a conference between the executive of the Employers' Federation and the executive of the Union, for mutual explanations, both as to the reasons why the proposals are insisted upon on the one hand, and the reasons why they cannot be accepted on the other hand. Also for such conference to discuss, and if necessary amend, the existing rules, so that there should be a renewal of the National Conference.

3. Failing this, that the proposals be withdrawn by the Employers' Federation, and full powers given to local boards of arbitration to deal with all questions affecting employers and workmen in their particular district, in accordance with their several rules.

ALTERNATIVES.

The rejection of the employers' proposals.

The withdrawal from all local boards of arbitration.

The executive to have power to enforce such question or questions now waiting adjudication, at such time and at such place as they may deem advisable.

The general report of the executive having been adopted, the recommendations were taken *seriatim*. The first was carried unanimously. In the discussion on the second, which embodied the principle of arbitration, opposition was manifested by some districts, although the objections expressed were rather against the mode of arbitration than the system itself. Eventually the proposal of the executive was adopted by 46 votes to 13. The third proposal of the executive, including the "alternatives," was adopted by 51 votes to 1. These decisions of the delegate meeting were afterwards submitted to a vote of the whole of the members of the society in their branches, and were endorsed by 4,674 votes against 1,844. The branches that had not voted when this return was made only number 1,660 members, so that the result cannot be affected by them. The decisions were also forwarded to the Employers' Federation, for the consideration of that body.

THE WELSH TINPLATE TRADE.

DURING the month the Welsh Tinplate Trade has continued in a very unsettled condition. The reductions of wages and increases of output referred to in the last number of the GAZETTE have gradually been enforced over the whole of the districts, but in spite of this relief to manufacturers the trade remains in a very depressed state, and a gradually increasing number of works are being closed. It is indeed stated that 213 out of 500 tin mills are now idle. One firm is seeking to enforce a reduction of 25 per cent., and further demands for reductions of wages are in other cases feared by the operatives. The executive of the Tinplate Workers' Union held a meeting on February 2nd and decided that with a view to stop the heavy reductions of wages now taking place and being demanded, the feeling of the whole trade should be taken as to a stoppage of production during the month of March. Distress is reported to prevail among the operatives in some places, and relief funds are being opened.

LABOUR LEGISLATION IN NEW ZEALAND.

The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1894.

By this Act, which has recently come into operation in New Zealand, provision is made for the establishment of District Boards of Conciliation and of a central Court of Arbitration, the president of which is to be a judge of the Supreme Court. Any party to an industrial dispute can have the matter referred to a Board of Conciliation, and if no settlement is arrived at, to the Board of Arbitration, whose award can be enforced by legal process against the property of any trade organisation, whether of employers or employed, or against the property or person of any individual concerned. While a reference of a dispute to a Board of Conciliation or to the Court of Arbitration is pending, it

is made unlawful for the employer to lock-out his workmen, or for the employees to go out on strike. Industrial agreements, entered into by trade organisations of employers or employed, or individual employers, are to be enforceable by penalties, and also in the same manner as awards of the Court of Arbitration.

Factories Act, 1894.

Another law recently passed in New Zealand is the "Factories Act, 1894," consolidating and amending the law in regard to "factories and workrooms" (in which terms are included all places in which two or more persons are employed in any handicraft or in preparing or manufacturing any article for sale, and any place in which machinery is used for manufacturing or packing goods). All factories or workrooms are to be registered by the occupier (power being reserved to withhold registration if the premises are unsuitable), and to be re-registered annually. Records accessible to the factory inspector are to be kept, showing what work is sent to be done outdoors, and the names, addresses and remuneration of out-workers; and every article given out to be done in a private dwelling or in a place not registered as a factory is to have affixed to it a printed label at least two inches square, stating by whom and where the work was done, such label to remain on the goods until sold. No child under 14 years is to be employed except in factories where not more than three persons are employed, and then only with the sanction of the Inspector. No person under 16 may be employed unless he or she has passed the "fourth standard" and has got a certificate of fitness. No girl under 15 not already so employed may work as a typesetter. Women and young persons may not be employed where wet-spinning is carried on unless the workers are protected from wet. The employment of persons under specified ages is forbidden in regard to certain unhealthy trades. In the case of boys under 16 and of all female operatives the hours of labour are not to exceed 48 in the week, and no such person is to be employed between 6 p.m. and 7.45 a.m. Youths under 18 and all female operatives are to have a weekly half-holiday.

The Shops and Shop Assistants Act, 1894.

New Zealand has also passed an Act which secures a weekly half holiday for shop assistants, and limits the hours of employment in the case of women and of young persons (under 18) to 52 hours in the week, and to 9½ on any day except one day in each week, when 11½ hours may be worked. All assistants of either sex are to have one hour for dinner, and "no woman or person under 18 years of age shall be employed more than five consecutive hours without being granted an interval of not less than half an hour for refreshments." Female assistants are to have seats provided, and must be allowed to use them when not serving. This law also enacts that (except "during two periods of four weeks each in every year for the purposes of their half-yearly balances," and on not exceeding six days in each calendar month, when overtime may be worked to the extent of not more than three hours on any one day) all commercial offices, other than shipping, tramway, and newspaper offices, are to close not later than 5 p.m. on week-days or than 1 p.m. on Saturdays. The enforcement of this Act is entrusted to the Factory Inspectors.

COAL SUPPLY OF THE WORLD.

FROM a report* recently issued by the Board of Trade, dealing with the production, consumption and price of coal in the principal countries of the world in each of the years 1883-93, the following Tables have been summarised:—

PRODUCTION.

Table showing the production of coal in the years 1883 and 1889-1893, of the six largest coal producing countries.

Thousands of tons, † i.e., 1,000's should be added to the figures in the Table.

Countries.	1883.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.
United Kingdom...	163,737	176,917	181,614	185,479	181,787	161,326†
Germany	55,913	67,342	70,238	73,716	71,374	73,852
France	20,759	23,852	25,591	25,502	25,697	25,250
Belgium	18,128	19,870	20,316	19,676	19,583	19,410
Austria Hungary ...	8,087	9,530	9,926	10,212	10,293	10,803
United States	102,868	126,098	140,883	159,506	160,115	162,813

It will be seen that among the European countries Germany with 74 million tons comes next to the United Kingdom. After Germany comes France with 25, Belgium with 19, and Austria-Hungary with nearly 11 million tons. On the whole, Great Britain produces in an ordinary year like 1892 something like three-fifths

* The tables are extracted from a return made to Parliament by the Board of Trade, Parl. Paper, No. 317 of 1894. Price 2d.

† In all cases, except for the United Kingdom and United States, the tons used are metric tons of 2,204 lbs.

‡ The output in the United Kingdom was very much reduced in 1893 by the great coal disputes of that year.

of the total coal output of Europe. In the United States the quantity of coal produced has in recent years increased very considerably until it now almost equals that of this country.

All the countries that produce coal may be divided into: (1) Coal importing countries, that is, those in which the quantity produced is not sufficient for home consumption; and (2) coal exporting countries, that is, those which export more than they import. To bring out this point the following tables (in which the quantities are given in 1,000's of tons*) are subjoined.

A.—Coal Exporting Countries.

Quantity by which the Coal Exports exceeded the Imports in the under-mentioned Countries.

Country.	1883.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.
United Kingdom...	29,431	37,138	38,659	40,114	39,365	37,463
Germany	6,960	4,756	5,753	5,558	5,832	6,541
Belgium	4,136	4,791	4,130	4,277	4,200	4,699
United States ...	298	629	998	1,345	1,177	1,745

B.—Coal Importing Countries.

Quantity by which the Coal Imports exceeded the Exports in the under-mentioned Countries.

Country.	1883.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Russian Empire ...	2,262	2,055	1,726	1,728	1,649	†
Sweden	1,033	1,566	1,530	1,617	1,618	1,632
France	10,069	8,053	9,507	9,688	9,426	9,302
Spain	1,252	1,598	1,701	1,852	1,855	1,744
Italy	2,343	3,990	4,348	3,904	3,865	3,711
Austria-Hungary ...	1,726	2,623	2,952	3,136	2,864	3,394

From these tables it will be seen that although the United States produces 160 million tons of coal, the excess of exports from that country is very small; and that in Europe, Germany and Belgium are the only two countries besides the United Kingdom that export, on balance, any considerable quantity.

The increase in 1893 in the exports of Germany and the United States corresponded to an increase of production, and the decrease in exports of the United Kingdom to a decrease of production. In Belgium there was a large increase of exports at the same time as a decrease of production. This is perhaps partly to be accounted for by the English coal dispute, many English firms drawing a supply of coal from Belgium.

AVERAGE VALUE AT PIT'S MOUTH.

With regard to the value of coal at the place of production, the report states that the figures given are in all cases official figures, and represent the value of the coal at the pit's mouth, "but it is impossible to give detailed information as to how the values are obtained. There is no doubt, however, that attention is given to the subject by the statisticians of foreign countries, and that the figures are generally fairly trustworthy for comparison, although in the absence of definite information as to the method by which the results are obtained in each country, minute comparisons ought to be avoided. It should also be understood that the differences in value at the place of production may involve to some extent differences in quality as well as differences in cost of production, and that the comparison is not between coal of the same quality in different countries."

With this explanation the following summary table is given:—

Table showing for the under-mentioned Countries the average value per ton of coal at the pit's mouth.

Countries.	1883.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.
United Kingdom ...	s. d. 5 7½	s. d. 6 4½	8 3	8 0	7 3½	6 9½
Germany	5 3	5 8½	7 8	8 0	7 4½	6 9
France	10 0½	8 4½	9 7	10 8	9 11½	9
Belgium	8 1½	7 6½	10 6½	10 0½	8 2½	7 5½
Austria-Hungary ...	5 6½	5 5½	5 11	6 1½	5 11½	5
United States ...	6 5½	5 3½	5 2½	5 3½	5 4½	5 4

* In all cases except for the United Kingdom and United States the tons used are metric tons of 2,204 lbs.

† Not stated.

ARBITRATION AND CONCILIATION CASES IN JANUARY.

Thames Steamship Workers.

The dispute between a firm of shipowners and the No. 2 Branch of the Thames Steamship Workers' Labour Protection League, to which reference was made in the LABOUR GAZETTE for January (p. 19), has been brought to an end owing to the action of the London Labour Conciliation and Arbitration Board. The employers held two conferences with the Trade Union concerned, in the presence of the chairman and other members of the board. As a result an agreement was arrived at on January 14th, and signed by the parties to the dispute. This agreement fixes the terms on which cargoes, or part cargoes of macadam stone are to be discharged in future. It also stipulates that no departure shall be made from the agreement without three months notice being given through the Conciliation Board.

The terms fixed are as follows: 7½d. per ton on all vessels belonging to the firm ("part cargoes"), 9d. per ton for all "whole cargoes." In case of a breakdown occurring in any vessel, an extra penny shall be paid upon any quantity discharged (except in discharging siftings), until the breakdown ceases. This extra penny shall be always allowed for the afterhold of certain named vessels. The firm shall provide gear for unloading free of cost. One penny per ton shall be allowed for all stone weighed, and fourpence per hour "dark money" (between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m.). The number directly affected by the decision is 24; though, of course, the whole branch is ultimately affected.

London Clickers and Pressmen.

The following decisions have been arrived at by the Clickers and Pressmen's Board of Conciliation and Arbitration:—

"(1) By resolution of the Board it was decided that (a) all manufacturers who are members of the Association, be required to give to and receive from their workmen a week's notice to leave after three weeks' probation, (b) upon any employer or workman satisfying the Board that he should be exempt from the operation of the minimum wage applying to clickers, the Board may issue a permit for such exemption. The employer must satisfy the Board that a considerable part of his work comprises felt, canvas, nursery work, and goods of a similar character for which he has hitherto paid a lower wage than the minimum provided for. The workman must satisfy the Board that he is exclusively engaged on those materials, or is otherwise incapacitated from claiming the minimum wage.

"2. The arbitrators decided that on and from the 1st January 1895, the minimum wage for pressmen be 25s. per week, and the minimum wage for clickers 30s. per week."

St. Alban's Boot and Shoe Trade.

The award of Sir Albert Rolit, M.P., on the matters in dispute, referred to him for decision (see LABOUR GAZETTE, January, page 19), was published on January 15th. The Umpire has fixed the minimum wage for men working in conjunction with lasting and finishing machinery, at 29s. 6d. per week. He also provides that any dispute as to the construction to be put on the award, or the manner of carrying it out, shall be referred to him for settlement.

Northumberland Coal Trade.

During the month the executive of the Northumberland Miners' Association issued to their members a report of the proceedings of the meeting of the Conciliation Board on January 5th, which resulted in a reduction of 1½ per cent. off the standard wages of underground labour and 1 per cent. off surface labour. The report explains that the accountant's ascertainment of prices for the quarter ending November 30th showed that the average price of coal had been 6s. 6½d., being a fall of 83d. compared with the previous quarter. The coal-owners therefore moved for a reduction of 2½ per cent. in wages. Many of the pits it was urged were working short time, and though

every effort was made to maintain current prices there was a fall of 2s. 6d. per ton, as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. The owners, however, chiefly relied on the fact that when trade was good, and prices were rising, the representatives of the men had always contended that wages should not be governed by the actual prices of the moment alone, but that the general condition of trade should be considered, and that they should share at once in the benefits by receiving an immediate advance of wages.

That principle had been acted upon, and the owners thought it right that the same principle should now be acted upon when prices were falling. The representatives of the men, feeling themselves unable to deny the accuracy of these contentions, and unwilling to throw upon the Chairman of the Board the responsibility of having to give a casting vote, decided that it would be better to try and minimise the amount of reduction than to risk losing the whole amount demanded. They, therefore, suggested a reduction of 1½ per cent. only. The coal-owners, after consultation, agreed to this proposal, which was thus accepted as the decision of the Board.

Wherrymen on the Tyne.

The prolonged dispute between the wherrymen and wherry owners of the River Tyne has at last been terminated by a reference to arbitration. The men stopped work on April 2nd, so that the dispute has continued for over ten months. The dispute affected 90 men and 23 boys on the one side, and three limited companies and one private firm on the other. It appears that under the system of working customary in the local trade, the gross freights earned by the barges were divided between the owners and the men, in the proportion of one-fourth to the owners and three-fourths to the wherrymen. The owners paid all the incidental expenses of management and maintenance, and the men defrayed the cost of towage when necessary. There was a question of a revised rate of charges, but the chief cause of dispute was a demand by the men that the owner-should pay one-fourth of the cost of towage. On February 1st the parties agreed to refer the matters in dispute to the Rev. W. Moore Ede and Mr. G. W. Spence for settlement, and on February 6th these arbitrators published their award together with the reasons upon which it was based. The evidence received led the arbitrators to the conclusion that if during the past three years the owners had had to pay the proportion of towage demanded, nearly the whole of the profit made would have been absorbed. They therefore decided against the claim of the men.

THE UNEMPLOYED AND CO-OPERATIVE CONTRACTS IN NEW ZEALAND.

FROM the New Zealand Official Year Book, 1894, it appears that the system* of getting public works done by small bodies of workmen under co-operative contracts, which was initiated some three years ago, has been considerably extended, the great bulk of the railway and road works and much of the building work in the colony being now carried out in this manner. All men employed on Government co-operative works are selected by the Government Labour Bureau. No man is allowed to apply for work unless he has been unemployed for at least one week. Applicants not previously employed on public co-operative works have priority over others; men residing near the works over non-residents; married men over single. Men previously employed "must have been at least 14 days off such works prior to re-registration" as applicants; "those longest off such works are considered first"; and "if there are more applicants for work than there are vacancies to fill, a ballot is taken to determine the particular men to be employed." The number of men employed under this system "varies greatly; but about 2,000 may be taken as the average number for the last year or so."

* See also Report on Agencies and Methods for dealing with the Unemployed published by the Labour Department (C.—7,182), 1893, page 350.

NOTICE OF ACCIDENTS ACT.

THE accidents reported to the Board of Trade under the Notice of Accidents Act 1894,* during January last, are summarised in the following tables, which are published in continuation of those given in the LABOUR GAZETTE for the last three months. As previously stated, the tables do not profess to show the total number of accidents of this class, the Act under which they are reported being still very imperfectly known.

Table showing the number of separate accidents reported to the Board of Trade under the Notice of Accidents Act during the month of January 1895, and the number of persons killed and injured in such accidents.

A.—Distinguishing Nature of Employment.

Group.	Nature of Works, &c.	Construction or Repair.			Use or Working.*		
		No. of Accidents.	No. of persons killed.	No. of persons injured.	No. of Accidents.	No. of persons killed.	No. of persons injured.
I.	Bridge...	3	...	3	...	...	...
	Canal	2	...	2	9	...	9
	Dock	35	...	35	77	3	77
	Gaswork	1	...	1	26	...	26
	Harbour ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Pier	2	...	2	...	...	...
	Port ... ..	...	...	...	2	...	2
	Quay ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Railway	32	3	29	...	...	...
	Tramroad	1	...	1	1	...	1
	Tramway ... ..	...	...	...	16	...	15
	Tunnel	23	2	21	...	...	...
	Other Works† ...	9	1	8	6	2	4
II.	Buildings	81	31	61	94	...	94
III.	Traction or other steam engine or machine in the open air	Act does not apply.			1	...	1
Total		116	9	108	232	6	229

B.—Distinguishing Nature of Injury.

(The Groups are the same as in Table A.)

Nature of Injury.	Group I.		Group II.		Group III.
	Construction or repair.	Use or working.	Construction or repair.	Use or working.	Use or working.
Fractures	8	6	2	1	...
Dislocations	1	2	...	...	...
Ruptures and other severe injuries to body ...	10	22	2	4	...
Injuries to eye ... ..	...	5	...	15	...
Other injuries to head or face	21	16	...	8	...
Other injuries to arms or hands	22	33	1	40	1
Other injuries to legs or feet	36	47	1	23	...
Miscellaneous injuries ...	4	3	...	3	...
Total	102	134	6	94	1

CO-OPERATION IN JANUARY.

Two associations of consumers for distribution have been registered in January in England and Wales, and one in Scotland, where one existing association has opened a new branch store, and another commenced a dressmaking department, while one association of consumers at Pontnewynydd, and an association of producers at Bolton and another at Atherstone have begun to wind up their affairs. The business of the London Co-operative Baking Society is being taken over by the English Co-operative Wholesale Society, which will carry it on in future as one of its productive departments.

A Co-operative Baking Association in Scotland (a federation of associations of consumers, which has existed since 1867) is winding up its affairs, having become the property of one of the federated societies.

* Section 6 of the Act states that "Nothing in this Act shall apply to any employment which is for the time being regulated by any Act of Parliament administered by the Secretary of State or by inspectors appointed by him, or shall require notice to be given of any accident of which notice is required by any other Act to be given to the Board of Trade."

† Authorised by any local or personal Act of Parliament.

‡ On buildings more than 30 feet high by means of scaffolding.

§ In buildings more than 30 feet high in which more than 20 persons, not being domestic servants, are employed for wages.

Returns from 124 associations of consumers (93 of England and 31 in Scotland), with a membership in 286,553, show sales for the quarter ending December 1894, amounting to £2,207,262, compared with £2,153,324 for the corresponding period of 1893, an increase of 2½ per cent.

A further analysis of the returns shows that of the 93 English Societies, with a membership of 259,552, the sales amount to £1,918,758, as compared with £1,873,156 in the corresponding period of 1893. 59 associations showing a total increase of £85,961, and 34 a total decrease of £40,359, the total net increase being £45,602, or 2·4 per cent. The whole of these associations show a net profit, after providing for interest on capital and other expenses, the total being £264,591, or 12·7 per cent. upon the sales.

The 31 Scottish associations, with a total membership of 27,001, show total sales for the quarter amounting to £288,504, as compared with £280,168 for the corresponding period of 1893, 19 of the associations showing increases amounting to £15,672, and 12 decreases amounting to £7,336, the total net increase being £8,336, or 3 per cent. The total profits of the associations, after allowing for interest on capital and all expenses, amount to £39,149, or 13·6 upon the sales.

An Amalgamated Trade Union of Co-operative Employees, having its office at Stockport, has been registered during the month.

Four of the Scottish District Associations of the Co-operative Union have appointed a joint committee to inquire and report as to the practicability of coal mining being undertaken by a federation of Scotch associations of consumers.

The report just published by the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland contains a report for the year 1893 of the Superintendent of the Agricultural Department, giving some information with regard to co-operative creameries, of which there are said to be about 35 in operation in connection with the Co-operative Union. A sales department (or agency) has been established, by which the creameries are relieved in a great measure of the difficulty of finding customers for the products. There are a few private creameries in the country, but the tendency appears to be towards associated dairying, either of a co-operative character, or under the limited companies acts.

LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.

(Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 31 Broad-way, Westminster, S.W., from official and other reports, and newspapers mostly dated in December and January last.)

Canada.—Large numbers of working men in Montreal have been unable to find employment, and a considerable amount of distress exists in that city. No one without means or friends should go to Canada for the next few weeks.

New South Wales.—A supplementary report by the Railway Commissioners points out that though the traffic receipts have been much larger, they have been able to reduce the number of employees on the Government railways and tramways to 10,351 in 1894, as compared with 11,393 in 1888; the average wages, however, are in all cases substantially higher, except in the cases of strikers, oilers, fuelmen, gangers, station-masters, officers in charge, and clerks, where there has been a slight decrease, and in the case of turners, where the wages have remained stationary. The Government intend to deal with various public works at once in order to provide more work in the Colony. The railways have been doing well. The last November report of the Government Labour Bureau at Sydney states that there was a great decrease in the number of women and children asking for relief; and that the classes mainly in demand during that month were farm labourers and dairymen, tailors, coach-builders, wheelwrights, bridge carpenters, and married couples. The Government is making arrangements for

the establishment of a Department of Labour and Industry. A correspondent in Central Riverina advises no one to go there for at least 12 months, labourers being very plentiful and prices of produce very low. Owing to the depressed state of the Coal Mining Industry at Newcastle notice has been given at some mines of a reduction of 4d. per ton in the hewing rate; this reduction has been refused by the miners, and a strike has occurred at one of the mines. A strike of some 40 men and boys has occurred in the Iron Trade.

Victoria.—With the object of assisting the Coal Mining Industry in Victoria, which is of very recent growth, the Government have accepted tenders of Victorian coal for the public offices at a higher price than other coal could be bought at. As many enquiries are being made about the Mildura Irrigation Colony, it is necessary to point out that it is only suitable for an emigrant with a capital of at least £400 to £500. The Colony undoubtedly possesses great possibilities of future success for those who can afford to wait, but at present it is only partially developed, and irrigated fruit land may be bought in other parts of Victoria at less cost, and much nearer to railways and markets.

South Australia.—With a view to improve the prospects of labour a select committee of the Legislative Council recommends that labour bureaux should be established in connection with the post offices and railway stations.

Western Australia.—A correspondent living near York in the South-West of the Colony writes: "My advice is that no one should come here at present, unless he has some capital, as the labour market is quite overstocked through there being so many unsuccessful diggers."

New Zealand.—The November report of the Department of Labour states: "The improvement in trade still continues, the reports with very few exceptions showing a marked upward tendency." The report adds that a good shearing, coupled with a fair price for wool, a bountiful harvest, and exports of meat, butter and cheese, will all help to maintain that comparative prosperity which New Zealand has undoubtedly enjoyed during the last few years. Correspondents to this Office from Taranaki and Hawkes Bay state that there is no opening for skilled or unskilled labour in their districts.

Cape Colony.—Official reports for 1894 from a large number of centres in the Colony have just been received. They all point out that there is no opening for farm labourers, except occasionally for farm overseers, all farm labour being performed by coloured natives. With regard to mechanics there was a good demand at Carnarvon for a few carpenters; at Graaff-Reinet, bricklayers, road-makers and fence-makers only were in fair demand; as Queenstown there had been a temporary demand for masons, carpenters, and stone cutters; at Simonstown men were wanted to work in the new quarries; and at Willowmore there was a good demand for a few mechanics at times. In all other parts of the Colony—including towns like Port Elizabeth, King William's Town and Uitenhage—there was no demand whatever for mechanics, and the reports from Robertson and Worcester point out that the important Wagon-making Industry in those towns had fallen off considerably. English female domestic servants were much wanted in a few places, such as Robertson and Simonstown, but coloured labour is mostly employed everywhere. Nearly all the reports state that the price of clothing is reasonable owing to the competition among store-keepers, but that the prices of provisions had increased owing to the drought, locusts, or some other cause. At Paarl and Swellendam, however, provisions were cheap. In the Transkei and Native Territories there is no demand for white labour, but a few blacksmiths and carpenters receive £3 to £3 12s. a week.

LABOUR ABROAD.

FRANCE.*

State of Employment in January.—The proportion of unemployed was slightly greater in January than in December, but rather less than in January 1894. The *Building Trades* had more unemployed, short time was being worked, and in some parts reduced rates per hour were being paid. Few *miners* were reported unemployed. Among *metal workers*, iron and copper moulders and metallurgists reported 10 per cent. idle, and scientific instrument makers 12 per cent. In the *Textile Trades* hand weavers reported 20 per cent., and power-loom weavers and spinners 10 per cent. idle. The *Clothing Trades* were slack.

Labour Disputes in January.—Eighteen fresh disputes occurred in January, compared with 29 and 70 in the corresponding months of 1894 and 1893 respectively. Four old disputes remained unsettled at the beginning of the month. Classified according to the groups of industries in which they occurred, the fresh disputes were as follows:—Working of leather and skins, 4; Metal Trades, 4; Textiles, 3; Stone, Brick and Glass Trades, 3; Wood-working, 2; and Agriculture and Transport 1 each. The total number of persons engaged in the 18 disputes was 1,643, belonging to 20 establishments. In 4 of these the strikers were successful, and in 1 unsuccessful, while 5 ended in compromise. The strike of weavers at Roanne remained unsettled at the end of January, though the numbers affected at that date amounted to only 3,323, as compared with 4,488 on the 3rd of January.

Arbitration and Conciliation.—The Arbitration and Conciliation Law was resorted to in connection with three disputes (all in the Textile Trades) during January, the initiative being in each case taken by the *Juge de Paix*. No settlements were, however, brought about. The most important proceedings were those connected with the Roanne weavers' dispute, in which the *Juge de Paix* intervened three times during the month without success. The employers refuse to deal with their workers otherwise than in their respective establishments.

Work of Municipal Labour Registries in Paris in 1894.—The municipal registry of the 1st *Arrondissement* in Paris found situations in 2,392 cases in 1894; that of the 15th *Arrondissement* had 3,737 applications for work, 1,059 offers of work, and found situations in 853 cases; the corresponding figures for the 17th *Arrondissement* registry were 1,700, 847, and 835 respectively. Between April 2nd and December 31st 1894, the municipal registry of the 19th *Arrondissement* recorded 815 applications for work, 1,215 offers, and 566 situations found.

Municipal Regulation of Private Registries.—A decree containing stringent rules for the management of private registry offices was issued on December 28th last by the Municipality of Marseilles. Among the regulations are the following:—The licence granted by the Municipality is personal, and only applies to the special building for which issued. The register must be kept according to a prescribed model. The highest fee chargeable on registration is 5d., and the lowest 2½d. On obtaining a situation a fee of 10 per cent. (and no more) of the first month's cash wages is to be paid, half of which must be contributed by the employer. The supply of food, drink or lodging, either on or off the premises, is forbidden.

GERMANY.

The following is based on information furnished through the Foreign Office by Mr. T. R. Mulvany, H.M. Consul at Düsseldorf, under date of February 4th:—

Coal Trade.—There has been an absence of demand for coal in the Dortmund district. Considerable numbers of colliers are reported as under notice, and short time has been worked at some pits. The stoppage of navigation on the Rhine through drift ice has also affected the market.

Labour Disputes.—During January 15 fresh strikes

* From information supplied by the Office du Travail.
† The small-type paragraphs are based on data contained in German official publications, newspapers, &c., supplied to the Department.

were reported, and one (a strike of pianoforte-makers in Berlin) begun in December, remained unsettled. Four of the fresh strikes were among metal-workers, three each in the Building and Clothing Trades, and the rest in various miscellaneous trades. All were of a local character. The most serious is a strike of from 400 to 500 pen-knife fitters in Solingen for a new price list, which, it is feared, may extend to other branches of the trade. Of three strikes reported as terminated, one was successful, one was compromised, and the result of the remaining one was unknown. Boycotts by the Social Democrats, of owners of assembly rooms who declined to let them for Socialist meetings took place in Düsseldorf and Magdeburg.

Workmen's Dwellings.—The Westphalian Council of the Old Age and Invalidity Insurance Institutes have resolved to lend the sum of £15,000, at 3½ per cent., to the Westphalian Provincial Councils for the construction of workmen's dwellings.

The Unemployed.—At a number of meetings of the unemployed, convened in Berlin by the Social Democrats on January 18th, resolutions were passed in favour of a legislative eight-hours day in all State, Communal and private works, and the starting of public relief works for the unemployed. It is understood that the Government is in favour of the construction of a complete net-work of canals.

In order to provide work for the unemployed hand weavers in the districts of Nordhausen, Waldenburg, and Landeshut, the War Department has entrusted firms in those districts with two contracts for the supply of linen, one amounting to £6,000, and the other to £875. Road repairing and similar works have been started in the district of Jüterbogk-Luckenwalde by the Ministry of Agriculture for the relief of plush hand-weavers of the district, who have been without work for some time. The provincial administration of Westphalia has arranged for the continuation, during the winter months, of the employment of 450 "Wegwärter," who execute the minor road repairing works, and for the employment of an additional 500 men in stone breaking, &c. Small farmers are to be afforded work in conveying the stone needed for repairs. The sums voted by the Province for communal roads have been placed at the disposal of the communes for immediate use, so as to provide work. In Berlin the recent snowfalls are said to have provided about 5,000 unemployed with work at an average wage of 2s. a day. The relief works organised in Hamburg (see last month's GAZETTE) were started on January 4th. Those not domiciled in Hamburg, and unmarried men of less than 24 years of age, are not employed on these works. The rate of pay is 2s. a day. There are said to be large numbers of unemployed in Danzig owing to extensive discharges of men from the ship yards, and in Mühlhausen, owing to general trade depression. Municipal action for the relief of the unemployed by work is reported from Mainz, Mannheim, Erfurt, and Halle.—*Sozialpolitisches Centralblatt, and Blätter für Soziale Praxis.*

Regulation of Sunday Work in the Factory Industry and in Crafts.—Section 105b of the Industrial Code as amended in 1891 forbids work on Sundays and holidays in mines, saltworks, the mechanical purification of ores, smelting, factories and workshops, carpenters', shipbuilding and other building yards, and in building operations of all kinds. It was, however, provided that the Federal Council might make exceptions as to works which, from their nature, could not be suspended or deferred, and as to those which are subject to pressure at certain seasons. A list of the trades excepted has now been fixed by the Federal Council. It was published in the official *Reichsanzeiger* of January 29th and comes into operation on April 1st next.

It specifies over 80 trades under the headings of mining, smelting, saltworks, the working of stones and earths, the Chemical Industry, subsidiary forest products, lighting stuffs, fats, oils, varnishes, paper, leather, foods, &c., and, lastly, a number of trades classified as seasonal, viz., the manufacture of chocolate, sweetstuffs, honey cakes and biscuits; the manufacture of toys; tailoring and shoe-making (as handicrafts); millinery, furs and straw hats. For most of the trades specified the exemption allowed by the Federal Council is, that, instead of a full 24 hours' rest each Sunday, either a minimum rest of that duration must be allowed every second Sunday, or one of 36 hours every third Sunday, or every fourth Sunday if the duration of work on any of the remaining Sundays does not exceed 12 hours. As regards the seasonal trades mentioned at the end of the list, the local police authorities are authorised to fix six Sundays or holidays in the year (only four in the Fur and Straw Hat Trades) on which it is permissible to work until 12 o'clock noon.

Old Age and Invalidity Insurance, 1893.—The official statistics of this branch of insurance show that during 1893, 66,109 (59,666)* fresh annuities were granted—viz., 35,064 (17,638) for invalidity, and 31,045 (42,028) for old age. The total sum paid in annuities during the year, including the State contribution, was £1,402,000 (£1,121,000)—viz., £1,138,000 (£1,054,000) for old age, and £264,000 (£67,000) for invalidity. At the end of 1893 the insurance institutes were chargeable with 166,976 old age pensions, amounting to £613,000, and with 37,815 invalidity pensions amounting to £118,000. The number of pensions as just stated does not, however, quite correspond with the number of annuitants, as in some cases the same annuity is contributed to by two or more institutes.

SWITZERLAND.

The following is based on notes supplied by Herr Greulich, the Swiss workmen's secretary, transmitted by Mr. Angst, H.M. Consul at Zürich, under date of January 28th:—

Labour in 1894.—Though no great advance was made during 1894, either as regards legislation for the protection of the working classes or in the matter of workers' organisation, a certain amount of progress can be reported in both directions. Workmen's tribunals have been regulated by law in several cantons, and laws have come into operation for the protection of women workers in establishments which are not under the Factory Act; the conditions of apprenticeship have been legally fixed and the movement in favour of State insurance against want of employment is said to have gained ground. A step towards the accomplishment of workers' insurance against sickness and accident was made at the end of the year, amended draft Bills on the subject having been presented to the members of the Councils, though the new drafts do not deal with the chief demand of the workers, viz.:—gratuitous medical treatment during sickness (see GAZETTE of November and December 1893, and July 1894).

Workers' Organisations.—The position of workers in the Textile Trades, having, it is said, deteriorated since the collapse of the Federation of Embroiderers, textile workers of East Switzerland are renewing their exertions for organising their fellow-workers in this trade, though the failure of the Federation is said to have made workers doubtful as to any benefit resulting from organisation. It is proposed to include all textile workers in the new Federation. The first step has been taken with the formation of a Federation in St. Gall, whence, if possible, it is proposed to extend it over the whole of East Switzerland.

The German Workmen's Union, in Bâle, has bought a hotel there for £6,160, which is to be transformed into a People's Palace on the Belgian model.

Labour Disputes.—A strike of 20 men is reported at a foundry in Zürich, owing to the alleged dismissal of some members of their Union, and bad treatment by the foreman. As the founders are strongly organised it may last for some time.

The Government of the Canton of Rural Bâle has submitted a Bill for simplifying procedure in wage suits between domestic servants and workmen, and masters and employers. The proceedings are to be gratuitous for the workmen, and in suits in which the value of the matter in dispute does not exceed £2, the decision of the President of the Court is to be final.

Wages Inquiry.—The Parish Rates Commission of the town of Winterthur has just completed an investigation into the wages and incomes of workmen in the different branches, with a view to a re-adjustment of the system of taxation.

BELGIUM.

Payment of Workers' Wages.—Sir F. Plunkett, H.M. Minister at Brussels, has reported through the Foreign

* The figures in italics and brackets refer throughout to the corresponding particulars for 1892.

NOTE.—Differences between the figures as stated above for 1892 and those given in the GAZETTE of February 1894 (page 50) are due to alterations arising out of decisions on appeal.

Office, under date of February 3rd, that a Bill has been laid before the Chamber of Representatives dealing with the question of payment of wages. It aims at preventing the defrauding of operatives by their employers, and proposes that workpeople shall be afforded opportunities for checking all weighing and measuring operations connected with the fixing of the amount of their earnings. Any such fraud is to be dealt with in the same way as the use of fraudulent weights and measures in the ordinary operations of buying and selling.

The Coal Trade.—Distress is reported, in *Le Peuple* of January 10th, in the Borinage coal district, in consequence of the continued depression in the Iron Industry. The usual increases in wages made in the beginning of winter are said to have been withheld, and about 4,000 men have been reduced to five days' work a week, owing to the continued depression and the accumulation of large stocks. In other districts only four days a week are reported to be worked.

*Labour Disputes.**—Eight fresh strikes were reported in January, and three as remaining unsettled since December. Four of the fresh disputes were among spinners and weavers in Ghent, the others being among cabinet-makers, cabmen, lighiermen and colliers. None of these were of serious extent. About 1,200 match-workers are said to be engaged in the strike at Grammont, reported last month. One strike was reported as settled, the result being successful from the workers' point of view. A general strike of skin dyers at Brussels is being organised; the agitation has grown out of a strike of 175 persons of this trade at an establishment in Brussels, begun in December, owing it is said to the discharge of workpeople for belonging to a trade organisation.

Employers and Social Legislation.—A "Central Committee of Industry and Labour," representing employers in the Iron, Coal, and Glass Industries of the country, is to be formed in Brussels, the principal aim of which, according to the *Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels*, will be: "to investigate and thoroughly examine any decrees and Bills relating to industry which may be submitted to the Legislature."

Wage and Hour Clauses in Contracts.—In pursuance of the adoption, by the Liège Provincial Council, of the principal of wage and hour clauses in public contracts, that body has fixed the maximum length of the working day in such undertakings at 10 hours. The minimum rates are to be fixed by the Permanent Deputation after consultation with the Council of Industry and Labour. Contractors must also undertake to insure their workmen against accident or risk incurred in their work.

Eight-hours Day.—A working day of eight hours for underground workers was introduced four months ago in the slate quarries of the *Ardoisiers Réunis*, near Luxemburg. The managing director, it is said, now reports that he is satisfied with the results. The former length of the working day was 10 to 11 hours.

Co-operative Workshop.—The Tinplate and Zinc Workers' Union of Liège, have established a co-operative workshop, to which about 100 workmen are said to belong.—*Le Peuple*.

Factory Regulations re Lead Works.—The *Moniteur Belge* of January 16th has published a Royal Decree fixing special rules to be observed in the manufacture of sulphate of lead, lead oxides, and chromate of lead from March 1st next. The rules are of two kinds—firstly, for preventing the diffusion of lead-laden dust in the workshops; and secondly, for mitigating the consequences which might result from its presence. The measures prescribed include the use of hermetically closed mechanical contrivances and the provision of efficient means of ventilation, the provision of adequate bath accommodation, special working clothes (including respirators, &c.), special rooms with facilities for taking meals, and the retaining at the employer's expense of a special medical man to examine persons showing symptoms of plumbism.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Official Strike Statistics.—According to a return recently issued by the Ministry of Commerce, 172 strikes occurred in Austria proper during 1893, compared with 101 in 1892, and 104 in 1891, the number of participants in each year respectively having been 28,120, 14,123, and 14,025, and the number of working days missed, 518,511, 159,992, and 247,086 respectively. These figures are exclusive of strikes which occurred in trades controlled by the

* Based on information published in *Le Peuple*, and the *Deutscher Reichsanzeiger*.

mining authorities. In the following statement the strikes of each year are classified according to causes:—

Causes of Strikes.	1893.			1892.			1891.		
	No. of Strikes.	No. of Participants.	Days Missed.	No. of Strikes.	No. of Participants.	Days Missed.	No. of Strikes.	No. of Participants.	Days Missed.
1. Demands for increase of wages	38	19	26	19	26	26	26	26	26
2. Against reduction of wages	20	19	16	19	19	16	16	16	16
3. For increased wages with reduced hours, or in connection with other demands	63	32	28	32	32	28	28	28	28
4. For reduced hours alone, or with other demands except increased wages	5	9	7	9	9	7	7	7	7
5. For removal of unpopular persons, or against dismissal of workpeople	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Other causes	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	172	101	104	101	101	104	104	104	104

The following statement classifies the strikes according to their results:—

Results.	1893.						1892.						1891.					
	PROPORTION PER CENT.						PROPORTION PER CENT.						PROPORTION PER CENT.					
	Of all strikes.	Of all participants in strikes.	Of all strikes.	Of all participants in strikes.	Of all strikes.	Of all participants in strikes.	Of all strikes.	Of all participants in strikes.	Of all strikes.	Of all participants in strikes.	Of all strikes.	Of all participants in strikes.	Of all strikes.	Of all participants in strikes.	Of all strikes.	Of all participants in strikes.		
Successful	19.2	11.5	25.7	21.4	18.6	13.3	32.0	29.0	28.7	16.4	28.4	39.3	48.8	59.5	45.6	62.2	53.0	47.4
Partially successful	48.8	59.5	45.6	62.2	53.0	47.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Unsuccessful	32.0	29.0	28.7	16.4	28.4	39.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

The trades in which strikes occurred most frequently in each year were the Textile and Metal-working Trades.

NORWAY.

Accident Insurance of Workpeople.—The Norwegian Government, on July 23rd last, promulgated a law introducing compulsory insurance of workpeople against accidents incurred during work. The law is to take effect from the 1st of next July. It applies

(a) To all workers and employees engaged in factory work and the various kinds of handicraft and other industrial occupations carried on with the aid of machinery. (b) Mining and operations connected therewith, stone cutting and breaking, lime quarrying, &c. (c) Ice works. (d) Works either making or using inflammable or explosive substances. (e) Building yards and works of all kinds. (f) Clearing, flooding and service of dams, canals, sluices, railways, and tramways. (g) Loading and unloading of merchandise (not done by ships' crews), work in yards, felling grounds, warehouses, &c., and transport operations connected therewith. (h) Chimney sweeps, members of salvage corps and fire brigades.

The necessary funds are to be provided by premiums payable by employers only, their amount being regulated in proportion to the wages (up to £66 13s. 4d. per annum) earned by the employee, and to the degree of risk connected with the work. The insurance is effected by a National Insurance Office, under State guarantee. At the end of a month after an accident the Insurance office pays:

- For total disablement, an annuity equal to 60 per cent. of the worker's annual wages, but not less than £8 6s. 8d. a year.
- For partial disablement, less according to its degree.
- In case of death, a funeral benefit of £2 10s. to the surviving relatives and pensions to the widow (or widower, if an invalid), and to each legitimate child up to the age of 15 years. The united pensions must not exceed half of the deceased worker's wages.

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK CONSULAR DISTRICT.

The following is based on information supplied through the Foreign Office by Mr. Percy Sanderson, Her Majesty's Consul-General at New York, under date of January 22nd:—

Brooklyn Tramway Strike.—On January 14th a strike began among the men, numbering about 6,000, employed on the 48 different lines of tramway in Brooklyn. It is understood that the demands of the men comprised (1) the abolition of "standing time," a technical phrase for the period of the day when, owing to the light traffic, a certain number of them are not employed; (2) a reduction in the number of "trippers," or men who are only employed during the busy hours, and who are paid by the trip; and (3) an advance of 25 cents. (1s. 0½d.) on the existing rate of wages, viz., 2 dollars a day (8s. 4d.).

In the course of endeavours which were made to bring about a settlement of the dispute, the men showed a disposition to waive the demand for increased pay, but insisted on the two remaining points. It would appear that the companies refused to give way on these points, as tending to increase the number of permanent employees, and maintained that the nature of the service necessitated the employment of extra men during the busy hours. The men declared that the companies had violated a contract entered into last year, the full terms of which have not been disclosed, and that they had to work as much as 14 hours a day instead of 10 hours, as had been agreed upon. The companies apparently found no difficulty in replacing the strikers, and endeavoured to run a certain number of cars at longer intervals than usual. This led to riotous action on the part of the strikers, who prevented the running of the cars, and it was found necessary to employ the police and militia, and eventually a brigade of the National Guard was called out. The Board of Aldermen and Supervisors passed resolutions indicating sympathy with the strikers. At the date of reporting, order had not been restored.

[From information published in the English Press, it appears that the resolutions of the Board of Aldermen referred to above, included one to the effect that no men should be employed on the electric cars in Brooklyn who had not resided in the county for four months. The Mayor has vetoed this resolution. The withdrawal of the militia on February 1st was followed by renewed disturbances. On the 4th the Board of Aldermen adopted a resolution in accordance with the terms of a petition presented by the strikers, asking for the revocation of the charters of the tram lines. This resolution was also vetoed by the Mayor. On the 5th 805 cars out of the usual 1,300 were said to be running. The strike was still in progress on the 7th February.]

PHILADELPHIA CONSULAR DISTRICT.

The following is based on information supplied through the Foreign Office, under date of January 25th, by Capt. R. C. Clipperton, H.M. Consul at Philadelphia:—

Unemployed.—A large number of miners in the Pittsburgh district are said to be out of work. All the river mines from Monongahela City to Pittsburgh, with one exception, are idle from various causes, chiefly owing to the dissatisfaction of the miners with the reduction in wages.

Labour Disputes.—Notification of reduced scales by the Carnegie Steel Company in their works at Homestead and Edgar Thomson have caused fresh strikes in January. At Edgar Thomson 700 Slav labourers are said to have struck, their places being, however, quickly filled by English-speaking men. One hundred of the Homestead workers are reported to have been dismissed on January 14th for attending a meeting convened for the purpose of organising. A strike of tinplate workers of Pittsburgh which had lasted three months, was settled on January 15th, the men accepting a reduction of 12½ to 15 per cent. as compared with one of 25 to 30 per cent. proposed originally by the employers; it was said that as a result of this settlement 10,000 persons would resume work. Owing to the settlement of a strike of colliers of Mid-valley on January 4th, 1,500 men resumed work. The region affected by the great coal strike of last year is again being disturbed by disputes. Several mines in the Pittsburgh district are worked by non-union men, and as the Columbus scale, which brought that strike to an end, does not apply to them, it is contended that these mines are working at an unfair advantage. Accordingly the railroad coal operators have notified that they will not pay more than 55 cents a ton (see December GAZETTE, page 384), and a reduction of wages is said to have taken place in many other districts. Several small strikes are reported, but in the majority of cases the miners appear to be accepting the lower rates of wages. The miners of Masillon, who had been on strike for nearly a year, and who agreed to submit to the award of an arbitration committee, have now rejected the award, which was against them. Their employers are said to have begun to fill their places. The strike at a steel works in Braddock, referred to in the December GAZETTE, has come to an end. About 200 furnace workers lost their places.

FOREIGN TRADE IN JANUARY.

Imports.—The total value of the imports during the month was £36,753,068, as compared with £38,458,613 in January 1894. The decrease of £1,705,545, or 4.4 per cent. is more than explained by the decrease of £2,257,994 in the importation of raw materials for textile manufactures. The value of the sheep and lambs' wool imported was £1,137,329 less than in January 1894, and the quantity 26,875,059 lbs. less. Raw cotton, however, with a falling off in value of £924,377, shows an increase in quantity of 310,035 cwts., or nearly 11 per cent. The falling off in December in the importation of non-dutiable articles of food has been partially compensated for this month by an increase of £675,964 on last year's figures, the increase being especially noticeable in wheat and butter.

During the year 1894 the increase in imports over 1893 was most noticeable in imports from Russia, which increased to the extent of £4,921,571. There was also a large increase in imports from the Argentine Republic. The quantity of foreign spirits imported for consumption decreased from 7,869,836 gallons in 1893 to 7,642,039 gallons in 1894. There was, however, an increase in the consumption of home-made spirits from 29,857,587 gallons to 29,893,576 gallons.

British and Irish Exports.—The increase in exports though still maintained, is no longer so noticeable as in the two preceding months. The total amount £18,224,236 represents an increase of only £72,356 on the returns for January 1894. The increases are principally in yarns and textile fabrics, and in machinery. The greatest decrease is that of £438,308 in the exports of coal and patent fuel.

During the year 1894 the most noticeable fact was the large decrease in exports to the U.S.A., which were £5,150,748, or 21.5 per cent. less than in 1893. There was a decrease of over a million sterling in our exports to Canada and the Argentine Republic. In no case was there a large increase during the year.

Re-exports of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.—These showed a decrease of £459,385 from the amount of January 1894. The total amount re-exported during the month was £3,887,258.

Tonnage of Vessels entered and cleared.—The total tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom, in January, from Foreign Countries and British Possessions was 2,403,536 tons, as compared with 2,266,025 tons in January 1894, while the tonnage cleared fell from 2,741,305 to 2,617,171 tons. The tonnage of vessels entered coastwise was 2,405,178 tons, as compared with 2,497,478 tons in the corresponding month last year, a decrease being observable in both British and foreign vessels. The tonnage of vessels cleared decreased from 2,478,468 tons to 2,357,062 tons, both British and foreign vessels showing a decrease.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Cotton Statistics.—The imports of raw cotton in January amounted to 735,704 bales, as compared with 683,286 bales in 1894, and 307,505 bales in 1893; but the quantity forwarded to inland towns was not so large as in January 1893. The exports show an increase compared with the corresponding months of the two previous years, the figures showing 45,231 bales in January 1895, as against 39,061 in January 1894, and 43,576 in January 1893. The following table gives the figures for the month ended January 31st in each of the last three years:—

	Imports.		Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns.		Exports.	
	Bales.	...	Bales.	...	Bales.	...
1895	735,704	...	311,703	...	45,231	...
1894	683,286	...	353,741	...	39,061	...
1893	307,505	...	218,059	...	43,576	...

British Corn.—The average prices of British corn per quarter for the week ended 26th January, were again considerably below the prices at the corresponding week of last year, as will be seen from the following figures:—

	Average price per Quarter at—		Decrease.
	January 1895.	January 1894.	
Wheat	20 9	26 1	5 4
Barley	21 11	29 1	7 2
Oats	13 10	18 0	4 2

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 21 of the principal railways in the United Kingdom for the four weeks ended January 26th 1895, amounted to £4,796,928, being a decrease of £201,124, as compared with the corresponding period of 1894. The receipts from passenger traffic were £1,953,474, an increase of £10,421; while the receipts from goods and mineral traffic were £2,843,454, showing a decrease of £211,545.

Hay Imports.—The total imports of hay in January amounted to 5,359 tons, being 26,608 tons less than in the corresponding month of last year. This decrease is of course due to the relatively good English hay crop of 1894, as compared with the failure of the 1893

crop in certain parts of England. In both cases the United States furnished by far the largest proportion, the figures being 2,480 and 18,366 tons respectively.

Bankruptcies.—During the month of January, 383 bankruptcies were gazetted, as against 437 in January 1894, a decrease of 54. Of the 383 bankrupts, 31 were publicans, hotel-keepers, &c., 29 grocers, 26 builders, 23 farmers, 13 bakers, and 10 coal and coke merchants and dealers.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The total number of British and foreign passengers who left this country during January for places out of Europe was 9,948, being 2,457 more than in January 1894.

British and Irish.—The number of passengers of British and Irish nationality to places out of Europe again shows an increase, the number in January being 6,983, which exceeds the number for January 1894 by 1,618. There is a slight decrease among the passengers proceeding to South Africa, but an increase is observable in the numbers proceeding elsewhere. The figures for the two periods compared are:—

	January 1895.	January 1894.
United States	3,845	2,456
British North America	434	303
Australasia	827	764
South Africa	697	902
Other places	980	949
Total	6,983	5,365

Foreign.—In addition to the above, there were 2,965 foreigners and others whose nationality was not distinguished, as compared with 2,126 in January 1894, an increase of 839.

Alien Immigration.—The total number of aliens who arrived from the Continent at various ports of the United Kingdom last month was 3,442, an increase of 392, as compared with the number in January 1894. The increase is, however, entirely amongst the transients, the number of immigrants stated to be en route to America having increased from 823 to 1,336. The number of aliens not stated to be en route to America was 2,106 (including 630 sailors), while for January 1894 it was 2,227 (including 793 sailors).

LABOUR CASES IN JANUARY.

The following are among the legal cases of the month under various Statutes specially affecting labour, of which the Department has received information. The accounts are based principally upon reports appearing in local newspapers. The list is not intended to be in any way exhaustive of all such cases decided during the month. Prosecutions under the Factory and Workshop Acts, the Mines Regulation Acts, and the Merchant Shipping Acts, are summarised in another column.

(1) EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACT.

City of London Court, January 9th.—Printer's joiner sued firm of printers' joiners, for £150 damages for injuries received in working a circular saw, owing to defective condition of saw. Defence that saw was not defective, and that accident happened through plaintiff's own fault. Plaintiff was non-suited.

Cardiff County Court, January 10th.—Boiler-maker, employed in repairing steamship, whilst traversing plank to fetch his tools from stoke-hole, slipped and fell between decks, his injuries proving fatal. Action by father for £300 compensation, plaintiff contending that plank was insecure. Defence that there was no evidence of negligence nor of defect in plank, and nothing to show how accident happened. Judge non-suited plaintiff on these grounds.

Snowbridge County Court, January 10th.—Father of work-girl sought to recover from firm of bucket manufacturers £60 damages for loss of daughter's hand, owing to alleged negligence on part of defendant's servants. Girl was told by foreman to carry "blanks" and place them beside another girl, who induced her by threats of violence to put the blanks in the press and take the stampings out. Defence that there was no liability, foreman not having given these orders. Plaintiff was non-suited.

City of London Court, January 10th.—Labourer sued employers for £100 damages for injuries received through the fall of a screw-jack, near which he was working at chipping concrete. Defence that screw-jack was accidentally knocked over by a fellow-workman, and that defendants were not liable. Verdict for plaintiff for £30.

Kidderminster County Court, January 16th.—Boy sued timber merchant for £50 damages for injuries received in working a circular saw, to which he had been put contrary to alleged agreement as to nature of his employment. It was contended that defendant was guilty of negligence in setting a boy of 12 to such work, and evidence was brought to show that accidents had frequently happened when boys had been employed. Defence, that it was customary to set boys to this work, and that plaintiff had expressed himself competent to do it. Verdict for plaintiff for £10.

St. Helens County Court, January 16th.—Boy sued glass manufacturers for £50 damages for injuries sustained through the breaking of a glass cylinder which he was carrying on his shoulder

INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN JANUARY.

The number of industrial prosecutions under the Acts included in the tables below was 202 during January, as compared with 211 in the previous month and 277 in January 1894, the decrease being especially noticeable in prosecutions under the Merchant Shipping Acts. Of these 202 prosecutions, 130 were under the *Factory and Workshop Acts*, the number of convictions being 121, with an average penalty, including costs, of £1 15s. 3d. Under the *Mines Acts* there were 64 prosecutions and 61 convictions, 14 of the convictions being against owners or managers of mines, and 47 against workmen. The average penalties and costs imposed on the former amounted to £1 4s. 3d., and on the latter to 18s. 10d. In the 8 prosecutions under the *Merchant Shipping Acts*, all against owners or masters of vessels, a conviction was obtained in each case, the penalties and costs imposed averaging £12 19s. 1d.

I.—Under Factory and Workshop Acts.*

Nature of Offence.	Prosecutions.	Convictions.	Total Amount of Penalties.	Total Amount of Costs.
Neglecting to Limewash	1	1	£ 5. 4.	£ 5. 4.
Neglecting to Fence Machinery	10	9	0 5 0	0 6 6
Allowing Children to Clean Machinery in Motion	1	1	0 1 0	4 7 0
Employing Young Persons without necessary Certificates	8	8	4 0 0	4 19 3
Illegal Hours or Times of Employment.				
Before or after the legal hour	35	32	5 11 0	25 5 8
During meal times, or without proper intervals for meals	9	9	15 1 0	14 5 6
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day substituted	15	13	10 9 0	10 3 0
On Sundays or holidays, or children on successive Saturdays	3	3	0 3 0	1 13 0
At night	14	13	8 13 0	10 1 0
Employing children full time	1	1	0 9 6	0 10 6
Neglecting Rules as to Registers, Abstracts, Notices, &c.				
Not keeping registers	8	7	4 10 0	2 0 9
affixing or properly filling up notices, &c.	19	19	9 3 0	5 15 6
sending notices required by Act	4	4	2 2 6	1 2 0
Obstructing an Inspector in the Execution of his Duty	2	1	2 0 0	0 7 6
Total for January 1895	130	121	131 16 6	6 81 9 2
Total for January 1894	177	164	219 8 0	6 99 4 1

* Supplied by the Home Office. NOTE.—The defendants in all the above cases were Employers or Managers.

II.—Under the Mines Acts.*

Nature of Offence.	Prosecutions.	Convictions.	Cases with- drawn.	Cases dis- missed.	Fines and Costs imposed on Defendants.
By Owners, Managers, &c.—					£ s. d.
Fencing	1	1	...	...	1 0 0
Ventilation	7	7	...	...	10 0 0
Shafts and Manholes	6	6	...	...	6 0 0
Miscellaneous	6	6	...	...	5 11 0
By Workmen—					£ s. d.
Safety Lamps	7	6	1	...	4 1 0
Shot-firing and Explosives	15	14	...	1	12 1 2
Lucifer Matches, &c.	10†	9	...	...	10 6 6
Riding on trams	3	3	...	...	1 14 6
Miscellaneous	9	9	...	...	30 11 5
Total for January 1895	64	61	1	1	61 5 5
Total for January 1894	70	66	7	2	51 17 9

* Supplied by the Home Office. † One of these cases was not heard, owing to the workman having absconded.

III.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts.

Nature of Offence.	Prosecutions.	Convictions.	Total Penalties.	Total Costs.
By Owners or Masters of Ships:—			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Submerging Disc	1	1	5 0 0	0 8 0
Carrying excessive deck cargoes	5	5	75 0 0	14 10 0
Carrying grain in bulk between decks	...	...	...	...
Carrying passengers without certificate	...	...	...	...
Illegally engaging seamen	...	...	...	...
Not providing saving appliances	...	...	...	...
Under Sea Fishery Act 1883	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous	2	2	5 3 0	5 11 5
By Seamen	...	...	...	...
By Boarding-House Keepers	...	...	...	...
Total for January 1895	8	8	85 3 0	19 9 5
Total for January 1894	30	30	126 0 0	30 0 1

to the flattening kilns. Plaintiff alleged that defendants were guilty of negligence in not providing stretchers in which to carry the cylinders. Defence, that it was customary for boys to carry the glass on their shoulders, and quite safe unless there was carelessness on the part of the carriers. Verdict for defendant company with costs.

Bow County Court, January 21st.—Docker claimed £40 damages from dock company for injuries sustained through negligence of defendants' servants. Plaintiff was unstacking a pile of wood, when the next pile fell on to him; he had previously complained to the foreman that this pile was improperly stacked and unsafe. Defence was that plaintiff should have removed the pile if he knew it was unsafe. Judgment for plaintiff for £40, with doctor's expenses and costs.

Glasgow Sheriff Court, January 24th.—Miner sued coal owners for £250 damages, for injuries received through the fall of a stone from face of main seam in which he was filling a hutch. Sheriff found no personal fault alleged against employers, but only failure of duty on part of pursuer's fellow servants. Case dismissed, pursuer being found liable in expenses.

Bow County Court, January 25th.—Foreman painter sued firm of contractors for £300 damages for injuries received, owing to negligence and defective plant of defendants. Plaintiff had been thrown from scaffolding by breaking of plank. Defence, contributory negligence on plaintiff's part. Verdict for plaintiff for £300.

Runcorn County Court, January 29th.—Engine-fitter sought to recover damages from Manchester Ship Canal Co. for injuries received owing to defective machinery or negligence on part of defendants' servants. Plaintiff was sent by foreman to fit a weigh-bridge, a steam crane being used to put in the foundations. A passing railway engine collided with crane causing it to swing round and strike plaintiff. Signal box was in charge of man in defendant's employ, and plaintiff submitted accident was due to dangerous position of machinery and to negligence of defendants' servants. Defence that machinery was not defective, that these men were not superintendents but plaintiff's fellow workmen, and that there was contributory negligence on plaintiff's part. Verdict for plaintiff, damages £100.

Dundee, Second Division, Court of Session, January 30th.—Blacksmith had sought to recover £500 damages from Spinning Company for death of daughter, aged 14, verdict had been given for pursuer, damages £50. Defenders applied for a new trial. Deceased was employed in carding room in carrying tow to women who fed machines. Accident happened while machine was being cleaned, caused, presumably, by girl removing shutter fencing of machine, and getting inside. Pursuer contended defenders were liable for employing girl under 14 in such close proximity to carding machine. Defence was that it was customary to employ half-timers in carding room, that her occupation was a safe one, and that it was no part of it to aid in cleaning machine. Court held it was customary to employ half-timers in carding rooms, that no danger was involved to them, and that accident was due to voluntary action of deceased in removing guards and getting inside machine. New trial allowed.

High Court, Queen's Bench, January.—Appeal by defendants, builders at Bow, against decision of County Court Judge at Bow awarding plaintiff, a bricklayer, £290 for injuries received (see LABOUR GAZETTE, December). Appeal dismissed.

(2) EMPLOYERS AND WORKMEN ACT.

Dublin Police Court, January 4th.—Two workmen sued builders and contractors for day's wages, and pay for time spent in returning from country job. Plaintiffs had been paid day's wages and travelling expenses for day spent in going to country; they were discharged from work at 1 p.m. on a Saturday, and claimed payment for time afterwards spent in travelling back to Dublin. Defence that under rules of Trade Society defendants were not bound to pay. After hearing evidence, magistrate made an order in favour of men for time spent in travelling back, and ros. costs in each case.

Blackburn County Court, January 7th.—Weaver sued cotton manufacturer for 8s. 4d. wages earned, which defendant declined to pay because plaintiff had left without giving week's notice. This plaintiff claimed he was entitled to do, as there were no rules at mill, and master could discharge workmen without notice. Defence, that it was a weekly hiring. Judgment, that where workpeople did not work under rules no notice was required on either side.

High Court of Justice, January 15th.—Cab driver had sued cab owner for unlawful defacement of licence. Magistrate found that entry, though in every respect true, had been made prejudicial to driver, but that the facts did not disclose any cause of complaint, and that there was no evidence to support a claim for compensation. Cabman appealed. Defendant had entered one date on which plaintiff entered his service (March 6th 1894), and two dates on which he had left his employment (March 26th and May 2nd). Evidence was given to show that the effect was to prejudice other cab proprietors against plaintiff. The Court decided that, as there was no date given of a second entry into service, the entry of two dates of leaving constituted a defacement of the licence, and that there was evidence to support claim for compensation. The case was, therefore, referred back to magistrate at Lambeth Police Court to fix amount of compensation. Magistrate ordered defendant to pay £3 compensation and £2 s. costs.

(3) MINES REGULATION ACT.

Merthyr Police Court, January 21st.—Judgment was given in case of collier summoned by colliery manager for omitting to use "sprags" when necessary for safety. Court of Appeal had held that sprags must be used when necessary (see Labour Cases in January number of LABOUR GAZETTE), and sent case back to magistrates to decide whether it was necessary in this instance. Stipendiary in giving judgment held it was not. Case dismissed.

WORK OF LABOUR BUREAUX IN JANUARY.

The number of new applicants for work registered during the month of January, by the nine bureaux making returns, was 3,331.

Comparing the figures of the seven bureaux from which returns have been received for the January of each year, it will be found that the number of fresh applicants last month was 465 less than the number for January 1894, the figures being 2,766 and 3,231 respectively.

The number of workpeople for whom work was found by the bureaux during January was 657. Of these 212 were provided with work by local authorities, the remaining 445 being engaged by private employers. Of the 3,408 persons remaining on the registers at the end of the month, 3,077 were men, 160 lads and boys, and 171 women and girls.

(1) Work Done in January.

Table with columns: Name of Labour Bureau, No. of Work-people on Register, No. of Fresh Applicants during January, No. of Workpeople found Work by Bureaux (Engaged by Private Employers, Engaged by Local Authority).

(2) Occupations of Applicants on Registers at end of January.

Table with columns: Name of Labour Bureau, Men (Building, Engineering, Metal Trades, etc.), Women and Girls (Lads and Boys, Char-women, Servants, etc.), Grand Total.

* Cannot be stated. † Women and Girls are not at present registered at Salford and Plymouth.

PAUPERISM IN JANUARY.

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

The number of persons relieved in the 35 selected urban districts on one day in the middle of January was 352,637, or 241 per 10,000 of population.

Compared with December these figures show an increase of 17,003 in the number of persons relieved, or 12 per 10,000 of population.

The largest increase was in the southern division of the Metropolis, where it amounted to 34 per 10,000, and at West Ham and Newcastle-on-Tyne where the increases were in both cases 32 per 10,000.

Slight decreases took place in the Paisley and Greenock, and Coatbridge and Airdrie districts of Scotland, and the Galway district of Ireland.

Compared with January 1894, the figures for last month show an increase of 9,569 in the number of persons relieved, or 7 per 10,000 of population. The increase was greatest at Hull, where it amounted to 31 per 10,000. Considerable increases also took place at Newcastle-on-Tyne (25 per 10,000), Bristol (23 per 10,000), and the southern district of the Metropolis (22 per 10,000). Noteworthy decreases took place at Stockton-on-Tees (65 per 10,000), Cork, Waterford and Limerick (24 per 10,000), and Galway (19 per 10,000).

Vagrants in London numbered 1,290 on one day in the middle of January, as compared with 1,265 in the previous month, and 1,024 in January 1894.

Table with columns: Selected Urban Districts, Paupers on one day in second week of January 1895 (In-door, Out-door, Total, Rate per 10,000 of Population), Paupers on corresponding date in 1894 (Total, Rate per 10,000 of Population).

* Based on the populations in 1891, revised in accordance with subsequent changes in Poor Law areas. † 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. ‡ The apparent increase of Pauperism in the Edinburgh and Leith Districts is due chiefly to an alteration made by one of the parishes in the principle of making the Return. § Excluding Casuals, but including persons maintained in Institutions for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, &c., who are classified as not able-bodied. ¶ For December 1893.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN JANUARY.*

The number of fatal accidents to the undermentioned classes of workpeople reported in January was 676, which compares with 559 in January 1894, distributed as follows:—

Table with columns: Railway Servants, Miners, Factory and Workshop Operatives, Seamen, Total. Rows for January 1895 and January 1894.

On the total of the four classes there was an increase of 117 as compared with January 1894. This increase is accounted for by the increase in the number of reported fatal accidents to miners and seamen. In addition, 7 railway servants were killed on the Companies' premises, but not by movement of railway vehicles.

Of the 1,468 non-fatal accidents reported, 295 were to railway servants by movement of trains, 388 in mines, and 885 in factories and workshops, as compared with 274, 395, and 699 respectively in January 1894. Accidents of a non-fatal character at sea are not reported. In addition to the 295 railway servants injured, and included in the tables, 524 others were injured on the Companies' premises [see note (†) below].

NOTE.—The exact percentage which the number killed in each of these classes of employment bears to the total number employed cannot be stated, the figures, where given, being either for the number employed at a previous date, or for a portion only of those liable to accident, but the following particulars may be useful in forming some idea of the proportion that the numbers employed bear to the persons injured or killed:—

Railways.—A Parliamentary Paper (402 of 1890) gives the number of persons employed on 31st December 1889 by railway companies in the United Kingdom as 381,626.

Mines.—The number employed in and about mines can be given more closely, being 718,747 in 1893, including persons employed on private branch railways and in washing and coking coal.

Factories and Workshops.—From a Parliamentary Paper (402 of 1890) it appears that the number of persons actually at work in factories when the returns were furnished to the Home Office was 3,270,835, but there are no figures available as to the number of persons employed in workshops, although the number is very large.

Seamen.—The returns of the number of seamen employed in British registered vessels in 1893 give 240,974 persons, all grades being included.

Railway Servants.†

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

Table showing the number of railway servants reported as killed or injured by accidents in which the movement of railway vehicles was concerned during the month of January 1895.

A.—Distinguishing the various classes of persons and nature of injuries.

Table with columns: Class of Service, Killed, Causing Amputations, Fractures, Contusions and Crushes, Dislocations, Cuts, Sprains, Bruises, Burns, &c., Unspecified and Miscellaneous Injuries, Total Persons Injured.

B.—Distinguishing England, Scotland and Ireland; and accidents in connection with public traffic from other accidents.

Table with columns: England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland, United Kingdom, Killed, Injured.

Miners.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Table showing the number of persons reported as killed or injured in or about mines, during the month of January 1895.

Table with columns: Cause of Accident, England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland, United Kingdom, Killed, Injured.

* For Accidents reported under this Notice. † In addition to the accidents included in the tables, 7 railway servants were killed and 524 injured by accidents occurring on the companies' premises, but in which the movement of railway vehicles was not concerned, making a total for the month of 57 railway servants killed and 819 injured from all causes. ‡ Occurring in connection with the movement of railway vehicles and including accidents from the servants' own want of caution or misconduct. § The classes of accidents reported are those specified in the Labour Gazette for July 1893, page 66.

Factory and Workshop Operatives.‡

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Table showing the number of persons reported to H.M. Chief Inspector by Certifying Surgeons as killed or injured during the month of January 1895.

Table with columns: Class of Service, Killed, Causing Amputations, Fractures, Injuries to Head or Face, Loss of Sight of one or both Eyes, Lacerations, Contusions, and other Injuries, Total Persons Injured.

Seamen.

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

Table showing the number of masters, seamen, and other persons forming the crews of vessels belonging to the United Kingdom, reported to the Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen during the month of January 1895 as having lost their lives at sea, or in rivers or harbours, from the undermentioned causes. (Deaths on yachts and on vessels employed exclusively in rivers and inland navigation are not included.)

Table with columns: Class of Vessels, Number of Deaths, exclusive of deaths from disease, homicide, suicide, and unknown causes, By Wreck and Casualty, By Accidents other than Wreck and Casualty, Total.

TRADE DISPUTES.

(Based on information obtained from Local Correspondents, Trade Union periodical returns, and newspaper reports. Application for particulars is made to the Employers and Trade Unions affected in each dispute, and the information so obtained up to the latest moment is used.)

FIFTY-SEVEN new disputes occurred in January 1895, as compared with 43 in December 1894, and 50 in January 1894. Particulars obtained with regard to 52 of these disputes show that 12,304 workpeople were involved. Two of the 7 disputes in the Building Trades were chiefly due to questions of wages, 2 arose in respect of questions of unionism, the remaining 3 being upon questions of working arrangements. The 2 disputes in the Clothing Trade were chiefly due to alleged payment at less than list prices. Of the 9 disputes in the Metal Trades, 5 were due to wages questions and 4 to various questions of working arrangements. Sixteen disputes occurred in the Mining Industry, 15 of which were due to wages questions, and one was a question of unionism. Three of the 5 disputes in Shipbuilding were upon questions of working arrangements, one was a wages question, the remaining one arising out of the discharge of colleagues. Three of the 11 disputes in the Textile Trades were due to wages questions, and 8 to various questions of working arrangements. Of the 7 disputes in the Miscellaneous Trades group, 4 were due to wages questions, and 3 to questions of working arrangements.

The 57 disputes were geographically distributed as follows:—Northern Counties 19, Midland Counties 9, Western Counties and Wales 9, London 2, Scotland 13, Ireland 5.

Thirteen old disputes affecting 1,749 workpeople were settled during January, and at the end of the month it was known that 15 new and 22 old disputes, affecting about 3,000 persons, were still unsettled.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN JANUARY 1895.

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Alleged Cause or Object, Establishments, Work-people, Commencement, Termination, Result. Rows include Building Trades (Stonemasons, Painters, etc.), Metal Trades (Forgemen, Ironplate Makers, etc.), Mining (Coal Miners, Winders, etc.), Shipbuilding (Fitters, etc.), and Miscellaneous Trades (Cabinet Makers, etc.).

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN JANUARY 1895—(Continued).

Continuation of Table I from page 60, listing disputes such as Shipwrights, Textile Trades (Weavers, Machine Feeders), Reelers, Winders, Jute Weavers, etc., with their respective details.

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

Table listing disputes settled in January 1895, including Overters (Team Men), Boot and Shoe Operatives, Tinsmiths, Cutlery Workers, Dyers and Finishers, etc., with their respective details.

III.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN PREVIOUS TO JANUARY, AND WERE STILL UNSETTLED AT THE END OF THAT MONTH.

The following disputes reported in last month's issue as commencing in December are still unfinished:—flax roughers, Belfast (commenced December 7th); bricklayers, near Plymouth; glass bottle blowers and makers, London, E.; boot and shoe operatives, Ipswich; miners, near Leeds.

The following, which commenced before December, are also still unsettled:—flax roughers, Belfast, commenced September 12th; wool shear grinders, Sheffield; coal miners, Dronfield; hatters, London, S.E.; sanitary pressers, Hanley; wool sorters, Saitaire; dyers, Greatland; wire drawers, Halifax; silk weavers, Leek; wherryman, River Tyne (since finished, February); cotton operatives, Heywood; cotton weavers, Cliviger and Barrowford; fustian weavers, Bury; miners, near Barnsley (since finished, February); bricklayers, Bridgwater.

In addition to the above, the following dispute, commencing in December, of which information has only recently been obtained, is still unsettled:—

Small table listing a dispute in Wyke involving Dyers, with details on Trade, Locality, Alleged Cause or Object, Establishments, Persons, and Date of Commencement.

CHANGES IN WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN JANUARY.

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

THE downward tendency in the market rate of wages still continues. The number of workpeople affected in this way during January is returned as about 139,000, as compared with 5,500 and 117,000 in the two previous months.

The classes of workpeople mainly affected by the reductions in January are those engaged in the Coal Mining, Iron and Steel, Tinplate and Chemical Industries.

In Northumberland there has been a general reduction in the wages of the workpeople engaged in and about coal mines, to the number of nearly 32,000. The wages of the hewers and other underground workers are still, however, 16 1/2 per cent. above the standard of 1879, and the surface-workers 13 per cent. In South Wales and Monmouthshire 90,000 miners have had a further reduction of 1 1/2 per cent. under the sliding scale, making the present rates 20 per cent. above standard of 1879.

Reductions affecting, in the aggregate, 12,000 iron and steel workers are reported from the North of England, North Lincolnshire, and the West of Scotland. On the other hand, 450 steel-workers, at Middlesbrough have had a slight advance of 1/2 per cent.

Reductions affecting the wages of upwards of 2,000 tinplate-workers are reported. In addition to the reduction in prices, an increased output has in many cases been agreed to.

Reductions in the wages of workpeople employed in the Chemical Trade are reported from Flint, Oldbury, and Newcastle. The particulars about the Newcastle change are too incomplete for publication in this GAZETTE.

The predominant rate of wages for sailors (A.B.'s) and ordinary firemen remained about the same as last month, except at Swansea, where 122 men shipped at 5s. less than the December rate. In addition there were a few isolated cases of men who signed on at wages below the prevailing rates, at Newcastle, London, Bristol, Cardiff, and Newport.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES.

Table with columns: Employment, Locality, Date of Change, Number of work-people directly affected, Details of Change (Increases, Decreases), Estimated Earnings in a full week (Before change, After change, Increase per week, Decrease per week). Includes sections for BUILDING TRADES, COAL MINING, IRON AND STEEL TRADES, and TINPLATE TRADE.

* In all cases the accuracy of Newspaper reports is inquired into before the information is used here. † The coal miners near Barnsley have been receiving hitherto the full 40 per cent. above the standard of 1888. The present reduction places their wages on a level with the wages paid to the other miners in the district.

Table with columns: Employment, Locality, Date of change, Number of work-people directly affected, Details of Change (Increases, Decreases), Estimated Earnings in a full week (Before change, After change, Increase per week, Decrease per week). Includes sections for TINPLATE TRADE, SHIPBUILDING, TEXTILE TRADES, LEATHER TRADE, CLOTHING TRADES, WOODWORKING TRADES, PRINTING TRADE, CHEMICAL TRADE, GLASS BOTTLE TRADE, CORPORATION EMPLOYEES, and SEAMEN AT MONTHLY RATES.

DECREASES IN HOURS OF LABOUR.

The six cases of reductions in hours of labour reported during the month affected over 500 persons. In most cases the reductions did not involve loss of pay.

Table with columns: Employment, Locality, Date of change, Number of work-people directly affected, Hours of labour in a full week (Before change, After change, Decrease per week), Employment, Locality, Date of change, Number of work-people directly affected, Hours of labour in a full week (Before change, After change, Decrease per week). Includes sections for Clothing Trades, Leather Trade, Wood-working Trade, and Co-operative Society Employees.

* It is anticipated that the operation of the uniform price list or weaving stove work goods, which has been agreed to by representatives of employers and workpeople, will result generally in an advance to the weavers engaged on stove work goods ranging from 1 to 15 per cent. The amount of the advance will vary according to the number of staves used. † Respecting the reduction in the prices paid to chemical workers at Oldbury, the Black Ash men have had their hours of labour increased from 8 to 12 per day, and their earnings have thus been slightly increased in spite of the reduction of 3d. per ton, viz., those working in "soda" 11d. per week (25s. 9d. to 26s. 8d.), and those working in "caustic soda" 1s. 8d. (28s. 3d. to 29s. 11d.)

‡ The reduction in the wages of glass bottle-makers also affects rates for those classes of screw-mouth bottles, which are made at same rates as plain mouth bottles. When engaged on this class of work the reduction of earnings would be about 1s. 6d., 1s., and 10d. per week, respectively.

§ Number affected during the month.

NEW MINES AND MINES ABANDONED.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

DURING January, 12 mines were reported as opened or re-opened, and 33 as abandoned, the numbers in the previous month being 22 and 19 respectively. Of the 12 mines opened or re-opened 10 were collieries, and of the 33 mines abandoned 23 were collieries. Three of the new collieries were in Lanarkshire, and 1 each in Lancashire, Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Warwick, Salop, Stafford, and Fifeshire.

COAL :—

New Mines.

Lancashire—Deerplay (Lower Mountain Seam recommenced), Bacup. *Derbyshire*—Alma (Deep Soft Seam), Clay Cross. *Warwickshire*—Nuneaton (Bench Seam), Nuneaton. *Salop*—Lawley Furnace (New Mine), Wellington. *Staffordshire*—Conduit, No. 3 Pit (Yard Seam), Brownhills. *Lanarkshire* (3)—Braehead, Shotts; Auchinbeath (Lesmahagow Gas Coal), Lesmahagow; Brownhill, Shotts. *Fifeshire*—Denock, St. Andrews.

GANISTER :—

Yorkshire—Worrall, near Sheffield.

IRONSTONE :—

Ayrshire—Carsehead, Dalry.

PAVING STONE :—

Monmouthshire—Old Bedwas, Uchaf.

COAL :—

Mines Abandoned.

Northumberland—Grey Mare Hill, Riding Mill. *Yorkshire* (3)—Robin Hood, Jane Pit (Furnace Seam), near Wakefield; Rookes (Better Bed Seam), near Bradford; Doles Lane (Better Bed Seam), near Bradford. *Lancashire* (2)—Tunshill Pit (Mountain Mine Seam), Milnrow, Rochdale; Carrs (Little Delf Mine), near Prescot. *Derbyshire*—Bridge Lane (Deep Hard Seam), Old Whittington, Chesterfield. *Salop*—New Works, Wellington. *Staffordshire* (3)—Laudywood (8 feet Seam), Wyrley; Mestycroft (Heathen Seam), Wednesbury; Summerford (Bottom Seam), Willenhall. *Worcestershire*—Poolhouse (Hard Seam), Abberley. *Monmouthshire* (2)—Victoria (Nos. 5 and 6 Pits); Bovil. *Gloucestershire*—Mount Pleasant. *Lanarkshire* (3)—Stonecraigs (No. 1 Pit), Newmains; Fouslykes Pit, Newmains; Garriongill (No. 4 Pit), Wishaw. *Stirlingshire* (2)—Balquhatstone (No. 1 Pit), Slamannan; Blackbraes (No. 1 Pit), Falkirk. *Glamorganshire* (3)—Aber (No. 2 Rhondda Seam), Ogmere Vale; Graigwen (Darranddu Seam), Pontypridd; Tewgoed (Wernddu Seam), Port Talbot.

LEAD ORE :—

Northumberland—Langley Barony, Haydon Bridge. *Montgomeryshire*—Van Consols.

IRON :—

Gloucestershire (6)—Buckshaft, Cinderford; China, Coleford; Perseverance, Newnham; St. Annals, Cinderford; Park Hill, Bream; Oakwood and Dun Pit.

TIN :—

Cornwall—Great St. George and Droskyn, Perranporth, Truro.

HEMATITE IRON ORE :—

Cumberland—Crowgarth, Cleator Moor.

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS

REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN JANUARY.

(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 January, it will be seen that 10 Trade Unions, 1 Federation of Trade Unions, 3 Co-operative Associations of Consumers, 1 miscellaneous Industrial and Provident Society, 14 new Friendly Societies, and 40 new branches of existing Friendly Societies, have been added to the Register for England, and Wales, and Scotland during the past month. Thirty-three Building Societies, 1 Trade Union, 1 Employers' Association, and 3 Industrial and Provident Societies are reported as having ceased to exist, or to be in process of "winding up."

NEW ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

I.—Trade Unions.

England and Wales.—Colliery Hauliers' and Wage Men's Union of S. Wales and Monmouthshire, 36 Vaughan St., Pontypridd; Coal Vendors' Assoc., Noble St., Scotswood Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Amal Hollowware Casters & Turners, Nelson Hall, 195 Mill St., Liverpool; Builders' Labourers, 67a Upper Parliament St., Nottingham; House Painters & Plumbers, Suffield Arms, Long St., Middleton, Manchester; Stone Masons' Labourers, 124 Pembroke Place, Liverpool; Mersey Ship Painters, 4 Oldham St., Liverpool; United Mill Sawyers & Wood Cutting Machinists, 116 Mark St., St. Domingo Road, Liverpool; United Coopers, 38 Parfett St., Commercial Road, London, E.; Amalgamated Co-operative Employees, 3 Laurence St., Romiley, Stockport, Midland Counties Trades Federation, 60 New St., Darlaston.

Scotland.—No Trade Unions or Federations have been registered. *Ireland*.—No return received.

II.—Industrial and Provident Societies.

(A) Associations of Consumers.

England and Wales.—New Model Stores, 22 Cressy Houses, Hannibal Road, Stepney, E.; Stoke Newington Co-operative Society, 110 Church St., Stoke Newington, N. *Scotland*.—Townhill Ind. Co-operative Society, Main St., Townhill, Fife. *Ireland*.—No return received.

(B) Miscellaneous.

England.—Acton Green Club & Institute, Fairlawn House, Acton Green.

III.—Friendly Societies.

(A) New Societies.

England and Wales.—Ordinary Friendly, 5; Specially authorised, 1; Juvenile, 2; Dividing, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 4; Benevolent, 1. *Scotland*.—None registered. *Ireland*.—No return received.

(B) New Branches of Existing Societies.

England and Wales.—I.O. Rechabites, S.U., 11; A.O. Foresters, 6; G.I.O.L. Caledonian Corks, 3; I.O. United Brothers, M.U., 3; various others, 12. *Scotland*.—I.O. Rechabites, S.U., 5. *Ireland*.—No return received.

OLD ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

I.—Trade Union and Employers' Association.

England and Wales.—The Liverpool United Millsawyers' Society and the Metallic Bedstead Manufacturers' Association (Birmingham) have each ceased to exist. *Scotland*.—None. *Ireland*.—No return received.

II.—Industrial and Provident Societies.

England and Wales.—Pontnewynydd and Abersychan Ind. Co-op. Soc., and the Bolton Co-operative Commonwealth Soc., have "commenced to wind up." The final notice in winding up has been received from the Boro' of Hackney Ind. Co-op. Soc. *Scotland*.—None. *Ireland*.—No return received.

III.—Building Societies.

England and Wales.—By instruments of dissolution, 13; commencement of winding up (not by instrument), 2; termination of dissolution, 18.

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS OF THE BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL FOR FEBRUARY 1895.

Board of Trade Notices. State of the Skilled Labour Market, &c. Imports of Hay into the United Kingdom. The World's Production of Tin. The World's Production and Consumption of Copper, Lead and Zinc. Authorised Gas Undertakings. The Metallurgical Industries of Russia. Russian Coal Industry. The Commercial Situation in France. The German Coal Trade in 1894. The Woollen Industry of Mexico. Salt Production of British India. The Canadian Wood-pulp Industry. Customs Tariff of British India. Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations. Extracts from Diplomatic and Consular Reports. General Trade Notes. Proceedings and Deliberations of the Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom. Recent Trade Blue Books. Quarantine Notices. Post Office Notices. Statistical Tables. List of Diplomatic and Consular Reports. List of Colonial Office Reports.

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