

# THE Board of Trade LABOUR GAZETTE.

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[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

## EMPLOYMENT CHART.

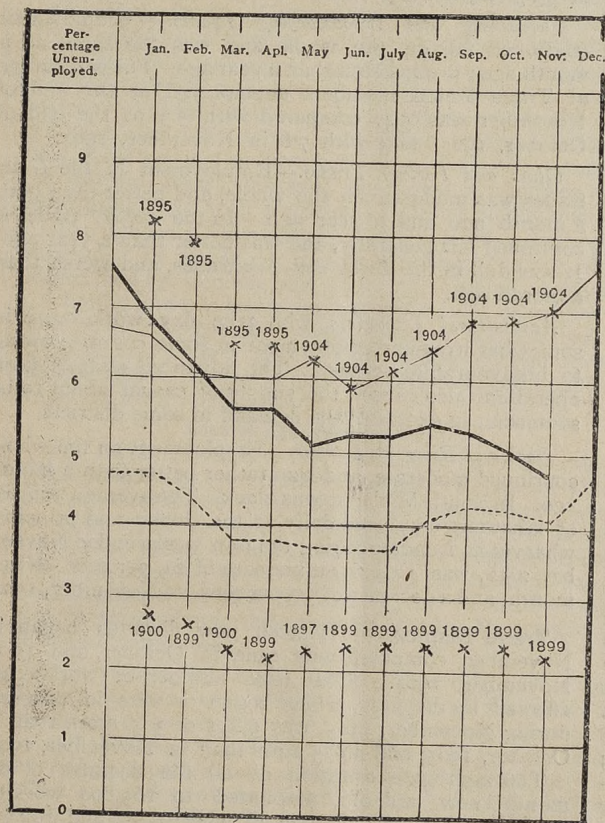


CHART SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

Thick Curve=1905.  
Thin Curve=1904.  
Dotted Curve=Mean of 1895-1904.  
x The crosses indicate the maxima and minima percentages of unemployed during the past ten years, with the dates thereof.

## STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN NOVEMBER.

[Based on 4,882 returns, viz.: 3,572 from Employers or their Associations; 1,222 from Trade Unions, and 88 from other sources.]

EMPLOYMENT generally continued to improve in November, the most noticeable improvement being in the pig iron, iron and steel, tinplate and engineering trades. The remaining trades were about the same as in October.

As compared with a year ago, there was a general improvement in employment, except in the building trades, which, on the whole, were about the same. The most marked improvement was in the metal, engineering and textile trades.

In the 270 Trade Unions, with an aggregate membership of 586,040 making returns, 27,769 (or 4.7 per cent.)

were reported as unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 5.0\* per cent. at the end of October, 1905, and 7.0 per cent. at the end of November, 1904.

**Employment in various Industries.**—*Building Trades.*—Employment in the building trades continued dull, and was rather worse than in the previous month, but on the whole was much the same as a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed among *Carpenters* and *Joiners* was 8.3 at the end of November, as compared with 8.0 in October and 10.1 in November, 1904. The percentage for *Plumbers* was 11.1 at the end of November, compared with 12.0 in October, and 10.5 a year ago.

*Coal Mining.*—Employment in this industry in November was about the same as in October, and was better than a year ago. There has been an improvement in employment at house and gas coal pits, and some falling off at anthracite and steam coal pits. The average number of days worked per week during the four weeks ended 25th November, 1905, was 5.28, compared with 5.32 days in the four weeks ended 21st October, and 5.14 days in November, 1904. The average for November in 1895-1904 was 5.35 days per week.

*Iron Mining.*—Employment was good, and about the same as a month and a year ago. At the 116 mines and open works covered by the returns received from employers, the average weekly number of days worked during the four weeks ended November 25th was 5.81, as compared with 5.85 a month ago, and 5.88\* a year ago.

*Pig Iron Industry.*—Employment in this industry during November continued good, being better than in the previous month, and much better than a year ago. Returns received relating to the works of 108 ironmasters showed that 335 furnaces, employing about 23,700 workpeople, were in blast at the end of November—four furnaces more than in October, and 31 more than a year ago. The number of furnaces now in blast is greater than in any month since November, 1900.

*Iron and Steel Works.*—Employment at iron and steel works continued brisk; it was better than a month ago, and considerably better than a year ago, the number employed in 199 works from which returns have been received being 777 greater than a month ago and 8,604, or 10.1 per cent. greater than a year ago. The returns show that the volume of employment (shifts worked multiplied by numbers employed) in the week ended 25th November, 1905, was 0.6 per cent. greater than in the week ended 21st October, 1905, and 13.7 per cent. greater than a year ago.

*Tinplate Manufacture.*—Employment during November showed a further improvement, and was much better than a year ago. At the end of November 427 mills were working, compared with 423 at the end of October, 1905, and with 400 at the end of November, 1904. The number of mills working in November was greater than in any month during 1896-1905.

*Engineering Trades.*—Employment continued to improve, and was fairly good generally; it was better than a month ago, and very much better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at

\*Revised figures.



the end of November was 3.6, as compared with 4.1 in October, 1905, and 7.8 in November, 1904.

**Shipbuilding.**—Employment in this industry showed little change as compared with a month ago, but was considerably better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of November was 11.8, as compared with 11.9 per cent. at the end of October, and 16.6 per cent. a year ago.

**Cotton Trade.**—Employment continued very brisk, and was considerably better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 134,336 workpeople in the last week in November showed a decrease of 0.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the last week in October, and an increase of 7.3 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Woolen Trade.**—Employment continued very good, and was better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 24,166 workpeople in the last week in November showed a decrease of 0.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the last week in October, and an increase of 3.7 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Worsted Trade.**—Employment continued moderate, but better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 42,850 workpeople during the last week in November showed a decrease of 0.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the last week in October, and an increase of 3.9 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Flax (Linen) Trade.**—Employment continued fair, and was better than a year ago, especially in the weaving department. Returns from firms employing 48,152 workpeople during the last week in November showed an increase of 0.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the last week in October, and of 3.8 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Jute Trade.**—Employment in this industry was reported as fair, and about the same as a month ago. Returns from firms employing 19,917 workpeople in the last week in November showed a decline of 0.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with the last week in October, and of 1.8 per cent. as compared with the corresponding week a year ago.

**Silk Trade.**—Employment in the silk industry showed an improvement compared with October, and was better than a year ago, both as regards the number of workpeople employed and of spindles and looms working. Returns from firms relating to 11,098 workpeople showed an increase of 1.6 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 0.9 per cent. compared with a year ago in the number of throwing and spinning spindles at work; the number of looms working in November showed an increase of 3.3 per cent. compared with the previous month, and of 2.9 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Hosiery Trade.**—Employment was fairly good, but showed a slight decline as compared with a month ago; it was decidedly better than a year ago. Firms employing 20,440 workpeople in the last week in November showed a decrease of 1.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with the last week in October, and an increase of 10.1 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Boot and Shoe Trade.**—Employment continued quiet, but was considerably better than a year ago. Returns from 504 firms, employing 66,637 workpeople, and paying £62,632 in wages on the last pay-day in November, showed a decrease of 0.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the last pay-day in October, and an increase of 9.1 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Other Leather Trades.**—Employment during November was still quiet on the whole, and showed a slight decline on the previous month in the leather-making branches. Compared with a year ago, however, it was considerably better. Trade Unions with a membership of 4,701 had 6.8 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 5.6 per cent. in October, and 11.2 per cent. in November, 1904.

**Tailoring Trade.**—In the *bespoke* branch employment in London showed a decline as compared with October, but was still much better than a year ago; in the Provinces it was bad. In the *ready-made* branch it continued moderate, and was better than a year ago.

**Hat Trades.**—Employment, on the whole, was slack, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. A decline occurred in both the *Silk* and *Felt Hat* Trade,

but it was more marked in the latter. The percentage of Trade Union members returned as unemployed in November in the *Silk Hat* Trade was 15.4, compared with 13.0 in October, and 13.4 a year ago. The corresponding figures for the *Felt Hat* Trade were 7.2, 2.6, and 2.3 per cent.

**Papermaking Trade.**—Employment in machine mills was fairly good in England, good in Scotland, and better on the whole than a month ago and a year ago. In the hand-made trade employment, though not so good as in machine mills, was better than a month and a year ago.

**Printing and Bookbinding Trades.**—Employment was good in these trades, and slightly better than a year ago. Compared with a month ago, a considerable seasonal improvement was shown. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members in the printing trades was 3.2 at the end of November, as compared with 5.2 in October and 3.4 in November, 1904; in the bookbinding trades the percentages at the same periods were 2.5, 3.5 and 3.5 respectively.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Employment continued fair on the whole and was the same as a month ago; it was better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of November was 5.4, compared with 5.3 at the end of October, 1905, and with 7.8 in November, 1904.

**Glass and Pottery Trades.**—Employment in the Glass trades was moderate on the whole, and better than both a month ago and a year ago. In the Pottery trades it continued fair generally, and was better than a year ago. It was dull in the *Brick and Tile* trades, and worse than a month ago.

**Agricultural Labourers,** who take day work, were in somewhat irregular employment in some counties owing to unfavourable weather. The advanced state of farm operations also caused the supply of casual labour to be somewhat in excess of the demand in some districts.

**Dock and Riverside Labour.**—Employment on the whole continued moderate and was rather better than a month ago. In South Wales it was slack. The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves in London during the four weeks ended November 25th, was 12,446, an increase of 2.9 per cent. on last month, and a decrease of 3.3 per cent. on November, 1904.

**Trade Disputes.**—Nineteen new disputes began in November, compared with nine in October, and 25 in November, 1904. The total number of workpeople affected by disputes, which began or were in progress during November, 1905, was 9,811 or 305 more than in October, 1905, and 2,575 more than in November, 1904. The aggregate duration of all the disputes of the month, new and old, amounted to 169,800 working days, or 6,200 less than in October, 1905, and 102,600 more than in November, 1904.

Definite results were reported during November in the case of 12 disputes, new and old, affecting 1,516 persons. Of these disputes, two were decided in favour of the workpeople, five in favour of the employers, and five were compromised.

**Changes in Rates of Wages.**—The net effect of all the changes in rates of wages reported in November was an increase in wages of £1,250 per week. The changes affected 25,700 workpeople, all of whom received advances. The changes of the previous month affected 20,900 workpeople, the net result being an increase of about £610 per week. During November, 1904, the number of workpeople affected was nearly 154,400, and the net result a decrease of nearly £6,700 per week.

The principal changes reported were increases affecting 6,000 steel melters and pitmen, gas producermen, &c. in Great Britain, 3,000 iron puddlers and millmen, 3,500 steel millmen and 5,000 moulders, all in Scotland, and 5,000 engineers on the Clyde.

Two changes, affecting the 3,000 iron puddlers and millmen and the 3,500 steel millmen referred to above, were arranged by Conciliation Boards, and three changes affecting over 4,200 workpeople engaged in steel

manufacture took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting nearly 15,000 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives, one of these changes, affecting 200 workpeople, being preceded by a dispute causing stoppage of work.

### RELIEF OF THE UNEMPLOYED.

INQUIRIES have been recently addressed to the Distress Committees constituted under the Unemployed Workmen Act and also to the Local Correspondents of the Department in the Provinces on the subject of exceptional distress due to unemployment and action taken for the relief of the unemployed.

The returns and other information received indicate that, on the whole, the amount of distress due to unemployment in November was considerably less than a year ago.

The workpeople most generally affected by lack of employment were those belonging to the building trades and various classes of labourers. Boot and shoe operatives were also affected at Leicester and Northampton.

In the great majority of cases the Distress Committees did not commence to receive applications from unemployed persons until the latter part of November or the beginning of December. From the information received little, if any, relief appears to have been given during November. In several towns, however, the Local Authorities are expediting work with a view to providing employment.

The Queen's Unemployed Fund on December 9th amounted to nearly £120,000, of which £32,912 was earmarked for London, and £8,735 for special purposes. Including the two latter sums, a preliminary distribution of over £68,000 has been made, grants on account, based on population, being paid to such Distress Committees as had applied for grants and had recorded local applications for work up to November 30th.

#### London and Neighbourhood.

The Local Authorities have in several cases provided employment for a number of men—a considerable portion being in connection with a newspaper fund—and in some other localities arrangements are now being made to expedite ordinary work with a view to assist the unemployed. The Central Body for London have sent a number of men to work at the Hollesley Bay Colony, selected from those registered by the Metropolitan distress committees.

Returns have been received from 37 boroughs and urban districts in 31 of which the total number of unemployed registered up to the date of the returns (mostly, Dec. 9th or 11th) was 24,077. The occupations of 13,950 of these have been reported, and of these 8,749 are classified as labourers and 5,201 as skilled men, 2,538 of the latter being in the building trades.

At *Hackney* the Borough Council gave employment relief to 216 labourers and 22 painters during November at painting, road repairs and extra scavenging.

At *Poplar* a preliminary analysis of a census of the unemployed of the Borough showed that of 38,788 wage-earners, 7,143 were out of work. Of 10,822 persons dependent on casual work, included in these figures, 6,611 were without employment when the census was taken. The Borough Council have given employment relief to about 60 men.

At *Southwark* certain road and sewer work has been put in hand with a view to employing additional labour. Nearly 250 additional men appear to have been thus employed by the Borough Council.

At *Stepney* the Borough Council gave an average of nine day's work each to 349 men during November, at road-sweeping and road-repairing work.

In *West Ham*, up to December 8th, 3,360 had been registered, of whom 1,093 had received parish relief. Of the total number of applicants 1,136 reported themselves as willing to emigrate. The cases investigated, for which particulars are available, number 870, and these are classified as follows:—383 were casual labourers, 97

were casual artisans and regular labourers, and 6 were regular artisans; 152 were unemployed through illness or from being past work, and 98 owing to bad character. Of the remainder (134) some were untraceable, some were not independent wage earners, and others had found work.

Relief-work was started on December 12th at South Ockenden Farm Colony.

In *East Ham* 694 were registered between December 4th and 12th, of whom 120 had received parish relief. Of the total, 208 were over 45 years of age, and of these 83 were over 55; 290 claimed to be skilled workmen. Over 300 of the applicants stated their willingness to emigrate. The number of dependent children was 1,465. The Borough Council are employing 111 men—in shifts, three days' work being given to each man—enlarging a lake and levelling ground.

#### Rest of England and Wales.

Returns have been received from 75 Distress Committees. In the case of 37 committees for which the information is available, the total number of unemployed registered up to the end of November was 15,207. The occupations of 12,354 of these have been reported, 8,305 being labourers, and 4,049 skilled men, 1,827 of the latter being in the building trades and 564 being boot and shoe operatives at Leicester and Northampton.

At *Sheffield* work for the unemployed was started by the Corporation on November 3rd, and up to the end of the month 348 men received employment at excavation work, formation of new road, laying out new cemetery site and stone-breaking. At some works the men were employed six, at others three, days a week.

At *Kettering* 60 men were given continuous employment by the District Council at removing twelve years' accumulation of filth and decayed vegetable matter from the waterworks reservoir, the low condition of the water affording an opportunity for doing this.

At *Leicester* the Distress Committee have assisted 11 men to remove to Lincoln where they are expected to have constant employment.

At *Ipswich* no Distress Committee has been appointed, but the Corporation have given employment at shifting soil, special road repairs and stone breaking, for three or four days a week. In November over 200 men received employment relief.

At *Chatham* the Borough Council have employed some 130 men since December 7th on surface drainage works. The men receive three days' work a week.

At *Brighton* 840 men were registered from November 13th to the end of the month, including 434 general labourers and 204 painters. In November work was provided by the Council for 147 men recommended by the Distress Committee at painting, digging for and breaking flints, levelling beach and laying drain. The men were employed six days a week.

At *Plymouth* some work which had been held over was started by the Corporation on October 29th with a view to providing employment. During November 464 men received employment for 3 days a week at street, path and drain work.

At *Cardiff*, 119 men, selected from a register of unemployed opened by the Police, received employment from the Corporation between November 21st and 30th. The men each receive 6 days' work at making ashpaths, etc.

In 11 other towns about 300 men received employment-relief from the Local Authorities, the number in any one case not reaching 50.

#### Scotland.

The first meetings of the Distress Committees were only held in December. There was little exceptional distress reported in November, and the distress was less than a year ago.

#### Ireland.

An Order establishing Distress Committees in Irish boroughs and urban districts was made by the Local Government Board for Ireland, on November 16th, and Regulations framed by the Board for carrying the Act into effect were issued on December 2nd.



**LONDON UNEMPLOYED FUND, 1904-5.**

The Report of the Central Executive of the London Unemployed Fund of last winter has recently been issued.

The Central Executive acted as adviser and guide of the Joint Committees in the several London Boroughs, with a view to securing a common policy throughout the metropolis, collected and administered funds, and dealt with cases referred to them by the Joint Committees by the provision of special works beyond the limits of any particular borough, by the establishment of labour colonies, and by making grants towards special work undertaken by local authorities.

The provision of temporary work was begun in December and January, and had in most cases ceased by the middle of April, but several men were kept on some weeks longer, and a few until July 8th. Continuous work was offered to each man from the date of his engagement, and the period actually worked by each individual varied (with few exceptions) from 1 to 16 weeks, averaging 8 weeks. The total number of men temporarily employed on the works, which in most cases were carried out for certain Public Authorities, was 3,496, whose dependants were estimated to number about 14,000. Of the men employed, 1,161 were given work in London, and 1,208 near Epsom, all these returning to their own homes at night. The remaining 1,127 were employed at working colonies at a distance from London, the men receiving board, lodging, and pocket-money at the colony, and an allowance, which averaged 14s. 6d. per family, being paid to the wife for the maintenance of the home in London.

Of the total men employed, 1,908 were classified as general labourers, 637 under building trades, 164 were metal workers (including 50 labourers), 150 were woodworkers, 126 carmen, and the remainder were of various other occupations.

Nearly all the Metropolitan Borough Councils provided temporary employment\* for men selected and recommended by the Joint Committees, and in certain cases this action was assisted by the Central Committee by grants in aid of special local work to the extent of nearly £5,595.

Besides the provision of temporary work and the payment of grants, the Committee endeavoured to provide permanent assistance in several ways to suitable cases. A Central Employment Exchange, with the object of co-ordinating the work of the various municipal labour bureaux in London was opened on April 3rd. Up to the date of the Report, the Central Exchange was known to have been the means of finding ordinary employment for 148 men. As temporary work drew to a close, the selection of suitable cases for emigration was pushed forward, and by September 7th, 42 families (representing altogether 215 persons) had been assisted to emigrate. The necessary steps for the development of the Hollesley Bay Colony have been pushed forward and about 45 men, selected out of the original parties, are at present receiving agricultural training with a view to ultimate removal with their families to the country. A small beginning has been made with actual migration, two families having been assisted to settle in the neighbourhood of Hollesley Bay and two at Garden City.

In their conclusions, the Committee state that in order that the offer of work might be a sufficient help and at the same time a real test of willingness and of necessity, the attempt has been made to see that the remuneration of the work offered should bear a suitable relation to the sacrifice demanded from the men. The amount of this sacrifice depends upon the effort required from them upon the work, or in reaching it, and the relation of its conditions to their ordinary standard of life and work. Exceptionally careful organisation, especially in planning the conditions of the work and in grouping the men, on a social as well as an industrial basis, is necessary, the usual industrial safeguards—payment by results or dismissal if results are inadequate—being rendered impossible by the

necessity of employing men of various trades on work to which some are less accustomed than others, and of which some are entirely ignorant. In order to make the adjustment of classification and conditions, the Committee felt the need of two instruments:—(1) Investigation, as a means of ascertaining not only moral character, but also industrial status and standard of living, with a view to classification on these lines; (2) A gradation in the conditions of the works, so that employment giving an appropriate balance of sacrifice and advantage might be offered to each applicant of *prima facie* suitability for assistance.

**PAUPERISM IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.**  
England and Wales.\*

THE rise in the total number of paupers which took place in each of the three years, 1901-3, was followed by a much larger increase during 1904, the numbers relieved on 1st January, 1905, being 73 per cent. greater than on the previous 1st January. The average rate of increase in the previous three years was only 2.8 per cent.

The increase in 1904 was considerably higher in the class of outdoor than in that of indoor paupers, in contrast with the general tendency of recent years. There was a considerable increase in the class of married couples with children, especially in the number receiving outdoor relief.

The course of pauperism in recent years will be seen from the following Table:—

Year.	Paupers except Casual and Insane.				All Classes relieved including Casual and Insane.		
	Indoor.		Outdoor.		Mean Number.	Rate per 1,000 of Population.	
	Mean Number.	Rate per 1,000 of Population.	Mean Number.	Rate per 1,000 of Population.			
1881	160,881	6.3	560,731	21.8	28.1	790,937	30.8
1886	164,289	6.1	542,158	19.9	26.0	780,712	28.7
1891	163,357	5.7	515,473	17.9	23.6	759,730	26.4
1896	166,504	6.1	534,490	17.6	23.7	816,019	26.8
1901	186,312	6.8	489,498	15.3	21.1	781,298	24.3
1902	195,528	5.0	497,500	15.3	21.2	801,356	24.6
1903	203,604	6.2	506,029	15.3	21.5	828,786	24.9
1904	211,019	6.3	511,441	15.3	21.6	837,680	25.1
1905	222,217	6.6	542,891	16.1	22.6	884,365	26.2

NOTE.—The mean numbers shown for any year are the mean of the numbers relieved on 1st January of that year and on 1st July preceding.

In spite of the recent increase, the general level of total pauperism in relation to population is lower than in the large majority of previous years. The proportion for the year 1904-5, viz., 26.2 per 1,000, though higher than in the preceding five years, was lower than in any year previous to 1899-1900, with the exception of the two years, 1891-2 and 1892-3.

A noticeable feature of the above Table is the increase in the number of paupers receiving indoor relief, which has advanced (if casual and insane be excluded) from 160,881 in 1880-1 to 222,217 in 1904-5, an increase of over 38 per cent. The proportion to population has, however, shown no great change, although rather high in 1904-5. The numbers of outdoor poor in the same period (1880-1 to 1904-5) have, on the whole, shown no material change, although a slight increase is observable in 1904-5. Allowing for the increase of population, however, it is seen that the number of outdoor paupers has been diminished in 24 years by about 6 per 1,000 of population.

It will be noticed in the above Table that the decrease in the proportion of paupers to population is greater when casuals and insane are excluded than when all classes are taken together. This is mainly due to the steady increase in the number of insane persons receiving poor law relief, which has gone on since the numbers of this class were recorded. From January, 1881, to January, 1905, this class increased from 62,954 to 106,362, or by nearly 69 per cent. The increase has occurred almost entirely in the numbers maintained in County and Borough Asylums, &c. The insane and

\* 34th Annual Report of the Local Government Board, 1904-5; Cd. 2661. Price 4s. 10d. Pauperism (England and Wales) Half-yearly Statement; P.P. 81. Price 8d.

\* See GAZETTES for December, 1904, to July, 1905.

idiot paupers formed in January, 1905, 11.4 per cent. of the total number of paupers relieved, as compared with 7.8 per cent. in 1881.

The numbers of men, women and children relieved are shown separately in the following Table, in which insane and casual paupers are not included:—

1st Jan.	Men.		Women.		Children under 16.	
	Numbers.	Rate per 1,000 of adult male population.	Numbers.	Rate per 1,000 of adult female population.	Numbers.	Rate per 1,000 of population under 16.
1882	157,117	20.5	306,823	36.7	269,167	26.8
1892	159,518	18.3	250,854	30.4	227,627	21.0
1902	182,138	17.9	318,699	28.4	212,547	18.9
1903	189,499	18.4	324,105	28.6	218,121	19.2
1904	197,278	19.0	329,816	28.7	222,650	19.4
1905	216,066	20.5	345,092	29.7	247,771	21.3

It will be seen that there has been a decrease in the proportion of female and child paupers to the female and child population respectively, while in the case of males, owing to the recent rise, the proportion is the same as in 1882. The numbers of children relieved, with their parents or otherwise, have considerably decreased, the fall being mainly in the numbers receiving outdoor relief. Whereas in 1882, children under 16 formed 36.7 per cent. of the total paupers (excluding insane and casual), in 1904 they formed only 29.7 per cent., and in 1905, 30.6 per cent. On the other hand, the proportion of adult male paupers has steadily increased, the men forming 26.7 per cent. of all persons relieved in 1905, excluding casuals and insane, as compared with 21.4 per cent. in 1882.

The mean number of able-bodied paupers (excluding casuals) for the parochial year ended Lady Day, 1905, was 116,366, the highest recorded since 1873. Considered in relation to population there has, however, been an appreciable decrease in the numbers of this class. The ratio per 1,000 of population, which was 4.1 in 1880-1, reached its lowest (2.8) in 1900-1, since when it has risen to 3.4.

It is important to note that of the adult able-bodied indoor paupers relieved on 1st January, 1905, 59 per cent. were sick or temporarily disabled on the day to which the return relates. Of the total male pauperism at that date the able-bodied classed as in health formed 9.0 per cent., while the class of able-bodied men relieved on account of sickness, &c., formed 10.3 per cent.

The aggregate expenditure on poor relief and the rate per head of the population were higher in 1903-4 than in any previous year for which the statistics are available. The total expenditure in the year ended March 25th, 1904, amounted to over 13½ million pounds, or more than 8s. per head of the population, each pauper accounting for nearly £16 on the average. The figures for certain years are shown in the Table below:—

Year ended Lady Day.	Total Expenditure on Relief of the Poor.	Cost per Pauper.	Cost per head of Population.
1881	£ 8,102,136	£ s. d.	s. d.
1891	8,643,318	10 4 10½	6 3½
1901	11,548,885	11 7 0½	6 0
		14 15 7½	7 2
1902	12,261,198	15 6 0½	7 6½
1903	12,848,323	15 12 3½	7 9½
1904	13,369,494	15 19 2½	8 0½

Of the total expenditure in 1903-4 shown above, £6,966,525 related exclusively to indoor relief, giving an average of £28 18s. 3½d. per indoor pauper, and £3,514,773 related exclusively to outdoor relief, giving an average of £6 16s. 3½d. per outdoor pauper. These two sums represented 78.4 per cent. of the total expenditure, while 17.1 per cent. of the total was the cost of the maintenance of lunatics in asylums, &c.

**Scotland.**

The total number of paupers of all classes in Scotland\* on May 15th, 1904, was 105,624, an increase of 2,608 over the corresponding figure for the previous year. Allowing for the estimated increase of population there

\* Tenth Annual Report of Local Government Board for Scotland. Cd. 2514. Price 3s. 11d.

was an appreciable increase in the proportion of pauperism to population, the rate per 1,000 in 1904 being 23, as compared with 22 in each of the years, 1899-1903. Compared with 1868, the year of highest recorded pauperism, the number of paupers per 1,000 has fallen from 41 to 23. The figures for certain recent years are shown in the following Table:—

At May 15th	Number of Ordinary Poor.		Lunatic Poor.	Total.	Ratio of Total per 1,000 of Estimated Population.
	Indoor.	Outdoor.*			
1881	9,040	84,918	8,348	102,306	27
1886	9,495	78,575	9,434	97,504	25
1891	8,150	72,294	10,609	91,053	23
1896	9,569	76,494	11,939	98,002	23
1901	10,306	75,126	13,596	99,028	22
1902	10,865	76,134	13,849	100,848	22
1903	11,711	77,112	14,193	103,016	22
1904	12,827	78,413	14,384	105,624	23

While pauperism as a whole, in relation to population, has declined since 1868, the proportion of insane paupers to population has steadily increased. In 1868 the insane formed 4.2 per cent. of all paupers, in 1881, 8.2 per cent., and in 1904, 13.6 per cent.

The number receiving indoor relief has on the whole increased; the number receiving outdoor relief fell fairly steadily between 1868 and 1892, but has since shown a tendency to increase.

Of the total number relieved on May 15th, 1904, one-third were dependants, and of the remaining two-thirds 36 per cent. were males and 64 per cent. females. Of the sane poor nearly 40 per cent. were 65 years of age and upwards, and over 13 per cent. were children.

The total expenditure on poor relief in the year ended May 15th, 1904, was £1,300,743, equivalent to 5s. 7½d. per head of the population or £12 6s. 3½d. per person relieved on the date named.

**Ireland.**

The daily average number of all persons in receipt of relief, in Ireland†, for the year ended 1st April, 1905, was 101,251, representing nearly 23 per 1,000 of the population. The daily averages for certain recent years, distinguishing indoor and outdoor, are shown below:—

Year ended March.	Average daily number.			Ratio per 1,000 of Population.		
	Indoor.	Outdoor.	Total.	Indoor.	Outdoor.	Total.
1896	41,564	56,619	98,183	9.1	12.3	21.4
1901	41,596	57,676	99,272	9.2	12.8	22.0
1902	42,583	57,551	100,134	9.5	12.9	22.4
1903	43,316	57,875	101,191	9.7	13.0	22.7
1904	43,561	58,672	102,233	9.8	12.8	22.6
1905	43,586	57,665	101,251	9.9	13.0	22.9

The total expenditure on poor relief in the year ended September 30th, 1904, was £1,012,970, or 4s. 7½d. per head of the population. Computed on the daily average number for that year, the expenditure amounted to £10 2s. 7½d. per person relieved.

**ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE POOR-LAWS.**

A Royal Commission has been appointed to inquire:—

(1.) Into the working of the laws relating to the relief of poor persons in the United Kingdom;

(2.) Into the various means which have been adopted outside of the Poor-Laws for meeting distress arising from want of employment, particularly during periods of severe industrial depression; and to consider and report whether any, and if so, what, modification of the Poor-Laws or changes in their administration or fresh legislation for dealing with distress, are advisable.

The following are the members of the Commission:—The Right Hon. Lord George Hamilton, G.C.S.I., M.P. (Chairman); Rt. Hon. The O'Conor Don; Rt. Hon. Sir H. A. Robinson, K.C.B.; Rt. Hon. Charles Booth; Sir S. B. Provis, K.C.B.; F. H. Bentham, Esq.; Dr. A. H. Downes; Rev. T. G. Gardner; George Lansbury, Esq.; C. S. Loch, Esq.; J. Patten Macdougall, Esq.; T. Hancock Nunn, Esq.; Rev. L. R. Phelps; Professor

\* Including a small number of vagrants, ranging from 367 in 1886 to 107 in 1904. † Thirty-third Report of Local Government Board for Ireland: Cd. 2655. Price 4s.



William Smart; Rev. H. Russell Wakefield; Mrs. Helen Bosanquet; Mrs. Beatrice Webb, and Miss Octavia Hill. The Secretary of the Commission is R. Gordon Duff, Esq., and its address will be 68, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

### RELIEF WORKS IN GERMAN TOWNS.

THE German Labour Department has published a special Report\* giving an account of the organisation of Relief Works in German Towns. The details used in the compilation of this volume were obtained by sending in 1903 to Municipal Authorities a short inquiry form. This asked for information as to the last year in which it had been found necessary to organise Relief Works, the kind of work undertaken, the conditions required to be fulfilled to constitute eligibility for employment on such works, the methods of remuneration adopted, the rate of pay given, and the number of hours worked per day. The Authorities in question were also asked to state the amount of the expenditure incurred by them in respect of the Relief Works carried out by them in the year referred to in their reply.

A number of important German towns reported either that they had not for many years past found it necessary to organise relief works (Solingen, Dortmund), or that they had never yet done so (Kiel, Plauen, Posen, Potsdam, Berlin, Bremen, Altona, Stettin); on the other hand 46 towns replied that they had organised Relief Works, mostly at a recent date (1901-3), but in some cases a long time ago (Lübeck in 1892-93, Görlitz in 1893-94, Hamburg for the last time in 1895, and Brunswick in 1895-96). As a rule all these Relief Works were carried out exclusively in the winter months. In some towns, the Report observes, there is manifest a distinct tendency to start Relief Works every winter, whether any exceptional want of employment prevails or not; and it is pointed out that even where this has not been expressly shown to be the fact some of the cases reported as instances of Relief Works may not in reality partake of this character, having been organised without any reference to the existence of exceptional distress.

The classes of work which predominated were navvies' work of various kinds, road-making, street-cleaning, stone-breaking, etc.

With respect to the conditions of eligibility for employment on Relief Works, in many cases it was required that the applicant should have had regular work in the locality throughout the summer. So far as concerns workers in season trades, the practice as to including or excluding such workpeople from Relief Works varied greatly, some towns objecting strongly to their inclusion. Thus the report from Frankfurt-on-Main points out that:—

"it was formerly the general custom, both in this and in other towns, for workpeople to endeavour to earn their living in winter by a trade other than that which they followed in summer. Of late years, however, partly in consequence of the fact that, on account of our having had milder winters, it has been possible to continue building operations later in the year than formerly, partly by reason of the growing dislike to country labour (e.g. forestry) on the part of our town workmen, an inclination prevails to give up the attempt to find a special winter trade. One hears again and again on all sides expressed the opinion that the municipality is under an obligation to provide for those who are thrown out of work by seasonal slackness. This claim must be resisted in the most explicit manner; for, in fact, the municipality is altogether unable to provide work of this kind in sufficient quantity; and under the existing organisation of society it is a rule, which admits of no exception, that (save only in the case of Relief Works organised to meet a specially severe industrial depression) it is the duty of each and every man to discover for himself an opportunity for obtaining employment. To this basic principle no exception can be made in favour of season trades. The workman engaged in a season trade must do one of two things; he must either put aside a reserve fund out of the wages which he receives in the busy season, or, if those wages are too low to permit of this, then, when winter comes, he must look for other work. In either case any measures adopted by the

\* Die Regelung der Notstandsarbeiten in deutschen Städten (Beiträge zur Arbeiterstatistik Nr. 2), Berlin, Carl Heymanns Verlag, 1905.

municipal authorities of such a nature as either to attract men engaged in season trades to the town, or to bind them down there, would be directly opposed to the real interests of the working classes—a fact recognised by workmen themselves."

In many, but not in all of the towns concerned persons in receipt of poor-law relief were ineligible for employment on Relief Works. In Carlsruhe no man was eligible who had received poor-law relief at any time within the last twelve months. On the other hand, at Aix-la-Chapelle men in receipt of relief from the poor-law were given preference in employment.

A certain length of residence was generally required as an indispensable condition of employment. A large number of towns either excluded workpeople without dependants altogether, or else gave those with families the preference. Generally speaking, the applicant had to show that he was in need and deserving of relief, and in some cases, also, that he was capable of performing labour, and in particular the kind of labour which it was found possible to provide.

In many cases it was made an express condition of employment on Relief Works, that men should do their best to obtain work in the outside labour market.

With respect to the organisation of the Relief Works, for the most part, this duty was not entrusted to any special, *ad hoc*, committee but was carried out by the administrative staff of the different Municipalities. In many cases the question of the eligibility of applicants for employment was decided by the poor-law administration, in others by the municipal Labour Registry, in others, again, by the general municipal administration or one of its branches.

In regard to the wages paid on Relief Works it was accepted as a general principle that these wages should be not less in amount than what the workman would receive if he applied for and was granted poor-law relief, and on the other hand should be so low as to avoid affording to the recipient any inducement to abstain from making the effort to obtain ordinary employment. In a large number of towns the wages on Relief Works were fixed on such a scale as would enable the workpeople employed on them to earn in no case more, and as a rule somewhat less than the usual earnings of casual unskilled labour in the locality. Men were, in some instances, required, under pain of discharge, to perform not less than a specified amount of work, and on the other hand were not permitted to exceed a specified *maximum* output. In some cases the exaction of the *minimum* output was deferred until the man had been at work for a certain number of days, and thus got accustomed to the work.

At the same time the amount of work done by a man was in some instances not taken as the exclusive basis of his remuneration, the needs of his dependants, if any, being also taken into consideration, so that single men received 1s. 9d., and married men 2s. 6d. per day.

As to the methods adopted in paying wages on Relief Works, navvies' work was most frequently done on time-wage, stone-breaking nearly always on piece-wage; road-cleaning was in all cases done on time-wage. In some instances a combination of time and piece-wage was adopted. Thus, at Frankfurt-on-Main the following system was adopted for navvies' work and stone-breaking. If the workman got through the standard *minimum* output and no more, he was paid at the rate of 3d. per hour if married, or 2½d. if unmarried. If a man got through his task before the end of the working day, he was nevertheless required to go on working, but received extra pay in proportion to what he did in excess of the task up to a fixed *maximum* amount. A similar system was in force at Strassburg. Both these towns reserved the right to retain a part of the workmen's earnings and apply the money directly for the support of his dependants.

It is stated that, so far as concerns works carried out in winter, the number of hours of actual work per day for the workmen employed on Relief Works was 8½, the shortness of the working day being explained by the necessity of ceasing work when daylight was no longer available.

The answers received with respect to the cost of the Relief Works in the different German cities showed that

only a very small number of towns had carried out Relief Works without incurring more or less serious losses. In nearly all cases the cost of the work to the Municipalities exceeded that which they would have incurred if it had been done under ordinary circumstances, this difference being in many instances from 25 to 50 per cent., and in a few instances reaching even higher figures. On the average there was a loss of 29 per cent. on navvies' work and 34 per cent. on stone-breaking. "Reviewing the whole of the details it may be said that the opening of Relief Works necessarily entails, in the great majority of cases, losses upon the Municipal Administrations, due in the first place to the small degree of fitness for the work to which they are put, usually displayed by the unemployed, and in the second place to the fact that this work to a large extent consists in labour, such as navvies' work, which is necessarily uneconomic, because its performance is often undertaken under climatic conditions extremely unfavourable to its proper execution.

On the other hand, the details as to the losses incurred given above appear to justify the observation (already made in various Government circulars on this subject), that it is the duty of the Municipal Administrations to adopt to a greater extent than has been the case up to now, the policy of regularly watching the fluctuations of the labour market, and, if circumstances require this course, systematically deferring the execution of public works, whether to be carried out under the system of direct employment or under contractors, until the time comes, when it seems likely that exceptional lack of employment is about to prevail, so that by acting in this manner they would do away altogether with the necessity for organising special Relief Works."

### RECENT CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

#### Nottingham Lace Trade.

In his final award, dated September 27th, 1905, Mr. G. R. Askwith, the arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade to settle questions in dispute between the Nottingham Lace Manufacturers' Association and the Amalgamated Society of Operative Lace Makers (see GAZETTE for October, p. 291), made provision that matters of dispute upon omitted details, clerical errors, anomalies or questions of construction, not settled by agreement before December 1st, might be referred to him. This has now been done as regards the Plain Net and Curtain Sections. The points brought forward by the Levers branch of the Lace Trade are now under consideration.

*Plain Net Section:* This Section referred two points to the arbitrator, who gave his decision on December 11th. The questions were (1) whether a bonus is or is not to be paid on "Striped Nets," and (2) whether or not the clauses relating to "Alterations" and "Short Alterations" apply equally to this section as to other sections.

As to (1), the award stated "that a bonus of 5 per cent. be paid on all cotton goods made on the Plain Net Machine," with certain exceptions in which Striped Nets were not included. The arbitrator states that it has not been proved that both sides omitted them by oversight from the exceptions, and he determines that the award must be strictly read and the bonus paid upon Striped Nets.

As to (2), the arbitrator decides that the subject is outside the present reference, the rules for "Alterations" and "Short Alterations" being different for each section of the trade, and no rules for Alterations having been brought up or discussed for the Plain Net Section.

*Curtain Section:* This Section referred six points to the arbitrator, whose decisions were given on December 13th. The points and decisions are as follows:—

- A proposed amendment by the employers to the clause "Where two cylinders are driving double action, each to be paid for at above rate" on Standard 6, 7, 8 had not been agreed to and could not be made.
- Under the heading "Alterations" in the award, the word "main" having been omitted before the

word "warps," it was decided that this should be inserted.

- Under the same heading it was agreed to insert the following clause: "When a warp is cut out before being emptied, the fresh warp shall be paid for under "Short Alterations," but the warp cut out shall not be paid for when re-entered if the warp in the machine is emptied."
- It was asked whether clause (i.) under the heading "Short Alterations" imports that where two lace makers work concurrently 2½ hours, the hours so worked are to be added together and charged for as one half-day of five hours. The answer was in the negative.
- In clause (ii.) under the same heading "lace makers" was held to mean "twist hands," and not to include "lads."
- In clause (iii.) under the same heading it was decided that the words "The time so made to be lost within seven days" shall be substituted for "The time so made to be lost on first favourable opportunity."

#### London Boot and Shoe Trade: Louis XV. Heel Work.

On the application to the Board of Trade by the Standing Committee appointed to deal with all questions relating to the Hand-sewn Louis Heel Trade, Mr. G. R. Askwith was appointed arbitrator to determine a matter arising out of the interpretation of the Statement compiled under his chairmanship (see GAZETTE for May, p. 131). The dispute was in regard to the upper described as "turned-in quarter over vamp," which the workmen claimed as "best," and the employers as "seconds" quality.

Having heard the representatives of both parties, and conferred with the experts nominated by both sides, the arbitrator, in his award dated December 11th, decided that, "turned-in quarter over vamp," comes under the heading, "all turned-in shoes to be best," and was not included in the exception, "turned-in vamps and caps only are classed seconds." This decision in favour of the workmen was concurred in by both experts.

On November 18th the Standing Committee applied to the Board of Trade to nominate an umpire to the Committee. The Board have nominated Mr. Askwith.

#### Quarrymen in Leicestershire.

In May last, terms of settlement of a dispute at the Enderby and Stoney Stanton Company's quarries were provisionally agreed upon at a conference of the parties, presided over by Alderman T. Smith, the Conciliator appointed by the Board of Trade (see GAZETTE for May, p. 131, and July, p. 195). Reports on the working of the provisional agreement have been made to the Conciliator by both parties and further conferences held, and on November 30th terms of settlement were signed by representatives of the Company and of the National Union of Quarrymen.

The agreement provides the minimum hours that shall be worked (weather permitting), with a margin of a quarter of an hour at each end of the day. Special provisions are made for the case of aged and weakly constituted workmen, leave of absence from work in case of illness, bad weather, lack of material, waiting for tools, and other matters.

The agreement is binding on the members of the Quarrymen's Union, numbering about 800, but the local branch of the Sett-makers' Union, numbering some 150 members, who were also parties to the proceedings, declined to accept the terms arranged by the Conciliator, and on December 9th left their employment.

#### Boot and Shoe Operatives, Northampton.

On January 22nd, 1904, the Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Boot and Shoe Trade of Northampton and suburbs applied to the Board of Trade for the appointment of an umpire to deal with certain questions affecting the wages of boot and shoe operatives upon which the Conciliation Board were unable to agree.



The Board of Trade appointed Sir Kenelm Digby, K.C.B., K.C., to act as umpire (see GAZETTE for February, 1904, p. 39).

The operatives claimed a minimum wage of 30s. per week (day work) for all adult male workers in the lasting and finishing rooms, and for clickers and pressmen, and that a statement of prices on the piecework principle should be introduced. The employers on the other hand claimed that the minimum should be entirely abolished, or failing that, be reduced to 26s. per week for lasters, finishers and clickers, and 22s. for pressmen.

The umpire heard the parties in March and April, 1904, but owing to the operatives raising the question of the umpire's jurisdiction to entertain the employers' proposal to abolish the minimum wage, the arbitration was adjourned in order that this question might be referred to Lord James of Hereford. This was accordingly done, and Lord James decided that the umpire had jurisdiction to hear and determine the matter, and arbitration proceedings were resumed in July, 1905.

The umpire in his award, dated November 15th, decided that no alteration should be made in the existing minimum wage applicable to lasters, finishers, clickers and pressmen respectively, and that the same should remain in force. With regard to the piecework statement claimed by the operatives he declined to award such introduction.

The umpire also fixed January 1st, 1907, as the date before which none of the questions determined by the award should be re-opened.

#### Army Boot Makers, Northamptonshire.

The Government Boot and Shoe Contractors' Association and the Higham, Rusden and district branch of the National Society of Boot and Shoe Operatives, having been unable to agree as to the amount to be deducted when boots are holed ready for stitching, applied to the Board of Trade on November 23rd for the appointment of an umpire to decide the matter in dispute.

The Board of Trade accordingly appointed Mr. G. R. Askwith, Barrister-at-Law, as umpire, and he issued his award on November 24th, deciding that the allowance to be made should be 1½d. per pair.

### EMPLOYMENT IN THE COLONIES.

(Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 31, Broadway, Westminster, S.W., from the latest official and other reports, newspapers, etc.)

#### Canada.

It is too late in the year for the ordinary emigrant without friends or money to go to Canada. According to October reports of the *Labour Gazette* of the Dominion Department of Labour "the building trades and agricultural industry had a very active month, the movement of the grain crops giving employment to large numbers of men. The mining industry also had a favourable month, and the demand for men in the lumber camps had a marked effect on the general market for labour. The extensive railway construction operations in progress also engaged many thousands of men. The manufacturing industry was reported to be increasing in activity and was busier than in several years previous, orders being greatly stimulated by the favourable crop returns and the general buoyancy of trade conditions." The printers' strike at Winnipeg continued during October, and there was little prospect of a settlement.

#### Commonwealth of Australia.

*New South Wales.*—Assisted and nominated passages are about to be granted to a limited extent: particulars may shortly be obtained from the Emigrants' Information Office, or from the Agent-General for New South Wales. There is a fair demand for skilled agricultural labourers and female servants. At the important Broken Hill Silver Mines the number of men

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

employed increased from 5,726 in December, 1903, to 7,310 in September, 1905: it is stated that there are good prospects for more labour, and that lately there has been a shortage of masons, fitters, and the best class of carpenters.

*Victoria.*—The demand for more labour is very small, and many persons are leaving the State. The lowest wages of general tinsmiths and most sheet metal workers have been fixed at 44s. per week of 48 hours.

*South Australia.*—There is no demand for more labour. The South Australia Clothing Board has fixed the lowest wages to be paid to tailoresses, buttonhole makers, &c. engaged in preparing men's and boys' ready-made clothing, at 3s. per day of 8 hours.

*Queensland.*—Emigrants who have friends or relations in Queensland are eligible for cheap nominated passages. There is not much opening in the State for more persons, other than skilled farm labourers, unless they are so nominated, or have means of their own. Good openings exist for experienced farmers to take up selections on favourable terms, after learning something of local conditions of farming. Female servants are in demand in many places.

*Western Australia.*—Some money assistance is given to approved emigrants with or without capital. The returns of the Department of Labour at Perth for the quarter ending September 30th, 1905, show as follows:—There is no demand for men in the building and other trades, and at Kalgoorlie, Perth, and one or two other places, the supply exceeds the demand; there is no demand for miners, and at the Collie coal fields the supply is more than sufficient; there is a demand for competent farm labourers and ploughmen in many places in the south west; the supply of unskilled labourers is sufficient. There is a demand for female servants in many country places, but not at Perth.

#### South Africa.

*Cape Colony.*—The returns of the Government Labour Bureau for October last show as follows:—"The month's work shows a slight but definite increase in the demand for labour at Cape Town, and in the number of men sent to employment . . . There has been a notable decrease in the number of qualified artisans registering their names for employment, with the exception of house carpenters and bricklayers, who still find much difficulty in obtaining steady work in their own trades . . . There has been no apparent diminution in the number of unemployed who are looking for work of a light nature." There are also many competent book-keepers and clerks living 'from hand to mouth.' There is a prospect of employment for a few respectable and experienced European girls as packers in the tobacco trade; in boot factories hands are unemployed, or employed for only 16 to 24 hours a week; a large number of men are employed in granite dressing, the industry being in a satisfactory state; vacancies for extra hands in the drapery and clothing trades are few and far between; the slight improvement in furniture factories continues. Most of the men out of work in the different trades are either unemployable or second-class; first-class men can almost always find places.

There is an excess of labour in other parts of the Colony, as at Aliwal North, Cradock, East London, King William's Town and Port Elizabeth. At Queenstown the improvement in the building and carriage-making trades continues.

*Natal.*—Labour is plentiful, and no one is recommended to go to Natal in search of work at the present time. Plasterers' wages in Durban have been reduced 1s. a day, and now stand at 15s. House rent is less than it was.

*Transvaal.*—No one may enter the Transvaal without a permit; no permit is granted to any one unless he possesses £20 on arrival, or has secured bonâ fide employment beforehand. Affairs in Johannesburg and the Transvaal generally show no signs of improvement; almost every trade complains of stagnation, notwithstanding that usually at this time of the year, owing to

the approach of Christmas, trade is fairly good. Distress in Johannesburg is just as acute now as it was three months ago, and a considerable number of persons are receiving relief. Trade in Pretoria is reported to be "terribly dull," and labour to be plentiful. Under the above circumstances, emigrants—other than female servants—are warned against going to the Transvaal in search of work at the present time. Female servants may obtain assisted passages through the South African Colonisation Society, 47, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

*Orange River Colony.*—No one may enter the Colony without a permit, and no immigrant can obtain such permit unless he possesses £20, or has obtained bonâ fide employment in the Colony. There is no opening for more labour at the present time, except for a limited number of female servants, who may obtain assisted passages through the South African Colonisation Society mentioned above.

### LABOUR ABROAD.

#### FRANCE.\*

*Employment in October.*—In the building trades employment was beginning to decline. In the metal trades it continued very satisfactory on the whole. In the textile trades it remained indifferent in the North, and showed no further revival in Normandy. It still continued to be precarious for weavers in the Roanne district, but the activity already reported in the Vosges and the western districts was maintained. The decline previously reported at Rheims has been succeeded by a revival. As regards the silk trade, employment showed a further slight improvement among weavers in the Loire district, and was very plentiful at Lyons. The busy season had begun in the garment-making trades. Coopers continued well employed. Printers were better employed than in the previous month, and the lithographic trades in Paris seem to have experienced an appreciable revival. The number of vineyard labourers out of work in the south of France increased considerably, owing to the termination of the vintage season. Gardeners around Paris continued well employed, but many wood-cutters were without work owing to winter operations not having been begun in the forests.

Of the 173,090 members of 981 Trade Unions (not including those of the miners in the Nord and Pas-de-Calais departments) which made returns as to the state of employment during October, 15,374, or 8.9 per cent., were out of work in the month, as compared with 7.7 per cent. in the previous month, and with 14.3 per cent. in October, 1904.

*Coal Mining in October.*—The average number of days worked per week by miners employed underground in October was 5.97, as compared with 5.90 in September, and with 5.87 in October, 1904. Taking surface and underground workers together, 86.92 per cent. worked full time (6 days and over per week), and 13.08 per cent. from 5 to 6 days per week, the corresponding percentages for the previous month being 71.58 and 27.95 respectively, and for October, 1904, 64.50 and 35.10 respectively. The above figures were supplied to the French Labour Department by the Committee of Coal Owners, and relate to nearly 160,000 workpeople, or more than three-fourths of all employed in and about the mines.

*Labour Disputes in October.*—Fifty-one disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in October, as against 45 in September, and 68 in October, 1904. In 49 of the new disputes 4,605 workpeople took part, as compared with 15,057 participants in 37 disputes in the preceding month, and 13,493 in the disputes of a year ago. The groups of trades in which the disputes were most frequent were the transport, textile and metal trades, with 10, 8 and 6 disputes respectively, and the chemical and wood-working trades in each of which 5 took place. Including those which began before October 1st, 49 disputes came to an end in the month under review, 11 of these terminating in

favour of the workpeople, 14 in favour of the employers, and 24 in a compromise.

*Conciliation and Arbitration in October.*—During the month 10 cases of recourse to the law on arbitration and conciliation were reported to the French Labour Department, the initiative being taken by the Justice of the Peace in 6, and by the workpeople in 3 cases (information is not given on this point as regards the remaining case). Committees of conciliation were formed in 6 cases, resulting in the settlement of 5 of the disputes concerned. In 3 of the remaining 4 cases the employers declined mediation, while in 1 case neither party was willing to form a conciliation committee.

#### GERMANY.

*Employment in October.*\*—Employment in October was affected on the one hand by reduced activity in the building trades and the termination of certain classes of farming operations, and, on the other hand, by the commencement of the busy season in a number of trades, such as printing and ready-made clothing, as well as by the increased demand for labour in commerce and transport, incidental to the winter season and the period of preparation for Christmas.

Apart from these two tendencies, which are characteristic of October, there were no indications of any change in the general industrial situation. As regards the coal mining industry, the demand for coal was decidedly satisfactory, but in all districts there was a shortage of trucks, which led to the working of short time. The metal and engineering trades were fully employed, and in some places exceedingly active. In the chemical and textile trades, too, employment was satisfactory. The dispute in the Berlin electrical trades (see GAZETTE, Nov., p. 330, and Oct., pp. 298-9), came to an end in October, and the favourable conditions in that industry generally were not otherwise disturbed.

*Dispute in the Textile Industry in Saxony and Thuringia.*†—On October 21st, about 900 workers in four textile factories in Gera struck for an increase of wages amounting to about 25 per cent., a 10-hour day, and recognition of their Union. The employers offered to advance wages by 7½ per cent., but declined to recognise the Union, stating that they were willing to discuss grievances with delegates elected by and from amongst their own workpeople. The strikers refusing to resume work, a lock-out was declared, which took effect on October 28th, and finally involved 214 firms with about 18,000 weavers, 8,000 dyers, and 6,000 other operatives, that is to say, 32,000 out of a total of 40,000 operatives in the district. Work was resumed unconditionally on November 28th.

#### AUSTRIA.

*Increased Wages for Railway Servants.*‡—Early in November, a movement for securing better conditions of employment was started amongst the railway servants in Bohemia, whence it spread to most of the Austrian railway lines, both State and private. Only subordinate ranks of employees were, however, involved, viz.: the shunters, goods porters, warehousemen, and others attached to the goods traffic departments. The plan of operations adopted by the men consisted in scrupulously complying with the letter of their instructions, but doing so in the slowest possible manner. The demands actually put forward were for an increase of wages of from 10 to 20 per cent., and a more regular system of promotion. In reply to these demands, the Minister of Railways stated that an increase of wages for State Railway servants was provided for in the Budget of 1906, but that this would only be granted on condition that the obstruction ceased immediately. In view of this, work was resumed under normal conditions on November 15th, the Minister of Railways promising to

\* *Reichs-Arbeitsblatt* (Journal of the German Labour Department).

† Based on a Report by the British Vice-Consul at Chemnitz, dated December 4th, 1905, and on information contained in the Berlin *Journal Soziale Praxis*.

‡ Based on a despatch to the Foreign Office from Sir W. E. Goschen, H.M. Ambassador at Vienna, dated November 15th, 1905.

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



use his influence towards securing for the employees of the private railway companies concessions similar to those which would be granted in respect of the State lines.

## SWEDEN.

*Settlement of Dispute in Engineering Trades.*—Under the terms of settlement of the dispute in the engineering trade, the termination of which was reported in last month's GAZETTE (p. 331), the following minimum rates of wages per hour are to be paid:—

	Skilled Workmen.		Unskilled Workmen.	
	d.	d.	d.	d.
In Stockholm and environs ...	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
In 33 medium sized towns ...	4	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
In 10 small towns ...	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$

The above will be the minimum rates on time-work. Men on piece-work were guaranteed that their average earnings per hour should not fall below these rates. The ordinary hours of labour are not to exceed 10 per day, or 57 per week, and increased rates of payment are to be made for overtime and for work on Sundays or holidays. Both employers and workpeople agree to respect the right of association and freedom of contract on either side.

Detailed arrangements are provided for the settlement by conciliation or arbitration of any disputes which may arise in the future between employers and workmen in the engineering trades in Sweden.

The agreement is valid until January 1st, 1908, and thenceforth year by year, so long as written notice of repudiation is not given by either party at least six months before the 1st of January of any year.

## NORWAY.†

*Employment: September-October.*—The proportion of members unemployed in the Trade Unions forwarding returns to the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics was as follows at the end of September and October in 1904 and 1905:—

		Total Membership of Unions reporting.		Percentage of Unemployed at end of month.	
		1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.
<b>All Unions</b>	Sept.	10,710	11,283	2.3	2.8
	Oct.	11,307	10,592	4.1	4.1
<i>Metal Workers</i> (excluding Moulders)	Sept.	4,561	4,417	1.2	1.8
	Oct.	4,593	4,377	2.4	2.3
<i>Moulders</i>	Sept.	733	746	1.4	0.1
	Oct.	734	753	1.2	0.1
<i>Printers</i>	Sept.	1,009	1,086	5.4	4.1
	Oct.	1,020	1,089	4.6	5.2
<i>Painters</i>	Sept.	361	669	3.0	5.01
	Oct.	485	662	20.0	22.5
<i>Masons and Bricklayers</i> (including Masons' Labourers)	Sept.	218	278	14.7	13.81
	Oct.	193	121	18.7	50.6
<i>Bakers</i>	Sept.	703	479	6.5	5.2
	Oct.	543	467	6.3	9.0
<i>Boot and Shoe Makers</i>	Sept.	308	419	1.0	0.2
	Oct.	301	427	3.0	...

## HOLLAND.

*Strike in the Grain Trade at Rotterdam.*—During November some interruption to the grain business, as well as delay in the discharge of steamers at Rotterdam, was occasioned by a strike of the weighers and measurers of grain at that port. The immediate cause of this strike was the introduction of two floating elevators, by means

† Based on a despatch to the Foreign Office by Sir Rennell Rodd, H.M. Minister at Stockholm, dated November 18th, 1905.  
† Information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics.  
† Revised figures.

§ Based on a despatch to the Foreign Office, from the British Consul at Rotterdam, dated November 29th, 1905.

of which the cargo of grain is drawn from the vessel's hold by suction through tubes, is automatically weighed, and then discharged into lighters. Apart from the quicker despatch attaching to this process, there is the attendant considerable saving of manual labour as exemplified by the fact that a steamer of 4,000 tons can, by means of the elevator, be discharged by 26 men in 3 days, which represents 78 daily wages, whereas, if discharged in the usual manner by hand, 100 to 120 men would have to be employed for 4 or 5 days, representing about 500 daily wages.

The Guild of Weighers and Measurers, numbering about 500 men, considered that their livelihood was seriously menaced by the elevators and claimed that in all cases where cargoes were discharged by elevator, the Guild should be employed to check the weighing as heretofore. This claim being opposed by the Elevator Company, the weighers struck on November 11th. The subordinate branches of the grain trade declared themselves in sympathy with the weighers, whilst the latter also found allies in the receivers of cargo resident in Germany, who contend that the weights delivered under the old system are more in their favour. The German houses ultimately sent their representatives to endeavour to arrive at a satisfactory solution of the difficulties. They had interviews with delegates of the Weighers and Measurers, and at length an agreement was made whereby the receivers engaged to take delivery of grain that was weighed solely under the old system, thus practically boycotting the elevators, the said agreement to remain in force for six months. Work was resumed after a fortnight's interruption.

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

## NEW YORK CONSULAR DISTRICT.\*

*Activity in the Building Trades.*—At present the building trades in New York are very active, and, in order to complete the work in hand, contractors are paying enhanced wages.

*Disputes in the Building Trades.*—On November 6th, the local organisations of the United House Smiths' and Bridgemen's Union in New York ordered a strike on 50 buildings in that city. The buildings were in course of erection by a firm of contractors, who were regarded by the Union as being the New York agents of the American Bridge Company, against whom the International Union of House Smiths and Bridgemen had declared a general strike, for sub-letting certain contracts to non-Union firms at New Haven, Connecticut.

The Secretary to the Union stated that the strike would continue until the American Bridge Company discharged all non-Union workmen. A week later strikes were ordered by the Union on all contracts which the American Bridge Company had sublet in Cleveland, Cincinnati, and St. Louis. A meeting of employers decided to adopt the "open shop" policy in the iron trade if the strike was not called off on the 21st November. The strike not having been called off, large numbers of non-Union men have been engaged.

The Bricklayers' Unions at New York have also ordered strikes against several contractors for sub-letting contracts for the installation of fire-proof brick to non-Union firms.

*Wages of Cabdrivers in New York.*—On the expiry, on December 1st, of an agreement under which the scale of wages of cab drivers in New York was fixed at 14 dollars (£2 18s. 4d.) per week, an increase of wages by half-a-dollar (2s. 1d.) per day was demanded by such cab-drivers as were Members of the Liberty Dawn Association of Coach Drivers. The cab-owners at first declined to grant any advance, but a compromise was arrived at, the cab-drivers agreeing to accept an increase of 1 dollar (4s. 2d.) a week offered by the cab-owners.

\* Based on a series of despatches to the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul-General at New York, dated November 8th to December 1st, 1905.

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT  
IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES  
IN NOVEMBER.

## COAL MINING.

(Based on Returns from Employers, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this industry in November showed little change as compared with October, and was better than a year ago.

Returns relating to 1,290 pits employing 546,807 workpeople show that the average number of days worked per week during the four weeks ended November 25th, 1905, was 5.28, as compared with 5.32 during the four weeks ended October 21st, 1905, and 5.14 in November, 1904. The average for November in the ten years 1895-1904 was 5.35 days per week.

Employment at the house and gas coal pits was much better in November than in the previous month, and at the coking coal and manufacturing coal pits it showed little change. There was a marked decline in employment at the anthracite and steam coal pits in South Wales. All classes of pits furnished better employment than a year ago, except those producing steam coal.

Of the 546,807 workpeople covered by the returns 427,026 (or 78.1 per cent.) were employed at pits working 20 or more days during the four weeks ended November 25th, and of these 298,003 (or 54.5 per cent. of the whole) worked 22 days or more.

As compared with a month ago, employment in most districts showed an improvement, which was most marked in Staffordshire and North Wales. In Yorkshire and the Lothians, however, there was a slight falling off, while in South Wales there was a marked decline averaging over half a day per week.

As compared with a year ago, employment improved in nearly every district, the largest increases in the number of days worked per week taking place in Derbyshire, North Wales, and Gloucester and Somerset. There was a decided falling off, however, in South Wales.

In the following Table the average time worked by the pits is shown for the three periods specified:—

Districts.	No. of Workpeople employed in Nov., 1905, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average No. of Days worked per week by the Collieries in Four Weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov., 1905, as compared with	
		Nov. 25th, 1905.	Oct. 21st, 1905.	Nov. 26th, 1904.	A m'th ago.	A year ago.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.</b>						
Northumberland ...	40,599	5.31	5.26	5.12	+ .05	+ .19
Durham ...	105,379	5.50	5.44	5.36	+ .06	+ .14
Cumberland ...	6,627	5.39	5.23	5.50	+ .16	- .11
South Yorkshire ...	60,697	5.39	5.42	5.07	- .03	+ .32
West Yorkshire ...	19,693	4.63	4.81	4.40	- .18	+ .23
Lancashire and Cheshire ...	52,091	5.25	5.05	5.04	+ .20	+ .21
Derbyshire ...	38,115	5.18	4.97	4.57	+ .21	+ .61
Nottingham and Leicester ...	29,550	4.74	4.72	4.40	+ .02	+ .34
Staffordshire ...	25,195	5.32	4.96	5.11	+ .36	+ .21
Warwick, Worcester, and Salop ...	8,939	5.43	5.30	5.10	+ .13	+ .33
Gloucester and Somerset ...	7,097	5.52	5.35	5.08	+ .17	+ .44
North Wales ...	10,669	5.42	5.11	4.91	+ .31	+ .51
South Wales and Mon. ...	98,452	5.17	5.76	5.57	- .59	- .40
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES...</b>	<b>503,103</b>	<b>5.26</b>	<b>5.32</b>	<b>5.13</b>	<b>- .05</b>	<b>+ .13</b>
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
West Scotland ...	23,413	5.36	5.26	5.22	+ .10	+ .14
The Lothians ...	4,838	5.53	5.55	5.74	- .02	- .21
Fife ...	14,904	5.53	5.49	5.32	+ .04	+ .21
<b>SCOTLAND ...</b>	<b>43,155</b>	<b>5.44</b>	<b>5.37</b>	<b>5.29</b>	<b>+ .07</b>	<b>+ .15</b>
<b>IRELAND.</b>						
... ..	549	5.57	5.40	5.32	+ .17	+ .25
<b>United Kingdom ...</b>	<b>546,807</b>	<b>5.28</b>	<b>5.32</b>	<b>5.14</b>	<b>- .04</b>	<b>+ .14</b>

In Northumberland and Durham employment was good and better than in the previous month. With cokeyard workers it continued to improve.

In Yorkshire employment showed a falling off, which was most noticeable in the western portion of the

county. In Lancashire employment was good and rather better than in October.

In the Midlands Counties generally employment was fairly good, and better than a month ago. In the Cannock Chase district it was reported as better than for some years past, with very little excess of available labour. In the Forest of Dean employment continued to improve; in the Radstock district it was good. In the Bristol district about 150 men were out of employment through an inrush of water in one colliery.

In South Wales employment showed a considerable decline both as compared with a month and a year ago.

In Scotland there was a slight improvement as compared with October in Fifeshire, Lanarkshire, and Ayrshire. In the Lothians, the average number of days worked showed a slight falling off.

From returns relating to about 277,000 workpeople, it was found possible to compile the following Table, showing the numbers employed and the average number of days worked per week, according to the principal kind of coal produced at the pits at which the men were engaged:—

Description of Coal.	No. employed in Nov., 1905, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in four weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov., 1905, as compared with	
		Nov. 25th, 1905.	Oct. 21st, 1905.	Nov. 26th, 1904.	A m'th ago.	A year ago.
		Nov. 25th, 1905.	Oct. 21st, 1905.	Nov. 26th, 1904.	A m'th ago.	A year ago.
Anthracite ...	8,782	5.49	5.72	5.28	- .23	+ .21
Coking ...	20,027	5.50	5.41	5.34	+ .09	+ .16
Gas ...	25,634	5.44	5.99	5.29	+ .15	+ .15
House ...	65,903	5.04	4.86	4.73	+ .18	+ .31
Manufacturing ...	11,866	5.41	5.33	4.91	+ .08	+ .50
Steam ...	145,143	5.21	5.57	5.33	- .36	- .12

The Exports of coal, coke, and patent fuel in November, 1905, amounted to 4,152,711 tons, as compared with 4,350,621 tons in October, 1905, and 4,061,355 tons in November, 1904.

IRON, SHALE, AND OTHER MINING  
AND QUARRYING.

(Based on information from Employers, Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was good in iron mines, and about the same as a month ago and a year ago. In shale mines employment continued good.

In tin and copper mines in Devonshire and Cornwall employment was moderate, but showed some improvement on a month ago. In lead mines employment continued good in Denbighshire and Flintshire, and fair in Weardale.

Employment in quarries was fair generally, with the exception of slate quarries, in which it was slack.

## Mining.

*Iron Mining.*—During the four weeks ended November 25th, the average weekly number of days worked by the 116 mines and open works covered by the returns was 5.81, as compared with 5.85 a month ago, and 5.88\* a year ago.

The following Table summarises the returns received:—

Districts.	No. employed in Nov., 1905, at the Mines included in the Returns.	Average Number of Days worked per week by Mines in 4 weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov., 1905, as compared with	
		Nov. 25th, 1905.	Oct. 21st, 1905.	Nov. 26th, 1904.*	A month ago.	A year ago.
		Nov. 25th, 1905.	Oct. 21st, 1905.	Nov. 26th, 1904.*	A month ago.	A year ago.
Cleveland...	7,196	5.92	5.92	5.91	...	+ 0.01
Cumberland and Lancashire	4,947	5.94	5.94	5.95	...	- 0.01
Scotland...	975	5.22	5.39	5.53	- 0.17	- 0.31
Other Districts...	2,446	5.48	5.64	5.80	- 0.16	- 0.32
<b>Total and Averages</b>	<b>15,564</b>	<b>5.81</b>	<b>5.85</b>	<b>5.88</b>	<b>- 0.04</b>	<b>- 0.0</b>

\* Revised figures.



Of the 15,564 workpeople covered by the returns 14,074, or 90·4 per cent., were employed in mines working twenty-two or more days during the four weeks ended November 25th, as compared with the same percentage a month ago, and 94·7 a year ago.

**Shale Mining.**—At 27 mines respecting which returns have been received 2,947 men were employed in November, as compared with 2,961 a month ago, and 2,913 a year ago. The average weekly number of days worked by the mines in the four weeks ended November 25th was 5·64, as compared with 5·72 a month ago, and 5·62 a year ago; these averages, however, are somewhat affected by idle days at some of the mines.

**Quarrying.**

**Slate.**—Employment continued slack in North Wales, where, in some instances, only four days a week were worked, and in Argyllshire employment was bad.

**Granite.**—Employment was still moderate in Aberdeen-shire, and bad, with short time, in Devonshire and Cornwall. In Leicestershire employment was fair, and it was fair on the whole in North Wales, where, however, some short time was worked.

**Limestone.**—Employment was good at Stanhope, and fair at Westgate and Upper Weardale. It was also fair in the Forest of Dean quarries. In Derbyshire there was an improvement on a month ago, when employment was reported as moderate. In North Wales employment continued steady. It continued dull in the Plymouth district, and bad in Cumberland.

**Other Stone.**—Employment continued good in chert quarries. It was steady in sandstone quarries in North Wales, fair in grindstone and building stone quarries in the Rowsley district. In the Clee Hill road-material quarries employment was moderate; it was still dull at Gateshead and bad in Forfarshire.

**Settling.**—Employment was good at Airdrie, but a slight decline as compared with last month was reported. Employment was fair in Aberdeenshire, Leicestershire, and at Edinburgh. In North Wales employment was fair on the whole, but in a few quarries there was short time. Employment was moderate in the Clee Hill district, bad at Rowley Regis; quiet in the Sheffield district, but good at Grindleford.

**China Clay.**—Employment was fair in the St. Austell and Lee Moor districts.

**TINPLATE WORKS.**

(Based on Returns from Employers and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during November showed a further improvement as compared with the previous month, and was much better than a year ago. The number of mills working in November (427) was greater than in any month during the ten years 1896-1905. In 1900, the maximum year of that period, the average was 384.

At the end of November 427 mills were working, an increase of 4 as compared with October and of 27 (or 6·8 per cent.) as compared with November, 1904. The number of workpeople employed at the 427 mills at work was about 21,350.

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

	No. of Works open.	No. of Mills in such Works.		
		Working.	Not Working.	Total.
Works giving full employment ...	67	377	—	377
Works giving partial employment ...	12	50	24	74
<b>Total at end of November, 1905*</b> ...	<b>79</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>451</b>
<i>Corresponding Total for Oct., 1905*</i> ...	78	423	22	445
<i>Corresponding Total for Nov., 1904*</i> ...	76	400	20	420

\* It will be understood that, in addition to the works returned as giving full or partial employment, a certain number of tinplate works were wholly idle at each of the dates to which the returns relate.

The Exports of tinplates and tinned sheets, and black-plates for tinning are given in the Table below for the three periods stated. It will be seen that of the total exports of tinplates in 1905 the United States has taken 59,786 tons, or nearly one-fifth. The British East Indies have taken 41,800 tons, Germany 27,639 tons, and the Netherlands 24,694 tons. Of the black plates for tinning exported Russia has taken 26,729 tons, and Germany 7,564 tons:—

	Month ended 30th Nov., 1905.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with November, 1904.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in 1903.	
	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.
<b>Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets.</b>						
To United States ...	3,565	4,476	+ 476	+ 416	59,786	4,508
Other Countries ...	26,513	4,295	+ 7,006	270,411	+ 17,838	+ 13,494
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>30,078</b>	<b>8,771</b>	<b>+ 6,500</b>	<b>330,197</b>	<b>+ 13,330</b>	<b>+ 63,464</b>
<b>Black Plates for Tinning.</b>						
To United States ...	—	5	—	84	—	429
Other Countries ...	5,665	1,121	+ 734	60,840	+ 3,626	+ 2,448
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>5,665</b>	<b>1,121</b>	<b>+ 734</b>	<b>60,924</b>	<b>+ 3,608</b>	<b>+ 2,019</b>

**PIG IRON INDUSTRY.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this industry continued good and was better than both a month and a year ago. The number of furnaces now in blast is greater than in any month since November, 1900.

Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters show that during November five furnaces—one each in Cumberland and Staffordshire, and three in Scotland were re-lit, and one in the Cleveland district was blown out. The number of furnaces in blast at the end of November was 335, or 4 more than in October, 1905, and 31 more than in November, 1904. The number of workpeople employed at the works included in the returns which are summarised below is estimated at 23,700.

Districts.	Number of Furnaces, included in the returns, in Blast at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov., 1905, as compared with	
	Nov., 1905.	Oct., 1905.	Nov., 1904.	A month ago.	A year ago.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES—</b>					
Cleveland ...	86	87	77	- 1	+ 9
Cumberland & Lancs. ...	37	36	32	+ 1	+ 5
S. and S.W. Yorks. ...	16	16	13	...	+ 3
Derby & Nottingham ...	38	38	36	...	+ 2
Leicester, Lincoln, and Northampton ...	28	28	25	...	+ 3
Stafford & Worcester ...	35	34	30	+ 1	+ 5
S. Wales & Monmouth ...	14	14	15	...	- 1
Other districts ...	7	7	6	...	+ 1
<b>Returned from England &amp; Wales</b> ...	<b>261</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>+ 1</b>	<b>+ 27</b>
<b>Returned from Scotland</b> ...	<b>74</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>+ 3</b>	<b>+ 4</b>
<b>Total furnaces included in returns</b> ...	<b>335</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>+ 4</b>	<b>+ 31</b>

The Imports of iron ore in November amounted to 610,534 tons, or 160,499 tons more than in November, 1904, and 186,150 tons more than in November, 1903.

The Exports of pig iron from the United Kingdom during November, 1905, amounted to 82,719 tons, as compared with 68,941 tons in November, 1904, and 82,627 tons in November, 1903.

**IRON AND STEEL WORKS.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, received partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent; and on Returns from Trade Unions and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works continued to improve and was much better than a year ago, 10·1 per cent. more workers being employed at the works covered by the returns received.

The total volume of employment (i.e., numbers employed multiplied by the average number of shifts worked) during the week ended November 25th, 1905, at the 199 iron and steel works from which returns were received, was 0·6 per cent. greater than during the week ended October 21st, 1905, and 13·7 per cent. greater than a year ago.

The aggregate number of shifts worked during the week by all the workpeople, included in the returns was approximately 525,600, as compared with 522,400 last month, and 462,400 a year ago.

Departments.	Number of Workpeople employed by firms making returns			Average Number of Shifts worked per man		
	In week ended Nov. 25th, 1905.	Increase (+) or decrease (-) as compared with		In week ended Nov. 25th, 1905.	Increase (+) or decrease (-) as compared with	
		A month ago.	A year ago.		A month ago.	A year ago.
<b>Open-Hearth Melting Furnaces</b> ...	8,555	+ 244	+ 1,032	5·88	- 0·02	- 0·04
<b>Crucible Furnaces</b> ...	558	+ 22	+ 63	5·38	- 0·18	+ 0·49
<b>Bessemer Converters</b> ...	1,628	- 4	- 5	4·91	- 0·09	- 0·10
<b>Puddling Forges</b> ...	10,026	- 162	+ 251	5·11	- 0·03	+ 0·31
<b>Rolling Mills</b> ...	30,486	+ 89	+ 2,164	5·40	- 0·02	+ 0·24
<b>Forging and Pressing</b> ...	3,999	+ 56	+ 618	5·61	- 0·04	+ 0·17
<b>Founding</b> ...	12,061	- 120	+ 1,492	5·83	- 0·01	+ 0·08
<b>Other Departments</b> ...	9,808	+ 270	+ 1,246	5·84	- 0·01	+ 0·10
<b>Mechanics, Labourers</b> ...	16,849	+ 382	+ 1,413	5·87	+ 0·01	+ 0·14
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>93,880</b>	<b>+ 777</b>	<b>+ 8,604</b>	<b>5·60</b>	<b>- 0·01</b>	<b>+ 0·18</b>
<b>Districts.</b>						
<b>Northumberland &amp; Durham</b> ...	11,840	+ 79	+ 656	5·63	+ 0·03	+ 0·25
<b>Cleveland</b> ...	8,737	- 11	+ 726	5·75	+ 0·08	+ 0·15
<b>Sheffield and Rotherham</b> ...	17,668	+ 136	+ 2,290	5·66	- 0·03	+ 0·14
<b>Leeds, Hull and other Yorkshire Towns</b> ...	4,245	+ 3	+ 572	5·64	...	+ 0·44
<b>Cumberland, Lancs. &amp; Ches.</b> ...	9,611	- 70	+ 121	5·29	- 0·29	+ 0·25
<b>Staffordshire</b> ...	10,338	+ 2	+ 730	5·50	+ 0·03	+ 0·16
<b>Other Midland Counties</b> ...	4,430	+ 54	+ 403	5·47	+ 0·03	+ 0·07
<b>Wales and Monmouth</b> ...	9,412	+ 156	+ 1,249	5·69	+ 0·02	+ 0·05
<b>England and Wales</b> ...	<b>76,301</b>	<b>+ 345</b>	<b>+ 6,747</b>	<b>5·59</b>	<b>- 0·01</b>	<b>+ 0·18</b>
<b>Scotland</b> ...	17,579	+ 432	+ 1,857	5·64	...	+ 0·16
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>93,880</b>	<b>+ 777</b>	<b>+ 8,604</b>	<b>5·60</b>	<b>- 0·01</b>	<b>+ 0·18</b>

Compared with a month ago there was a considerable increase in the number of workpeople employed at open hearth melting furnaces, and also in the number of mechanics and general labourers employed. Three-quarters of the increase under this latter heading was in the Sheffield and Rotherham and Staffordshire districts. Compared with a year ago the only department which did not show some considerable increase in the number of workpeople employed was the Bessemer converting department.

The most important change in the number of workpeople employed compared with last month took place in Scotland, where an increase of 432 was returned. Compared with a year ago every district showed improvement, the greatest increases being 2,290 in the Sheffield and Rotherham district, 1,857 in Scotland, and 1,249 in Wales and Monmouth.

The average number of shifts worked per man per week remained about the same as a month ago, the greatest variation being a decrease of 0·18 of a shift at crucible furnaces. Compared with a year ago the only decreases in this respect were at Bessemer converting departments (0·10 of a shift), and open hearth melting furnaces (0·04 of a shift). The greatest increases were 0·49 of a shift at crucible furnaces, and 0·31 of a shift at puddling forges.

The average number of shifts worked per man per week remained about the same as a month ago, except in Cumberland, Lancashire and Cheshire, in which district a decline of 0·29 of a shift occurred, and a slight decrease (70) in the number of workpeople employed. Every district showed an increase on a year ago, the

greatest improvements being 0·44 of a shift in Leeds, Hull, and other Yorkshire towns, and 0·25 of a shift in Cumberland, Lancashire and Cheshire.

**ENGINEERING TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT still continued to improve and may be described generally as fairly good. It was much better than a year ago, since when the numbers unemployed have fallen more than one half, viz., from 7·8 to 3·6 per cent. A good deal of overtime was reported, and the percentage of unemployed members was lower than that recorded last month, and, in fact, lower than any month since September, 1901.

The general improvement, as compared with a month ago, was most marked in the West Riding towns, and in Glasgow and district, the districts classed as "other" having alone exhibited an appreciable decline in this respect. As compared with a year ago the greatest improvements are those shown in the Oldham, Bolton and Blackburn, Notts, Derby, and Leicester, Manchester and Liverpool, Belfast and Dublin districts, the West Riding towns, Glasgow and district, and the East of Scotland.

Returns relating to 148,041 members of Trade Unions show that 3·6 per cent. were unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 4·1 in October, 1905, and 7·8 in November, 1904.

The percentages for the various districts so far as they are available are shown below:—

District.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Nov., 1905, included in the returns.*	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed for Nov., 1905, as compared with a	
		Nov., 1905.	Oct., 1905.	Nov., 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		<b>North-East Coast</b> ...	14,862	4·4	4·8	8·4
<b>Manchester and Liverpool</b> ...	18,100	3·1	3·8	9·3	- 0·7	- 6·2
<b>Oldham, Bolton, and Blackburn District</b> ...	11,716	3·3	3·3	12·1	...	- 8·8
<b>West Riding Towns</b> ...	11,978	4·0	5·2	9·6	- 1·2	- 5·6
<b>Hull and Lincolnshire District</b> ...	3,617	3·4	3·3	7·1	+ 0·1	- 3·7
<b>Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Coventry District</b> ...	6,675	2·0	2·8	5·1	- 0·8	- 3·1
<b>Notts, Derby, and Leicester District</b> ...	4,002	4·3	4·9	11·7	- 0·6	- 7·4
<b>London and Neighbouring District</b> ...	12,396	3·4	4·2	5·3	- 0·8	- 1·9
<b>South Coast</b> ...	3,870	3·8	4·2	2·2	- 0·4	+ 1·6
<b>South Wales and Bristol District</b> ...	6,037	4·3	4·5	5·1	- 0·2	- 0·8
<b>Glasgow and District</b> ...	14,089	4·5	5·4	9·4	- 0·9	- 4·9
<b>East of Scotland</b> ...	3,468	6·8	7·4	11·1	- 0·6	- 4·3
<b>Belfast and Dublin</b> ...	3,527	6·6	6·6	12·6	...	- 6·0
<b>Other Districts</b> ...	5,601	3·4	2·7	5·5	+ 0·7	- 2·1
<b>United Kingdom</b> (Including certain Unions for which district figures are not available)	<b>148,041</b>	<b>3·6</b>	<b>4·1</b>	<b>7·8</b>	<b>- 0·5</b>	<b>- 4·2</b>

On the North East Coast the improvement reported last month continued, and there was a good deal of overtime on the Tyne, Wear, and Tees, and some double shift work on the Tyne.

In the Manchester district employment continued to improve, and there was a good deal of overtime. At Liverpool employment with engineers was fair, and better than last month, but at Birkenhead and Bootle it was still dull. With ironfounders it was fair, but with brassfounders, coppersmiths and hammermen, it was still very dull. At Blackburn it was generally good, at Preston moderate, and at Bolton and Bury fair; at Burnley it was good in the textile machinery branch. With brassfounders at Oldham it was bad, and engineers generally were not quite so busy. At Barrow-in-Furness employment was fair, the slight improvement of last month having continued. Machine, engine, and iron grinders and glaziers and coremakers were well employed.

Employment at Leeds showed an improvement on last month, the percentage unemployed having further decreased, and some overtime was worked. An improvement was also noticeable at Wakefield and Stanningley. Engineers at Sheffield were fairly well employed. At Barnsley and Rotherham employment was good; at

\* Exclusive of Superannuated Members.



Halifax, Bradford, Huddersfield, and Keighley, moderate, and at Dewsbury, quiet. At Hull, employment continued good, with some overtime on repair work.

Employment at Birmingham was generally fair, showing in most cases an improvement on last month; good with toolmakers. At Wolverhampton and district, it was good. At West Bromwich, Coventry, and Redditch, it was fair. Employment in the cycle industry was moderate, and in the motor trade good.

Employment in Derbyshire generally was fair and about the same as last month; at Nottingham, although still only fair, an improvement had taken place since last month. Motor car builders were busy; in the lace and hosiery machine trade employment was fair, and with ironfounders it was bad. At Burton-on-Trent and Rugby, it was moderate; at Northampton, it was improving, and at Leicester it was good.

In the Potteries district employment was moderate generally.

Employment in the Eastern Counties was moderate generally, but at Norwich and Colchester it was dull, at Ipswich a little better than last month, and at Chelmsford good.

Employment in the London district showed an improvement on last month, but continued bad in East End branches.

Employment in the dockyard towns continued bad; at Southampton it was moderate.

At Cardiff, Swansea, and Newport, employment was still bad, some short time being worked. At Bristol it was bad, but at Swindon, Gloucester, and Avonmouth it was good.

In the Clyde district employment continued to improve, and was generally good, with a good deal of overtime. At Leith it was bad, but at Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, and Falkirk it was fair.

Employment at Belfast was moderate generally, but good with pattern makers; at Dublin and Cork it was still bad.

**SHIPBUILDING TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT showed little change as compared with a month ago, but was considerably better than a year ago.

Branches of Trade Unions with 56,872 members had 6,706 (or 11.8 per cent.) unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 11.9 per cent. at the end of October, and 16.6 per cent. a year ago.

As compared with a month ago, the greatest improvement was shown in the Scottish Ports. The only appreciable decline was in the Bristol Channel Ports, and on the Thames and Medway, which are chiefly repairing districts.

As compared with a year ago, there was considerable improvement in the Tees and Hartlepool district, and at Dundee and Aberdeen. The greatest decline was shown on the Thames and Medway.

District.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Nov. 1905, included in the returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage for Nov. 1905, as compared with	
		Nov. 1905.	Oct. 1905.	Nov. 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Tyne and Blyth ... ..	9,507	11.2	10.9	17.3	+ 0.3	- 6.1
Wear ... ..	4,875	7.2	7.2	17.0	...	- 9.8
Tees and Hartlepool ... ..	5,063	9.1	10.0	28.0	- 0.9	- 18.9
Humber ... ..	2,593	8.3	8.9	14.9	- 0.6	- 6.6
Thames and Medway ... ..	4,011	16.9	13.6	10.5	+ 3.3	+ 6.4
South Coast ... ..	3,951	9.1	9.4	3.5	- 0.3	+ 5.6
Bristol Channel Ports ... ..	2,614	22.3	16.3	18.9	+ 6.0	+ 3.4
Mersey ... ..	3,875	23.2	23.5	17.1	- 0.3	+ 6.1
Clyde ... ..	11,703	9.7	12.0	16.0	- 2.3	- 6.3
Dundee, Leith, and Aberdeen ... ..	2,295	11.9	16.6	27.3	- 4.6	- 15.4
Belfast ... ..	2,591	9.5	9.6	19.2	- 0.1	- 9.7
Other Districts ... ..	3,058	11.0	9.9	11.1	+ 1.1	- 0.1
<b>United Kingdom</b> (Including certain Unions for which district figures were not available)	<b>86,872</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>- 4.8</b>

Employment on the Tyne continued fair, and on the Wear it was fairly good, though not quite so good as in the previous month. The improvement in the Tees

and Hartlepool district continued, except with shipjoiners, and employment was better than a year ago. On the Humber it continued fair. On the Thames, South Coast, and Bristol Channel there was little change compared with last month, employment being slack on the whole, and some short time being worked at Bristol and the South Wales ports. With sailmakers at London it was fair, and with shipbuilders at Southampton moderate. Employment was also dull on the Mersey, but the slight improvement reported last month was maintained. At Leith employment continued bad, but at Dundee and at Aberdeen it was good, being better in both cases than in the previous month. There was a further improvement on the Clyde, but at Belfast employment was quiet, and at Dublin was very bad. At Barrow it was moderate.

**MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

THE state of employment in these trades on the whole was somewhat better than a month and a year ago. Improvements on last month were shown more particularly in the brass-working and tube trades. Eighteen Trade Unions, with a membership of 14,944, showed 342 (or 2.3 per cent.) unemployed at the end of November, compared with 2.4 per cent. at the end of October, 1905, and 3.4 per cent. at the end of November, 1904.

**Brasswork, Bedsteads, etc.**—Employment with brass-workers, except in London, was fairly good in November, and showed a marked improvement compared with the previous month. With bedstead makers employment was fair. In the fender and fire brass trade it had improved slightly, no short time being worked.

**Nuts, Bolts, Nails, etc.**—In the nut and bolt trade considerable improvement was shown at Dudley; in South Wales employment continued fair; at Birmingham moderate; at Wincaton, good. With wire nail, shoe rivet, and cut nail makers at Birmingham employment was fair, and better than a month ago.

**Tubes.**—Employment was good in the tube trade, and overtime was fairly general. In South Staffordshire there was an improvement on a month and a year ago. In South Wales and at Birmingham it was good, full time being worked at the latter place.

**Chains, Anchors, etc.**—At Cradley employment was good and better than a month ago with chain makers; with anchor smiths it continued slack. Improvements were reported with chain makers in South Wales and at Walsall, with some overtime in the latter case. At Gateshead employment was good. At Dudley employment was fairly good with anvil and vice makers, showing an improvement on a year ago. It was good in the axle and spring trade at Birmingham and West Bromwich, and with railway spring makers at Sheffield and Rotherham. At Wednesbury employment was good on railway and constructional iron work.

**Locks, Keys, and General Hardware.**—Employment at Wolverhampton remained bad in the lock and latch trade, but with rather less short time than a month ago. It was fair on stamped and light hollow-ware, and good on iron fences and hurdles. At Birmingham and West Bromwich in the hollow-ware trade it was improving.

**Cutlery, Tools, etc.**—Employment continued generally slack in the cutlery trade at Sheffield, except with sheep shear makers, who remained well employed. In the file trade it was moderate at Birmingham and Sheffield, and fair at Wolverhampton. There was a slight improvement in the table cutlery and file trades at Sheffield due to seasonal requirements. With edge-tool makers at Birmingham employment continued fair.

**Stoves, Grates, etc.**—Employment was moderate, both at Birmingham and at Sheffield, but better than a month ago at the latter place; fair at Glasgow and Falkirk, but better than a month ago.

**Sheet Metal, etc.**—At Glasgow, employment was quiet; at Manchester good and better than in the previous month. In the ironplate trade employment continued

to improve at Birmingham and the Lye. Employment in London was fairly good, being better than a month and a year ago; zinc workers, however, remained slack.

**Gold, Silver, Britannia Metal, etc.**—At Sheffield employment with silversmiths and britannia metal smiths was slack, but showed a slight seasonal improvement. At Birmingham it was good, with some overtime; with jewellers overtime was general. In London it was fair, and better than a month ago with silversmiths and goldsmiths. At Coventry in the watch trade it continued quiet.

**Wire.**—Employment was good, with a slight improvement on the whole, compared with the previous month. It was decidedly better than a year ago.

**Farriers.**—Employment was moderate and rather better than last month.

**COTTON TRADE.**

(Based on Returns received from Employers through the Trade Correspondent, and on Returns from Trade Unions and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued very brisk and was decidedly better than a year ago when it was reported as good.

The prices of raw material were very high in November, and quotations showed a considerable advance both in American and Egyptian cotton compared with a month ago.

The average price of "middling American" cotton in November was 6.01d. per lb., compared with 5.49d. in October, and 5.31d. in November, 1904. The price of "good fair Egyptian" averaged 7.82d. per lb., compared with 7.50d. per lb. in October, and 7.92d. in November, 1904.

The number of workpeople employed by firms making returns for the last week in November was 167,519, an increase of 0.3 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 3.2 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Firms employing 134,336 of these operatives have stated the amount of wages paid in the periods under review. Compared with a month ago, the number employed by these firms showed an increase of 0.4 per cent., and the amount of wages paid a decrease of 0.5 per cent. Compared with a year ago, the number employed showed an increase of 3.3 per cent., and the amount of wages paid an increase of 7.3 per cent.

The bonus paid in the spinning mills is not included in these returns. Some new mills were opened during the month from which, however, no returns have yet been received.

**Analysis by Departments and Districts.**

The following Table relates only to those firms that furnished information as to wages paid as well as numbers employed in the three periods mentioned:—

Departments.	Workpeople covered by returns.		Earnings.		
	No. employed in last week of Nov., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last week of	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid in last week of	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last week of	
				Oct., 1905.	Nov., 1904.
Preparing ... ..	14,253	+ 0.2	12,370	- 0.1	+ 2.1
Spinning ... ..	26,711	+ 0.9	25,162	+ 0.1	+ 4.9
Weaving ... ..	64,619	+ 0.3	58,380	- 1.0	+ 9.2
Other ... ..	12,834	+ 1.0	14,240	- 0.3	+ 8.1
Departments not specified	15,919	- 0.1	16,543	+ 0.1	+ 7.5
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>134,336</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>126,695</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>+ 7.3</b>
<b>Districts.</b>					
Ashton District ... ..	7,819	+ 1.1	7,938	- 1.8	+ 3.5
Stockport, Glossop, and Hyde ... ..	7,705	+ 0.2	7,147	- 0.7	+ 5.3
Oldham District ... ..	16,144	+ 0.4	15,995	- 1.2	+ 2.5
Bolton and Leigh ... ..	13,585	+ 0.2	11,813	+ 0.4	+ 6.0
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden, & Todmorden ... ..	10,190	- 0.4	9,516	+ 0.6	+ 6.9
Manchester District ... ..	9,912	+ 0.6	7,600	- 0.9	+ 8.3
Preston and Chorley ... ..	9,346	+ 0.3	8,275	- 0.6	+ 5.3
Blackburn, Accrington, & Darwen ... ..	21,728	+ 0.0	21,624	- 1.4	+ 5.3
Burnley, Padiham, Colne, and Nelson ... ..	19,872	+ 0.0	22,176	+ 0.3	+ 10.0
Other Lancs. Towns ... ..	5,539	+ 0.9	4,185	- 0.4	+ 12.8
Yorkshire Towns ... ..	5,397	+ 0.4	5,200	- 0.8	+ 11.0
Other Districts ... ..	7,039	+ 3.3	5,225	+ 2.3	+ 18.9
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>134,336</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>126,695</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>+ 7.3</b>

Compared with a month ago, little change was noticeable, except in the weaving branch, which showed a decline of 1.0 per cent. in wages paid. Compared with a year ago there was an improvement in all departments.

The decline apparent in the amount of wages paid in the Ashton and Oldham districts took place in the weaving branch; but in the Oldham district many looms were reported to be standing for want of weavers on both calicoes and fustians. In the Blackburn and Darwen district, which also shows a decline of more than 1.0 per cent., there was a slight decline in every branch, but employment generally was very good.

Every district showed an improvement, compared with a year ago. In the Manchester and Burnley districts there was an increase in the wages paid to the amount of 1.0 per cent.

**Raw Cotton.**

**American Cotton.**—During the month of November the average price of raw cotton "middling American" at Liverpool was 6.01d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 6.28d., and the lowest, 5.69d. The price for October was 5.49d., and for November, 1904, 5.31d. For the period from 1st to 11th December the average price of "middling American" was 6.29d. per lb.

**Egyptian Cotton.**—The price of "good fair Egyptian" during November averaged 7.82d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 8.18d., and the lowest, 7.18d. The price for October was 7.50d., and for November, 1904, 7.92d. For the period from 1st to 11th December the average price of "good fair Egyptian" was 7.79d. per lb.

Particulars of the various descriptions of cotton forwarded from ports to inland towns are given below:—

Description of Cotton.	Month ended Nov. 30th, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with November.		Eleven months ended Nov. 30th, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in	
		1904.	1903.		1904.	1903.
		Bales.	Bales.		Bales.	Bales.
American ... ..	295,702	- 221	+ 23,587	2,784,834	+ 607,543	+ 549,176
Brazilian ... ..	17,728	+ 10,660	+ 9,365	81,729	+ 7,189	- 39,075
East Indian ... ..	3,711	- 545	- 1,290	39,751	- 51,638	- 19,148
Egyptian ... ..	47,660	+ 16,413	+ 7,275	302,213	+ 26,407	+ 54,214
Miscellaneous ... ..	8,955	+ 4,903	+ 4,990	59,097	+ 7,116	- 2,426
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>373,757</b>	<b>+ 31,215</b>	<b>+ 43,027</b>	<b>3,249,624</b>	<b>+ 595,617</b>	<b>+ 548,741</b>

The visible supply of American cotton for the United Kingdom on December 8th, 1905, was estimated by the Liverpool Cotton Association to be 1,045,990 bales, as compared with 1,003,230 bales on December 9th, 1904.

**Exports of Cotton Goods.**

The following Table shows the quantities of exported cotton yarn and cotton piece goods for the periods stated:—

Description.	Month ended Nov. 30th, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with November.		Eleven Months ended Nov. 30th, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in	
		1904.	1903.		1904.	1903.
		1000's lbs.	1000's lbs.		1000's lbs.	1000's lbs.
<b>Cotton Yarn and Twist—</b>						
Grey ... ..	14,605	+ 1,611	+ 5,225	149,218	+ 29,313	+ 45,125
Bleached ... ..	3,287	+ 453	+ 1,143	35,925	+ 9,896	+ 5,742
<b>Dyed</b> ... ..						
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>17,892</b>	<b>+ 2,063</b>	<b>+ 6,368</b>	<b>185,143</b>	<b>+ 39,209</b>	<b>+ 50,867</b>
<b>Cotton Piece Goods—</b>						
Grey or Unbleached	207,308	+ 25,964	+ 81,912	2,133,244	+ 317,235	+ 392,849
Bleached ... ..	147,025	+ 18,365	+ 43,526	1,549,097	+ 177,474	+ 337,504
Printed ... ..	85,444	+ 4,794	+ 8,181	957,530	+ 12,518	+ 14,378
Dyed or Manufactured of Dyed Yarn	90,361	+ 6,845	+ 21,155	1,002,251	+ 104,540	+ 159,831
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>530,139</b>	<b>+ 55,968</b>	<b>+ 154,777</b>	<b>5,643,019</b>	<b>+ 611,767</b>	<b>+ 904,562</b>



**WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.**

(Based on Returns received from Employers through the Trade Correspondent, and on Returns from Employers' Associations, Employers, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the *Woollen* and *Worsted* trades showed a slight decline. The prices of raw material were slightly lower than a month ago, but higher than a year ago.

**Woollen Trade.**

Employment in the *Woollen* trade showed a slight decline, but was still very good, and better than a year ago.

The number of workpeople employed by firms making returns for the last week in November was 34,584, an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 2.8 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Firms employing 24,166 of these operatives have given the wages paid in the periods under review. Compared with a month ago the number employed by these firms showed no change, and the amount of wages paid showed a decline of 0.9 per cent. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 2.8 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

In *Huddersfield* overtime was general; in the *Colne Valley* night work was reported, two sets of operatives being employed. Employment in the *Leeds* district, although showing a decline, was fairly good, and busy in some branches. In the heavy *woollen* district of *Batley* and *Dewsbury* both short time and overtime were reported, and employment on the whole was good. Employment was good in *Selkirk*, *Galashiels*, and *Hawick*.

Departments.	Workpeople covered by returns.		Earnings.	
	No. employed at end of Nov., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with last week in Nov., 1904.	Aggregate amount of Wages paid on last pay-day in Nov., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with last week in Nov., 1904.
Wool Sorting ...	563	- 3.1	3.5	- 4.2
Spinning ...	4,143	- 0.7	3,517	+ 0.8
Weaving ...	9,934	+ 0.6	8,104	+ 0.5
Other Departments ...	7,017	+ 0.1	7,224	+ 1.7
Unspecified ...	3,209	+ 0.1	2,956	+ 2.7
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>24,166</b>	<b>+ 2.8</b>	<b>22,329</b>	<b>+ 3.7</b>

**Worsted Trade.**

Employment showed a slight decline, and although still moderate was better than a year ago.

The number of workpeople employed by firms making returns for the last week in November was 56,102, the same number as were employed a month ago, and an increase of 1.7 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Firms employing 42,850 of these operatives have stated the wages paid in the periods under review. Compared with a month ago, the number employed by these firms showed an increase of 0.1 per cent., and the amount of wages paid a decrease of 0.9 per cent. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 1.7 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Employment in the wool sorting and wool combing branches in *Bradford* district was bad, and considerably worse than a month ago, but it was better than a year ago. Employment in the weaving branch showed a decline in the *Bradford*, *Keighley*, and *Huddersfield* districts, but six firms in *Bradford* reported a deficiency in the supply of weavers. In *Huddersfield* a large number of men in the fancy worsted trade worked overtime.

Departments.	Workpeople covered by returns.		Earnings.	
	No. employed at end of Nov., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with last week in Nov., 1904.	Aggregate amount of Wages paid on last pay-day in Nov., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with last week in Nov., 1904.
Wool Sorting & Combing ...	3,581	- 1.9	3,429	- 6.7
Spinning ...	21,665	+ 0.7	12,380	+ 0.4
Weaving ...	9,947	- 0.6	7,901	- 2.4
Other Departments ...	5,197	+ 0.3	5,283	+ 1.7
Unspecified ...	2,460	+ 0.5	1,743	+ 1.8
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>42,850</b>	<b>+ 0.1</b>	<b>30,736</b>	<b>- 0.9</b>

**Districts.**  
*Bradford* District ... 23,866 + 0.2 + 3.6 16,411 - 1.2 + 6.5  
*Keighley* District ... 6,028 - 0.1 + 0.1 4,444 - 1.2 - 0.4  
*Halifax* District ... 3,263 + 0.4 - 4.6 2,026 + 0.6 + 1.4  
*Huddersfield* District ... 5,351 ... + 2.3 5,215 + 0.3 + 4.2  
*Other Parts of West Riding* ... 2,425 - 0.1 + 4.7 1,462 + 0.3 + 3.6

**Total West Riding ...** 49,933 + 0.1 + 2.3 29,558 - 0.8 + 4.5  
**Other Districts ...** 1,917 + 0.2 - 9.5 1,178 - 1.4 - 9.5  
**Total Worsted ...** 42,850 + 0.1 + 1.7 30,736 - 0.9 + 3.9

**Prices of Raw Material.**

The course of prices showed a slight decline compared with a month ago, but was higher than a year ago.

	Nov., 1905.	Oct., 1905.	Nov., 1904.
<b>Average Prices:</b>			
Lincoln Hoggas ...	15 1/2	16 1/2	15 1/2
40's Crossbred tops ...	16	16 1/2	15
60's Super Botany tops ...	26	26 1/2	24 1/2

The following Table shows the quantities of imported and exported raw wool, and of British and Irish exports of woollen, worsted, and alpaca and mohair yarn, and of woollen and worsted piece goods for the periods stated :-

Description.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with November, 1904.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with corresponding period in 1903.	
	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.
<b>Imports:</b>				
1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.
Raw Wool (SHEEP OR LAMBS)				
Imports (less Re-Exports) British ...	43,796	+ 18,284	+ 21,758	312,382
Imports (less Re-Exports) British ...	3,386	- 1,668	+ 686	32,493
<b>Exports:</b>				
British and Irish Manufactures Exported.				
Yarn—				
Woollen ...	173	- 47	- 26	1,929
Worsted ...	4,257	+ 23	- 676	43,609
Alpaca and Mohair ...	1,224	+ 169	+ 78	13,371
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,654</b>	<b>+ 145</b>	<b>- 624</b>	<b>58,909</b>
Piece Goods:				
Woollen ...	5,697	+ 273	+ 2,018	65,608
Worsted ...	7,314	+ 258	+ 562	95,718
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>13,011</b>	<b>+ 531</b>	<b>+ 2,580</b>	<b>161,326</b>

**FLAX (LINEN) TRADE.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT remained fair on the whole, showing little change compared with a month ago. It was better than a year ago, especially in the *Weaving* department.

The number of workpeople employed by firms making returns in the last week of November, 1905, was 56,488, an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the number employed by the same firms compared with the last full week in October, 1905, and of 1.5 per cent. compared with November, 1904.

In addition to supplying particulars of numbers employed, firms employing 48,152 operatives have stated the amount of wages paid in the periods under review. From these returns it appears that, compared with October, there was an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the

number employed and of 0.2 per cent. in the wages paid. Compared with a year ago, there were increases of 1.1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Departments.	Workpeople covered by Returns.		Earnings.	
	Number employed in last full week of Nov., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with last week of Nov., 1904.	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid in last full week of Nov., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with last week of Nov., 1904.
Preparing ...	6,403	- 0.4	3,265	+ 0.3
Spinning ...	11,162	+ 0.4	4,750	- 0.6
Weaving ...	17,398	+ 0.4	10,200	+ 0.5
Other ...	6,401	+ 0.8	5,007	+ 0.1
Departments not specified	6,788	...	3,763	...
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>48,152</b>	<b>+ 0.3</b>	<b>26,985</b>	<b>+ 0.2</b>

Compared with a month ago, little change was shown. In *Belfast* and *Ulster* employment remained fairly good. In *Dunfermline* a further improvement was reported. In *Arbroath* employment was reported as good. Compared with a year ago, there was a general improvement except in the *Spinning* departments, which showed a slight decline in the amount of wages paid.

**IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.**

The following Table shows the quantities of imported flax, and of British and Irish exports of linen yarn and manufactured goods for the periods stated :-

Description.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with November, 1904.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with the corresponding period in 1903.	
	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.
<b>Imports:</b>				
Flax (Dressed and Undressed, Tow or Cordilla) Tons	2,886	- 977	- 992	82,661
<b>Exports:</b>				
Linen Yarn 100 Lbs.	14,518	+ 1,349	+ 3,118	134,630
Linen Piece Goods 100 Yds.	152,416	+ 36,431	+ 39,888	1,652,455

**JUTE TRADE.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this industry was reported as fair, and about the same as a month ago. A good supply of raw material has now been obtained.

The number of workpeople employed in the last full week of November, by firms making returns, was 24,688, a decrease of 0.1 per cent. on the number employed by the same firms in the last full week in October, and of 2.0 per cent. compared with a year ago. Of the total number of workpeople covered by the returns 20,685, or 84 per cent., were employed in *Dundee*.

Firms employing 19,917 workpeople supplied particulars of the wages paid, as well as the numbers employed, in the last week of November, 1905. From these returns it appears that compared with a month ago there was little change in the numbers employed and wages paid, but that compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 2.6 per cent. in the numbers employed by the same firms, and of 1.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

\* Including 10 returns from England.

The following Table summarises these returns :-

Departments.	Workpeople covered by Returns.		Earnings.	
	Number employed in last full week of Nov., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last week of Nov., 1904.	Aggregate amount of Wages paid in last full week of Nov., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last week of Nov., 1904.
Preparing ...	4,465	- 1.3	2,776	- 0.5
Spinning ...	5,399	+ 0.7	3,097	+ 1.0
Weaving ...	6,623	+ 0.2	4,519	- 1.2
Other ...	2,044	- 0.1	2,042	- 0.9
Departments not specified	1,386	+ 0.9	988	+ 0.8
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>19,917</b>	<b>- 2.6</b>	<b>13,422</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>

**IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.**

The quantities of imported jute and of British and Irish exports of jute yarn and manufactured goods for the periods stated were as under :-

Description.	Month ended Nov. 30th, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with November, 1904.		Eleven months ended Nov. 30th, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in 1903.	
		1904.	1903.		1904.	1903.
<b>Imports:</b>						
Jute ... Tons	72,752	+ 14,221	+ 27,666	268,810	+ 21,549	+ 92,724
<b>Exports:</b>						
Jute Yarn 100 Lbs.	52,897	+ 12,940	+ 20,773	412,815	- 3,497	- 11,588
Jute Piece Goods 100 Yds.	169,333	+ 9,813	- 23,804	1,564,650	- 243,017	- 327,087

**SILK TRADE.**

(Based on Returns from Employers and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this industry in November showed an improvement compared with October, and was better than a year ago, both as regards the number of workpeople employed and of spindles and looms working.

**Number of Workpeople.**

The number of workpeople employed at the end of November by firms making returns was 11,098, an increase of 1.2 per cent. on the previous month, and of 2.5 per cent. compared with a year ago.

The increase in the numbers employed compared with last month was general to all departments, but the weaving department was the least affected. All departments showed a fair improvement compared with a year ago.

The following Table shows that the *Macclesfield* and *Congleton* district experienced the most marked increase in numbers of workpeople employed compared with October, and in no district was there a decrease.

Districts.	Number employed in Nov., 1905, by firms making returns.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.
<i>Lancashire</i> and <i>W. Riding of York</i> ...	3,662	+ 0.5	+ 0.3
<i>Macclesfield</i> , <i>Congleton</i> and <i>District</i> ...	3,060	+ 2.2	+ 5.6
<i>Leek</i> ...	506	...	+ 0.6
<i>Eastern Counties</i> ...	2,003	+ 1.3	- 3.2
<i>Other Districts</i> , including <i>Scotland</i> ...	1,867	+ 1.0	+ 9.8
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>11,098</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>	<b>+ 2.5</b>

**Number of Spindles and Looms.**

The number of spindles and looms returned as working at the end of November, shows an increase compared with the previous month, and a less marked increase compared with November, 1904.

Spindles and Looms.	Number of Spindles and Looms working in last week of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
	Nov., 1905.	Oct., 1905.	Nov., 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Throwing Spindles ...	100,877	98,732	99,942	+ 2.2	+ 0.9
Spinning Spindles ...	140,570	138,880	139,881	+ 1.2	+ 0.9
Looms ...	4,744	4,593	4,612	+ 3.3	+ 2.9



The increase in the number of throwing spindles working, compared with October, took place almost entirely in the Eastern Counties. The increase on the previous month in the number of spinning spindles was confined to the Lancashire district; compared with November, 1904, a very marked increase took place in the Eastern Counties. The most noticeable improvement compared with October in the number of looms at work occurred in the Eastern Counties.

**Imports and Exports.**

The imports of raw and thrown silk, of spun silk yarn, and the exports of thrown silk and yarn and of silk broadstuffs are shown in the Table below for the periods specified:—

Description.	Month ended Nov. 30th, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with November,		Eleven Months ended Nov. 30th, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in	
		1904.	1903.		1904.	1903.
<b>Imports.—</b>						
Raw Silk	lbs. 48,947	-124,931	-25,029	1,115,611	-106,489	+92,415
Thrown Silk	42,389	-9,325	-6,906	499,423	-6,802	-9,011
Spun Silk Yarn	25,692	+11,353	+14,697	308,332	+119,762	+205,520
<b>Exports.—</b>						
Thrown Silk, Twist & Yarn	73,156*	+31,956	+23,798	747,599	+236,286	+73,022
Silk Broad-stuffs	Yds. 546,730	+137,528	+245,626	1,614,306	+1,950,407	+1,702,608
Yarn	71,385 lbs.			732,929 lbs.		

**HOSIERY TRADE.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, a Trade Union, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT, on the whole, was fairly good, but showed a slight decline as compared with a month ago; it was decidedly better than a year ago.

Firms employing 20,440 workpeople, and paying £15,124 in wages during the last week in November made returns, which are summarised in the Table below. From these it appears that there was an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the number employed, and a decrease of 1.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 7.9 per cent. in the number employed, and of 10.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

At Leicester a decline was shown in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and a considerable increase compared with a year ago. At Hinckley and Loughborough employment was good. The Trade Union hosiery workers reported employment in Leicestershire as better than a month ago. In the Nottingham district employment continued good on the whole, and was decidedly better than a year ago. In Derbyshire, Hawick, and Selkirk employment was good, and better than a year ago.

District.	Workpeople covered by the Returns received.		Earnings.	
	Number paid wages on last pay-day in Nov., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) compared with Oct., 1905.	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on last pay-day in Nov., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) compared with Oct., 1905.
Leicester	8,683	-0.5	6,511	-4.2
Leicester Country District	3,682	+0.8	2,854	-1.2
Notts. and Derbyshire	3,939	+0.7	2,856	-0.4
Hawick	584	-2.7	500	-0.8
Other Parts of Scotland	2,494	+1.8	1,783	+1.3
Other Parts of United Kingdom	1,058	+2.7	620	+2.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,440</b>	<b>+0.3</b>	<b>15,124</b>	<b>-1.9</b>

**OTHER TEXTILE TRADES.**

**Lace Trade.**

(Based on Returns from an Employers' Association, a Trade Union and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was quiet in England, and better than a year ago; it continued good in Scotland. In Nottingham it was, on the whole, quiet in the curtain and levers

sections, but slightly better than a month ago; it was better than a year ago. In the plain net branch employment was reported as fairly good, and showed little change compared with a month ago and a year ago. At Beeston, employment was quiet and showed a decline compared with a month ago; it was moderate at Stapleford and Kimberley, slack at Bulwell. A further slight improvement was reported at Ilkeston. Employment continued good at Glasgow and Newmilns; at the latter place some overtime was reported.

**Printing, Dyeing, Bleaching, and Finishing.**

(Based on Returns from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

**Woollen and Worsted Dyers.**—Employment in the West Riding was moderate, and slightly better than a month ago; about half the Trade Union dyers worked short time, and about two-fifths worked overtime.

**Cotton Dyers.**—Employment was fairly good, but showed a slight decline since last month; it was better than a year ago.

**Calico Printers, etc.**—Employment was reported as good at Manchester, but slightly worse than last month; as bad at New Mills, with much short time, and as worse than a month ago; with calico printers' engravers at Dinting it was reported as quiet. At Glasgow it was reported as fair with calico printers and engravers to calico printers; with block printers it was fair, and better than a month ago.

**Hosiery and Lace Dyers, Trimmers, etc.**—At Leicester employment showed a slight improvement and was moderate. At Loughborough it was reported as fair. Employment was reported as fair with silk dyers, and moderate with cotton lace dyers at Nottingham and Basford; as good with bleachers at Basford; and as improved with hosiery trimmers at Nottingham and Basford.

**Calenderers, etc.**—In Glasgow employment continued fair. In Dundee it continued fair in the finishing department; the Trade Union bleachfield workers reported it as fair, with a slight improvement on last month; with the Trade Union calenderers it continued fair.

**TAILORING TRADE.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the *bespoke* branch in London was worse than a month ago, but much better than a year ago; in the Provinces it was bad. In the *ready-made* branch it was moderate, and slightly better than a year ago.

**Bespoke Branch.**

**London.**—Employment was moderate, being worse than a month ago, but considerably better than a year ago. Firms paying £14,307 to their workpeople during the four weeks ended November 25th, showed a decrease of 6.1 per cent. in the amount paid compared with the four weeks ended October 28th, and an increase of 10.2 per cent. on the corresponding period a year ago.

**Other Centres.**—Employment showed a decline, and was bad in Liverpool, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Belfast.

**Ready-made Branch.**

**London.**—Employment continued moderate, and was about the same as a year ago.

**Leeds.**—Employment during the month was moderate, but considerably better than a year ago. According to returns received from firms employing about 9,000 workpeople in their factories, in addition to persons employed on work for them in workshops, employment during November was good with firms employing 44 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns, moderate with firms employing 49 per cent. and bad with firms employing 7 per cent. Compared with a month ago, firms employing 37 per cent. reported employment as improved, firms employing 11 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 52 per cent. as worse. Compared with a year ago, firms employing 88 per cent. reported employment as improved, firms employing 7 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 5 per cent. as worse. Jewish operatives were well employed, but reported a decline at the end of the month.

**Other Centres.**—In Manchester employment continued moderate, and was about the same as a year ago. In Bristol employment was worse than a month ago, but still moderate and better than a year ago. At Stroud employment was good. In Staffordshire it was brisk. At Norwich employment was good and better than a year ago; at Ipswich and Colchester it was dull. In Glasgow employment was moderate, being slightly worse than a month ago, and about the same as a year ago.

**BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.**

(Based on Returns received through the Trade Correspondent, and on Returns from Trade Unions and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued quiet, but was considerably better than a year ago.

The number employed in the last week of November by 610 firms making returns was 78,029, an increase of 0.2 per cent., compared with a month ago, and of 3.4 per cent., compared with a year ago.

In addition to supplying particulars of numbers employed, 504 firms, employing 66,637 workpeople, stated the amount of wages paid in the periods under review. These returns showed a decrease of 0.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 9.1 per cent. compared with a year ago.

District.	No. employed during last week in Nov., 1905.	Workpeople covered by the Returns.		Earnings.	
		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last week in Oct., 1905.	Nov., 1904.	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on last pay-day in Nov., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last week in Oct., 1905.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.</b>		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.
London	3,463	+2.4	+9.8	4,053	-0.3
Leicester	13,260	+0.7	+4.8	12,705	+3.3
Leicester Country District	2,929	+0.5	+1.7	2,617	+7.1
Northampton	9,155	+0.1	+10.1	8,220	-5.0
Northampton Country District	9,267	-0.2	+3.5	8,627	-0.9
Kettering	3,382	+0.4	+6.0	3,305	-3.0
Stafford & District	2,418	+0.4	+1.9	2,016	+9.3
Norwich & District	4,079	+1.1	+3.4	3,335	+0.4
Bristol & District	2,444	+0.4	+4.3	2,364	-8.5
Kingswood	2,673	+0.1	-0.9	2,887	-1.5
Leeds & District	2,950	-0.3	-3.7	2,708	-3.8
Manchester & District	1,877	+0.2	-2.1	1,816	+3.4
Birmingham & District	887	+1.4	-6.0	699	-9.0
Other parts of England and Wales	3,226	+0.6	+0.7	2,825	+3.3
England and Wales	62,020	+0.0	+3.7	58,174	-0.5
SCOTLAND	4,081	+1.0	+0.3	4,054	-0.6
IRELAND	536	+3.7	+5.5	494	+5.2
UNITED KINGDOM	66,637	+0.1	+3.5	62,632	-0.5

Employment in London continued quiet. In Leicester, and the Leicester country district employment generally has improved, but the Trade Unions still reported a large number unemployed. In the Northampton districts the amount of wages paid showed a marked decline, but was much greater than a year ago; the Trade Union lasters and finishers reported a slight improvement at Northampton; the Trade Union clickers and pressmen reported employment as generally slack, except at a few large firms at Northampton, and as very quiet at Kettering. Employment continued to improve with army bootmakers. At Stafford a considerable improvement was reported, with overtime in two large firms; employment at Stone was still slack, but improving. At Norwich the Trade Union lasters and finishers reported employment as slightly worse; the clickers and pressmen as slightly better, and as good on the whole. The Trade Union lasters and finishers reported employment as good at Kendal, fairly good at Newcastle, bad at Nottingham and Birmingham, very quiet at Wolverhampton. Employment was reported as slack at Glasgow, fairly good at Maybole, very good at Edinburgh.

**Imports and Exports.**—The following Table gives the quantities and values of the boots and shoes imported, exported, and re-exported during November, 1905, and the eleven months ended November, 1905,

together with the increases or decreases, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1903 and 1904:—

	Month ended Nov. 31st, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with November,		Eleven months ended Nov. 30th, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in	
		1904.	1903.		1904.	1903.
<b>Imports</b>						
Dozen pairs	15,979	+187	-1,520	199,721	+5,930	-20,599
Value	£ 65,021	+3,627	-447	774,171	+54,925	-103,240
<b>Re-Exports</b>						
Dozen pairs	1,155	+70	-648	12,996	-3,439	-7,001
Value	£ 3,923	+178	-1,746	36,408	-10,757	-18,499
<b>Exports (British and Irish)</b>						
Dozen pairs	73,958	+7,683	+19,408	710,194	+99,119	-5,876
Value	£ 182,875	+26,825	+51,104	1,724,259	+296,706	+13,433

**HAT TRADE.**

(Based on Returns from Employers' Associations and Trade Unions.)

In the *Silk* hat trade the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of November was 15.4, compared with 13.0 at the end of October and 13.4 a year ago. In London employment was slack, and showed a decline towards the end of the month; it was better than a year ago. In Denton the Trade Union reported employment as bad and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In the *Felt* hat trade the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of November was 7.2, compared with 2.6 at the end of October, and 2.3 a year ago. Employment generally was quiet except in Stockport, where some overtime was reported. It was worse than a month ago and a year ago.

**OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, Local Correspondents, Trade Unions, and Women's Employment Bureaux in London.)

EMPLOYMENT in London showed a decline in the dressmaking, blouse and millinery trades; it was generally better than a year ago; firms employing 7,068 workpeople in the dressmaking, blouse, and millinery trades in the last week in November employed 569 less than a month ago, and 242 more than a year ago. Employment in the shirt and collar trade was moderate, and better than a year ago. In the corset trade it continued moderate, and was better than a year ago.

**Dress, Millinery, and Mantle Trades.**—In London, returns from retail firms, chiefly in the West-end district, employing 1,565 dressmakers in the last week in November, showed a decrease of 1.9 per cent. in the number employed, compared with a month ago, and of 0.4 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment during the month was fairly good, and better than a year ago. Court dressmakers, employing 1,647 workpeople, showed a decrease of 4.8 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 9.0 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment generally was moderate. In the wholesale mantle, costume and blouse trades, firms employing 2,642 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) during the last week in November, showed a decrease of 10.7 per cent. compared with a month ago, and no change compared with a year ago; employment generally was moderate. Firms employing 1,214 milliners showed a decrease of 10.2 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 10.2 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Returns from two Employment Bureaux showed a decrease in the demand for dressmakers and milliners, and an increase in the supply compared with a month ago; compared with a year ago, both demand and supply showed an increase.

In Manchester employment with mantle makers was moderate, and better than a year ago. In the costume and skirt trade employment was moderate, and showed a further decline compared with a month ago; it was better than a year ago. Firms employing 1,812 workpeople in the last week in November, showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 3.5 per cent. compared with a year ago.



In Glasgow employment with mantle makers was fairly good, and better than a year ago.

**Shirt and Collar Trade.**—Returns received from shirt and collar manufacturers in England, Scotland, and Ireland, employing 6,105 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) and paying £3,962 in wages during the last week in November, showed a decrease of 0.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 7.8 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment was moderate in London, good in Manchester and Glasgow, moderate in Belfast and Londonderry.

**Corset Trade.**—Returns received from corset manufacturers employing 3,832 workpeople in their factories at the end of November showed a decrease of 0.1 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 2.5 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment generally was reported as moderate during the month. Compared with a year ago, firms employing 26 per cent. reported employment as improved, firms employing 45 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 29 per cent. as worse.

**OTHER LEATHER TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from an Employers' Association, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during November was still quiet on the whole, and showed a slight decline on the previous month in the leather-making branches. Compared with a year ago, however, it was considerably better. Trade Unions with a membership of 4,701 had 6.8 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 5.6 per cent. in October, and 11.2 per cent. in November, 1904.

**Skinners, Tanners, Curriers, Dressers, etc.**—Employment was moderate on the whole, and slightly worse than a month ago, but considerably better than a year ago. The decline was principally with skinners at Leeds. Leather workers generally reported employment as fair; Edinburgh curriers as very good; National Curriers as good; and morocco finishers as fair.

**Saddle and Harness Makers, etc.**—Employment was still quiet, but showed a slight improvement on last month, and there was still a large number of men on short time. In London employment with saddle and harness makers was slightly better. Horse collar makers generally were very slack.

**Miscellaneous Leather Workers.**—Employment with portmanteau and trunk makers was reported as fair at London and Manchester. With fancy leather workers it continued bad.

**PAPER, PRINTING AND BOOK-BINDING TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in these trades greatly improved, as is usual in November, and was rather better on the whole than a year ago.

**PAPER TRADE.**

Employment in the machine trade was fairly good in England and good in Scotland, and better on the whole than a month ago and a year ago. In Scotland it was much better than a year ago, and overtime was worked. In the hand-made trade employment was fair, and showed some improvement on a month ago and a year ago.

	Number of Workpeople paid Wages in last week of Nov., 1905, by firms making Returns.	Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in No. of Workpeople as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Machine-made Paper and Milled Boards:</b>			
Northern Counties ...	4,802	+ 0.6	- 1.5
Midlands, Wales and Ireland ...	2,310	...	- 1.4
Southern Counties ...	5,640	+ 0.4	+ 2.0
Scotland ...	5,732	+ 1.3	+ 1.3
<b>Total Machine-made Paper, &amp;c. ...</b>	<b>18,484</b>	<b>+ 0.7</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>
<b>Hand-made Paper ...</b>	<b>1,097</b>	<b>+ 2.4</b>	<b>+ 0.2</b>
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>19,581</b>	<b>+ 0.8</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>

Returns received from firms employing 19,581 workpeople at the end of November showed that there was an increase of 0.8 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed as compared with October, and of 0.4 per cent. as compared with November, 1904.

Trade Unions in the machine trade with 1,702 members had 2.8 per cent. unemployed at the end of November, against 3.2 a month ago and 1.8 per cent. a year ago. In the hand-made trade, Trade Unions with 627 members had 5.7 per cent. unemployed, against 6.0 in October, 1905, and 6.8 in November, 1904.

**PRINTING TRADES.**

Employment greatly improved with letterpress printers during November on account of Christmas work. Trade Unions with 40,107 members had 3.0 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, against 5.2 per cent. in October. In November, 1904, the percentage of unemployed letterpress printers was 3.1. In the lithographic trade the figures showed some improvement compared with both a month ago and a year ago, Trade Unions of lithographic artists and printers with 6,448 members having 4.1 per cent. unemployed at the end of November, compared with 4.9 a month ago and 4.8 in November, 1904.

The following Table shows by districts the percentage unemployed in certain Trade Unions in the Printing Trades:—

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Nov., 1905 included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed as compared with a	
		Nov., 1905.	Oct., 1905.	Nov., 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London ...	18,685	2.9	6.3	3.2	- 3.4	- 0.3
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	5,256	2.4	4.6	3.4	- 2.2	- 1.0
Lancs. and Cheshire...	6,408	5.2	5.6	4.7	- 0.4	+ 0.5
East Midland and Eastern Counties	2,257	2.3	3.2	2.7	- 0.9	- 0.4
West Midlands ...	2,373	3.5	4.9	3.9	- 1.4	- 0.4
S. & S.W. Counties and Wales	3,635	1.6	2.6	1.1	- 1.0	+ 0.5
Scotland ...	5,509	2.5	2.4	2.7	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Ireland ...	2,432	6.1	8.9	6.4	- 2.8	- 0.3
<b>United Kingdom ...</b>	<b>46,555</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>- 2.0</b>	<b>- 0.2</b>

**London.**—Employment was fairly good generally, and much better than a month ago. Trade Unions of letterpress printers with 16,766 members had 2.7 per cent. unemployed, compared with 6.4 per cent. in October and 2.9 in November, 1904. In the lithographic trade employment with artists, though not quite so good as a month ago and a year ago, remained good on the whole; with printers it was considerably better than a year ago.

**Other Centres.**—In Edinburgh press and machinemen were still busy, but compositors were reported as not having been so well employed as in October; lithographic printers reported employment as quiet but improved. At Glasgow overtime was worked by letterpress printers; lithographic printers, however, were badly employed, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. At Manchester employment with letterpress printers was still slack, but with lithographic artists it was good, and with lithographic printers fair. At Liverpool employment was reported as having slightly improved. At Newcastle it was reported as having been quiet for the time of year. At Leeds there was a general improvement; in the last week of the month, no compositors being available, men were obtained from York and elsewhere. At Bradford a hundred extra men were brought from Manchester and other towns for temporary engagements on Christmas work. At Sheffield letterpress printers were busy, largely owing to the arrival of work from Bristol as a result of a recent fire at a printing works in that city. In the Midland, Southern and South-Western Counties employment was good generally, and better than a month ago, but with letterpress printers at Bristol and Cardiff it was quiet during the first part of the month. At Dublin employment with letterpress printers was reported as quiet.

**BOOKBINDING TRADES.**

Employment in these trades was good, and much better than a month ago and a year ago.

The following Table shows the percentage unemployed in Trade Unions making returns:—

	No. of Members of Unions at end of Nov., 1905 included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed as compared with a	
		Nov., 1905.	Oct., 1905.	Nov., 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London ...	3,675	1.9	2.7	3.1	- 0.8	- 1.2
Other Districts ...	3,316	3.2	4.3	4.1	- 1.1	- 0.9
<b>United Kingdom ...</b>	<b>6,991</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>- 1.0</b>	<b>- 1.0</b>

In London employment was good generally, overtime being worked; vellum account-book binders, however, reported employment as quiet. In the Provinces employment was fairly good, and at Edinburgh every Trade Union bookbinder was employed, but at Liverpool and Dublin employment was slack.

**BUILDING TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from Employers and Employers' Associations received through the Trade Correspondent, and on Returns from Trade Unions and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the building trades continued dull during November, and on the whole was a little worse than a month ago. Plumbers and slaters and tilers in England reported a slight improvement, but with bricklayers, painters, and carpenters and joiners in England employment was rather worse.

Compared with a year ago employment was, on the whole, much the same. With masons and painters in England, and with masons and plasterers in Scotland employment, however, was rather worse.

The percentage of Trade Union carpenters and joiners unemployed at the end of November was 8.3, as compared with 8.0 per cent. a month ago, and 10.1 per cent. in November, 1904. The percentage of Trade Union plumbers unemployed at the end of November was 11.1, as compared with 12.0 a month ago, and 10.5 a year ago. The figures for the principal districts are given in the following Table:—

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Nov., 1905.*	Percentage of Members of Unions returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage for Nov., 1905, as compared with a	
		Nov., 1905.	Oct., 1905.	Nov., 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.</b>						
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>						
London ...	6,553	10.2	8.8	10.3	+ 1.4	- 0.1
Northern Counties†	6,083	11.0	10.9	13.6	+ 0.1	- 2.6
Lancashire and Cheshire	10,042	6.4	6.3	9.7	+ 0.2	- 3.3
Yorkshire ...	4,875	10.0	9.2	10.3	+ 0.8	- 0.3
East Midlands ...	2,963	6.9	7.2	9.1	- 0.3	- 2.2
West Midlands ...	4,394	6.3	6.2	7.7	+ 0.1	- 1.4
Eastern Counties ...	1,093	10.3	9.3	9.8	+ 1.0	+ 0.5
S. and S.W. Counties	5,468	7.6	7.5	8.0	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Wales and Monmouth	1,892	6.0	5.5	4.2	+ 0.5	+ 1.8
Other Districts ...	668	4.3	6.1	6.3	- 1.8	- 2.0
<b>SCOTLAND ...</b>	<b>5,395</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>- 0.3</b>
<b>IRELAND ...</b>	<b>4,315</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>- 0.9</b>	<b>- 7.0</b>
<b>UNITED KINGDOM ...</b>	<b>53,681</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>+ 0.3</b>	<b>- 1.8</b>
<b>PLUMBERS.‡</b>						
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>						
London ...	1,113	14.6	13.2	13.0	+ 1.4	+ 1.6
Northern Counties†	1,390	6.3	8.0	9.3	- 1.7	- 3.0
Lancashire and Cheshire	2,333	9.0	8.1	9.7	+ 0.9	- 0.1
Yorkshire ...	1,954	9.0	8.7	9.7	+ 0.3	- 0.7
East Midlands ...	594	7.4	7.0	9.2	+ 0.4	- 1.8
West Midlands ...	466	6.7	5.6	13.6	+ 1.1	- 6.9
Eastern Counties ...	100	11.0	10.9	10.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
S. and S.W. Counties	449	8.5	9.4	9.8	- 0.9	- 1.3
Wales and Monmouth	282	5.7	6.9	3.6	- 1.2	+ 2.1
Other Districts ...	39	...	8.2	14.3	- 8.2	- 14.3
<b>SCOTLAND ...</b>	<b>2,071</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>24.3</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>- 4.9</b>	<b>+ 7.9</b>
<b>IRELAND ...</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>- 2.4</b>	<b>- 4.6</b>
<b>UNITED KINGDOM ...</b>	<b>10,525</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>- 0.9</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>

Returns received through the Trade Correspondent from 59 London employers show that in the last week of November they paid wages to 9,935 workpeople of all classes, as compared with 10,673 in October, 1905, and 11,711 in November, 1904. The state of employment compared unfavourably with a month ago, and with November, 1904.

\* Exclusive of superannuated members.  
† Revised figures for November, 1904.

‡ Including Middlesbrough.  
§ Revised figures.

According to returns received from Employers' Associations for 74 districts in the provinces and in Scotland and Ireland, employment showed some improvement as compared with the previous month in Coventry and Swansea, while in Birkenhead, Birmingham, Burton-on-Trent, Nottingham, Plymouth, and Edinburgh, and a few smaller towns there was a falling-off. In the remaining districts there was little alteration. Compared with a year ago employment was reported worse in 32 districts out of the 74 districts, while in 34 districts it was stated to be about the same. Only eight districts reported an improvement, viz., Blackpool, Altrincham, Radcliffe, Leigh, Coventry, North Staffs, Swansea and Paisley.

**FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during November continued fair on the whole, and was the same as a month ago. It was better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members in the furnishing and woodworking trades unemployed at the end of November was 5.4, compared with 5.3 at the end of October, 1905, and with 7.8 at the end of November, 1904.

**Millsawyers and Woodcutting Machinists.**

Employment with millsawyers and woodcutting machinists was quiet, but better than a month ago. It was also better than in November, 1904. Trade Unions with a membership of 4,707 showed 2.11 (or 4.5 per cent.) unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 5.3 per cent. at the end of October, 1905, and 6.9 per cent. at the end of November, 1904.

**Furnishing Trades.**

In the furnishing trades employment was slack on the whole, and about the same as a month ago. It was better than a year ago. Sixteen Trade Unions, with a membership of 13,725, showed 9.65 (or 7.0 per cent.) unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 6.9 per cent. at the end of October, 1905, and 10.0 per cent. at the end of November, 1904.

**Coopers.**

Employment with coopers was about the same as a month ago, but was rather better than a year ago. It was good at Yarmouth and Lowestoft, and at Fraserburgh and Peterhead. At Manchester, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Dublin employment was fair.

**Coachbuilding.**

Employment in the coachbuilding industry was quiet, and was not quite so good as a month ago. It was, however, better than a year ago. Trade Unions of coachmakers, wheelwrights, smiths, &c., with a membership of 8,307, reported 3.66 (or 4.4 per cent.) unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 3.9 per cent. at the end of October, 1905, and 6.9 per cent. at the end of November, 1904.

**Miscellaneous.**

**Brushmakers.**—Employment with brushmakers on the whole was fair, and was better than a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 1,678 reported 6.7 (or 4.0 per cent.) unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 4.6 per cent. at the end of October, 1905, and 8.0 per cent. at the end of November, 1904.

**Other Trades.**—With packing-case makers employment was fair; with basket makers it was moderate.

**GLASS, POTTERY, AND BRICK AND TILE TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the Glass trades was moderate on the whole, but better than both a month ago and a year ago. In the Pottery trades it continued fair generally, and was better than a year ago. It was dull in the Brick and Tile trades, and worse than last month.

**Glass Trades.**—Employment with glass bottle-makers was moderate on the whole, better than a month ago, and considerably better than a year ago. At Glasgow



however, it was good. Makers of medicine bottles at Rotherham were fairly busy.

Employment with flint-glass makers was slack on the whole, but better than a month ago, and about the same as a year ago. With flint-glass cutters employment was fair generally, and about the same as in October, but better than in November, 1904. Employment with sheet glass makers and flatteners at St. Helens continued good. With pressed glass makers in the Tyne and Wear district it continued slack, with much short time. With plate-glass bevellers and silverers at Birmingham, employment continued to improve and was fair. It continued fairly good with glass blowers in London, and was better than a year ago.

**Pottery Trades.**—In Staffordshire employment continued fairly good, and was much better than a year ago. At Swadlincote (Derbyshire) it continued bad, with much short time. At Newcastle-on-Tyne it continued fair. Employment at the potteries of North and South Devon was fair, and better than last month.

In Scotland employment generally continued fair, and was better than a year ago, but at Glasgow it was still quiet with white hollow-ware potters, and bad with tobacco-pipe makers.

**Brick and Tile Trades.**—Employment was dull generally, with much short time, and was worse than a month ago. It was, however, good in South Wales and at Oldham, and fair in South Staffordshire.

**AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.**

(Based on Reports from Correspondents in various parts of England.)

In November day labourers lost time in some counties owing to unfavourable weather. As farm work was generally in a forward state, the supply of casual labour was in excess of the demand in some districts.

**Northern Counties.**—Day labourers were somewhat irregularly employed in Northumberland, Cumberland, and Westmorland on account of wet weather. The supply of such labour was generally in excess of the demand. Some scarcity of women workers, however, is reported from the Hexham Union. In Lancashire many odd men are reported to have been out of work since the harvest was completed. At the Martinmas half-yearly hirings in Cumberland, Westmorland, and North Lancashire male farm servants were generally in excess of the demand, and wages were reduced in several instances. In Yorkshire such work as ploughing, storing roots, threshing, and hedge-trimming gave moderate employment to day labourers, but some men lost time through bad weather. Farm work is in an advanced state, and the demand for this class of labour was less than the supply. There was in many cases a reduction in wages at the recent hiring fairs in this county.

**Midland Counties.**—Employment was fairly regular in Cheshire and Derbyshire, but the supply of casual labour was greater than the demand. A scarcity of indoor farm servants is reported from the Tarvin Union. In Nottinghamshire turnip-lifting and threshing generally gave regular employment. Day labourers in Leicestershire lost a few days through rain, and farm-work being well forward there was some surplus of this class of labour. In Staffordshire and Shropshire employment was regular on the whole, and the supply of labour was about equal to the demand. There was not much demand for casual labour in Worcestershire, and more men are said to have been in irregular employment than for some years. Employment was fairly regular in Warwickshire; the supply of casual labour was sufficient, but a scarcity of men for permanent positions is reported in the Stratford-on-Avon Union. Employment was fairly regular in Northamptonshire, but some casual labourers from the towns were unable to find employment. Men for tending stock are said to be scarce in several districts in this county. Similar reports come from Oxfordshire. In this county and in Buckinghamshire there was a plentiful supply of day labour. Several odd men in Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire lost time through rainy days, and in Bedfordshire the supply of day labour was rather greater than the demand.

**Eastern Counties.**—Employment was generally regular in Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire. The supply of day labourers in some districts of Lincolnshire was in excess of the demand. A correspondent in the Brigg Union, however, states that all able-bodied agricultural labourers were in work, as well as some Irishmen. From the Lincoln Union it is reported that at the Martinmas hirings men for permanent situations were easier to obtain, and wages were slightly lower in some cases. In Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex securing the root crops and threshing generally gave regular employment, though bad weather caused some little interruption of work. In several districts, on account of the forward state of farm work, more day labourers were seeking work than were required.

**Southern and South-Western Counties.**—In Kent and Surrey many day labourers lost time on account of wet weather, and casual labour generally was in excess of the demand. Employment was fairly regular in Sussex, Hampshire, and Berkshire. Day labourers were not in much demand, and the supply in several districts was in excess of requirements. Men for permanent situations are reported to be more plentiful. In Wiltshire work on the land was somewhat affected by the stormy weather at the end of the month. A scarcity of men for permanent situations is reported in the Devizes Union. A correspondent in the Bradford-on-Avon Union states that, while there was a lessened demand, the supply of men for permanent situations was better than for the past five years. The wet weather caused some interruption to threshing, hedge-cutting, and hurdle-making in Dorset. A few day labourers were unable to obtain regular work on account of the slack demand for casual labour. Similar reports come from Somerset. Farm work was well forward in Herefordshire and Gloucestershire, and some day labourers were in irregular employment. Men for permanent situations have been rather more plentiful in the latter county. In Devon and Cornwall employment was fairly regular, and the supply of casual labour was generally sufficient.

**DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.**

(Based, as regards London, on Returns from Dock Companies, the Owners of the principal Wharves, the Shipping Federation, and Trade Unions; as regards other principal ports, on information supplied by Superintendents of Mercantile Marine, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents of the Department.)

EMPLOYMENT on the whole continued moderate, showing a slight improvement compared with October. In South Wales it was slack.

**London.\***—Employment was moderate generally, fogs causing some interruption by preventing ships from going up the river.

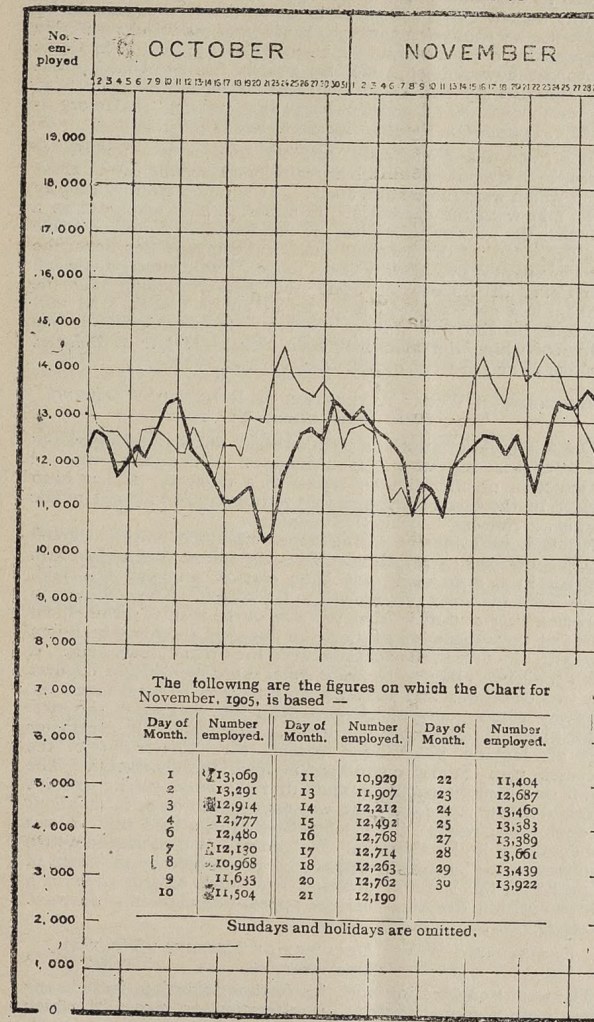
The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves during the four weeks ended November 25th was 12,446, an increase of 2.9 per cent. on last month and a decrease of 3.3 per cent. on November, 1904.

The daily numbers in November ranged from 10,929 on the 11th to 13,922 on the 30th. During November, 1904, the numbers ranged from 10,968† on the 9th to 14,619† on the 21st.

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves.				
	In Docks			At 108 Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors.	By Shlp-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended Nov. 4th	4,400	2,422	6,822	6,316	13,138
" " 11th	4,019	1,179	5,198	6,409	11,607
" " 18th	4,293	1,845	6,138	6,255	12,393
" " 25th	4,478	2,271	6,749	5,899	12,648
Average for 4 weeks ended Nov. 25th	4,297	1,929	6,226	6,220	12,446
Average for Oct., 1905	4,259†	1,832	6,091†	6,001	12,091†
Average for Nov., 1904	4,291†	1,847†	6,638†	6,289†	12,871†

\* Exclusive of Tilbury. † Revised figures.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 108 of the principal Wharves, for each day during the months of October and November, 1905. The corresponding curve for October and November 1904, is also given comparison.



In Liverpool employment was dull generally with dock labourers and quay and railway carters, though somewhat better, on the whole, than a month ago. It was stated that the Manchester Ship Canal, by diverting fruit and timber cargoes, is in some measure accountable for the depressed state of employment. With Mersey flatmen employment was fair.

**Other Ports.**—Employment, on the whole, was fair, and better than a month ago. In South Wales, however, it was slack, and worse than a month ago. Employment was slack also at Aberdeen, Cork, Gloucester, and Harwich. At Leith, Grimsby, and Dundee it was good.

**FISHING INDUSTRY.**

(Based on Returns from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Collectors of Fishery Statistics for England and Wales, the Fishery Board for Scotland, the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, and Local Correspondents.)

The fish landed during November showed a very considerable increase both in quantity and in value, as compared with a year ago, as will be seen by the following Table:—

	Quantity.				Value.			
	Nov., 1905.		Nov., 1904.		Nov., 1905.		Nov., 1904.	
	Cwts.	£	Cwts.	£	Cwts.	£	Cwts.	£
<b>Fish (other than Shell):</b>								
England and Wales	1,814,380	887,136	1,569,654	871,136	651,608	1,081,625	22,154	
Scotland	254,656	125,677	232,773	125,677	108,625			
Ireland	133,265	40,037	60,599	40,037				
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,192,501</b>	<b>1,052,820</b>	<b>1,863,026</b>	<b>1,036,820</b>	<b>782,797</b>			
<b>Shell Fish</b>								
Total Value		1,082,229			812,408			

From the Tyne, Blyth, and Wear employment among fishermen was reported as fair only, catches being limited by unsettled weather.

At Hull employment continued good with fishermen, but worse and declining with fish dock labourers and fish curers. Employment at Grimsby was good with all classes, and better than a month ago and a year ago. At Yarmouth it was good with all classes, better than a month ago, and the same as in November, 1904. At Lowestoft and Harwich employment with fishermen continued fair. Fish dock labourers and fish curers at Lowestoft were moderately employed.

Off the coasts of Devon and Cornwall fishing operations were very irregular owing to bad weather. Employment with fish packers, carters, and curers was quiet. Fair catches were again made at Cardiff, Swansea, and Milford.

Employment in all branches continued good at Aberdeen, and was the same as a year ago. At Peterhead it was good with fishermen and fair with fish dock labourers and curers. At Macduff employment continued moderate with fishermen and fish curers, and was worse than in November, 1904. Employment at Fraserburgh was good with fishermen and fish curers, and better than a year ago. With fish dock labourers it was bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. At Dundee, Montrose, and Arbroath employment was fair.

Off the South and South-Western coasts of Ireland herring fishing was fair during the month.

**SEAMEN SHIPPED IN NOVEMBER.**

(Based on Returns from the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.)

RETURNS received from certain selected ports (at which 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the Foreign Trade is entered and cleared) showed that, during November, 33,535\* seamen were shipped on foreign-going vessels, an increase of 964 on the number shipped in November, 1904. The principal increases were at Glasgow and London, while the principal decreases occurred at Cardiff and Newport.

During the eleven completed months of 1905, 408,194 seamen were shipped, of whom 57,687 (or 14.1 per cent.) were foreigners. Compared with the corresponding period of 1904, the total number shipped shows an increase of 7,445. The greatest increases occurred at Liverpool, Glasgow, and London, and the greatest decreases at Southampton, Bristol, and Belfast.

Table showing number\* of persons shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom during the periods mentioned:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in					
	November, 1905.			Eleven months ended November, 1905.		
	1904.	1905.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1905.	1904.	1905.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1905.
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>						
<b>East Coast.</b>						
Tyne Ports	2,282	2,561	+ 279	31,284	31,208	- 76
Sunderland	411	485	+ 74	4,996	5,715	+ 719
Middlesbrough	108	206	+ 98	2,711	3,273	+ 562
Hull	857	1,123	+ 266	12,009	12,015	+ 6
Grimsby	38	101	+ 63	966	1,423	+ 457
<b>Bristol Channel.</b>						
Bristol	548	536	- 12	7,240	6,509	- 731
Newport, Mon.	956	704	- 252	9,170	9,822	+ 652
Cardiff	4,474	3,897	- 577	49,749	49,624	- 125
Swansea	437	357	- 80	4,776	5,310	+ 534
<b>Other Ports.</b>						
Liverpool	12,075	11,927	- 148	146,408	150,943	+ 4,535
London	5,475	5,973	+ 500	68,323	67,176	- 1,147
Southampton	2,290	2,288	- 2	23,815	21,785	- 2,030
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
Leith	209	322	+ 113	3,830	4,451	+ 621
Kirkcaldy, Methil, & Grange-mouth	143	95	- 47	2,121	2,376	+ 255
Glasgow	2,100	2,729	+ 629	32,038	34,153	+ 2,115
<b>IRELAND.</b>						
Dublin	82	120	+ 38	799	835	+ 36
Belfast	88	108	+ 20	2,505	2,276	- 229
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,571</b>	<b>33,535</b>	<b>+ 964</b>	<b>400,749</b>	<b>408,194</b>	<b>+ 7,445</b>

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



LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

(1) Workmen's Compensation Acts.

ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF THE EMPLOYMENT.

Compensation is only payable under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, where the accident was one "arising out of and in the course of" the injured man's employment.

Sewer work in a public street was being done by a municipal council. A man was employed by the council as a night-watchman to look after the tools and traffic lamps and to prevent accidents. There was a watch-box for him to sit in. The tools were in a shanty, a structure formed of scaffold poles, trestles, planks and tarpaulin. The workmen during the day used to take their food, and sometimes to cook it, inside this shanty. On a night in March, 1905, the watchman desired to cook a chop; but as it was raining he could not cook it at the open fire near his box, and accordingly he went into the shanty and proceeded to light a fire there. Whilst he was so engaged the shanty collapsed and the man was injured.

He claimed compensation under the Act. At the hearing before a County Court judge, evidence was given that it was the duty of watchman to have a fire burning in front of his box; but that he had no right either to enter the shanty or to light a fire there, though he was not expressly forbidden so to do. The judge decided that the man was not properly in the shanty, and that the accident did not arise out of or in the course of his employment, and refused to award compensation. The applicant appealed. The Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, and sent the case back to the judge to make an award. The Court held that the applicant was none the less in the exercise of his duties as watchman because he was cooking a chop. It was not inconsistent with his duties to do this cooking in the shanty. There was no evidence that anything he did was the cause of the collapse of the shanty; and the accident was one which did arise out of and in the course of the applicant's employment.—*Morris v. Lambeth Borough Council, Court of Appeal, November 2nd, 1905.*

WHO IS A DEPENDANT? DESERTED WIFE.

In the application of the Act to England and Ireland, the term "dependants," is defined to mean such members of the family of a deceased workman, specified in the Fatal Accidents Act, 1846, as were wholly, or in part dependent upon the earnings of the workman at the time of his death.

A man had lived with his wife and maintained her from 1882 to June, 1904. He was then out of work and they were living on the sale of part of their furniture. On 28th June the man sold the last of his furniture and spent the proceeds in drink. Next day, after a quarrel, he went away taking a child with him and never returned to his wife again. He obtained work with an iron company, and on the 19th October, 1904, was killed in an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment. About a month before his death he sent the child back to his wife, but he never contributed anything to her support after he left her. The woman lived on casual work and on doles from relations, and for one week she was in the workhouse. She claimed compensation under the Act, but the company resisted the claim upon the ground that she was not dependent on her husband's earnings at the time of his death. In her evidence before the County Court judge she stated that she had expected her husband back every day to provide a home for her. The County Court judge decided that she was dependent upon her husband's earnings at the time of his death, and made an award in her favour.

On appeal the Court of Appeal held (dismissing the appeal), that there was evidence upon which the County Court judge could properly find that the widow was a dependant within the meaning of the Act.—*Coulthard v. Consett Iron Co., Ltd., Court of Appeal, November 3rd, 1905.*

ON OR IN OR ABOUT A FACTORY OR MINE.

The Act applies to employment on or in or about a railway, factory, mine, quarry or engineering work. "Factory" includes warehouse. "Railway" does not include a private railway.

A workman was employed by a gas company to dig a trench in a road for the purpose of obtaining access to a main gas pipe in order to repair a defect. While so employed, a stone struck by the man's pick flew up and injured his eye. The place where the accident occurred was about a quarter of a mile from the gasworks. The injured man was awarded compensation by the County Court judge, and the company appealed. On behalf of the company it was contended that the employment was one to which the Act did not apply, as it was not on or in or about a factory; for though the gasworks was a non-textile factory, their limits as a factory were their curtilage, and the pipes were merely instruments for distributing the manufactured article to the company's customers. For the workman it was argued that the gas mains were part of the gasworks, and therefore part of a factory. The Court allowed the appeal and set aside the award, holding that the gas main in the street, being in no way concerned with the manufacture of gas, but being used solely for the purpose of delivering the gas to the consumers, could not be considered as part of the gasworks so as to be part of a factory.—*Spacey v. Doullais Gas & Coke Company, Ltd., Court of Appeal, November 17th, 1905.*

In another case a firm of millers had three places of business in the same town. One was a mill, a second a warehouse on a quay,

and a third a warehouse close to a siding of a railway. A workman in the employment of the firm loaded some sacks of meal on a dray at the mill, drove to the warehouse near the siding, and thence to the siding itself, where he had to transfer the sacks to a railway wagon. Whilst engaged in this work he was injured by accident, the spot being some 300 yards from the warehouse. He was awarded compensation by a County Court judge. The Court of Appeal however set aside the award, holding that it was impossible to say that an accident which occurred 300 yards from the warehouse was an accident happening "about" a factory.—*White v. Price & Co., Court of Appeal, November 3rd, 1905.*

In a third case a company were the owners of a number of mines, and also owned a private railway connecting two of these mines which were three miles apart. At a point on this railway half a mile from the nearest of the mines, a man employed as a guard on the railway was killed by accident. A claim was made by a dependant of the deceased man, and compensation under the Act was awarded by a County Court judge. The company appealed. The Court of Appeal set aside the award, holding that the accident had not happened in or on or about a mine, and that consequently the Act did not apply to the employment in the course of which the man had been killed.—*Hopper v. Bolckow, Vaughan & Co., Court of Appeal, November 2nd, 1905.*

ENGINEERING WORK: ALTERATION OF RAILROAD: CARRYING TELEPHONE WIRE UNDER TRAMWAY.

The Act applies to work on or in or about an engineering work; and "engineering work" is defined to include any work of construction or alteration or repair of a railroad. It has been decided by the Court of Appeal that a tramway laid along a public road is a "railroad" within this definition.

A telephone company, acting under statutory powers, agreed with a contractor to carry a telephone wire across and underneath a street in a town along which an electric tramway was laid. There were two lines of tramway to be crossed. The contractor's workmen dug a trench from the side of the road to within about 2 feet of the outside rail of the down line, and another trench in a line with the first in the space between the up and down lines. A small tunnel was then to be made under the down line to connect the two trenches; and thus the wire was to be laid under the tramway without any interference with the working of the cars. Whilst making this connecting tunnel, a workman of the contractor was accidentally killed by a passing car. The widow of the deceased man claimed compensation from the contractor. The claim was resisted on the ground that the employment was not within the Act, as the workman was not engaged on or in or about an engineering work. The County Court judge held that he was not employed in the alteration of a railroad, and refused to award compensation. The widow appealed. It was held by the Court of Appeal that the work in question was work of alteration of a railroad within the Act; and the appeal was allowed.—*Adams v. Shaddock, Court of Appeal, November 1st, 1905.*

ENGINEERING WORK: DELIVERY OF MACHINE: WORK OF CONSTRUCTION.

The term "engineering work" is further defined to include any other work for the construction, alteration or repair of which machinery driven by steam, water or other mechanical power is used.

An agent in England for manufacturers in the United States sold a machine to a firm of tanners, and sent a workman to erect the machine on the buyer's premises. For the purposes of the delivery the machine was taken to pieces, and in order to get the smaller parts from the yard to the third floor of the building the workman used a steam hoist belonging to the buyers. While shifting the large frame of the machine, not, however, by means of the hoist, the man got his foot crushed, and it had to be amputated. He claimed compensation under the Act, and the County Court judge made an award in his favour, on the ground that he was employed in work for the purpose of which steam power was being used, and that, therefore, he was engaged in or on or about engineering work. The employer appealed. The Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, holding that when the accident happened the machine was being delivered, not being constructed, and that delivery was quite different from construction; and that therefore there was no evidence that the man was engaged in engineering work at the time of the accident.—*Murphy v. O'Donnell, Court of Appeal, November 3rd, 1905.*

(2) Trades Unions.

CONSPIRACY ACT: WATCHING AND BESSETTING: INJUNCTION AGAINST PICKETTING.

It is provided by the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act, 1875, that every person is guilty of an offence who, with a view to compel any other person to abstain from doing or to do any act which such other person has a legal right to do or abstain from doing, wrongfully and without legal authority, watches and besets the house where such other person resides, or works, or carries on business, or happens to be, or the approach to such house or place. It is, however, further provided that attending at or near such house or place, or to approach to such house or place, in order merely to obtain or communicate information, shall not be deemed a watching or besetting within the meaning of the Act.

A company carrying on business as house furnishers had a dispute as to the rate of wages with the French polishers in their employ. In consequence the men ceased to work, and the trade union to which they belonged stationed two or more of the men near the company's shop, on successive days, to walk up and down in front of the premises, carrying in their hats a card, on which was printed the word "Pickets," followed by a statement that the

company's French polishers were on strike against a reduction of 1d. an hour in their wages. The company thereupon commenced an action against the union, claiming—(1) An injunction to restrain the defendants, their servants and agents, from watching or besetting the premises of the plaintiffs, or approaches thereto, or causing or procuring the same to be watched or beset in such a manner as to cause a nuisance to the plaintiffs, or for any other purpose except merely to obtain or communicate information; and (2) Damages.

On the application of the plaintiffs a judge of the High Court granted an interim injunction until the trial of the action to the above effect. A number of affidavits were sworn dealing with the facts, but it was admitted that the pickets in question did not speak to anyone in the plaintiffs' employment, or to any persons entering or leaving the shop. The defendants appealed against the injunction granted.

The Court of Appeal refused to interfere with the injunction, holding that there was ample evidence to justify the Judge in coming to the conclusion that there had been an illegal watching and besetting, not merely for the purpose of obtaining or communicating information; and that the injunction was not too wide, as it was always a question of degree whether a thing were a nuisance or not, and the injunction was sufficiently accurate as to the line over which the defendants must not pass.—*Thomas Wallis & Co., (Ltd.) v. The United French-Polishers London Society and Others, Court of Appeal, November 27th, 1905.*

PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT, AND FLOUR.

I.—BREAD.

RETURNS have been received from the principal Co-operative Societies in Great Britain and from Local Correspondents, showing the price of ordinary household bread, per 4 lbs., on December 1st, 1905.

Returns from Co-operative Societies.

The figures in the following Table are based on 233 returns from Co-operative Societies in England and Wales, and 128 from Scotland, and give the highest, lowest, and mean of the prices per 4 lbs. of bread as returned in various districts:—

District.	Present Prices (1st Dec., 1905.)			Price last quarter. (1st Sept., 1905.)			Price a year ago. (1st Dec., 1904.)		
	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.
ENGLAND AND WALES.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
N. Counties and Yorkshire	7	4½	5.72	7	5	5.78	7½	4½	5.79
Lancs. & Cheshire	6	4	5.19	6	4½	5.23*	6	4½	5.28*
N. Mid. Counties...	5½	4	4.77	5½	4	4.77*	6	4	4.80
W. do. do. ...	5½	4½	4.98	5½	4½	5.17*	5½	4½	5.28*
S. do. do. ...	6	4	4.91	6	4	4.96	6	4	5.01
Eastern Counties...	6	4½	5.23	6	4½	5.40	6	5	5.73
London ...	5½	5	5.45	5½	5	5.43	6	5	5.73
S.E. Counties ...	6	5	5.82	6	5	5.63	6	5	5.71
S.W. Counties, } Wales & Mon. }	5½	5	5.09	5½	5	5.10	6	5	5.21
England and Wales ...	7	4	5.18	7	4	5.23*	7½	4	5.31*
SCOTLAND.									
N. Counties ...	6½	5½	5.76	6½	5½	5.77	6½	5	5.75
Eastern Counties	5½	4	5.74	6½	4	5.75*	7	4	5.98*
Lanarkshire ...	6	5½	5.62	6	5½	5.65	6½	5½	6.00
Other Southern Counties ...	6	5½	5.86	6½	5½	5.93	6½	5½	6.19
Scotland ...	6½	4	5.77	6½	4	5.80*	7	4	6.00*
Great Britain ...	7	4	5.39	7	4	5.43	7½	4	5.55

It will be seen that for every district the mean price on December 1st, compared with the mean price on September 1st, was either unchanged or slightly less. The total decrease, however, only amounted to .04d. per 4lbs.

The decrease compared with a year ago was more marked, amounting to nearly ½d. per 4lbs. in Scotland, and half that amount in England and Wales. In London it was .28d. less.

Returns from Local Correspondents.

The Returns as to the price of bread per 4 lbs., as furnished by the Local Correspondents of the Depart-

\* Revised figures.

† Though it is not possible to state that the quality of bread referred to is in all cases the same, the prices for each place are believed to be, generally speaking, comparable with those for a month and a year ago. The prices selected represent, so far as can be ascertained, the prevailing prices paid at the various places by workpeople for 4 lbs. of ordinary bread of average quality.

ment, relate to London and 26 large provincial towns at the beginning of December.

As compared with a month ago, prices remained unchanged at all the towns in the Table, with the exception of Gateshead and Newcastle, where an increase\* of ½d. per 4 lbs. took place, and of Wolverhampton, where the predominant price is now 5d.

As compared with a year ago, decreases of ½d. occurred in five towns in England and Wales; two in Scotland; and one in Ireland. London showed a decrease of ½d. No towns in the Table showed any rise in price except Gateshead and Newcastle, where the price increased ½d. per 4 lbs.

Place.	Present Price (Dec. 1st, 1905.)	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Last Change.	
		Month ago.	Year ago.	Date.	Am't. per 4lbs.
London ...	d.	d.	d.	Oct. '05	- ½
Birmingham ...	4½ & 5	...	...	Aug. '04	- ½
Bolton ...	4½ to 5½	...	...	...	...
Bristol ...	5	...	...	...	...
Cardiff ...	5	...	...	Oct. '05	- ½
Derby ...	5½	...	...	...	...
Gateshead ...	4½ & 5	+ ½*	+ ½*	Feb. '05	- ½
Huddersfield ...	5½ & 6*	...	...	Nov. '05	+ ½
Hull ...	5	...	...	...	...
Ipswich ...	4½ to 5½	...	...	Feb. '04	+ ½
Leicester ...	5½	...	...	Aug. '03	+ ½
Liverpool ...	4½	...	...	...	...
Manchester ...	5	...	...	June '03	+ 1
Middlesbrough ...	4½	...	...	Mar. '05	+ ½
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	6	...	...	Aug. '03	+ ½
Norwich ...	5½ & 6*	+ ½*	+ ½*	Nov. '05	+ ½
Nottingham ...	4½	...	...	July '04	- ½
Oldham ...	5	...	...	...	...
Plymouth ...	4½	...	...	Sept. '03	+ ½
Potteries ...	5	...	...	Feb. '05	- ½
Wolverhampton ...	4	...	...	Oct. '05	- ½
Aberdeen ...	5	- ½	- ½	Nov. '05	- ½
Dundee ...	5½	...	...	Mar. '03	+ ½
Edinburgh ...	6	...	...	Aug. '04	+ ½
Glasgow ...	6	...	...	April '05	- ½
Belfast ...	5½	...	...	May '05	- ½
Dublin ...	5	...	...	June '05	- ½
	6	...	...	Sept. '04	+ ½

II.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.

The Table below gives the mean London Gazette price of British wheat, the average declared value of the wheat and flour imports, and the market price of London flour (Town Households) for the periods stated:—

Month.	British Wheat.		Imports.		Average Monthly Price of London Flour (Town Households) ex Mill for cash.
	Mean London Gazette Price (England and Wales).	Average Declared Value.	Wheat.	Wheat-meal and Flour.	
	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.	
1904.					
November ...	7 1	7 2½	10 1½	10 8½	
1905.					
October ...	6 3½	7 2½	10 4	10 0	
November ...	6 7½	7 4½	10 4½	10 0	

The imports of wheat from foreign countries and the Colonies from 1st September to 30th November, 1905, amounted to 22,145,600 cwts., or 6,526,200 cwts. less than in the corresponding period of 1904. The imports of wheat-meal and flour during September-November, 1905, amounted to 3,948,039 cwts., or 942,969 cwts. more than during September-November, 1904.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE IRISH AGRICULTURAL ORGANISATION SOCIETY.

THE Annual Conference of the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society was held in Dublin on November 23rd, when about 100 delegates were present.

The President, Lord Monteagle of Brandon, presided, and delivered an address surveying the work of the Association and the position of co-operation in Ireland.

The annual report submitted to the Conference, showed that at the end of last year there were in existence in Ireland 778 co-operative societies with a total membership of 42,474, and a total business during the year of £1,029,143 compared with £964,066 in 1903. After a lengthy discussion of the report, which was adopted,

\* The higher price quoted for Gateshead and Newcastle is due, not to a definite change in price, but to an increased demand for bread at the higher price.



resolutions were passed protesting against the high railway rates charged for the carriage of Irish produce, and urging the Government to take efficient measures to put an end to the system of butter adulteration now prevailing.

Colonel Nugent Everard was elected President in place of Lord Monteaige, who was resigning.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

THE total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act during November was 61, consisting of 55 cases of lead poisoning, 2 of mercurial poisoning, and 4 cases of anthrax. Five deaths were reported, 2 of which were due to lead poisoning, and 3 to anthrax.

During the eleven months ended November, 1905, the total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax was 610, as compared with 595 during the corresponding period of 1904. The number of deaths was 38, being 8 more than in 1904.

[Cases include all attacks, fatal or otherwise, reported to the Home Office during the month, and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months. Deaths include all fatal cases reported during the month, whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not.]

Disease and Industry.	CASES.				DEATHS.				
	Month of Nov., 1905.	Eleven Months ended Nov., 1905.		Month of Nov., 1905.	Eleven Months ended Nov., 1905.		Month of Nov., 1905.	Eleven Months ended Nov., 1905.	
		1905.	1904.		1905.	1904.			
<b>Lead Poisoning—</b>									
Smelting of Metals ...	1	23	30	—	1	1	—	1	1
Brass Works ...	—	4	10	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping ...	—	9	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Plumbing and Soldering ...	5	23	20	—	2	3	—	—	—
Printing ...	1	16	13	—	4	—	—	—	—
File Cutting ...	1	9	18	—	—	3	—	—	—
Tinning and Enamelling of Iron ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hollow-ware ...	2	13	9	—	1	—	—	—	—
White Lead Works ...	5	83	108	—	1	2	—	—	—
Red and Yellow Lead Works ...	153	9	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
China and Earthenware* ...	2	79	94	—	3	3	—	—	—
Litho-transfer Works ...	—	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glass Cutting and Polishing ...	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enamelling of Iron Plates ...	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Electrical Accumulator Works ...	2	24	31	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paint and Colour Works ...	5	56	29	—	1	1	—	—	—
Coach Making ...	7	53	44	—	3	3	—	—	—
Shipbuilding ...	1	31	45	—	2	—	—	—	—
Paint used in other Industries ...	5	46	25	—	1	3	—	—	—
Other Industries ...	14	65	46	—	1	3	—	—	—
<b>Total Lead Poisoning†</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>			
<b>Mercurial Poisoning—</b>									
Barometer and Thermometer making	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Furriers' processes ...	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Industries ...	—	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total Mercurial Poisoning</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>			
<b>Phosphorus Poisoning</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>			
<b>Arsenic Poisoning—</b>									
Paints, Colours and Extraction of Arsenic ...	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Industries ...	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total Arsenic Poisoning</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>			
<b>Anthrax—</b>									
Wool Sorting ...	—	3	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
Wool Combing ...	3	26	8	—	3	9	—	—	—
Handling of Horsehair ...	—	6	9	—	—	2	—	—	—
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.) ...	1	13	13	—	4	2	—	—	—
Other Industries ...	—	1	8	—	1	2	—	—	—
<b>Total Anthrax</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>			
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>610</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>30</b>			

**Bankruptcies.**—The bankruptcies gazetted during November numbered 411, a decrease of 9 as compared with November, 1904. For the eleven months ended November, 1905, the number was 4,425, as compared with 4,170 during the corresponding period of 1904.

\* The 2 persons affected in the china and earthenware industry in November, 1905, were females.

† **House Painters and Plumbers.**—In addition to the cases included in the Table 17 cases of lead poisoning (including 2 deaths) were reported during November among house painters and plumbers. The number of such cases reported during the eleven months ended November, 1905, was 149 (including 25 deaths), and for 1904, 208 (including 35 deaths).

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN NOVEMBER.

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

EXCLUSIVE of seamen, the number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during November, 1905, was 241, being 49 more than in October, 1905, and 26 more than in November, 1904. The mean number for November in the years 1900-1904 was 226, the maximum year in this period being 1902, with 263 deaths, and the minimum year 1903, with 213 deaths.

The number of fatal accidents to seamen reported in November, 1905, was 189. The number reported in November of the years 1900-1904 varied from 65 to 208, the mean for the five years being 136.

In the classes of industries in which the number employed is approximately known, viz., Railway Service (exclusive of contractors' servants), Mines, Quarries, Shipping, Factories, and Laundries, the number of workpeople reported as killed was 392, as compared with 245 in November, 1904. The approximate number of workpeople employed in these industries according to the latest returns was about 5,800,000.

In the following Table the accidents reported in November, 1905, are classified by the trades in which they occurred, and comparative figures are given for the preceding month and for the corresponding month of last year:—

Trade.	Number of Workpeople killed during			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov., 1905, as compared with a	
	Nov., 1905.	Oct., 1905.	Nov., 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Railway Service—</b>					
Brakemen and Goods Guards	3	3	4	—	— 1
Engine Drivers	3	2	1	+ 1	+ 2
Firemen	1	1	3	—	— 2
Guards (Passenger)	1	—	1	+ 1	—
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	9	8	3	+ 1	+ 6
Porters	2	3	4	— 1	— 2
Shunters	1	4	—	— 3	+ 1
Miscellaneous	6	12	11	— 6	— 5
Contractors' Servants	1	2	2	— 1	— 1
<b>Total Railway Service</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>— 8</b>	<b>— 2</b>
<b>Mines—</b>					
Underground	78	56	75	+ 22	+ 3
Surface	13	13	14	—	— 1
<b>Total Mines</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>+ 22</b>	<b>+ 2</b>
<b>Quarries over 20 feet deep</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>— 1</b>	<b>+ 2</b>
<b>Factories—</b>					
<b>Textile—</b>					
Cotton	5	2	3	+ 3	+ 2
Wool and Worsted	—	1	2	— 1	— 2
Other Textiles	—	2	—	— 2	—
<b>Non Textile—</b>					
Extraction of Metals	3	3	10	—	+ 5
Founding and Conversion of Metals	15	10	10	+ 5	+ 5
Marine and Locomotive Engineering	2	2	1	—	+ 1
Ship and Boat Building	13	7	11	+ 6	+ 2
Wood	3	2	3	+ 1	—
Chemicals, &c.	5	7	4	— 2	+ 1
Other Non-Textile Industries	30	24	21	+ 6	+ 9
<b>Total Factories</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>+ 16</b>	<b>+ 20</b>
<b>Workshops</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>+ 2</b>	<b>+ 2</b>
<b>Accidents reported under Factory Act, Ss. 103-5—</b>					
Docks, Wharves, and Quays	16	9	16	+ 7	—
Warehouses	5	—	2	+ 5	+ 3
Buildings to which Act applies	11	4	10	+ 7	+ 1
Laundries	—	1	—	— 1	—
<b>Total under Factory Act, Ss. 103-5</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>+ 18</b>	<b>+ 4</b>
<b>Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>— 2</b>
<b>Total, exclusive of Seamen</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>+ 49</b>	<b>+ 26</b>
<b>Seamen—</b>					
<b>On Trading Vessels—</b>					
Sailing	81	33	15	+ 48	+ 66
Steam	97	58	42	+ 39	+ 55
<b>On Fishing Vessels—</b>					
Sailing	2	1	3	+ 1	— 1
Steam	9	16	5	— 7	+ 4
<b>Total Seamen</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>+ 81</b>	<b>+ 124</b>
<b>Total, including Seamen</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>+ 130</b>	<b>+ 150</b>

TRADE DISPUTES IN NOVEMBER.\*

**Number and Magnitude.**—Nineteen new disputes began in November, 1905, compared with nine in October, 1905, and 25 in November, 1904. By the 19 disputes, 2,783 workpeople were directly and 784 indirectly affected, and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople affected by old disputes which began before November, and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 9,811 workpeople involved in trade disputes during November, 1905, compared with 9,506 in October, 1905, and 7,236 in November, 1904.

**New Disputes in November, 1905.**—In the following Table the new disputes in November are summarised by trades affected:—

Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople affected.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Building ...	2	51	50	81
Coal Mining ...	3	270	120	390
Metal, Engineering, and Shipbuilding	6	699	320	1,019
Cotton Weaving ...	6	838	236	1,134
Other Trades ...	2	875	78	953
<b>Total, November, 1905</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2,783</b>	<b>784</b>	<b>3,567</b>
<b>Total, October, 1905</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>1,050</b>
<b>Total, November, 1904</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>4,583</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>4,760</b>

**Causes.**—Of the nineteen new disputes, seven arose on demands for increased wages, four on other wages questions, two on questions of hours of labour, four on questions of employment of particular classes or persons, and two on details of working arrangements.

**Results.**—Definite results were reported in November in the case of eight new disputes, affecting 1,301 workpeople, and four old disputes, affecting 215 workpeople. Of these twelve new and old disputes, two, involving 247 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; five, involving 602 persons, in favour of the employers; and five, involving 667 persons, were compromised. In

the case of five other disputes, involving 1,416 persons, terminating during the month, certain points are still under consideration.

**Aggregate Duration.**—The aggregate duration in November of disputes that started or were settled in that month was 28,300 working days. In addition, 141,500 working days were lost during November owing to disputes that began before that month, and at the end of the month were still unsettled. Thus the total duration in November of all disputes, new and old, was 169,800 working days, as compared with 176,000 in the previous month, and 67,200 in the corresponding month of 1904.

**Summary for the Eleven completed Months of 1904 and 1905†.**—The number of disputes, the number of workpeople affected, and the aggregate duration in working days for the eleven months January-November, 1904 and 1905, respectively, were as follows:—

Groups of Trades.	January to November.					
	1904.			1905.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople affected.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople affected.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.
Building ...	34	8,623	344,100	25	6,410	414,100
Mining and Quarrying ...	98	43,084	500,700	85	40,600	1,020,700
Metal, Engineering, and Shipbuilding	63	11,221	155,500	63	11,787	462,100
Textile ...	48	11,896	118,600	56	14,196	123,500
Clothing ...	23	1,156	11,300	25	2,925	71,000
Transport ...	9	1,789	37,700	8	1,962	51,100
Other Trades ...	38	3,824	122,300	36	8,111	78,600
<b>Total</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>81,593</b>	<b>1,350,200</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>85,991</b>	<b>2,421,100</b>

**Principal Disputes.**—Particulars of the three principal disputes which began during November are given below. The details of the other disputes in progress during November are not separately stated in this Table, but they are included in the preceding statistics.

Principal Trade Disputes.

Occupations.†	Locality.	Number of Workpeople Affected.		Date when Dispute began in 1905.	Duration in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.‡	Result.‡
		Directly.	Indirectly.				
Shipbuilding— Platers, Labourers	Sunderland	97	200	10 Nov.	8	Refusal to work with apprentices ...	Work resumed pending inquiry.
Dock Labour— Sugar Porters	Greenock	350	—	11 Nov.	—	For advance in wages of 1d. an hour	No settlement reported.
Tramwaymen— Motormen and Conductors, Cleaners and Overhaulers	Newcastle-on-Tyne	525	78	18 Nov.	2	Against proposal that men should work 11 instead of 12 days a fortnight with view to avoid reducing staff	Work resumed on old conditions pending consideration of grievances by a joint committee.

\* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration exceeded 100 days.

† In making up the totals for the several months of the year, the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information.

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

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

	Summary for November.				
	IMPORTS.*				
	Month ended 30th November.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1905 as compared with	
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1903.
<b>I.—Food, Drink and Tobacco.</b>	£ 21,211,538	£ 21,613,044	£ 20,756,313	— 856,731	— 455,225
<b>II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured.†</b>	16,789,168	17,722,354	19,586,920	+ 1,864,566	+ 2,797,752
<b>III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured.‡</b>	10,520,788	11,140,131	12,579,991	+ 1,439,860	+ 2,059,203
<b>IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post).</b>	202,097	195,317	223,710	+ 28,393	+ 21,613
<b>Total value of Imports</b>	<b>48,723,591</b>	<b>50,670,846</b>	<b>53,146,934</b>	<b>+ 2,476,088</b>	<b>+ 4,423,343</b>

\* The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight; or when goods are consigned for sale, the



CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.\*

Wages.

Changes reported in November.—The net effect of all the changes reported in November was an increase of £1,253 per week, as compared with an increase of £610 per week in October, and a decrease of £6,662 per week in November, 1904. The number of workpeople affected was 25,712, all of whom received advances. The total number affected in October, 1905, was 20,941, and in November, 1904, 154,388.

Two changes, one affecting 3,000 iron puddlers and millmen, and the other, 3,500 steel millmen, were arranged by Conciliation Boards, and three changes, affecting 4,281 workpeople engaged in steel manufacture, took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting 14,931 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives, one of these changes, affecting 206 workpeople, being preceded by a dispute causing stoppage of work.

Summary for the Eleven completed Months of 1905.—For the eleven months, January–November, 1905, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) respecting whom wages-changes were reported was 566,414, as compared with 791,538, for the corresponding period of 1904. The changes arranged gave 287,839 workpeople a net increase amounting to £13,837 per week, and 248,156 a net decrease amounting to £17,849 per week, while the remaining 30,419 had upward and downward changes which left their wages at the same level as at the beginning of the year. The net effect of all the changes reported was a decrease of £4,012 per week, as compared with a decrease of £39,182 per week in the corresponding period of 1904.

Summarised by trades, the number of workpeople affected by the changes reported during the eleven months January–November, 1904 and 1905 respectively, and the net result of the changes on their weekly wages, were as follows:—

Groups of Trades.	January–November.			
	1904.		1905.	
	No.	£.	No.	£.
Building ... ..	9,120	738	10,221	966
Coal Mining ... ..	655,890	31,171	198,246	13,471
Iron Mining ... ..	10,813	531	7,493	345
Quarrying ... ..	2,731	91	8,434	539
Pig Iron Manufacture ... ..	11,235	680	15,285	872
Iron and Steel Manufacture ... ..	52,019	2,938	47,127	1,063
Engineering and Shipbuilding... ..	31,094	2,614	47,251	1,815
Other Metal Trades ... ..	1,353	4	719	39
Textile Trades ... ..	2,679	59	221,437	10,037
Glass, Chemical, &c. Trades ... ..	4,879	691	1,544	137
Other Trades ... ..	4,766	54	3,839	260
Employees of Local Authorities ... ..	4,959	390	4,828	378
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>791,538</b>	<b>39,182</b>	<b>866,414</b>	<b>4,012</b>

Hours.

No changes in hours of labour were reported during November, 1905. During the eleven months, January–November, the total number of workpeople reported as affected by changes in hours of labour was 90,562, the net reduction in their working time being 58,114 hours per week.

Principal Changes in Wages in November.

Particulars of the principal changes in rates of wages reported in November are given below. The details of the other changes reported in November are not separately stated in this Table, but they are included in the preceding statistics.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN WAGES REPORTED IN NOVEMBER.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change takes effect in 1905.	Occupation.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Particulars of Change.
				Increase.	Decrease.	
Iron ... ..	West of Scotland	27 Nov.	Puddlers ... ..	3,000	...	Advance of 3d. per ton (8s. 3d. to 8s. 6d.) under sliding scale.
			Millmen ... ..	...	...	Advance of 2½ per cent. under sliding scale.
Steel ... ..	Northumberland, Durham, Cleveland, Cumberland, North Lancashire, South Yorkshire, Midlands, and Lincolnshire	5 Nov.	Steel Melters and Pitmen ... ..	1,426	...	Advance of 1½ per cent. under sliding scale.
			Gas Produccermen and Charge Wheelers ... ..	621	...	Advance of 8 per cent.
		5 Nov.	Lincolnshire ... ..	365	...	Advance of 8 per cent.
			Midlands and Lincolnshire ... ..	466	...	Advance of 1½ per cent. under sliding scale.
Iron and Steel Founding and Engineering ... ..	Scotland ... ..	5 Nov.	Steel Millmen ... ..	1,250	...	Advance of 1½ per cent. under sliding scale, making wages 17 per cent. above the standard.
			Steel Melters and Pitmen ... ..	972	...	Advance of 1½ per cent. under sliding scale.
		22 Oct.	Gas Produccermen and Charge Wheelers ... ..	977	...	Advance of 5 per cent.
			Enginemen, Cranemen, &c. ... ..	1,359	...	Advance of 5 per cent.
Employees of Local Authorities ... ..	Edinburgh ... ..	10 Oct.	Steel Millmen ... ..	3,500	...	Advance of 3d. per hour to time workers in steel works and marine and jobbing shops.
			Moulders ... ..	5,000	...	Advance of 5 per cent. on piece rates, and of 3d. per hour on time rates.
Employees of Local Authorities ... ..	Edinburgh ... ..	10 Oct.	Engineers ... ..	5,000	...	Advance of 1s. per week.
			Scavengers, Carters, Wagonmen, &c. ... ..	422	...	Advance of 1s. per week.

\* Based on information obtained from all available sources verified and corrected by direct application to the Employers, Trade Unions, and other parties concerned. In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information.

The following kinds of changes are not included in the statistics:—(1) Changes in wages affecting agricultural labourers, seamen, and railway servants; (2) Increments accruing under scales of pay, as in the case of policemen, some municipal employees, and many railway servants, &c.; (3) Changes in pay of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c.

AGRICULTURAL HIRINGS.

Martinmas Hirings in Cumberland, Westmorland, and Lancashire.

Information as to the rates of wages agreed upon at the half-yearly hiring fairs held at Martinmas (November) in Cumberland, Westmorland, and North Lancashire has been received from a correspondent who made special inquiries on behalf of the Department. The report states that there was a plentiful supply of all classes of male farm servants, of whom many remained

unhired, and that the highest paid men were engaged by the farmers at home; women were scarce, but there was a larger number than usual of girls.

Wages were generally somewhat lower for male servants and girls, but showed an upward tendency in the case of women. The following are the rates of wages generally agreed upon for the half-year, board and lodging being in all cases provided in addition:—Best men, £14 to £18; second-class men, £10 to £14; youths and boys, £4 to £10; best women, £10 to £13; second-class women and girls, £4 to £10.

EMIGRATION FROM UNITED KINGDOM.

DURING November 28,119 passengers left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe. Of this number 16,281 were of British or Irish origin, and 11,838 were foreigners or other persons whose nationality was not stated. As compared with November, 1904, there was a decrease of 527 in the number of British or Irish emigrants, and of 5,541 in the number of foreign passengers or those whose nationality was not stated. There was thus a decrease of 6,068 in the total number of emigrants.

During the eleven months ended November, 1905, the total number of passengers was 440,376, an increase of 10,577 on the figure for the corresponding period of 1904. There was a decrease of 8,569 British and Irish passengers, but an increase of 19,146 foreigners, &c.

The following Table shows the destination of the passengers:—

Destination. (Country in which passenger contracted to land.)	November,		Eleven months ended November,			
	1905.	1904.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1905.	1905.	1904.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1905.
<b>British and Irish Passengers.</b>						
British Colonies and Possessions:						
British North America ... ..	2,633	2,229	+ 404	81,281	68,370	+ 12,911
Australia and New Zealand ... ..	2,307	1,626	+ 681	14,063	12,915	+ 1,148
British South Africa ... ..	2,564	2,147	+ 417	24,610	25,131	- 521
India (including Ceylon) ... ..	953	771	+ 181	4,408	4,285	+ 122
Other British Colonies and Possessions ... ..	471	503	- 32	4,005	3,908	+ 97
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>8,927</b>	<b>7,276</b>	<b>+ 1,651</b>	<b>128,367</b>	<b>114,610</b>	<b>+ 13,757</b>
Foreign Countries:						
United States ... ..	6,565	8,930	- 2,365	118,178	141,669	- 23,491
Other Foreign Countries ... ..	789	602	+ 187	6,169	5,004	+ 1,165
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>7,354</b>	<b>9,532</b>	<b>- 2,178</b>	<b>124,347</b>	<b>146,673</b>	<b>- 22,326</b>
<b>Total, British and Irish ... ..</b>	<b>16,281</b>	<b>16,808</b>	<b>- 527</b>	<b>252,714</b>	<b>261,283</b>	<b>- 8,569</b>
<b>Foreigners and Nationality not stated.</b>						
British Colonies and Possessions:						
British North America ... ..	1,569	1,411	+ 158	24,640	20,940	+ 3,700
British South Africa ... ..	356	467	- 111	4,318	5,067	- 749
Other British Colonies and Possessions ... ..	780	750	+ 30	5,310	4,758	+ 552
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>2,705</b>	<b>2,628</b>	<b>+ 77</b>	<b>34,268</b>	<b>30,765</b>	<b>+ 3,503</b>
Foreign Countries:						
United States ... ..	8,612	14,415	- 5,803	146,870	133,900	+ 12,970
Other Foreign Countries ... ..	521	336	+ 185	6,524	3,851	+ 2,673
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>9,133</b>	<b>14,751</b>	<b>- 5,618</b>	<b>153,394</b>	<b>137,751</b>	<b>+ 15,643</b>
<b>Total, Foreigners, &amp;c. ... ..</b>	<b>11,838</b>	<b>17,379</b>	<b>- 5,541</b>	<b>187,662</b>	<b>168,516</b>	<b>+ 19,146</b>
<b>Grand Total, all Passengers ... ..</b>	<b>28,119</b>	<b>34,187</b>	<b>- 6,068</b>	<b>440,376</b>	<b>429,799</b>	<b>+ 10,577</b>

It will be noticed that the total increase (10,577) in emigration during the eleven months of 1905 is more than accounted for by the increased numbers going to British North America (12,911 British and Irish passengers and 3,700 foreigners &c.). The total number of passengers going to the United States was less by 10,521 than in the corresponding period of 1904 (British and Irish passengers showing a decrease of 23,491, but the foreigners, &c. an increase of 12,970).

ALIEN IMMIGRATION FROM CONTINENT.

During November 10,613 aliens arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent, of whom 5,905 were stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to places out of the United Kingdom, a decrease of 1,920 as compared with November, 1904. Those not stated to be on their way to places out of the United Kingdom numbered 3,723 (exclusive of seamen), being 5,626 less than in November, 1904. In the following Table the figures for November, 1905 and 1904, and for the eleven months ended November, 1905 and 1904, are compared:—

	Month of November,		Eleven months ended November,			
	1905.	1904.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1905.	1905.	1904.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1905.
Aliens not stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to other countries	985	1,138	- 153	12,635	11,838	+ 797
Seamen ... ..	3,723	9,349	- 5,626	69,314	74,115	- 4,801
Others ... ..	5,905	7,825	- 1,920	102,676	94,329	+ 8,347
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>10,613</b>	<b>18,312</b>	<b>- 7,699</b>	<b>184,625</b>	<b>180,282</b>	<b>+ 4,343</b>

RAILWAY GOODS AND MINERAL TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

THE receipts from goods and mineral traffic of twenty of the principal railways during the five weeks ended December 2nd, 1905, amounted to £5,486,851, an increase of £277,672 (or 5.3 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1904.

During the forty-eight weeks ended December 2nd, 1905, the total receipts amounted to £48,058,511, being an increase of £466,182 (or 1.0 per cent.) as compared with the same period of 1904.

	5 weeks ended Dec. 2nd, 1905.		48 weeks ended Dec. 2nd, 1905.	
	Amount.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with 1904.	Amount.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with 1904.
<b>English Lines:—</b>				
L. & N. W., Midland, Gt. Central, and N. London.	1,964,856	+ 123,886	17,106,120	+ 377,818
Gt. Northern, Gt. Eastern, and London & Tilbury.	629,399	+ 25,987	5,246,198	+ 110,712
Lanes. & Yorks., N. Eastern, and N. Staffs.	1,051,765	+ 56,845	9,283,983	+ 140,063
L. & S. W., and Gt. Western	807,800	+ 30,800	7,190,900	+ 63,200
L. B. & S. C., and S. E. & C.	204,719	+ 509	1,817,032	+ 15,298
<b>Scottish Lines:—</b>				
Glasgow & S. Western, N. British, and Caledonian.	675,270	+ 37,717	6,068,043	+ 43,301
<b>Irish Lines:—</b>				
Gt. Southern & Western, Midland G. W., & Gt. Northern	153,042	+ 1,928	1,346,235	+ 32,190
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>5,486,851</b>	<b>+ 277,672</b>	<b>48,058,511</b>	<b>+ 466,182</b>

PRICES OF MANUFACTURED IRON.

THE results of the last ascertainment of the selling prices of manufactured iron in the North of England and the West of Scotland are given in the Table below. It will be seen that, as compared with the previous audit, the price had advanced in both districts. In the North of England the ascertained selling price of specified classes of manufactured iron in September and October was 120s. 0.34d., which was 1s. 0.3d. higher than for the previous audit, and 11½d. higher than a year ago. In Scotland for the same period this year the price was 117s. 7.78d., or 1s. 4.3d. higher than for the previous audit, and 2s. 7.4d. higher than a year ago.

Product and District.	Period covered by last Audit.	Price according to last Audit.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) of last Audit as compared with	
		Ascertained average selling price per ton.	Previous Audit.	A Year ago.	
<b>Manufact'rd Iron, North of England:—</b> (Rails, plates, bars, and angles)	1905.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
	Sept.-Oct.	120 0.34	+ 1 0.78	+ 0 11.31	
<b>West of Scotland:—</b> (Rounds, squares, flats, angles, tees, hoops, and rods)	1905.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
	Sept.-Oct.	117 7.78	+ 1 4.65	+ 2 7.35	

As a result of these ascertainments, wages in the North of England remain unaltered, but in the West of Scotland the rates of wages of puddlers have been advanced by 3d. per ton, and of millmen by 2½ per cent. The Midland Iron and Steel Wages Board have also decided that wages of ironworkers in that district shall remain unaltered for two months from the 4th December.

Warning to Intending Emigrants to United States.

Steerage passengers to the United States having been rejected by the ships' doctors at the ports of embarkation on the ground of having the diseases of trachoma or scabies, emigrants are warned that, if they come forward for embarkation with any granulations under their eyelids that can be called trachoma (although their sight may be quite good), or any spots of scabies on them, they will be rejected by the ships' doctors, and may have to find their way home again as best they can.



PAUPERISM IN NOVEMBER.

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

The number of paupers relieved in the 35 selected Urban Districts named below on one day in November corresponded to a rate of 229 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Compared with October, 1905, the total number of persons relieved increased by 7,713 (2.0 per cent.) and the rate per 10,000 by 5. There was an increase of 3,990 (2.4 per cent.) in the total number of indoor paupers, and of 3,723 (1.7 per cent.) in the total number of outdoor paupers. Increases occurred in 30 districts, 1 district showed a decrease, and 4 showed no change.

Compared with November, 1904, the total number of persons relieved increased by 5,291 (1.4 per cent.) and the rate per 10,000 by 1. There was an increase of 2,648 (1.6 per cent.) in the total number of indoor paupers, and of 2,643 (1.2 per cent.) in the total number of outdoor paupers. Increases occurred in 20 districts, decreases in 14, and 1 district showed no change. A marked increase was shown in the East London district (43 per 10,000).

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of Nov., 1905.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.		A month ago.	A year ago.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.*</b>						
<b>Metropolises.</b>						
West District	11,852	4,388	16,240	195	+ 9	+ 10
North District	16,413	10,421	26,834	260	+ 4	+ 2
Central District	7,357	3,034	10,391	831	+ 19	+ 26
East District	15,727	10,531	26,258	368	+ 16	+ 43
South District	25,201	20,306	45,507	247	+ 6	- 3
Total Metropolises	76,550	48,780	125,330	269	+ 8	+ 9
West Ham	3,828	13,856	17,684	263	+ 5	- 3
<b>Other Districts.</b>						
Newcastle District	2,282	5,247	7,529	175	+ 3	+ 6
Stockton & Tees District	1,296	4,224	5,520	266	- 6	- 14
Bolton, Oldham, &c.	4,108	7,555	11,663	183	-	- 25
Wigan District	2,128	6,417	8,545	215	+ 2	+ 3
Manchester District	10,194	9,686	19,880	211	+ 7	- 7
Liverpool District	12,257	9,776	22,033	215	+ 4	+ 4
Bradford District	1,933	3,190	5,123	147	+ 2	+ 3
Hull District	1,339	4,031	5,370	147	+ 2	+ 3
Leeds District	2,610	6,078	8,688	182	-	- 8
Barnsley District	811	3,017	3,828	189	-	-
Sheffield District	3,267	4,075	7,342	168	+ 1	- 3
Hull District	1,580	5,490	7,070	260	+ 8	+ 2
North Staffordshire	2,464	7,939	10,403	278	+ 3	- 2
Nottingham District	2,153	6,009	8,162	200	+ 2	+ 1
Leicester District	1,618	5,737	7,355	328	+ 2	+ 18
Wolverhampton District	3,759	12,881	16,640	288	-	- 19
Birmingham District	5,163	3,501	8,664	180	+ 2	+ 2
Bristol District	2,858	6,880	9,738	256	+ 2	+ 3
Cardiff & Swansea	2,074	7,350	9,424	253	+ 7	- 6
Total "Other Districts"	63,894	119,083	182,977	208	+ 2	- 4
<b>SCOTLAND.*</b>						
Glasgow District	5,405	17,661	22,866	236	+ 2	- 1
Falsley & Greenock District	773	2,525	3,298	188	+ 2	+ 3
Edinburgh & Leith District	1,841	5,677	7,518	187	+ 3	- 3
Dundee & Dundfermline	1,082	2,986	4,068	204	+ 2	+ 2
Aberdeen	753	3,167	3,920	237	+ 7	+ 13
Coatbridge & Airdrie	390	1,476	1,866	197	+ 11	+ 4
Total for the above Scottish Districts	10,044	33,492	43,536	217	+ 3	+ 1
<b>IRELAND.†</b>						
Dublin District	7,251	5,244	12,495	319	+ 9	+ 3
Belfast District	3,609	338	3,947	99	+ 3	- 3
Cork, Waterford, & Limerick District	4,417	5,020	9,437	385	+ 4	+ 14
Galway District	381	326	707	199	+ 10	+ 19
Total for the above Irish Districts	15,658	10,928	26,586	248	+ 6	+ 3
Total for above 35 Districts in Nov., 1905.	169,974	226,139	396,113	229	+ 8	+ 1

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

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

LABOUR BUREAUX IN NOVEMBER.

TWENTY-ONE Bureaux furnished Returns, of which thirteen can be compared with similar returns for a year ago. The figures of the remaining eight are not available for November, 1904.

(I.) Work done in November.

Name of Labour Bureau.	Applications by Workpeople during		Situations offered by Employers during		Workpeople found Work during	
	Nov., 1905.	Nov., 1904.	Nov., 1905.	Nov., 1904.	Nov., 1905.	Nov., 1904.
<b>London.</b>						
Battersea (Lavender Hill, S.W.)	243	256	8	27	8	27
Salvation Army (Whitechapel Rd., E.)	1,320	1,897	455	801	542	940
St. Pancras (Crownale Rd., N.W.)	783	686	42	112	95	146
Southwark (Borough Road, S.E.)	343	217	4	15	4	3
Hammersmith (Great Church Lane, W.)	491	49	44	10	44	9
Finsbury (Rosebery Avenue, E.C.)	740	345	268	252	81	111
Westminster (Caxton Hall, Caxton Street, S.W.)	405	269	515	62	460	45
Hampstead (Finchley Road, N.W.)	100	193	21	67	20	52
<b>Provincial.</b>						
Ipswich (Fore Street)	62	50	15	24	13	16
Plymouth (Basket Street)	964	118	58	54	504	49
Liverpool (Dale Street)	388	829	4	4	...	2
Glasgow (158, George Street)	581	765	597	519	163	164
Wigan (Library Street)	174	47	24	16	24	16
Total of 13 Bureaux	6,594	5,701	2,525	1,963	1,963	1,580
<b>London.</b>						
Islington (93, St. Paul's Rd., High-bury, N.)	787	...	32	...	370	...
Poplar (Glaucus Street, Bromley, E.)	711	...	18	...	112	...
<b>Provincial.</b>						
Croydon (Katherine Street)	654	...	222	...	207	...
Newcastle-upon-Tyne (Pilgrim St.)	392	...	49	...	37	...
Coventry (5, Market Hall Arcade)	102	...	117	...	110	...
Eastbourne (Public Library)	102	...	...	...	12	...
Dudley	31	...	4	...	18	...
Manchester (Albert St., Deansgate)	915	...	188	...	156	...
Total of 21 Bureaux	10,474	...	3,158	...	2,985	...

(II.) Employment found for Workpeople during November, 1905.

Capacity in which employed.	No. permanently engaged.	No. temporarily engaged.	Total.
<b>Engaged by Private Employers.</b>			
<b>Men:—</b>			
Building Trades	46	56	102
Carmen, Stablemen, &c.	33	5	38
Porters and Messengers	51	15	66
Bill Distributors	...	427	427
General Labourers	2	15	17
Other Occupations	165	48	213
Lads and Boys	77	17	94
<b>Women and Girls:—</b>			
Domestic Servants	93	75	168
Charwomen, daily work, &c.	11	81	92
Other Occupations	51	2	53
Total engaged by Private Employers	529	681	1,210
<b>Engaged by Local Authorities:—</b>			
Men, Lads and Boys	23	1,656	1,679
Women and Girls	1	95	96
<b>Engaged by Salvation Army</b>			
	...	...	...
Total of 21 Bureaux	583	2,432	2,985

(III.) Occupations of Workpeople on the Registers of 21 Bureaux at the end of November, 1905.

Name of Bureau.	Men.					Lads and Boys.	Women and Girls.
	Building Trades.	Engineering Trades.	General Labourers.	Porters, Messengers, &c.	Other Occupations.		
<b>London.</b>							
Battersea	24	5	61	9	50	1	12
Salvation Army	70	26	90	81	174	—	—
St. Pancras	320	72	460	293	118	90	45
Southwark	105	36	155	84	39	1	1
Hammersmith	199	22	185	48	13	—	4
Finsbury	283	7	261	180	70	44	54
Westminster	15	31	258	340	302	117	479
Hampstead	143	10	27	51	30	12	9
Islington	425	20	1,781	109	77	90	25
Poplar	601	224	542	273	857	3	6
<b>Provincial.</b>							
Croydon	470	14	256	25	231	4	18
Ipswich	4	1	14	19	5	7	12
Plymouth	53	5	349	42	50	2	—
Liverpool	25	4	131	16	51	11	24
Glasgow	70	60	87	84	89	52	135
Wigan	73	8	211	60	74	33	459
Newcastle-upon-Tyne	23	27	340	28	31	8	64
Manchester	395	127	573	246	382	2	101
Coventry	5	103	30	18	29	20	—
Eastbourne	39	2	41	6	14	—	—
Dudley	33	67	48	16	11	28	—
Total	3,375	871	6,000	2,118	2,703	528	1,471

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN NOVEMBER.

DURING November 817 fresh applications (461 from domestic servants, &c.) for work were registered by eight bureaux furnishing returns, and 673 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 219 persons, of whom 139 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 219 situations found for applicants, 165 were of a more or less permanent character, while 54 were temporary only.

The work done by the Bureaux during November is shown by the following Table.

WORK DONE IN NOVEMBER.

Name of Bureau.	Applications by Workpeople during		Situations offered by Employers during		Number of Workpeople engaged by Employers.			
	Nov., 1905.	Nov., 1904.	Nov., 1905.	Nov., 1904.	Permanently.	Temporarily.	Nov., 1905.	Nov., 1904.
<b>Summary by Bureaux.</b>								
Central Bureau	89	90	62	77	15	20	7	10
9, Southampton St., W.C.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25, George Street, (1)...	447	457	427	388	92	80	14	12
Hanover Sq., W. (2)...	106	105	67	57	23	19	26	19
<b>Other Bureaux (Liverpool, Manchester, Watford, Edinburgh and Dublin)</b>								
	175	147	117	82	35	42	7	16
Total of 8 Bureaux	817	799	673	604	165	161	54	57
<b>Summary by Occupations.</b>								
Superintendents,	55	45	21	16	5	2	1	—
Forewomen, etc.	13	16	4	3	2	1	2	—
Shop Assistants	77	70	42	36	17	16	18	18
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc.	46	43	27	20	9	4	12	11
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists	5	5	11	13	3	5	—	—
Apprentices and Learners	461	465	516	457	121	117	18	21
Domestic Servants, etc.	160	155	52	59	8	16	3	5
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	817	799	673	604	165	161	54	57

SWISS INDUSTRIAL CENSUS.

Preliminary Results.

ON August 9th last the first census of industries undertaken in Switzerland was carried out by the Federal authorities. Provisional figures, showing some of the principal results of this enquiry, have just been published by the Swiss Department of the Interior. According to these there were 564,022 business undertakings in existence in Switzerland at the date of the census. Of these, 250,066 were concerned with agriculture, 242,543 with trade, industry and commerce, while 71,413 are classified separately as "home industries." The aggregate number of persons employed in these three groups was 1,793,166. In the great majority of undertakings, viz., 537,553, no mechanical power was in use, while the remaining 26,469 enterprises employed an aggregate of 515,859 horse-power.

COAL PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION.

THE Eleventh Annual Statement, showing the Production and Consumption of Coal, and the number of persons employed in coal production in the principal countries of the world, has been issued by the Board of Trade.

The statement contains various tables, covering a series of years, and showing, amongst other particulars, the total quantity and value of coal produced and consumed in each country, and the number of persons employed in coal mining.

The following statement, extracted from the Report, shows the production of coal in the five principal coal-producing countries in 1902, 1903 and 1904.

Years.	United Kingdom.	Germany.	France.	Belgium.	United States.
	1,000 Tons.†	1,000 Tons.†	1,000 Tons.†	1,000 Tons.†	1,000 Tons.†
1902	227,095	107,474	29,365	23,877	266,277
1903	230,334	116,638	34,218	23,797	319,068
1904	232,488	120,816§	33,838§	23,502§	314,563

\* Vorläufige Resultate der eidg. Betriebszählung vom 9. August, 1905. Statistisches Bureau des eidg. Departements des Innern. Bern, 1905. † Tons of 2,240 lbs. ‡ Metric tons of 2,204 lbs. § Provisional figures.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING NOVEMBER.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Report to Home Office on the circumstances attending an Explosion of Nitro Glycerine which occurred in the Fitters' Shop of the Factory of the "Explosives and Chemical Products, Limited," at Bramble Island, in the County of Essex, on the 11th July, 1905. [Cd. 2753: pp. 17: price 2s. 3d.]

Report to Home Department upon Destruction of a Factory Magazine at the Factory of the Thames Storage (Explosives) Company, Limited, Kent, on 29th July, 1905. [Cd. 2780: pp. 5: price 1s.]

Report



*Colonial Office Annual Reports.* No. 472. *British Central Africa Protectorate, 1904-5.* Recruitment of labour, wages paid; cotton cultivation, &c. [Cd. 2684-18: pp. 65: price 3½d.]

No. 473. *Mauritius, 1904.* Poor relief; monthly prices of sugar, &c. [Cd. 2684-19: pp. 86: price 4½d.]

No. 474. *Fiji, 1904.* East Indian immigration; rates of wages, &c. [Cd. 2684-20: pp. 26: price 2d.]

No. 475. *British East Africa Protectorate, 1904-5.* Statistics of agriculture, mines, manufactures and fisheries; emigration and immigration; rates of wages and cost of living, &c. [Cd. 2684-71: pp. 36: price 2½d.]

*Colonial Office Reports. Miscellaneous Series.* No. 31. *Northern Nigeria.* Report by Professor Wyndham Dunstan on cotton, gum and other economic products. [Cd. 2778: pp. 24: price 1½d.]

(All the above-mentioned Reports may be obtained direct from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C., or through any bookseller.)

#### Self-Governing Colonies.

*Canada.* Report of Royal Commission to inquire into the Immigration of Italian Labourers to Montreal and the alleged fraudulent practices of Employment Agencies, 1905. [pp. xli. + 173.]

Report of Royal Commission on the alleged Employment of Aliens in connection with the surveys of the proposed Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, 1905. [pp. 65 + 596.]

Report of Royal Commission on the alleged Employment of Aliens by the Péré Marquette Railway Company of Canada, 1905. Report. [pp. 36.] *Minutes of Evidence* [pp. 121.]

*The Statistical Year-Book of Canada for 1904.* [pp. 792, with maps.]

(All the above Canadian Reports are printed by S. E. Dawson, King's Printer, Ottawa.)

*Western Australia.* Reports of Proceedings before the Boards of Conciliation and the Court of Arbitration. Vol. IV. Part I., 1905. Report of three cases.

*Fourth Annual Return of Proceedings under the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1902, for the year 1904.* [pp. 23.]

*Third Annual Report of the Proceedings of the Registrar of Friendly Societies in connection with Trade Unions, for the year 1904.* [pp. 11.]

(All the above Western Australia Reports printed by A. Curtis, Acting Government Printer, Perth, W.A.)

*Queensland.* Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Shops, for eighteen months ended 31st March, 1905. [Brisbane: G. A. Vaughan, Government Printer: pp. 39.]

#### FOREIGN COUNTRIES:

##### United States.

*Bureau of the Census. Special Reports. Occupations at the Twelfth Census, 1904.* [Washington: Government Printing Office: pp. cclxvi. + 763.]

*Special Consular Report.* Vol. xxxvii. *Machine-made Lace Industry in Europe. Calais, Plauen, St. Gall, Nottingham.* [Washington: Government Printing Office: pp. 39.]

*Monthly Consular and Trade Report for September, 1905.* Contains Consular reports upon wages, housing and conditions of labour, &c. in Germany and Great Britain.

*Iowa.—Eleventh Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labour Statistics for the State of Iowa, 1903-1904.* Factory inspection, statistics of wage-earners, immigration, trade unions, &c. [Des Moines: B. Murphy, State Printer: pp. 460.]

##### Germany.

*Statistical Yearbook of Berlin for 1904.* Contains statistics of prices, poor relief, &c. [Berlin: Verlag von P. Stankiewicz, 1905: pp. xcvi. + 431: price 10s.]

*Report on State and Private Railways in Saxony for 1904.* Ministry of Finance of Saxony. [Dresden, 1905: pp. iv. + 178.]

*Journal of Statistical Office of Saxony, Vol. LI., Part I.* Contains article on savings banks in Saxony, 1899-1903.

*Statistics of Births, Deaths, Marriages, Infectious Diseases, and of Houses built, pulled down and unoccupied in Berlin in 1904 and 1905.* Berlin Statistical Office. [Berlin: Verlag von P. Stankiewicz; pp. vi. + 138.]

##### Austria-Hungary.

*Report on Lead Poisoning in White-Lead and Lead-Oxide Factories in Austria.* Austrian Labour Department. [Vienna: A. Hölder, 1, Rotenturmstrasse, 1905: pp. viii. + 37.]

##### Holland.

*Population Statistics of Amsterdam and other Cities.* Municipal Statistical Department. [Amsterdam: J. Müller, 1905: pp. 55.]

*Statistical Yearbook of Holland for 1904.* Central Statistical Bureau. Contains statistics relating to prices of articles of food, savings banks, wages and hours of labour. [The Hague: Gebr. Belinfante, 1905: pp. xxxi. + 306: price 2s. 1d.]

*Miscellaneous Statistics of Holland.* No. LXI. *Contraventions of Laws relating to Labour and Safety of Workpeople.* Central Statistical Bureau. [The Hague, 1905: pp. v. + 39.]

##### Bulgaria.

*Report on Bulgarian Emigration in 1893-1902.* Statistical Department. [Sofia, 1905: pp. viii. + 165.]

##### Consular Reports.

*Miscellaneous Series.* No. 642. *German Paper Industry and Export Trade.* Number of establishments and mills, workpeople employed, and wages earned in 1903 and 1904. [Cd. 2683-6: pp. 13: price 1d.]

(The Consular Reports may be obtained direct from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C., or through any bookseller.)

NOTE.—In addition to the above-mentioned publications, copies have been received of the official journals issued by the Labour Departments of Canada, New Zealand, France, Germany Austria, Belgium, Holland, Italy, Norway, Spain and Sweden.

## INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES

### REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN NOVEMBER.

(Based on information supplied to the Department by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.)

#### (1) REGISTERED.

THE total number of Industrial Unions and Societies registered in November was as follows: Under the Trade Union Acts, 1; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 19; under the Friendly Societies Act, 63 (including 37 branches of existing societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 2; in all 85.

Among the new societies registered in November were the following:—

**Trade Unions.**—*Ireland.*—1, viz., Progressive Bakers of Dublin, 200, Great Brunswick Street, Dublin.

**Industrial and Provident Societies.**—*England and Wales.*—11, viz., *Co-op. Soc. mainly for Production:* 1, viz., Chobham Brickworks, Ltd., The Brickworks, Chobham, Woking; *Co-op. Agric. Socs.:* 3, viz., Weston Rhyn and Dist. Agric. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Quinta Estate Office, Chirk, Ruabon; Penllyn Agric. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Berthlafar, Bala, Merioneth; Bentham Dairy Soc., Ltd., The Dairy, Bentham, Yorks. *Misc. Socs.:* 7, viz., 2 Working Men's Clubs and 5 others. *Scotland.*—2, viz., for *Distribution:* 1, viz., Fraserburgh Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 32, Mid Street, Fraserburgh; and 1 *Misc. Soc.* *Ireland.*—6, viz., *Co-op. Soc. mainly for Production:* 1, viz., Roscrea Bacon Factory, Ltd., Roscrea; *Co-op. Agric. Socs.:* 5, viz., Carrigaholt and Doonaha Co-op. Agric. Soc., Ltd., Carrigaholt; Kilmalley Inch and Connolly Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Kilmalley, Ennis; Inagh Co-op. Agric. Soc., Ltd., Inagh, Ennis; Fergus View Co-op. Agric. Soc., Ltd., Fergus View, Donagh; Clooney Co-op. Agric. Soc., Ltd., Clooney, Quin, Ennis.

**Friendly Societies.**—*England and Wales.*—25, viz., Cheshire Mutual Money Soc., Birkenhead; New Mills and Dist. Permanent Money Soc., New Mills, Stockport; Nelson Colne and Dist. Permanent Money Soc., Nelson, Lancs.; Dog and Bear £5 Loan Soc., Nottingham; Woden Mutual Investment and Loan Soc., Wednesbury; Saltley Amateur Gardeners' Club, Saltley, Birmingham; Tilbury Dock Working Men's Club and Inst., Tilbury Dock; Bexley Heath Liberal and Radical Working Men's Club and Inst., Bexley Heath, Kent; Millwood Working Men's Club and Inst., Todmorden; Gildersome Working Men's Club and Inst., Gildersome, Leeds; Harehill's Liberal Club, Leeds; Mid-Rhondda Social and Athletic Working Men's Club and Inst., Tony Pandy, Llwyngpia, Glam.; Stephenson Iron Horse Benefit Soc., Hasland, Chesterfield; Liverpool Adult Schools Mutual Benefit Soc., Liverpool; Leigh Druids' Sick and Burial Soc., Leigh, Lancs.; Eureka Tontine Soc., Wavertree, Liverpool; Garston Tabernacle P.S.A. Tontine Soc., Garston, Liverpool; Bermondsey Settlement Dividing Friendly Soc., Bermondsey, S.E.; West End Radom Hebrew Tontine and Benefit Soc., London, W.; Planet Friendly Assurance Collecting Soc., Saltley, Birmingham; Theodorick Sick and Dividend Soc., Birmingham; Knottingley and Dist. Friendly Societies Medical Assoc., Knottingley; Independent Rock of Hope Friendly Soc. of Oddfellows, Thornton, Bradford; Bailey Hill Tontine Benefit Soc., Mold; Glantifon Friendly Soc., St. Dogmells, Cardigan. *Ireland.*—1, viz., Kilkenny United Trades and Labour Bank, Kilkenny.

#### (2) DISSOLVED.

The total number of Industrial Unions and Societies reported as dissolved, or as wound up, or as having had registration cancelled in November was as follows:— Under the Trade Union Acts, 4; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 5; under the Friendly Societies Act, 41 (including 9 branches of Societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 17; in all 67.

NOTE.—In the above statement a Co-operative Society is entered under the heading (distribution, production, &c.) which appears from the information in the possession of the Board of Trade to represent its principal object.

**Return of Deaths of Seamen.**—A copy of a monthly Return showing names of seamen whose deaths have been reported to the Marine Department of the Board of Trade may be seen at any Free Library, Mercantile Marine Office, or Sailors' Home throughout the country.

Printed for His Majesty's Stationery Office by VEALE, CHIFFERIEL & Co., LTD., 31-37, Cursitor Street, London, E.C.; and to be purchased, either directly or through any Newsagent, from WYMAN & SONS, LTD., Fetter Lane, E.C.; or OLIVER & BOYD, Edinburgh; or E. PONSONBY, 116, Grafton Street Dublin.—Price 1d.—December, 1905.