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[PRICE ONE PENNY.

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

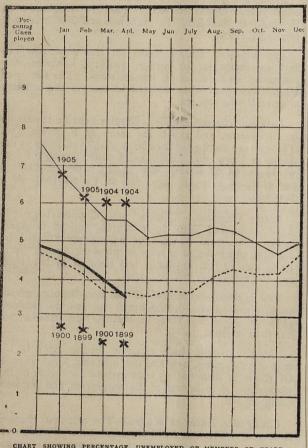


CHART SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

- Thick Curve=1906. ----- Dotted Curve=Mean of 1896-1905.

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 APRIL.

[Based on 8,276 returns, viz.: 4,017 from Employers and their Associations; 3,748 from Trade Unions; 417 from Local Correspondents; and 94 from other sources.]

EMPLOYMENT in April continued to improve on the whole. The pig iron, engineering, shipbuilding, cotton, woollen, worsted, furnishing, and boot and shoe trades showed an improvement. There was also a general improvement in the building trades. In the printing and bookbinding trades there was some falling-off in employment, and the tinplate trade continued to show a decline.

As compared with a year ago all the principal industries (including the building trades) showed some improvement. There was a decline in the tinplate trade. In the 271 Trade Unions, with an aggregate membership of 582,201, making Returns, 21,037 (or 3.6 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of April, as compared with 3.8 per cent. at the end of March, and 5.6 per cent. at the end of April, 1905.

Building.—Employment in the building trades showed a general improvement both as compared with a month and a year ago.

Coal Mining.— Employment in this industry continued good, and was much better than a year ago.

Iron Mining.—Employment continued good, and was about the same as a year ago.

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment in this industry continued good, and was much better than a year ago. Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters, employing about 24,500 workpeople, showed that 342 furnaces were in blast at the end of April, being three more than at the end of the previous month, and 24 more than in April, 1905.

Iron and Steel Works.—Employment at iron and steel works in April showed some decline as compared with the previous month, but was much better than a year ago. The volume of employment at 189 works from which Returns have been received was 1'4 per cent. less in the week ended April 28th, 1906, than in the week ended March 24th, 1906, but 8'4 per cent. greater than a year ago. It was better at steel works than at iron works, the average number of shifts worked being 5'72 at the former, and 5'26 at the latter.

Tinplate Manufacture. — Employment during April showed a marked decline as compared with a month and a year ago. At the end of April 375 mills were working, as compared with 401 in March, and 408 a year ago.

Engineering Trades.—Employment generally continued to improve, and was much better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members returned as unemployed at the end of April was 2.7, as compared with 2.8 at the end of the previous month, and 5.9 in April, 1905.

Shipbuilding Trades.—Employment continued good in the chief shipbuilding centres, and was considerably better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of April was 5'1, as compared with 5'6 per cent. at the end of March and 12'2 per cent. a year ago.

Cotton Trade.—Employment continued very good, and was better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 142,408 workpeople in the week ended April 28th showed an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the week ended 24th March, and of 4.7 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Woollen Trade.—Employment continued good, and was better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 28,288 workpeople in the last week in April showed an increase of 0'1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 6.3 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Worsted Trade.- Employment showed a further slight improvement and was fairly good, and better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 49,414 workpeople during the last week in April showed an increase of 0.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 5'I per cent. compared with a year ago.

Flax (Linen) Trade.-Employment continued fairly good, showing a slight decline compared with a month ago, and an improvement, especially in Fifeshire, com-pared with a year ago. Returns from firms employing 42,746 workpeople during the last full week in April showed a decrease of 1'I per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the last full week in March, and an increase of 3.4 per cent. ccmpared with a year ago.

Jute Trade.-Employment in this industry remained good; it was rather better than a month ago, and much better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 18,905 workpeople in the last full week in April showed increases of 1.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the last full week in March, and of 9.9 per cent. compared with April, 1905.

Silk Trade. - Employment generally showed little change as compared with a month ago, but was slightly better than a year ago.

Lace Trade.—Employment continued fairly good, and was much better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 11,737 workpeople in the week ended April 28th showed practically no change in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 9.6 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Hosiery Trade .- Employment on the whole was fairly good. It was slightly worse than amonth ago, but better than a year ago. Firms employing 17,302 workpeople in the last week of April showed a decrease of 0.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 5'9 per cent. compared with a vear ago.

Hat Trades .- Employment on the whole continued quiet, and was worse than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members returned as unemployed at the end of April in the Silk Hat trade was 13.6, compared with 13'5 at the end of March, and 12'0 a year ago. The corresponding figures for the Felt Hat trade were 4.7, 4.5, and 2.3.

Tailoring Trade.-Employment in the bespoke branch was moderate in London, good in the Provinces. In the ready-made branch it was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

Boot and Shoe Trade .- Employment showed a further slight improvement and was better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 68,330 workpeople showed, as compared with a month ago, an increase of o'I per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Compared with the week before Easter, 1905, the number employed showed an increase of 3.6 per cent., and the amount of wages paid an increase of 5.0 per cent.

Other Leather Trades.- Employment continued quiet on the whole, showing little change compared with a month ago, but a considerable improvement compared with a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 4,548 had 5.7 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 5.5 per cent. in March, and 9.3 per cent. in April, 1905.

Papermaking Trades .- Employment remained good, and was rather better than a year ago.

Printing and Bookbinding Trades.-Employment in these trades was quiet, and worse than a month ago, but disputes causing stoppage of work.

slightly better than a year ago. In the printing trades the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of April was 5.2, as compared with 3.0 in March, and 5.5 in April, 1905. In the bookbinding trades the percentages were 5.9 for April, 1906; 4.4 for March, 1906; and 7.7 for April, 1905.

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Furnishing and Woodworking Trades. - Employment in April was fair on the whole, and showed improvement compared with a month and a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of April was 3.4, compared with 4.3 at the end of March, 1906, and 4.6 at the end of April, 1905.

Glass Trades .- Employment was moderate generally in all branches, and about the same as a month ago. It was better thana year ago. Returns from firms employing over 9,000 workpeople in the last week of April showed a decrease of o'I per cent. in the numbers employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 2.4 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Pottery and Brick and Tile Trades .- In the Pottery trade employment continued fairly good in England; in Scotland it was fair. In the Brick and Tile trades it continued slack.

Agricultural Labourers were, for the most part, in full employment. In certain districts, however, day labourers were not all in regular work. The supply of labour was equal to the demand in most of the districts covered by the reports.

Dock and Riverside Labour .- Employment on the whole was moderate, and much the same as a month ago. The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves in London during the four weeks ended April 28th was 11,543, a decrease of 0.8 per cent. on a month ago, and of 1.2 per cent. on a year ago.

Trade Disputes. — Thirty new disputes began in April, compared with 20 in March, and 28 in April, The total number of workpeople affected by 1905. disputes which began or were in progress during April, 1906, was 12,712, or 16,041 less than in March, 1906, and 197 more than in April, 1905.

The aggregate duration of all the disputes of the month, new and old. amounted to 128,500 working days, or 53,300 less than in March, 1906, and 17,200 less than in April, 1905.

Definite results were reported during April in the case of 32 disputes, new and old, affecting 7.397 persons. Of these 32 disputes, 13 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 8 in favour of the employers, and 11 were compromised.

Changes in Rates of Wages .- The principal changes in wages reported in April were increases affecting over 315,000 cotton operatives in the principal cotton districts in England, and over 41,000 coal miners in Northumberland. The total number of persons affected by all changes reported was about 403,100, and the net effect of the changes was an increase of about $f_{11,800}$ a week, nearly 401,900 workpeople having received advances amounting to £ 11,860, and about 1,200 having sustained decreases amounting to £60. The changes of the previous month affected nearly 48,500 workpeople, the net result being an increase of £1,700 per week. During April, 1905, the number of workpeople affected was 11,250, and the net result an increase of over f_{250} per week.

One change, affecting 350 workpeople, was settled by arbitration; two changes, affecting 41,500 workpeople, were arranged by Conciliation Boards; and ten changes, affecting about 3,450 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting 357,800 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives, four of the changes, affecting 20,700 workpeople, being preceded by

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FEEDING OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

IN March, 1905, the Foreign Office undertook, at the request of the Board of Education, to obtain information regarding the methods adopted in the principal Continental and American cities for dealing with underfed school children. A schedule of questions was supplied to the Foreign Office by the Board of Education, and the information contained in the answers thereto has recently been tabulated and arranged bp the Office of Special Inquiries of the Board and issued in the form of a Parliamentary Paper.* Returns have been obtained from over 30 cities on the Continent and three in the United States, and so far as the information goes it would appear that the feeding of school children at the public expense in one form or another and in varying degrees is generally prevalent in the Continental towns included in the report. This, however, is not the case in the three cities of the United States covered by the inquiry.

It is not possible in most cases to state what proportion of the children are thus fed, the figures not being available. In the four cities for which the information is more or less complete, viz., Vienna, Brussels, Copenhagen, and Paris, the mean number of meals given per annum during the three years 1902-1904 and the school population were as follows :---

City.	0	Approximate School Population.	Approximate Total Number of Meals given per annum.
Vienna	[120.000	1,000,000
Brussels		14,000	26,000
Copenhagen		27,000	350,000
Paris		176,000	10,600,000

In Copenhagen, where the meals are entirely free, one-third of the children avail themselves of the dinners provided; in Vienna and Brussels about one-tenth; and in Paris one-fourth. In almost every case one meal a day only is given, viz., the dinner, which consists for the most part of soup and bread. At Berlin, Milan, Luxembourg and Genoa, breakfasts are given, and at Barcelona both breakfast and lunch. The period of the year during which the meals are given varies greatly. In Paris, some cities in Germany, Amsterdam, Rome, and New York, † the one meal each week-day is generally supplied throughout the school year. The majority of cities, however, give a meal each week-day during a varying number of weeks in the winter. At Copenhagen and Stockholm, however, meals are given three times a week, at the former for three months only, and at the latter on every other day throughout the school terms.

The approximate annual costs, taken over the three years 1902-1904, are given in the following Table for certain cities :-

City.					Approximate Annual Cost.
 Vienna	144	ile la	10000	1555	£
		•••	•••		4,600
					750
Copenhag	en				2,300
Paris					57,000
					720
Rome					4,400‡

One of the most important points brought out by the inquiry is the almost complete absence of State Aid, the most considerable exception being Rome, where a grant of about \pounds_{300} annually is received from State funds. In Genoa, Darmstadt, and Baden small unspecified amounts are also received from the State.

The Municipality provides in most cases the bulk of the money required, the most important exceptions being Berlin and New York. The Municipality is generally represented on the committee of the association

* Cd. 2926. Wyman & Sons. Price 43d. (Additional information, kindly furnished by the Board of Education, has been used) + In New York the provision of tree meals is confined to the industrial schools maintained by the Children's Aid Society.

1 This is the sum expended annually by the "Educatori" of Rome. Besides the cost of providing free meals for destitute children, it includes the amount spent for the supply of clothing to necessitous children, the sending of poor children to the seasife in the summer, and the maintaining of homes to which the children can go out of school hours.

In New York voluntary contributions are the only source, and in Berlin practically the only source, of the funds for the work, amounting to about £3,000 and $f_{2,000}$ respectively. In Copenhagen, in the German and Austrian towns reported on, and to a less extent in the cities of Rotterdam, Genoa, and Zurich, the feeding of the children appears to be fairly well supported by private individuals. Copenhagen obtains rather more than Heilbronn, Utrecht, Milan, Christiania and Bergen receive no voluntary contributions at all.

The general result, so far as payment is concerned, is that the municipality defrays the greater part of the cost, sometimes aided by voluntary contributions and payments by parents, and very rarely by the State.

per child

IN 1905 there was an exceptionally large number of strikes and lock-outs in Germany, and disturbed industrial conditions have continued during the present year, there being very few districts which have not recently been affected by disputes in one or more trades.

The most important of the disputes is that in the metal trades. In the Hanover and Brunswick districts the foundry workmen demanded a reduction of the working day to 10 hours, the weekly wages of men permanently employed at fixed wages, however, to remain at the same level as previously; the establishment of minimum wages for moulders, machine moulders, core makers and casting trimmers : extra pay for overtime and Sunday work; compensation for defective castings due to no fault of the workman; the better regulation of piecework, and the adoption of certain measures to ensure the health and safety of the workpeople. The employers, while agreeing to some of the demands, declined to consider the establishment of a minimum wage for moulders and all foundry hands, and they refused to enter into any negotiations with the Union. A strike was accordingly declared at the beginning of April by some of the workmen, shortly after which the employers declared a general lock-out by which about 12,000 men are affected. At about the same time the moulders and casters at

two establishments at Breslau struck for an increase in wages of 5 pfennigs (about $\frac{1}{2}d$.) an hour. The Association of Silesian Manufacturers gave notice that if the strike did not terminate by April 11th, all organised moulders and casters in the foundries of their Association would be locked-out, and that, should this step be fruitless, all the factories of the Association would be closed on April 19th to all organised workmen. The strike continuing, this step was taken, and 6,000 men were locked out. A number of men were also

* Based on despatches from H.M. Consular Officers in Germany, received arough the Foreign Office, and on newspaper reports.

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that makes the arrangements, and usually allows the meals to be given at the schools. Occasionally the Municipality provides buildings, other than the schools, in which the meals are served. In a few cases the work is actually undertaken by the Municipality, as in Berlin, Utrecht, and Milan. The largest Municipal subvention is given by the city of Paris, which votes annually one million francs (£40,000).

Generally speaking, the payments made by parents are small in amount. In Paris and Milan, however, where the total annual cost amounts to about £57,000 and \pounds 8,000 respectively, about one-quarter in the former city and one-third in the latter, is defrayed by the payments made by the parents, who can purchase tickets at a cost of from Id. to 11d. per child.

Payments are made by the parents in Wurzburg, Leipzig, Ulm, Stockholm, and Zurich, but in the two latter towns the amounts thus contributed form a small fraction only of the total cost. In these and other cities, such as Munich, Stuttgart, Milan, Christiania, and Zurich parents can purchase tickets costing from 1d. to 11d.

LABOUR DISPUTES IN GERMANY.*

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locked out in Dresden. A general lock-out throughout Germany of metal workers who are members of Trade Unions is threatened, which would affect about 300,000 workpeople.

AMERICAN COAL MINERS' DISPUTE.*

THE strike in the anthracite coalfields of Pennsylvania has terminated. An agreement was arrived at on May 7th, between the representatives of the owners and the miners, by which the miners are to continue to work for three years longer under the awards + of the Anthracite Strike Commission, which expired on March 31st.

The general situation in the bituminous coal fields remains unchanged. It is reported that at meetings held on May oth and 10th at Chicago the owners decided to resist the demand for increase of wages, but offered to renew the 1903 scale, and resolved to appoint a committee to lay their case before the President and Congress, with a view to obtaining an inquiry by the Federal Government.

WAGES IN THE COTTON TRADE. Cotton Spinning.

REFERENCE was made in last month's GAZETTE (see p. 100) to the temporary settlement in the cotton spinning trade, of August, 1905, under which either side was to be at liberty after March 1st, 1906, to take whatever action it might think desirable with regard to an advance or reduction in wages, and the notices given by the operatives early in April for an advance of wages were also referred to. Both the spinners and the card room operatives decided by ballot to strike work if their applications were refused. The card room workers' notice applied to all districts covered by the Employers' Federation ; the spinners' notice applied to these districts with the exception of the Bolton area.

On April 24th a joint meeting was held of representatives of the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Associations and the Amalgamated Association of Operative Cotton Spinners, at which it was agreed that a 5 per cent. advance should be paid on the third pay day in May, "on the understanding that it is recognised on both sides that an earnest endeavour be made to complete the Conciliation Scheme already under consideration. It is also understood that, failing agreement on such a scheme, a return of bad trade shall warrant a reduction of wages." It was further agreed that no change of wages should take place in any section of the Federation within 12 months of the date of the advance. The advance does not apply to the Bolton area.

A joint meeting of representatives of the Employers' Federation with the Amalgamated Association of Card and Blowing Room Operatives took place on April 27th, at which it was agreed that an advance of 5 per cent. should be paid on the third pay day in May to the operatives represented by the Amalgamation, the advance being given on the terms and conditions of the Brooklands Agreement. A similar arrangement was come to at a joint meeting of the Federation and the Amalgamated Northern Counties Association of Warpers, Reelers and Winders on April 30th. These advances apply to the Bolton area as well as to the other districts. The Brooklands Agreement, on the terms of which the advances are given, provides that no advance or reduction shall be sought by either side until the expiration of at least one year from the date of the previous change in wages. By agreement with the operatives' Amalgamations any rise or fall of wages in the area covered by the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Associations is followed a week later by firms in the district covered by the North and North-East Lancashire Cotton Spinners and Manufacturers' Association.

It is estimated that the total number of workpeople who will receive the advance is 97,500, viz.: spinners, piecers and doublers, 44,000; card and blowing room hands, 46,000; and reelers, winders and warpers, 7,500.

* Based on cablegrams from H.M. Embassy at Washington. † See GAZETTE, April, 1903, p. 94.

By this advance the wages of cotton spinners under the Oldham Price List are raised to 5 per cent. above List prices. Under the Bolton List wages continue to be 5 per cent. above List prices, as they have been since 1900.

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Cotton Weaving.

At a meeting of the Joint Committee of the North and North-East Lancashire Cotton Spinners and Manu-facturers' Association and the Northern Counties Amalgamated Associations of Weavers, on February 3rd, 1905, the operatives put forward a demand that wages, which were then $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. below the Uniform List, should be raised to full list prices. Subsequently it was should be raised to turn her prices. Outsetque be given agreed that an advance of 5 per cent should be given from the second Saturday in July, 1905, the question o the other $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. being reserved for consideration in January, 1906.* As the result of a conference on February 9th, 1906, it was agreed that a further advance of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. should be given, bringing wages up to full Uniform List prices.

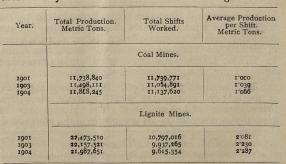
This advance came into operation at the first pay in May, and is estimated to affect 215,000 workpeople. Those engaged on quilt looms, coloured goods, various classes of towels, blanket looms, linen goods, and hard waste weavers do not receive the advance.

EFFECT OF REDUCTION OF AUSTRIAN **MINERS' HOURS ON OUTPUT.+**

UP to 1902 the hours of labour in Austrian coal and lignite mines were regulated by the general mining law of 1884, and were limited to twelve per day, reckoned from bank to bank, only ten of which could be spent in actual work. But by a law which came into force on July 1st. 1902, the duration of the shift for persons employed underground in coal and lignite mines was limited, except in special cases, to nine hours, bank to bank, inclusive of snap-time and other pauses spent below ground. (See LABOUR GAZETTE, October, 1901, p. 297, where it was stated that the general effect of the Act would be to reduce the length of the working day for 70.4 per cent. of the Austrian coalminers).

The interest taken in the question as to the effect of this reduction in the hours of labour upon the output has induced the Austrian Ministry of Agriculture to compile figures showing the average production per shift worked by persons employed in coal and lignite mines in each of the years 1901, 1903, and 1904-that is, before and after the introduction of the nine hour law referred to above. The year 1902 is designedly omitted from the statistics, as the length of the shift was greater in the former than in the latter part of the year. All the larger mines were comprised in this inquiry, those only being excluded whose production in any one of the years under con-sideration amounted to less than 1,000 metric tons, or which were not in operation in 1901 or in 1903 and 1904. It is stated that those excluded are of slight importance.

The total production of the 302 coal and lignite mines investigated in this connection, the aggregate number of shifts worked, and the amount of coal raised in each of these three years were as shown in the following Table :----



* See GAZETTE, April, 1505, page 99. † Based on an article in Soziale Rundschau, February, 1906, the Journal of the ustrian Labour Department. † Mining establishments in Austria are under the control of the Ministry of

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From these figures it will be seen that the average production per man per shift, instead of showing any decrease as compared with 1901, increased in 1903 by 3.9 per cent., and in 1904 by 6.6 per cent. in coal mines, while in lignite mines the corresponding increases were 7'2 and 9'9 per cent. respectively. The returns made to the Ministry of Agriculture show

that in 175 works the average production per shift was higher both in 1903 and 1904 than in 1901; in 78 works it was lower in each of the two latter years; while in 49 works it was higher in one year and lower in the other. The report observes that in order to judge of the effect

of the law in the case of individual mining enterprises, it would be necessary to take into consideration the effect on actual working time of the reduction in the bank to bank time, and to make allowance for factors affecting the intensity of production, such as the distance of the place of work from the pit's mouth, the fluctuations in the demand for coal, and accidents due to natural causes-matters concerning which it would be difficult to collect unbiassed statements.

AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATION IN GERMANY.

A BULLETIN just issued by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland* contains particulars as to co-operation in Germany-especially as regards agricultural societies-collected by Mr. H. de Montgomery, D.L. (a member of the Agricultural Board).

It is estimated that there are about 2,500,000 indepen-dent farmers in the German Empire, and that of these over a million are members of co-operative societies, the most popular form-as shown by the numbers below-being credit societies.

The bulk of these credit societies are small local Associations, receiving deposits from their members, usually at $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. interest, and making advances on loan to them for short periods up to two or three years upon any reasonable security-often the security of a well known good character is sufficient-at rates of interest usually about 4 to $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. For longer periods members can obtain money on mortgage at about the same rate of interest.

The management of these local societies is usually under the control of unpaid committees, the only paid official being the accountant, who receives a nominal salary of about 50s. per annum. The actual work, however, is usually done by the local schoolmaster, as in most of the small villages there is no one else who can do it, or, at any rate, do it nearly as well.

The local societies are assisted by District Central Banks, to which they are affiliated, these receiving the surplus capital of the local societies, and making advances on loan to them when the local funds are insufficient to meet the demand for loans.

The amount advanced by the Central Bank is usually limited to a sum equal to 10 per cent. of the value of the collective property—real and personal—of all the members of the local society, as estimated for taxation purposes. A statement of this valuation is prepared and sent to the Central Bank by the officials of the local society, this being sometimes checked by the Central Bank sending it to the local Government official having charge of the valuation for taxation purposes in the district, with whom the lists of members of registered co-operative societies corrected to date must be lodged.

By this means the Central Bank has a safe security and does not hamper the discretion of the local adminis trators (on whom would fall the whole loss) in the matter of the loans which the local societies may make with the capital advanced to them.

The district banks in Prussia are further assisted when necessary by loans from the Prussian Central Co-operative Bank, which has been endowed by the State with Prussian Consols to the amount of $\pounds 2,500,000$ for the

* Notes on Agricultural Co-operation and Co-operative Agricultural Credit in Germany. Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.-Bulletin No. 3 (Revised 1906.

In the report statistics are quoted from which it appears that on July 1st, 1904, there were 22,400 co-operative societies of all classes in Germany, of which 18,309 were connected with agriculture, while on March 1st, 1906, the number of agricultural societies had increased to 19,763. Of this latter total, 13,452 were Savings and Loan (Credit) Societies; 1,927 were Sale and Purchase Societies, and 2,880 were Dairy Societies, the remaining 1,504 being societies for miscellaneous purposes connected with agriculture. Before 1889, unlimited liability was the only legal form of co-operative societies in Germany, and it is doubtless due to this fact that the great majority of German societies are still upon this basis. On July 1st, 1905, 8_{15} per cent. of the agricultural societies were established with unlimited liability, no less than 93.2per cent. of the credit societies working upon this principle, but during recent years there has been a distinct tendency to the adoption of limited liability.

The latest statistics available as to the business of German Agricultural Co-operative Societies relate to the year 1904. From these it appears that the collective paid-up capital of the Central Credit Banks amounted to $f_{1,037,469}$, and the collective turnover to $f_{152,926,272}$, compared with £984,047 and £128,221,311 respectively in 1903. The agricultural purchases by co-operative societies of all classes in the German Empire are

estimated for the year 1_{904} at $f_{7,505,000}$. The two largest federations of agricultural co-operative societies in Germany, the Raiffeisen organisation, whose headquarters were at Neuwied, and the "Reichs-Verband," with headquarters at Darmstadt, amalgamated in 1905.

A VERY full census is taken by the police for each

county, city or burgh in Scotland of vagrants, beggars, migratory poor, &c., on two nights in each year, namely, in June and December. From the Forty-eighth Annual Report of H.M. Inspector of Constabulary for Scotland* it appears that the total number of vagrants, &c., counted on the night of Sunday, June 25th, 1905, was 9,567, and on December 24th, 7,740. Of those counted in June, 5,247 (or 55 per cent.) were found in public parks or streets, outhouses or barns, or about pits, brickworks, &c.; 3,324 (35 per cent.) were found in common lodging and other houses; 690 (7 per cent.) in houses of refuge, hospitals and poor houses; and 306 (3 per cent.) in prisons or police cells. The corresponding figures at the December census were 2,876 (37 per cent.) found in public parts 2 and 2 bublic parks, &c.; 3,834 (50 per cent.) in common lodging and other houses; 714 (9 per cent.) in houses of refuge, &c.; and 316 (4 per cent.) in prisons or police cells. It will be observed that the number of vagrants found in public gardens, &c., was 2,371 less in December than in une, but that the number found in other places showed little difference at the winter and summer enumerations. The total number of vagrants, &c. counted on a night in June has ranged, in the ten years 1896-1905, between 10,049 in 1896 and 8,252 in 1902. In the same period the number for December was highest in 1896 (7,967) of the total enumerated in June, 1905, 62 per cent.

were men. 20 per cent. women and 18 per cent. children under 14. As regards nationality, 69 per cent. were Scotch, 20 per cent. Irish, 10 per cent. English and I per cent. foreign. * Cd. 2890. Price 15. 9d

assistance of *bona-fide* co-operative societies of all kinds— agricultural and other. The operations of this institution are confined to matters of personal credit (in the widest sense), i.e., accommodation for comparatively short periods (long loans on the security of real property being provided for otherwise and by other institutions).

At first there appears to have been some fear among co-operators that this Central Bank would involve too much bureaucratic interference with, and control of, the co-operative movement, but this seems to have been met by the appointment of some bona fide co-operative leaders as directors of the bank.

VAGRANCY IN SCOTLAND.

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RELIEF OF THE UNEMPLOYED IN APRIL.

According to the Returns received from the Distress Committees under the Unemployed Workmen Act, and from the Local Correspondents of the Department, the amount of distress due to unemployment in April showed a further decrease as compared with March, and was much less than a year ago.

From the date of the opening of the Registers to the end of April, the total number of persons who had made application to 37 Distress Committees in London and neighbourhood, and to 87 Committees in the rest of the United Kingdom, was 120,251, of whom 52,550 were in London and neighbourhood, 58,234 in the rest of England and Wales, 8,440 in Scotland, and 1,027 in Ireland. The number of cases that had been investigated was 102,716, and the results are known in the case of 94,826 persons of whom 16,646 were found to be ineligible or not suitable for assistance under the Act.

Nearly all the Metropolitan Distress Committees ceased registering applicants on March 31st, except as regards special cases for emigration or farm colonies, and the Croydon, Leyton, and Tottenham Committees closed their registers in April. In the rest of England and Wales 35 Distress Committees have closed their registers, and 3 others are keeping their offices open to receive applications only for a short time each week. The Glasgow Committee closed their register on May 4th.

According to the returns received, Employment Exchanges that are apparently intended to be permanent have been established or taken over by 15 Distress Committees outside the Metropolis, viz., West Ham, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Hull, York, Birkenhead, Bolton, Manchester, Wigan, Leicester, Smethwick, Northfleet, Bristol, Aberdeen, Edinburgh, and Govan. In certain other towns there are labour bureaux already in existence maintained by the Municipal Authorities (see p. 158).

Altogether 18,065 persons received employment-relief during April, their total earnings amounting to $\pounds 27,357^*$, or an average of about 30s. 3d. per head for the month. In March the total earnings were $\pounds 48,251^*$, or 33s. 9d. per head. The average number of days worked during April was 9.6. In April, 1905, the returns showed that 9,119 persons received employment-relief, the average number of days worked being about 11.

Employment-relief has now ceased in the great majority of the districts.

Gross Number of Unemployed Registered.+

The figures relating to the number of persons regis-tered in the different districts of the United Kingdom are summarised in the following Table :---

District.	No. of Boroughs or Urban Districts.	Number of Applicants Registered up to end of April.	District.	No. of Boroughs or Urban Districts.	Number of Applicants Registered up to end of April,
London District Metropolitan Boroughs	5 9 4 6 4	9,403 13,986 4,714 7,353 2,436	Rest of United Kingdom- N. Counties Yorkshire Lancs. and Cheshire Mid. Counties E. Counties S. E. Counties	6 11 21 17 3	3,273 12,495 15,129 9,444 2.343
Total Metropoli- tan Boroughs‡ Outer London	28 9	37,892 14,658	S.E. Counties S. & S.W. Counties Wales & Mon. Scotland Ireland	3 7 7 4 8 3	4,289 8,988 2,273 8,440 1,027
Total, London }	37	52,550	Total, Rest of United Kingdom	87	67,701

London and Neighbourhood.-Registration of applicants has ceased in nearly all districts, except as regards cases for emigration or farm colonies. The gross numbers show little change on those published last

* In the case of men employed by the London Central Body at labour colonies, the amount includes allowances to families and cost of maintenance of the men. It should be understood that these figures relate to the total number of persons registered since the opening of the distress registers, and some of these are known to have obtained work since the date of their application, in addition to those who have received employment-relief. As in many cases, however, no effective provision has been made for recording the names of those who may have obtained work, the exact numbers to be deducted on that account cannot be stated. In many cases also the work obtained has been of a quite temporary character.

t Including City of London.

month, the total addition during April in the case of the 37 Committees being under 500.

Rest of the United Kingdom .- In the Northern Counties the figures include 1,160 registered in Sunderland, 794 in Newcastle, 519 at Tynemouth, and 407 at South Shields. In Yorkshire there have been registered 3,484 applicants at Leeds, 2,484 at Sheffield, 1,993 at Bradford, and 1,224 at York. The figures for Lancashire and Cheshire include 3,536 at Liverpool, 847 at Birkenhead, 2,237 at Manchester, 1,641 at Salford, 1,066 at Stockport, and 1,279 at Bolton. In Birmingham the gross number registered was 2,488, at Leicester 1,662, Northampton 797, Nottingham 741, Derby 624. In Norwich 1,589 have been registered, Brighton 2,052, Hastings over 900, Bristol 3,019, Portsmouth 1,924, Southampton 1,219, and Plymouth 1,210. In Wales and Monmouth the figures include 1,041 at Cardiff, and 737 at Swansea. At Glasgow the applicants numbered 2,500, Edinburgh 2,723, Leith 905, Aberdeen 1,215, and Dundee 785. The Irish figures include 928 at Belfast.

Employment-Relief in April.

The extent of the employment-relief given in the different districts is summarised in the following Table.

District.	No. of Boroughs or Urban Districts.	Total No. of Men given Employment- Relief in April.	Total Amount of Wages earned in April by those given Employment- Relief.	Average Amount earned per head in April.
London Central Body London Boroughs—		3,576	£ s. d. 6,1 62 11 1 ¹ / ₂	£ s. d. 1 14 6
East	I	8 0	236 0 0	2 19 0
South	4	221	789 15 10	3 11 6
North	I	34	110 5 2	3 4 10
West	4	228	783 I 61	3 8 8
Central				
Total London Boroughs	10	4,139	8,081 13 8	I 19 I
Outer London	8	3,046	3,021 9 I	0 19 10
Northern Counties	5	1,030	931 18 3	0 18 I
Yorkshire	7	1,544	3,256 16 12	2 2 2
Lancashire and Cheshire	17	2,717	3,843 10 61	I 8 4
Midland Counties	13	1,678	1,898 2 3	127 118
Eastern Counties	3	356	385 12 0	
South-Eastern Counties	3 5 7	464	558 15 92	I 4 I
S. & S.W. Counties	7 20	1,660	2,402 2 I	I 8 II 2 16 8
Wales and Monmouth Scotland	3	192		
7 1 1	7	1,167	2,253 0 5 ¹ / ₂ 180 0 0	I 18 7 2 10 0
Ireland	1	72	180 0 0	2 10 0
Total	86	18,065	27,357 5 9	I 10 3

London and Neighbourhood.—Work was provided by the London Central Body for 3.576 men at Chingford, Long Grove, Hollesley Bay, Osea Island, the Garden City, Fambridge, the Royal and London County Council Parks, and at Wandsworth Common. Work ceased at Chingford on April 20th, and at Long Grove, and at all but one of the London County Council Parks, on May 5th. In addition local work was provided for 563 men by 10 Metropolitan Borough Councils, and for 3,046 men by 8 Distress Committees and 2 Local Authorities in 8 districts bordering on London.

Rest of United Kingdom.-In the Northern Counties 1,030 men received employment-relief in April, including 1,030 men received employment-rener in April, including 535 at Newcastle, 292 at Tynemouth, 90 at Gateshead, and 84 at South Shields. The Yorkshire figures include 417 at Hull, about 383 at Sheffield, 379 at Leeds, and 249 at Halifax. In Lancashire and Cheshire there were employed 501 at Manchester, 413 at Liverpool, 401 at Bolton, 224 at Birkenhead and 220 at Preston. Work was provided for 334 at Birmingham, 267 at Leicester, 232 at Northampton, and 225 at Wolverhampton. At Norwich 203 were employed, at Gillingham 158, Brighton 128, Plymouth 765, Devonport 146, and Bristol 469. Employment-relief was given to 408 at Edinburgh, 329 at Glasgow, 185 at Aberdeen, and 122 at Leith. At Londonderry 72 were employed.

ALIEN IMMIGRATION.

A RETURN* has recently been issued by the Home Office of alien passengers brought to the United Kingdom from ports in Europe, or within the Mediterranean Sea, during the three months ended March 31st. The total number of alien passengers landed was 84,016, of whom 35,215 were cabin and second class passengers exempted from

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inspection, and 36,216 were transmigrants. Of the remainder, 1,236 were proceeding to a destination outside the United Kingdom; 878 held a return ticket between a foreign country and the United Kingdom; and 2,487 were seamen. There remain 7,984, of whom 168 were refused leave to land, 2 left with rejected aliens, and 7,814 (4,499 males and 2,245 females over 12 years of age, and 1,070 children) as to whom no information is available respecting their intentions or movements.

During the three months 47 expulsion orders were made requiring aliens to leave the United Kingdom.

FREE EMPLOYMENT OFFICES IN THE UNITED STATES.*

Ar the end of 1905 fourteen States of the Union had established free employment offices. Many of the offices reported that they were unable to supply the demand made upon them, this being the case more especially as regards female labour. The experience of the offices is said to have proved that the larger number of persons making application for employment are unskilled, and that the majority of employers offering situations require unskilled labour. In all cases domestic servants, farm hands, and harvest hands have formed the greater part of those for whom situations were found. Unskilled labour provided the great bulk of the work of the bureaux in five of the six States which supply information on the point. The New York and Wisconsin Bureaux dealt almost exclusively with unskilled labour, while 90 per cent. of the situations filled by the Illinois and Kansas Bureaux, and 80 per cent. of those filled by the Connecticut Bureaux, were for unskilled occupations. Of the situations filled by the Minnesota Bureau, about 60 per cent. were classed as skilled, but this exceptional figure is due to the fact that "common labourers are generally meant by the term 'unskilled labour'; mason tenders and men of that class nearly all being organised and practically classed as skilled labour."

The operations of the offices in nine States are summarised in the following Table. The figures relate to the year 1905, except in the cases of New York and West Virginia, for which States the figures relate to the years ended September 30th, 1905, and May 15th, 1904, respectively, the latest for which such statistics are

		No. of	No. of applications	No. of	No. of s fill	ituatio led.
State	•	situations offered.	for situations.	situations filled.	Per 100 situations offered.	Per Appl tions situat
Connecticut		 10,116	11,730	8,691	86	7
Ilinois		 44,577	45,323	39,598	89	7.
Maryland		 263	451	122	46	2
Missouri		 14,204	13,948	8,400	59	6
Montana		 11,653	13,555	10,274	88	71
New York		 4,072	6,032	4,384	108	7.
Ohio		 30,508	24,132	21,203	69	8
West Virginia		 2,008	2,239	1,711	85	71
Wisconsin		 16,462	15,602	15,587	95	10
Total		 133,863	133,012	109,973	82	8

The number of persons engaged in agriculture and forestry and in fishing was less in 1901 than in 1896, but in other groups of occupations an increase took place, both in the actual number of persons engaged and in the proportion which such persons bore to the total popula-In addition to the work recorded in the above Table, the Kansas Bureau filled 5,712 situations during 1905; tion. The largest percentage increases occurred in the professional group (15.1 per cent.) and in mining and quarrying (15.0 per cent.). In the transport trades the Washington State Bureau at Tacoma filled 6,338 situations during the year ended July 25th, 1905; and that at Seattle filled 20,558 situations during the year 1904. The Minnesota Bureau at Minneapolis filled and warehousing the increase amounted to 14.2 per cent., in commercial employment to 13.5 per cent., and in industrial occupations, other than mining and quarry-4,994 situations between the date of its establishment. ing, to 7.6 per cent. June 1st, 1905, and the end of that year.

The most important section of the industrial group is The Commissioner of the Labour Department of that of the garment-making trades, in which the number New York, in his fifth annual report, recommends the abolition of the New York Free Employment Bureau. of persons engaged increased by 13.8 per cent., having It is contended by him that the applications for employrisen from 1,304,000 in 1896 to 1,484,000 in 1901. The textile trades proper gave occupation to 892,000 persons, ment from those in domestic service and unskilled a decrease of 1.1 per cent. on the number in 1896 labour are so numerous that they claim the entire time (902,000), but the decrease is more than accounted for and attention of the office, and prevent any proper by the fact that the number engaged in the woollen consideration being given to other classes of labour. As industry diminished from 185,000 to 166,000. In the the demand for this class of labour is much greater than metal trades 812,000 were engaged in 1901, as against the supply, it seemed to the Commissioner unnecessary 690,000 in 1896, an increase of 17.7 per cent. Woodfor the State to act as an employment agent free.

* Based on an article contained in the "Labor Bulletin of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts," March, 1906.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

CENSUS OF OCCUPATIONS IN FRANCE, 1901.*

According to the recently published report on the results of the occupation census taken in France on March 24th, 1901, the number of persons actively engaged in some remunerative occupation, or in the army, on that date was 19,715,075, or 50.57 per cent. of the total population of the country. This figure is exclusive of 10,387 persons who were in France on the date of the census, but who followed their occupations elsewhere. It was not found possible to determine the number of persons who, following an occupation in France, were out of the country at the time of the census. It is stated, however, that this is only of importance near the Belgian frontier, where a number of persons work in France, but do not reside in French territory.

At the census of 1896, the number of persons engaged in remunerative occupations was 18,994,051, or 49.37 per cent. of the total population, so that the proportion of persons so occupied to the total population increased from 49.37 to 50.57 per cent. during the intercensal period.

The preponderance of the male sex among the working population was not quite so great in 1901 as in 1896, the proportion in 1901 being 65:49 per cent., as compared with 66.20 per cent. five years earlier. Between 1896 and 1901 the proportion of females occupied to the total female population increased by 5.7 per cent., compared with a corresponding increase of only 2.7 per cent. among males.

The following Table classifies, according to groups of occupations, the population actively occupied in 1901 and in 1896, and also shows the proportion which each group bore to the total population of France at each

Group of Trades.		Persons loyed.	Percentage of Total Population.		
	1896.	1901.	1896.	1901	
Agriculture and Forestry Mining and Quarrying Other Industrial Occupations Transport and Warehousing Commercial Employment Professions Domestic and Personal Service Public Services (including Army) Fishing Trades not specified	8,430,059 226,815 5,378,369 712,611 1,603,817 339,176 969,064 1,215,8-6 71,626 46,708	8.176,569 266,351 5,819,855 830,643 1,822,670 399,839 1,015,037 1,297,569 67,772 18,820	21'90 0'59 14'00 1'85 4'17 0'88 2'52 3'16 0'18 0'12	21'00 0'68 14'92 2'13 4'67 1'03 2'60 3'32 0'17 0'05	
Total	18,994,051	19,715,075	49'37	50.57	

Of the total number of persons engaged in occupations, 42 per cent. were engaged in agriculture or forestry, and 30 per cent. in industrial occupations, other than mining and quarrying.

* Based on a summary of the report published in the Bulletin de l'Office du Travail (the Journal of the French Labour Department).

workers numbered 709,000, compared with 678,000 five employing not less than ten workpeople, and the results published relate to 71,512 persons, of whom 66,247 were years earlier, an increase of 4.5 per cent. The number of persons occupied in trades connected with the preparation of food increased by 4 2 per cent. during the period from 1896 to 1901, having risen from 445,000 to 464,000.

RECENT CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

Painters at Sale, near Manchester.

On April 18th a joint application was made under the Conciliation Act by the Sale and Ashton-on-Mersey Association of Master Painters and the Sale branch of the National Amalgamated Society of Operative House and Ship Painters and Decorators, for the appointment of an arbitrator to deal with a dispute between the parties. The Board of Trade on April 21st appointed Mr. A. A. Hudson, barrister-at-law, to act as arbitrator.

The operatives had given notice for an advance of wages from $8\frac{1}{2}d$. to $8\frac{3}{4}d$. an hour, and other alterations of working rules. The employers conceded the latter alterations, the wages question alone being referred to the arbitrator. In his award, dated May 4th, Mr. Hudson decided that the operatives had not made good their claim to the advance of wages demanded.

London Boot and Shoe Trade.

Mr. G. R. Askwith, the umpire appointed by the Board of Trade on the application of the arbitrators elected by the Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Boot and Shoe Trade of London, machine-sewn section (see GAZETTE for March, p. 72), issued his award on April 28th.

The operatives had proposed a minimum wage of 32s. a week of 54 hours, to apply to all adult workmen employed in Lasting and Finishing; while the employers claimed that it was impracticable to adopt a minimum wage, and proposed that, in the event of the arbitrators deciding that a minimum wage should be fixed, such minimum should be 26s. per week of 54 hours. The Conciliation Board being unable to agree, it was referred to two arbitrators, and ultimately to the umpire, to decide whether a minimum wage should be fixed, and if the decision was in the affirmative, what its amount should be.

Mr. Askwith decided that a minimum wage was practicable, and awarded that 30s. per week of 54 hours be the standard minimum wage between the parties for competent adult workmen employed in the lasting and finishing operations in London; the question of the competency of any workman to earn and receive the minimum, if disputed either on the ground of age or want of skill, or for any other reason, to be decided as between an employer and the Union by the Joint Board in cases where the employer and the Union may fail to agree.

Manchester Tramways.

A joint application was made to the Board of Trade on April 17th, on behalf of the Corporation of the City of Manchester (Tramways Committee) and their tramway employees, represented by the Amalgamated Association of Iramway and Vehicle Workers, for the appointment of an arbitrator to settle the question whether payment of time and a-half for all Sunday labour ought to be made to certain classes of the men employed on the tramways of the Corporation.

The Board of Trade have appointed Mr. G. R. Askwith, barrister-at-law, to act as arbitrator.

WAGES AND HOURS IN THE BELGIAN TEXTILE INDUSTRIES.

THE Belgian Labour Department has recently issued a report* on wages and hours of labour in the Belgian textile industries in October, 1901. The scope of the enquiry extended to all workers in establishments

* Salaires et Durée du Travail dans les Industries textiles au mois d'Octobre, 1901.

employed in manufacturing processes, the remainder being engaged in "general services" not directly connected with production.

Wages.

The earnings of workpeople of 16 years of age and over in manufacturing processes of the textile industries as a whole, and in the three branches in which the greatest numbers of workpeople were employed, are shown below ----

Daily Earnings for a Normal Day's Work.	Al Texti		en. V	Vool.	Cotton
		Males of	16 years	and ove	r.
Under 1½ francs (15. 2½d.) 1½ and under 2 francs (15. 7½d.) 2 , 2½ , (25. 0Åd.) 3 , 3 , (25. 9½d.) 3 , 5½ , (25. 9½d.) 3 , 4 , (35. 2½d.) 4 francs and over Total Males over 16 years	3,0 6,3 6,4 6,4 4,49 2,6 3,49	8 86 74 1,99 24 1,39 95 6 48 23 98 14	1 1 <t< td=""><td>215 630 .192 ,820 ,718 ,286 ,164</td><td>229 675 1,056 1,223 887 539 606 5,255</td></t<>	215 630 .192 ,820 ,718 ,286 ,164	229 675 1,056 1,223 887 539 606 5,255
		Females o	of 16 year	rs and ov	ver.
Under 1 franc (9Åd.)	· 7,2 . 8,3 . 6,8	34 2,4 70 3,5 25 2,6 67 4	69 I 45 I	50 1,282 1,354 1,735 1,636 915	29 915 1,600 1,303 711 309
Total Females over 16 years	27,6	29 9,3	99 6	5,972	4,867

Of 10,864 children of under 16 years of age, 3,292 earned I franc (9¹/₂d.), but less than 1¹/₄ francs (I shilling); 2,969 earned 3 franc (71d.), but less than I franc, and 2,454 1¹/₄ frances or more daily. The above figures for the linen, woollen, and cotton

industries as a whole are representative of the earnings in each of the large branches of those industries. Nearly 62 per cent. of the total number of men earning 4 francs (3s. $2\frac{1}{2}d$.) and over per day were employed in woollen manufactures. In jute, hemp, and tow processes, more than one-third of the men earned from 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ francs (1s. $7\frac{1}{4}$ d. to 2s.) per day, while over three-fifths of the

women earned about 1 franc (91d.) per day less. The most general limits of daily earnings of men engaged in textile bleaching were 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ francs (1s. $7\frac{1}{4}$ d. engaged in textile bleaching were 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ frances (1s. $7\frac{1}{4}$ u. to 2s.), but the earnings of dyers and printers more frequently came within the limits of the group $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 frances (2s. to 2s. $4\frac{3}{4}$ d.). In bleaching, dyeing, and finishing there were very few women and children employed. The average daily earnings of women employed in the manufacture of hosiery, lace and ribbons, &c., were between $1\frac{1}{2}$ and 2 francs (1s. $2\frac{1}{2}d$, and 1s. $7\frac{1}{4}d$) In this branch of industry comparatively few men were employed.

Hours of Labour.

The most general length of the working day, exclusive of intervals, was 111 hours. Over 54 per cent. of those employed in the textile industries, other than woollen manufacture, worked $11\frac{1}{2}$ hours per day, but less than 11 per cent. worked a day exceeding that time. In the woollen industry, however, more than 54 per cent. of the men, and more than 56 per cent. of the women worked either 11 or 111 hours per day.

The results of the investigation respecting hours of labour are indicated in the following Table :---

Daily Hours of Labour	W	oollen Indu	istry.	Other Textile Industries.				
(excluding intervals).	Men.	Women.	Children.	Men.	Women.	Children		
Under 10	205	371	77	979	871	633		
10 or 101	511	569	97	1,102	1,095	377		
	966 2,764	685 1,907	190	1,063	783	321		
11	2,147	1,993	247 499	3,202	286	1,608		
111	1,850	100	247	8,563	12,218	5,597		
Over II1	581	513	294	2,907	1,755	601		
Total	9,025	6,939*	1,651	18,729	20,657	9,213		

* Hours variable in as additional cases.

May, 1906.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN MINING STATISTICS.

FROM a Report* recently issued by the Home Office, it appears that the number of persons engaged in mining and quarrying at home and abroad in 1904 was about 5,000,000. Of this total, roughly speaking, one-fifth were employed in the United Kingdom and one-third in the British Empire. No statistics are published by several countries, e.g., Brazil, China, Persia, and Turkey, in which mining is carried on, or for the ore mines and quarries of the United States, so that complete figures cannot be given.

More than half the total employed were engaged in the United States 594,000, Germany 543,000, France 171,000, Belgium 138,000, Austria 119,000, and India nearly 93,000.

Output.

The total amount of coal produced in 1904 was over 886 million tons, the value of which is estimated at more than 295 million pounds sterling. The British Empire Contributed nearly 265 million tons to the total, and the United States nearly 320 million tons.

The following figures show the main sources from which the coal supply of the world is obtained.

Country.		in 1904.	compared with 19
United States Great Britain Germany Austria-Hungary France Belgium	 	Metric Tons. 319,613,000 236,158,000 169,450,000 40,530,000 34,167,000 22,761,000	Metric Tons.+ - 4,577,000 + 2,128,000 + 6,993,000 + 360,000 - 738,000 - 1,035,000

It will be seen that the output increased in 1904 in Great Britain, Germany, and Austria-Hungary, but fell off in the United States, France, and Belgium.

As regards iron, the United States, with an output of 163 million tons in 1904, is considerably ahead of any other country. The German Empire with 51 million tons, and Great Britain with about 41 million tons come next. In Spain the output was 4 million tons, in Russia nearly 3 million tons, Sweden $2\frac{1}{2}$, France and Luxemburg, each over $2\frac{1}{4}$ million tons. These figures show the quantities of iron which are considered obtainable from the ores raised in the several countries, and must not necessarily be taken as a measure of their metallurgical industries.

The total output of gold in 1904 was 516,127 kilo-grams (16,593,856 ozs.), of which the value is estimated at over 67 millions sterling. The figures show an increase of 24,455 kilograms, for which the workings in the British Empire are mainly responsible. Of the world's output the British Empire supplied nearly 60 per cent., Australia contributing 221 per cent., the Transvaal 223 per cent., and Canada $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. of the total. The United States contributed $23\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the total.

Fatal Accidents.

The death rates from accidents at coal mines in the principal coal producing countries in 1904 were Austria 92, Belgium 93, France 1.07, Great Britain 1.24, Germany 1.90 and United States 3.35 per 1,000 persons employed.

In the United Kingdom there were 1,090 deaths from accidents at mines in 1904, corresponding to a death rate of 1.24 per 1,000 persons employed, and 112 deaths from accidents at quarries (1.15 per 1,000 employed). In Australia there were at all mines 144 deaths from accidents, giving a rate of 1:39 per 1,000 employed. In the Federated Malay States, where the majority are employed in opencast workings, the accident death rate in 1904 for all mines was '41 per 1,000, 79 persons being killed. In India the number of deaths from accidents at mines and quarries was 130, the death rate being 85 per 1,000 employed. In the Transvaal mines 435 persons were killed, mainly by accidents at gold mines, the death rate being 4.17 per 1,000. At gold mines the accident

* Mines and Quarries. General Report and Statistics for 1904. Part IV. Colonial and Foreign Statistics. Cd. 2011. Price 18. 9d. Wyman & Sons. † A metric ton contains 2,204 lbs. as compared with a British ton of 2,240 lbs.

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death rate per 1,000 employed was 4:36 in the Transvaal, 2:43 in Western Australia (exclusive of alluvial gold workers), .70 in Victoria, 2.70 in Queensland, 1.26 in New Zealand, and 1.50 in India. For the British Empire the accident death rate at gold mines was 2.55 per 1,000 employed in 1904, compared with 2.61 in 1903.

In Austria, excluding workings for ozokerite and petroleum, there were 122 deaths from accidents at mines in 1904. For all mines, excluding ozokerite mines and petroleum wells, the accident death rate was 0.85 per 1,000, being 0.92 at bituminous coal mines, 0'93 at brown coal mines, 1'41 at iron mines and 0'50 at other mines.

In Belgium there were 129 deaths from accidents at coal mines in 1904 and 32 at quarries, the corresponding death rates being '93 and '84 per 1,000 respectively.

In France there were 184 deaths from accidents at coal mines in 1904, 41 at other mines, and 153 at quarries. The corresponding death rates were 1.07 per 1,000 employed at coal mines, 2 34 at other mines, and 1.15 at quarries. At coal mines the accident death rate fell from 1.62 per 1,000 employed below ground in 1899 and 1900 to 1.19 in 1903, but rose in 1904.

A Return of the mining branch of the great industrial insurance institution of the German Empire shows that 1,034 deaths from accidents took place at coal mines in 1904, 84 at ore mines and smelting works, 50 at salt mines and brine works, and 10 at other mineral workings. The death-rate per 1,000 persons insured was 1.83, being 2.46 at brown coal mines, 1.87 at other coal mines, 1.08 at ore mines and smelting works, and 2.16 at salt mines and brine works. At quarries there were 224 deaths in respect of which compensation was paid by the Insurance Board in 1904, the death-rate being 0.55 per 1,000 persons insured.

In Italy, 120 persons were killed by accidents at mines in 1904, and 59 at quarries. The accident death-rates were 1.92 per 1,000 employed at mines, and 1.00 per 1,000 at quarries.

In Japan in 1903* there were 215 persons killed by accidents at coal mines, and 85 at metal mines, the corresponding death rates per 1,000 employed being 2'53 and 1.31 respectively.

In Russia there were 267 persons killed at coal mines in 1902,* 55 at gold and platinum mines, 71 at other mines and workings and 36 at quarries, the corresponding death rates per 1,000 employed being 2.53, .62, .64 and ·02 respectively.

In the United States there were 1,996 deaths from accidents in 1904 at the coal mines of the 21 principal coal producing States for which information is available, the accident death rate being 3'35 per 1,000 employed. There were 234 more deaths in 20 of the States than in the previous year, mainly accounted for by two serious disasters in Pennsylvania and Colorado. In Pennsylvania the accident death rate was 3.44 per 1,000 at bituminous mines and 3.69 at anthracite mines. In Illinois the death rate from accidents was 2.87 per 1,000, the average for the 22 years 1883-1904 being 2'26.

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.

This is the best season of the year for emigration to Canada. There is a large demand for competent farm. labourers, not only in Quebec, Ontario, and the North-West, but in more limited numbers in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island also. There is also a large demand for men able to work on railway construction, many hundreds of miles of new railway having been contracted for. The saw mills in British Columbia are busy providing lumber for the North-West. Coal miners are busy in Nova Scotia

* Later figures not available. + Handbooks with maps on the different Colonies may be obtained from the Emigrants' Information Office, at a penny each, post free.

Output of Coal Increase (+) or

and British Columbia, and at Rossland, B.C., gold miners are wanted. In Ontario there has been a great rush of miners and others to Cobalt, on account of the recent discoveries of silver, cobalt, &c. At Lethbridge in Alberta some 500 coal miners have struck for higher wages and other privileges. Manufactories have been, generally speaking, busy throughout Canada, especially boot and shoe factories, clothing establishments, iron and steel manufacturing plants, and factories for the production of building materials. Skilled men in these trades would probably be able in many parts to get work without much difficulty, but at Toronto many recent arrivals with ordinary qualifications found it difficult or impossible. There is the usual demand for female servants in towns or on farms.

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Commonwealth of Australia.

There is a fair demand for competent farm labourers in parts of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and Western Australia. There is very little demand for mechanics or miners in any State. In Western Australia the timber industry is affected by disputes as to wages. There are assisted or nominated passages for certain emigrants to New South Wales, Queensland, and Western Australia.

New Zealand.

Work of all kinds has been plentiful in New Zealand, as is usual during their summer season. This has been the case not only in the building, engineering, boot, and clothing trades, but in the saw mills, flax mills, general retail trade, &c. Emigrants skilled in these trades should find work without much delay, but there is little demand for second rate men. There is an excellent demand for female servants. In country districts harvesting, railway works, &c., have provided every competent man with employment, and there is a demand for milkers and general farm hands. The New Zealand Government grants cheap passages to railway navvies with their wives and families, and to experienced farm labourers and female servants.

South Africa.

Cape Colony .- No one may enter Cape Colony unless he possesses f_{20} on arrival, or has secured employment beforehand according to a prescribed form of agreement. There has been a steady demand at Cape Town for firstclass coachsmiths, coach-trimmers, harness-makers, and stitchers, but otherwise the local supply of labour con-tinues to be much in excess of the demand, the majority of those unemployed belonging to the building and allied trades. In other towns, such as Kimberley, Port Elizabeth, King William's Town, Queenstown, &c., and in country districts, the state of affairs is-with one or two exceptions-similar, so that it would be very unwise for anyone to emigrate to the Cape at the present time in search of work.

Natal.-There is no improvement in the building trade. Labour is in excess of the demand, and mechanics are warned against going to Natal at the present time to seek employment.

Transvaal.-No one can enter the Transvaal or the Orange River Colony without a permit. Permits are granted immediately to British subjects on their making personal application at the Permit Office at Cape Town, or Durban. But no permit is granted to anyone (1) who does not possess f_{20} , or who has not secured bonâ fide employment in the Transvaal or Orange River Colony; (2) who, when asked to do so by any duly authorised officer, shall be unable through deficient education to himself write out and sign in the characters of any European language (not including Yiddish) an application to the satisfaction of the officer. There is no demand whatever for more labour of any kind, and many industrious men—especially carpenters, bricklayers and masons-cannot find work and are in receipt of relief. All persons are therefore warned against going to the Transvaal in search of employment at the present time.

Orange River Colony.—For the conditions as to permits see under "Transvaal." There is no demand for anyone from this country. There is a general depression in trade, and in common with other establishments the number of mechanics in the Railway Workshops is

being reduced. It was again officially notified in March. last that, in view of the large number of candidates already registered, no further applications for appointments under the Government of the Orange River Colony could be entertained.

May, 1906.

LABOUR ABROAD.

[NOTE.—The following reports include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment in foreign countries, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in these countries are, however, not the same as those for the United Kingdom, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot be properly used with those on p. 120 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom and foreign countries. (See also p. 104 of Cd. 2321.)] of Cd. 2337.)]

FRANCE.*

Employment in March.-Employment in the building and allied trades began to revive in March. In the metal trades it remained on the whole as satisfactory as in preceding months. As regards the textile trades, continued satisfactory in the Vosges and Nord districts, at Rheims, and in the western centres. There were fewer cotton weavers unemployed in the Roanne district. In the silk trade employment declined at St. Etienne, but in the Lyons district seasonal slackness had so far been felt only in the small workshops of the town. Work was very plentiful with carriage builders at Paris, and printers and bookbinders continued well employed. There was no appreciable decrease in the number of unemployed in the Tarn leather dressing centres. Unemployment among vineyard labourers in the south of France, though less than in the preceding month, was still very considerable. Although winter forestry work had practically terminated, there was a decrease in the number of woodcutters out of work, many finding employment in agriculture. Gardeners were fully employed.

Out of 220,316 members of 1,202 Trade Unions which made returns to the French Labour Department as to the state of employment, 20,629, or 9'4 per cent., were out of work in March, as compared with 11.5 per cent. in the previous month, and 10'9 per cent. in March, 1905. These figures are exclusive of the miners' Unions in the Pas-de-Calais and Nord departments.

Coal Mining in March.-The average number of days worked per week by coal miners employed underground was 4.69 during March, as compared with 5.93 in the previous month, and 5.84 in March, 1905. Taking surface and underground workers together, 51 per cent. worked full time (6 days and over per week), and 6 per cent. from 5 to 6 days per week, the corresponding percentages for the previous month being 68.50 and 31.50 respectively, and for March, 1905, 60.37 and 38.49 respectively. The decrease in March as compared with February was largely due to the cessation of work caused by the explosion at the Courrières mines and the striket which followed. The foregoing figures were supplied to the French Labour Department by the Committee of Coal Owners, and relate to over 135,000 workpeople, or more than three-fourths of all employed in and about the mines.

Labour Disputes in March .- Ninety-five disputes, one of which was a lock-out, were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in March, as compared with 68 which began in the preceding month, and 86 in March, 1905. The number of persons taking part in 93 of the new disputes was 86,364, as compared with 12,950 in 62 of the disputes of the previous month, and with 14,821 in 82 of the disputes of March, 1905. The trades in which the greatest number of disputes took place were the textile trades (21 disputes), commercial employment and warehousing (16), metal trades (11), building trades (9), and woodworking trades (8); but the strike in which the greatest number of persons was involved was the strike of miners in the Nord and Pas-de-Calais+. Seventy-nine new and old disputes came to an end in March; of these 15 terminated in favour of the workpeople, 26 in favour of the employers, and 38 in a compromise.

* Bulletin de l'Office du Travail (Journal of the French Labour Department). † See p. 99 of April GAZETTE, and p. 139 of this number.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE. May, 1906.

Conciliation and Arbitration in March.-Ten cases of recourse to the law on conciliation and arbitration were reported to the French Labour Department as having taken place in March, the Justice of the Peace taking the initiative in 7 cases and the workpeople in 3 cases. In 6 cases committees of conciliation were formed, resulting in the direct or eventual settlement of 4 disputes. In the remaining 4 cases the employers refused to take part in any conciliation proceedings.

Labour Disputes in France.*-The strike of coalminers in the Pas-de-Calais came to an end on May 7th, and in the Nord there remain very few men still on strike. The strike in the Loire district (see April GAZETTE, p. 99) terminated on April 18th.

There are many disputes now in progress with the object of obtaining an 8-hour day without diminution of the present wages. The disputes affect nearly every branch of industry, and are taking place in many parts of the country. In Paris alone nearly 100,000 men are said to be affected.

GERMANY.

Employment in March. +- The favourable state of employment which prevailed in January and February, and which was stated to be partly due to the tariff changes and commercial treaties which were to take effect on March 1st, showed no decline after that date. Employment in general was unusually favourable during March, even in industries severely disturbed by strikes, such as the metal, textile and coal mining. In coal mining employment was good and wages were rising. There was no change in the favourable state of affairs in the metal, engineering, electrical and chemical industries. Considerable fluctuations in the price of raw material had no appreciable effect on employment in the textile The resumption of work in the building trades trades. and the spring revival in a number of seasonal trades, especially in the ready-made clothing trades, contributed to the satisfactory state of employment. Returns relating to the state of employment during

the first quarter of 1906 were supplied to the Imperial Statistical Office by Trade Unions with an aggregate membership of 1,221,760, as compared with a membership of 1,082,254 in the Unions which reported at the end of December, and 782,029 in the Unions which reported at the end of March, 1905. After allowing for incomplete returns from certain branches of the Unions reporting, the aggregate membership covered by the returns was 1,118,578 on March 31st, 1906, and of these 12,653, or 1'1 per cent., were described in the returns as unemployed on that date, the corresponding percentage for December, 1905, being 1.8, and for a year ago 1.6. (As regards these figures see note under heading "Labour Abroad"

on p. 138). The following Table shows, for each of the six principal Unions respecting which figures are available for the three periods, the number of members to whom the returns as to unemployment relate, and the percentage of such members unemployed :---

Name and Headquarters	whon	er of Men n Return oloyment	s as to	M	entage of Iembersh employe	nip
of Unions.	Mar. 31, 1906.	Dec. 31, 1905.	Mar. 31, 1905.	Mar. 31, 1906.	Dec. 31, 1905.	Mar. 3 1905.
Metal Workers (Stuttgart)	285,985	260,305	205,507	1.0	1.4	1.4
Woodworkers (Stuttgart)	137,775	131,257	108,591	1.2	2.6	1.0
Miners (Bochum)	103,235	98,190	57,513	0.0	0'0	0.0
Commercial and Transport Employees (Berlin)	55,422	51,061	42,654	0.2	1.3	1.0
Engineers & Metal Workers (Berlin)	50,831	49,713	46,223	0'5	0.0	0.2
Printers (Berlin)	42,968	41,929	39,074	I.8	4'1	1.2

It is stated that the foregoing percentages and similar ones for previous quarters are slightly less than the actual percentage of unemployed members, owing to the fact that a certain proportion of members who are out of work, but who are not entitled to unemployed benefit, do not report themselves as such to the Unions to which they belong. * Based on despatches from certain of H.M. Consuls in France, and on

hewspaper reports. + Reichs-Arbeitsblatt (Journal of the German Labour Department).

BELGIUM.*

Employment in March.-According to reports made to the Belgian Labour Department, out of a total membership of 37,884 in the 146 Trade Unions which made returns, 676; or 2.1 per cent., were out of work towards the latter part of the month, as compared with 2.5 per cent. in the preceding month, and 1'9 in March, 1905. (As regards these figures see note under "Labour Abroad" on p. 138). The figures do not include particulars relating to miners, home-workers, or agricultural labourers.

Labour Disputes in March .- Twenty-five labour disputes were reported to the same department as having begun in March, 3,070 persons being involved (2,400 directly, and 670 indirectly), compared with 15 disputes, involving 877 persons, in February, and 14, involving 1,145 persons, in March, 1905. In addition to these 25 new disputes, 8 strikes and 1 lock-out which began before the first of the month, and which involved about 2,800 persons, were in progress during March. As in the six preceding months, the greatest number of disputes occurred in the textile trades, viz., 7; in the tobacco trades there were 4; in transport, 3; while 2 each occurred in mining, in the building, and in the clothing trades. Out of 20 disputes of which the results were reported in March, 2 (involving 40 workpeople) terminated in favour of the workpeople, 8 (involving 318 workpeople) in favour of the employers, and 10 (involving 1,513 workpeople) were compromised.

NORWAY.

Employment in March.+-The proportion of members described as unemployed by the Trade Unions forwarding Returns to the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics was as follows at the end of March, 1906. For comparison, the figures for February, 1906, and March, 1905, are also given, and it will be seen that, on the whole, the returns would indicate an improvement in March, 1906, as compared with a month and a year before. (As regards this Table, see note under heading "Labour Abroad" on p. 138).

	· M	embersh	ip.	Percentage Unemployed			
	8 Mar. 1996.	Feb. 1906.	Mar. 1905.	Mar. 1906.	Feb. 1906.	Mar. 1905.	
All Unions	13,001	12,851	12,345	4.5	5*6	5.3	
Metal Workers & Moulders	5,587	5,278	5,843	1.8	1.9	2'5	
Printers	I,150	1,146	1,077	3'7	6.3	4'5	
Painters, Masons, & Brick- layers (incl. Labourers)	485	588	749	28.0	42'3	14.4	
Bakers	524	562	555	12'8	11.4	10.1	
Boot and Shoe Makers	354	474	406	20	3'2	-	
Woodworkers and Cabinet Makers	1,380	1,272	1,082	7.5	7.5	3.1	
Sawyers and Planers	414	574	491	25'1	16.2	40'5	
Woodpulp Workers and Paper Makers	728	580	257	0.1	-	0.8	

ITALY.

Labour Disputes in March. 1-Ninety-five disputes were reported to the Italian Labour Department as having occurred during March, as compared with 59 in the previous month. The number of persons directly affected by 70 of these was 19,743, as compared with 8,590 who took part in 39 of the disputes in February. The largest number of disputes took place in the textile trades (as in February), viz., 17, of which 15 involved 3,149 workpeople; there were 16 in the pottery, &c., trades, 11 of which affected 1,348 workpeople; 14 in agriculture, 10 of which affected 8,117 workpeople; and 10 in the metal and engineering trades, 9 of which affected 1,512 workpeople. Out of 55 disputes which came to an end in the month, 12 (involving 2,989 workpeople) terminated in favour of the workpeople, 20 (18 of which involved 3,176 workpeople) in favour of the employers, while 23 (involving 8,541 workpeople) were compromised. In one dispute (involving 461 workpeople), the result was not stated.

* Revue du Travail (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department). + Information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Labour

t Bollettino dell' Ufficio del Lavoro (Journal of the Italian Labour Department).

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE. May, 1906.

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES

IN APRIL.

I40

COAL MINING.

(Based on 551 Returns-471 from Employers, 64 from Trade Unions, and 16 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this industry continued good during April, and was better than a year ago.

Returns relating to 1,350 pits employing 582,049 workpeople show that the average number of days worked per week during the four weeks ended April 21st, 1906, was 508, as compared with 5050 during March, 1906, and 4095 in April, 1905. In April, 1906, however, an average of 0054 days per week was lost owing to holidays, and in April, 1905, an average of 0025 of a day per week. Making allowance for holidays, employment was somewhat better in April, 1906, than in March, 1906, and much better than in April, 1905. Of the 582,049 workpeople covered by the Returns,

Of the 582,049 workpeople covered by the Returns, 413,004 (or 71.0 per cent.) were employed at pits working 20 or more days during the four weeks ended April 21st, and of these 180,316 (or 31.0 per cent. of the whole) worked 22 days or more.

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

Districts.	No. of Workpeople employed in April, 1906, at the	Averag worked j Colli W	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in April 1906, as com- pared with			
	Collieries included in the Table.	April 21st, 1906.*	Mar. 24th, 1906.	April 22nd, 1905.*	A m'nth ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.	Supli 1	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland	40,480	5'20	5'42	5'12	- :22	+ '08
Durham	108,596	5'24	5'52	5'22	- '28	+ '02
Cumberland	7,897	5'25	5'55	5'10	- '30	+ '15
South Yorkshire	60,456	5'20	5.65	5'14	- '45	+ '06
West Yorkshire	21,381	4'74	5'20	4'21	- '46	+ '53
Lancashire and Cheshire	56,351	4 88	5'30	4'79	42	+ .03
Derbyshire	38,992	4 64	5'25	4'33	- '61	+ '31
Nottingham and Leicester	29,981	4'18	4'80	3.85	- '62	+ '33
Staffordshire	26,147	4'57	5'30	4'24	- '73	+ '33
Warwick, Worcester, and						1
Salop	8,638	4'76	5'47	4 66	- '7I	+ '10
Gloucester and Somerset	8,092	5'08	5'40	4'59	- '32	+ '49
North Wales	13,366	5'06	5'75	4.57	- '69	+ .49
South Wales and Mon	109,611	5'35	5.89	5'40	- '54	- '0
ENGLAND & WALES	529,988	5.04	5.91	4.93	- •47	+ •11
SCOTLAND.						
West Scotland	21,313	5'30	5'34	5'14	- '04	+ .10
The Lothians	5.909	5'59	5'61	5.46	- '02	+ '1
Fife	21,218	5'52	5'42	5'04	+ '10	+ '48
SCOTLAND	51,440	5.42	5.41	5.14	+ •01	+ •28
IRELAND	621	4.82	4'45	5'17	+ '37	- '3
United Kingdom	582,049	5.08	5-50	4.95	42	+ .13

The increase in the average number of days worked per week, compared with a year ago, was greatest in West Yorkshire, Gloucester and Somerset, North Wales, and Fife. There was a slight decrease in South Wales, owing to a dispute.

Compared with a month ago, there was a slight improvement in Fife, where no time was lost by holidays. In other districts (except Ireland) the figures show a decrease, the time lost by holidays having ranged from an average of '08 of a day per week in West Scotland and '12 in the Lothians, to '83 in West Yorkshire and '88 in the Warwick, Worcester, and Salop district. Taking holidays into account, the greatest improvement compared with a month ago was in West Yorkshire ('37 of a day per week).

In the Northern Counties employment continued good generally, and was better on the whole than a month ago. In West Yorkshire, however, pits employing 3,000 men were working less than 16 days during the four weeks.

In the *Midlands* employment remained fairly good on the whole, but in the Notts and Leicester district pits employing about half of the total number of men worked

Easter Holidays are included in these periods.

less than 16 days, and in Staffordshire and Derbyshire a good many men were on short time.

In Wales and Scotland employment continued good generally, and in Fifeshire there was a considerable improvement as compared with a year ago.

The following Table shows 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 workpeople were engaged. In pits employing nearly 193,000 workpeople more than one description of coal was produced.

Description of Coal.	No. employed in April, 1906, at the Collieries	Average work by th in four	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in April, 1906, as com- pared with			
of Coal.	included in the Table.	April 21st, 1906.*	March 24th, 1905.	April 22nd, 1905.*	A m'nth ago.	A year ago.
Anthracite Coking Gas House Manufacturing and Steam Mixed Total	6,939 27,404 34,205 85,619 235,059 192,823 582,049	Days. 5'17 5'36 5'08 4'78 5'15 5'09 5'08	Days. 5'66 5'67 5'39 5'27 5'63 5'49 5:50	Days. 4'50 5'31 4'84 4'55 5'11 4'92 4'95	- '49 - '31 - '31 - '49 - '48 - '40	+ '24 + '23

For each of the periods under review, manufacturing, steam and coking coal pits worked a higher number of days than the general average for the month, while pits producing house coal worked less than the general average.

The **Exports** of coal, coke, and manufactured fuel in April, 1906, amounted to 4,541,329 tons, as compared with 4,812,256 tons in March, 1906, and 3,817,056 tons in April, 1905.

IRON, SHALE, AND OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING.

(Based on 93 returns—72 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 6 from Trade Unions, and 15 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in iron mines continued good, and was about the same as a year ago. In shale mines employment continued fair, but a decline was shown compared with a year ago.

In tin and copper mines employment continued to improve, and it was good in lead mines.

Employment in quarries was generally about the same as a month ago. It was, on the whole, slack in slate quarries, dull in granite quarries, and fair with other quarry workers.

Mining.

Iron Mining.—During the four weeks ended April 21st the average weekly number of days worked by all mines and open works covered by the Returns was 5.63, as compared with 5.85 a month ago, and 5.71 in April, 1905. The figures for April, however, are affected by holidays to the extent of 26 of a day in 1906, and 17 of a day in 1905.

The following Table summarises the Returns received:-

Districts.	No. em- ployed in April, 1906, at all Mines		Number d per we n 4 weel	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in April, 1906, as compared with		
	included in the Returns.	April 21st, 1906.*	Mar. 24th, 1906.	April 22nd, 1905 *	A month ago.	A year ago.
and and and		Days.	Days	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cleveland	7,173	5.64	5'89	5'74	- 0.25	- 0'10
Cumberland and Lancashire	4,965	5.67	5'90	5'69	- 0'23	- 0'02
Scotland	1,024	5'67	5'61	5.58	+ 0.02	+ 0.00
Other Districts	2,795	5'49	5'73	5'69	- 0'24	- 0'20
Total and Averages	15,957	5.63	5.85	5.71	- 0.22	- 0.08

* Easter Holidays are included in these periods.

May, 1906. THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

Of the total number of workpeople covered by the Returns, 90% per cent. were employed in mines working twenty-two or more days during the four weeks ended April 21st, as compared with 95°1 per cent. a month ago and 91°9 per cent. a year ago.

Shale Mining.—At the mines respecting which Returns have been received, 3,173 workpeople were employed in the four weeks ended April 21st, as compared with 3,165 a month ago, and 3,176 a year ago. The average weekly number of days worked in the four weeks ended April 21st was 5:45, as compared with 5:52 a month ago, and 5:65 a year ago.

Tin and Copper Mining. — Employment continued to improve in tin and copper mines in Cornwall, with the exception of the Calstock district, where there was little change and employment was dull.

Lead Mining. — Employment continued good in Flintshire and Denbighshire. It continued fairly good in Weardale, but was not quite so good as a month ag in Derbyshire.

Quarrying.

Slate.—Employment was slack in North Wales, an dull, though rather better than a month ago, i Argyllshire.

Granite.— Employment remained dull on the whole is Aberdeenshire, and bad in Devonshire and Cornwal where the improvement noted a month ago was no maintained, and short time was general. Employment in Leicestershire was reported as slightly better than month ago, when it was fairly good. It was fair is North Wales.

Limestone.—Employment was good in Weardale. I continued fair in North Wales, and it was fairly goo in South Durham. In the Plymouth district employ ment continued to improve, though it was still reporte quiet. In the Bath stone quarries employment was slack, short time being worked, and it was bad in th Somerset blue lias quarries.

Other Stone.—Chert quarrymen in Derbyshire wer fully employed, and overtime was general. Employ ment was fair in sandstone quarries in North Wales. I was also fair in the Sheffield district, and in grindston quarries in the Rotherham district and at Normantor It was better than a month ago at Gateshead, where th weather caused less interruption. In grindstone an building stone quarries in the Rowsley district employ ment was quiet. It continued moderate in the Clee Hi road-material quarries. It was moderate at Portland and slack in the Gloucestershire pennant stone quarries In Forfarshire employment was bad, and short time wa general.

Settmaking.—Employment was fair in Aberdeenshire Leicestershire, North Wales, and at Edinburgh, an moderate in the Clee Hill district and at Airdrie.

China Clay.—Employment was good in the St. Auste district, and fair at Lee Moor.

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

(Based on 205 Returns-189 from Employers, received partly direct on l partly through the. Trade Correspondent; 6 from Trade Unions, and 10 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works in April showed some decline as compared with the previous month, but was much better than a year ago. It was better at steel works than at iron works, the average number of shifts worked being 5'72 at the former, and 5'26 at the latter.

The total volume of employment (*i e.*, numbers employed multiplied by the average number of shifts worked) during the week ended April 28th, 1906, at the 189 iron and steel works from which Returns were received, was 1.4 per cent. less than during the week ended March 24th, 1906, but 8.4 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 about 506,200, as compared with 513,500 a month ago, and 467,200 a year ago.

Compared with a month ago, the number of workpeople employed was lower in nearly every department, the total

decline amounting to 1,618 workpeople. The largest decrease was 443, under the heading "Other Departments," of works making or working in both iron and steel, under which there was also a decline of 230 on April, 1905. Employment in Bessemer converting departments and in iron forging and pressing showed a decrease as compared with a year ago of 332 and 88 respectively, but in the remaining branches there was considerable improvement. The decrease in the number employed compared with a month ago was chiefly in Staffordshire (410) and in Cumberland, Lancashire, and Cheshire (1,015), in which latter district took place the only decline on a year ago (572).

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h .s		emple	oyed by f ing Retu	firms		ge Numi vorked p	
n d o		In week ended	Increase decrease compar	e(-) as	In week ended	Increase decrease compar	e(-) as
d		April 28th, 19 06.	A month ago.	A year ago.	April 28th, 1906.	A month ago.	A year ago.
n	Departments.			The state		3	- ANG
n , t	IRON: Puddling Forges Rolling Mills Forging and Pressing Founding	9.324 3,900 358 2,743	- 130 - 95 - 30 - 67	+ 453 + 51 - 88 + 51	5'10 4 87 5'44 5'99	- 0'03 + 0'09 + 0'21 + 0'02	+ 0'35 + 0'18 - 0'06
it	Other Departments Mechanics, Labourers	655 1,571	+ 10 - 30	+ 95 + 44	5.88 5.61	- 0.03 + 0.03	+ 0.05
a n	Total Iron	18,551	- 342	+ 606	5•26	+ 0.01	+ 0.21
t	STEEL: Open Hearth Melting Fur- naces	7,971	- 82	+ 994	5'90	- 0'02	+ 0'02
d 7-	Crucible Furnace Bessemer Converters Rolling Mills Forging and Pressing	564 1,768 15,173	- 17 - 268 + 2 - 79	+ 50 - 332 + 1,032 + 277	5'09 5'03 5'53 5'54	- c.08 - 0.21 + 0.04 - 0.05	- 0'45 - 0'12 + 0'09 + 0'11
d .s	Founding Founding Other Departments Mechanics, Labourers	2,747 7.986 6,592 8,503	+ 95 - 20 - 55	+1,075 +1,214 +238	5.88 5.78 5.92	+ 0'01 - 0'04 - 0'02	+ 0.02 - 0.02
e	Total Steel	51,304	- 430	+4,558	5.72	+ 0.01	+ 0.04
e t e	IRON OR STEEL (not dis- tinguished): Rolling Mills Forging and Pressing Founding Other Departments Mechanics, Labourers	10,758 424 385 2,546 6,761	-436 +39 +16 -443 -22	+ 89 + 27 + 50 - 230 + 452	5'29 5'44 5'99 5'88 5'77	- 0'03 - 0'29 + 0'09 + 0'03 - 0'05	+ 0'15 + 0'12 + 0'17 + 0'01
р. е	Total Iron or Steel (not distinguished) }	20,874	- 846	+ 388	5.83	- 0.03	+ 0.10
d 7-	Total-All Iron and Steel Works	90,729	-1,618	+ 5,552	5•58	+ 0.02	+ 0.03
11 J, S.	Districts. Northumberland & Durham Cleveland	11,349 8,700 16,444 4,402	-2 - 115 + 95 + 11	+ 522 +1,028 +1,564 + 261	5'55 5'69 5'65 5'37	- 0'01 + 0'01 - 0'05 - 0'24	- 0'03 + 0'08 + 0'03 + 0'03
e, d	Vorkshire Towns Cumberland, Lancs. & Ches. Staffordshire Other Midland Counties Wales and Monmouth	11,077 8,812 4,415 8,032	-1,015 - 410 - 45 - 5	-572 + 566 + 413 + 729	5°55 5°50 5°56 5°56	+ 0.08 + 0.02 - 0.06	+ 0'27 + 0'32 + 0'19 + 0'02
11	England and Wales Scotland	73,231 17,498	- 1,486 - 132	+4,511 +1,041	5°58 5°57	+ 0.05	+ 0.03
	Total	90,729	-1,618	+5,552	5.28	+ 0.02	+ 0.03

The average number of shifts worked per man during the week ended April 28th, 1906, remained about the same as a month ago, and was slightly higher than a year ago, especially at puddling forges and iron rolling mills, where the increases amounted to 0.35 and 0.18 of a shift respectively. On the other hand, at crucible furnaces the average number of shifts worked was 0.45 lower than a year ago. In every district, except Northumberland and Durham, the average number of shifts worked showed improvement on April, 1905, and in that district the decline was only 0.03 of a shift.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY

(Based on 115 Returns—108 from Employers, 2 from Trade Unions, 4 from Local Correspondents, and 1 other.)

EMPLOYMENT in this industry continued good, and was much better than a year ago.

Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters show that during April four furnaces were relit (one each in

May, 1906.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

engineers.

fairly good; at Aberdeen it was fair. At Belfast employment continued good, and was much better than a year ago.

Employment continued good on the Clyde, and was

much better than a year ago. At Leith the improve-

ment reported a month ago was maintained, and

employment was good ; at Dundee employment continued

May, 1906.

Employment at Barrow-in-Furness was moderate with shipbuilders ; slack with shipwrights. At Yarmouth and Lowestoft it was good and some overtime was worked ; at Ipswich it showed some improvement, and was fair; at Cork it was bad, except with boiler makers.

ENGINEERING TRADES.

(Based on 892 Returns—9 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 851 from Trade Unions, and 32 from Local Correspondents.) EMPLOYMENT during April generally continued good,

showing a slight improvement on the previous month, and being much better than a year ago.

In a few districts there was a decline compared with a month ago, but in each case it was slight. The most marked improvements were shown in the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester, the Hull and Lincoln, and the Belfast and Dublin districts. All districts showed a decided improvement compared with a year ago.

Returns relating to 149,671 members of Trade Unions show that 2.7 per cent. were unemployed at the end of April, as compared with 2.8 per cent. in the previous month, and 5.9 per cent. in April 1905.

The percentages for the various districts are shown below :-

District.	No. of Members of Unions at end of April, 1906, in-	turne	entage d as U ed at e	nem-	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unem ployed for April, 1906, as compared with a		
	cluded in the returns.*	April, 1906.	Mar., 1906.	April, 1905.	Month ago.	Year ago,	
North-East Coast	15,214	3'3	3'2	6.2	+ 0.1	- 2.0	
Manchester and Liverpool District	17,819	2.9	25	7'2	+ 0'4	- 4'3	
Oldham, Bolton, and Black- burn District	12,087	2.4	2.5	7.0	+ 0.5	- 4.6	
West Riding Towns	11,989	3'2	3'6	8'9	- 0'4	- 5'7	
Jull and LincolnshireDistrict	3,453	2'2	3.8	3'7	- 16	- 1.2	
Birmingham, Wolverhamp- ton, and Coventry District	6,939	1.8	1.0	5.5	+ 0.5	- 3'4	
Notts, Derby, and Leicester District	3,917	3'7	5.0	8.7	- 1.0	- 5'0	
London and Neighbouring District	12,386	2.0	3.1	4'4	- 0.3	- 1.2	
South Coast	3,754	2'0	2'I	3'5	- 0'I	- 1'5	
South Wales and Bristol Dis- trict	6,665	3.1	2.9	4.6	+ 0'2	- 1.2	
Glasgow and District	14.926	2.8	3'0	7.2	- 0'2	- 4'4	
East of Scotland	3,734	3'7	4'2	8.5	- 0'5	- 4.8	
Belfast and Dublin	3,471	3.8	5'4	7.8	- 1.0	- 4'0	
Other Districts	5,441	2'I	2'0	5'3	+ 0.1	- 3.5	
United Kingdom (Including certain Unions for which district figures are not available)	149,671	2.7	2.8	5•9	- 0•1	- 3•2	

On the North-East Coast employment continued generally good in the engineering trades. With patternmakers, however, it continued fair. At Wallsend, Howden and Hebburn overtime and night shifts continued.

In Manchester and district employment remained good, and overtime was fairly general. At Liverpool it continued fair generally, and had improved slightly with brassfounders. At Oldham, Bolton, Blackburn, and Burnley employment continued good, and there was much overtime, more particularly in the textile machinery section. At Preston and Barrow-in-Furness employ ment was moderate with engineers.

At Sheffield iron and steel dressers and moulders and patternmakers were well employed. With boiler makers employment had improved slightly but was still slack. At Rotherham, with engineers it was good and with ironfounders fair. At Barnsley it was moderate in both of these sections. At Leeds it was good generally, but had declined slightly with boiler makers. Employment at Stanningley was moderate, and at Wakefield and Bradford fairly good. At Halifax, Huddersfield and * Exclusive of Superannuated Members.

April, 1905.

Lancashire, Derby, Glamorganshire, and Lanark) and one was blown out in Flintshire. The number of furnaces in blast at the end of April was 342, as compared with 339 a month ago, and 318 at the end of April, 1905. The number of workpeople employed at the works included in the Returns summarised in the following Table is

Districts.		Furnaces, i ns, in Blast		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in April, 1906, as compared with		
	April, 1906.	Mar., 1906.	April, 1905.	A month ago.	A year ago.	
ENGLAND & WALES-		The second second	1		al line an	
Cleveland	86	86	83		+ 3	
Cumberland & Lancs.	37	36	35	+ 1	+ 2	
S. and S.W. Yorks.	16	16	14		+ 2	
Derby & Nottingham	42	41	36	+ 1	+ 6	
Leicester, Lincoln, and Northampton }	29	29	27		+ 2	
Stafford & Worcester	35	35	30		+ 5	
S.Wales & Monmouth	15	14	15	+ 1		
Other districts	6	7	7	- I	- I	
Returned from England & Wales}	266	264	247	+ 2	+19	
Returned from Scotland	76	75	71	+ 1	+ 5	
Total furnaces included in returns	342	339	318	+ 3	+24	

The Imports of iron ore in April, 1906, amounted to 646,696 tons, or 78,537 tons more than in April, 1905, and 131,718 tons more than in April, 1904.

The Exports of pig iron from the United Kingdom during April, 1906, amounted to 114,099 tons, as compared with 86,158 tons in April, 1905, and 82,128 tons in April, 1904.

TINPLATE WORKS.

(Based on 56 Returns-52 from Employers, 1 from a Trade Union, and 3 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during April showed a marked decline as compared with a month ago and a year ago. The decline is attributed to the high price of tin. A year ago a ton of Straits tin cost \pounds_{140} ; during March last the average price was £ 166, and in April £ 177.

At the end of April 375 mills were working, as compared with 401 at the end of March and 408 a year ago. The number of workpeople employed at the 375 mills was about 18,700.

The following Table shows the number of mills at

designed the state of	No. of	No. of Mills in such Works.					
ni, an an an an an an	Works open.	Working.	Not Working.	Total.			
Works giving full employment Works giving partial employment	51 21	285 90	45	285 135			
Total at end of April, 1906*	72	875	45	4 20			
Corresponding Total for Mar., 1906*	75	401	30	431			
Corresponding Total for April, 1905*	78	408	28	436			

The Exports of tinplates and tinned sheets and blackplates for tinning are given in the Table below for the periods stated. Of the total exports of tinplates and tinned sheets during April, 4,186 tons went to the United States, 3,078 tons to the British East Indies, 2,477 tons to the Netherlands, 2,041 tons to Germany, 1,905 tons to Australia, and 1.879 tons to France. Of the blackplates for tinning, 718 tons went to Germany and 537 tons to Belgium.

* 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.

	Month ended April 30th,	ended April.		Four Months ended April 30th,	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in			
	1900.	1905.	1904.	1906.	1905.	1904.		
		Tinned	Plates a	and Tinned	Sheets.	,		
To United States ,, Other Countries	Tons. 4,186 27,194	Tons. - 1,081 + 3,386	Tons. -1,310 +5,156	Tons. 15,059 108,092	Tons. - 9,326 + 7,743	Tons. - 5,897 +19,464		
Total	31,380	+ 2,305	+ 3,846	123,151	- 1,583	+13,567		
		Bl	ack Plat	es for Tinni	ng.			
To United States ,, Other Countries	2 4,413	+ 2 588	+ 2 -1,923	3 19,424	- 69 + 1,011	+ 3 - 1,519		
Total	4,415	- 586	-1,921	19,427	+ 942	- 1,516		

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

(Based on 348 Returns-8 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 324 from Trade Unions, and 16 from Local Correspondents.) EMPLOYMENT continued good, the improvement reported in recent months being maintained. It was considerably better than a year ago.

Branches of Trade Unions with 58,353 members had 2,978 (or 5'I per cent.) unemployed at the end of April, as compared with 5.6 per cent. at the end of March, and with 12.2 per cent. a year ago.

Compared with a month ago, the most marked improvement, as indicated by the percentages of unemployed, was at the Bristol Channel Ports, in the Dundee, Leith, and Aberdeen district, and on the Tyne. In no district was there a marked decline.

Compared with a year ago, an improvement was shown in all districts, the improvement in most cases being considerable.

District,	11	No. of Members of Unions at end of Apl., 1906, included	nbers Inions Ind of , 1906,			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage for April, 19c6, as compared with		
	10- 1 m	in the Returns.*	April, 1906.	Mar., 1906.	April, 1905.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Tyne and Blyth		9,746	1.8	3.9	13.8	- 2.1	- 12'0	
Wear		5,040	I'4	2'0	11.3	- 0.0	- 9'9	
Tees and Hartlepool		5,166	4'5	3.0	13'4	+ 0.0	- 8.9	
Humber	•••	2.544	11.3	10.2	13'3	+ 1.0	- 2'I	
Thames and Medway		4,733	9'2	9.8	12.7+	- 0.0	- 3'5	
South Coast		3,761	4.4	4'3+	6'0	+ 0.I	- 16	
Bristol Channel Ports		2,614	13.0	16.7	20'5	- 3'I	- 6.0	
Mersey Clyde		3,072	5.7	4.8	14'8	+ 0.0	- 9'I	
Dundee, Leith, and Aberdeen	•••		4'5	4'3	11.3	+ 02	- 6.8	
Delfeat		2,294 2,854	3.8		10.3	- 2'4	- 5'1	
Other Districts	••	3,048	72	3.3	8.3	- 06	- 1'I	
United Kingdom	•	58,353	5.1	B·6+	12.2	- 0.5	- 7.1	

Employment on the Tyne and Wear continued good, and was better than a month ago. In the Tees and Hartlepool district it continued good on new work and about the same as a month ago. Some falling off, however, was reported among shipjoiners, smiths and strikers, and angle smiths. On repair work in this district, employment remained moderate, showing a slight im-provement at Middlesbrough. Employment at Hull and Grimsby showed a further decline on the whole, but it was good at Beverley and Goole. As compared with a year ago there was a considerable improvement on the North-East Coast generally.

In the Thames and Medway district employment, though still slack, was slightly better than a month ago. At Southampton it continued moderate on yacht work and fair on ship work. At other ports on the South coast little change was shown as compared with a month ago. As compared with a year ago, there was a slight improvement. At the Bristol Channel Ports employment was slack, but better than a month and a year ago. At Bristol it was bad, and at Swansea and Barry it was rather better than a month ago. On the Mersey employment was moderate, and there was a slight decline on repair work. As compared with a year ago it continues to show a marked improvement.

* Exclusi of Szperannuated Members. + Revised figures.

T42

estimated at 24,500.

Dewsbury it was good with ironfounders. At Keighley and Dewsbury it was good with engineers, and at Huddersfield moderate.

At Doncaster employment was moderate with engineers, and improving with boiler makers. At Hull it was moderate with brass and ironfounders, and good with smiths. At Grimsby employment was moderate with

At Wolverhampton, Birmingham and Coventry it was reported as generally good, considerable overtime being worked, more particularly in motor and cycle shops.

At Derby it was fair in the railway shops, good with boiler makers, and moderate with ironfounders. At Leicester it continued good with engineers, but was only fair with toolmakers. At Nottingham employ-

ment had improved to a slight extent generally. Overtime was reported with some lace machine builders and tool makers. It was bad with brass and ironfounders, and had declined with boiler makers.

Employment in the Potteries was moderate, but showed an improvement. Boiler makers were fairly well employed, but with ironfounders employment was moderate.

In the Eastern Counties employment was fair with engineers, moderate with boiler makers, and good with patternmakers.

Employment in the London district, as shown by the Trade Union returns, was fair, about the same as a month ago, but better than a year ago.

In the dockyard towns employment was fair and rather better than a month ago, the improvement being due mainly to repairing work by private firms. At Southampton it was fair, the same as a month ago.

In South Wales employment was still slack with engineers, but had improved slightly as compared with last month. At Bristol it was reported as improving, except with brassworkers. At Gloucester and Swindon it continued good.

In the Clyde district employment was good, with overtime in some instances; compared with the previous month there was a slight improvement.

Employment at Edinburgh was fair with engineers and brassfounders, good with moulders, and quiet with patternmakers. At Aberdeen it was reported as moderate with engineers, fair with ironmoulders, and good with smiths. At Dundee it had improved, and was good, with some overtime.

Employment at Belfast was good generally, and better than it has been for a considerable time. At Dublin and Cork it continued bad, but at the former place engineers and ironfounders reported a slight improvement.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

(Based on 60 Returns-3 from Employers' Associations, 31 from Trade Unions, and 26 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in these trades continued fair generally, and showed a slight improvement compared with a month ago. Eighteen Trade Unions with a membership of 14,900 had 387 (or 2.6 per cent.) unemployed at the end of April, compared with 2.7 per cent, at the end of the previous month, and 3.3 per cent. at the end of

Tubes.-In the tube trades employment continued good generally, and had improved slightly in South Staffordshire. In South Wales and Birmingham it was good, with some overtime in the former district.

Chains, Anchors, Springs, etc.-At Cradley Heath employment was fairly good with block chain makers, but was worse than a month ago with anchor smiths, all workers being on short time. At Gateshead with chain and hammermen it was fairly good, and in South Wales it continued fair. At Dudley anvil and vice makers were reported as fully employed. At Walsall with cart gear, buckle and chain makers, employment had improved.

It was good at Birmingham and West Bromwich with review. Compared with a month ago, the number spring and axle makers, and at Wednesbury upon railway wheel work.

Sheet Metal, etc.-In London employment with tinplate workers was fairly good, and with zinc workers it was fair, and both showed an improvement on a month ago. With tinplate workers it was fair at Glasgow and Aberdeen, it continued good at Nottingham, Oldham and Edinburgh, and was slack at Bristol, with some short time. In the ironplate trade it was quiet at Birmingham, but had improved slightly in the Lye With sheet metal workers it was good on the district. whole at Manchester and Hull, and fair at Birmingham.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, etc.-With nut and bolt makers employment was fair at Winlaton, Birmingham, and in South Wales, and had improved at Darlaston. With wire nail, shoe rivet, and cut nail makers at Birmingham it was fair. At Black Heath it continued fair with nail workers and quiet with rivet makers.

Wire .- Employment continued good generally, and better than a year ago.

Locks. Keys and General Hardware.-Employment at Wolverhampton continued bad in the lock and latch trade, and short time was general. It was good on cast iron hollow-ware, and with makers of iron hurdles and fences. In the hollow-ware trade it continued good at Wigan, fair at Birmingham and slack at Sheffield, and was quiet at West Bromwich.

Stoves, Grates, etc.- Employment in these trades continued fair at Falkirk and quiet at Rotherham. At Glasgow it was still quiet, at Bolton it had improved and was good, and at Leeds it was good.

Brasswork, Bedsteads, etc. - Employment with brassworkers continued fair on the whole, and was better than a year ago. In London it continued dull, with much short time. At Birmingham with bedstead makers it was bad, and short time was prevalent.

Cutlery, Tools, etc .- At Sheffield employment was slack in the cutlery trades generally, but with sawmakers it continued fair. In the file trades at Sheffield it was good, and at Birmingham quiet. In the edge-tool trade it was fair at Sheffield and Birmingham, but was slack at Wednesbury. At Redditch in the needle trade it continued good.

Gold, Silver, Britannia Metal, etc.—In London employ-ment with goldsmiths and jewellers continued slack. In the silverplate trades it was moderate in London and Birmingham, and bad at Sheffield. With britannia metal workers it was very slack at Sheffield, but was good for the time of year at Birmingham. At the latter place with jewellers it was still quiet, but better than a month ago. It was moderate with watchmakers at Coventry.

Farriers .- - Employment showed little change, and was, on the whole, quiet.

COTTON TRADE.

(Based on 644 Returns-555 received from Employers, partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, S1 from Trade Unions, and 8 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued very good, and was better than a year ago.

The price of "middling American" cotton in Liverpool was 0.19d. per lb. higher in April than in March, and 1.89d. higher than a year ago. The price of "good fair Egyptian" was 0.81d. higher in April than in March, 1906, and 3.17d. higher than in April, 1905.

The number of workpeople employed by firms making Returns for the week ended April 28th was 168,849, an increase of 0.2 per cent. compared with the number employed by these firms in the week ended March 24th, and of 1.9 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Firms employing 142,408 of these operatives have stated the amount of wages paid in the periods under

employed by these firms showed an increase of 0.2 per cent., and the amount of wages paid an increase of 0.4 per cent. Compared with a year ago, the number employed showed an increase of 2^o per cent., and the amount of wages paid an increase of 4.7 per cent. Looms were again reported to be standing for want of weavers.

Analysis by Departments and Districts.

Compared with a month ago, the preparing and weaving departments showed a slight improvement. Compared with a year ago, the preparing, spinning, and weaving departments all showed an improvement, which was most considerable in the weaving departments.

	W	orkpeople	.	1	Earnings	•
· ·	No. employed on last pay day	or Decre as con	last	Aggre- gate Amount of Wages paid on	or Decr as con	use (+) mease (-) mpared last eek of
the second and the second	in April, 1906.	Mar., 1906.	April, 1905.	last pay day in April, 19 0 6 .	Mar., 1906.	April, 1905.
antica D. March		Per	Per		Per	Per
Departments.		cent.	cent.	£	cent.	cent.
Preparing	15,905	- 0'2	+ 1.0	13,857	+ 0.2	+ 1'0
Spinning	28,281	- 0.0	+ 2.7	26,786	- 0'2	+ 3'4
Weaving	67,486	+ 0'5	+ 2'I	61,038	+ 0.2	+ 6.1
Departments not specified	12,135 18,601	+ 0'2	+ 3'0	13.743	- 0.7	- 4'5
Departments not specified	10,001	- 0'2	+ 0.0	19,031	+ 0.0	+ 4.7
Total	142,408	+ 0'2	+ 2.0	134,455	+ 0.4	+ 4'7
		Per	Per	1	Per	Per
Districts.	ALL STREET	cent.	cent.	£	cent.	cent.
Ashton District	9,854	+ 0.1	+ 08	9.528	+ 2'I	+ 2'4
Stockport, Glossop, and Hyde	8,458	+ 0.2	+ 2.7	7.720	+ 0.3	+ 3'2
Oldham District	16,857	+ 0'2	+ 0.8	16,755	+ 0'7	+ 2'0
Bolton and Leigh	15,099	+ 0'3	- 4'2	13,457	- 1.0	- 0.8
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden, & Todmorden	11,442	+ 0.1	+ 2.5	10,478	- I.8	+ 2.3
Manchester District	11,024	+ 0.8	+ 2'3	8,529	+ 4.6	+ 5'4
Preston and Chorley	10,141	+ 0.0	+ 1.1	8,945	- 1'3	+ 4'9
Blackburn, Accrington, &	21,873	+ 0.1	+ 27	21,751	+ 1'0	+ 77
Darwen						
Burnley, Padiham, Colne, and Nelson	21,295	+ 0'5	+ 2.5	24,089	+ 1.3	+ 7'1
Other Lancs. Towns	4,700	- 0'4	- 0'5	4,048	- 0.7	1 110
Vorkshire Towns	5,865	- 0'3	+ 8.1	4,040	- 3'7	+ 47
Other Districts	5,800	- 0'5	+17'3	3,613	- 17	
				3,013	-17	+ 15'5
Total	142,408	+ 0'2	+ 20	134,455	+ 0'4	+ 4'7

Compared with a month ago employment was good in all districts, but a decline in the amount of wages paid took place in the Bolton, Bury, and Preston districts and in the groups of miscellaneous districts; the only slackness reported, however, was that due to want o operatives. New mills and sheds were started during the month

Compared with a year ago every district showed an improvement except the Bolton and Leigh district, which showed a decline in the weaving branch. The districts in which the improvement was greatest were Blackburn, Burnley, Manchester, and Preston.

Raw Cotton.

American Cotton .- During the month of April the average price of raw cotton "middling American" at Liverpool was 6.11d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 6.24d., and the lowest 6.03d. The price for March was 5.92d., and for April, 1905, 4.22d per lb. For the period from 1st to 10th of May the average price of "middling American" was 6.00d. per lb.

Egyptian Cotton.—The price of "good fair Egyptian" during April averaged 9.76d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 10d., and the lowest 94d. The price for March was 8.95d., and for April, 1905, 6.59d. per lb. For the period from 1st to 10th of May the average price of "good fair Egyptian" was 9'97d. per lb.

The visible supply of American cotton for the United Kingdom on May 17th, 1906, was estimated by the Liver-pool Cotton Association to be 974,840 bales, as compared with 944,660 on May 12th, 1905.

Particulars of forwarded from p						
Description of Cotton.	Month ended April 50th,	Compare		Four months ended April 30th,	Decreas compar corresp	e (+) or ee (-) as ed with bonding od in
	1906.	1905.	19 04.	1906,	1905.	1904.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.

May, 1906.

Exports of Cotton Goods.

 $\begin{array}{r} 19,053 \\ 5,845 \\ 26,712 \\ 7,138 \\ + 3,651 \\ \end{array}$

The following Table shows the quantity of exported cotton yarn and cotton piece goods for the period stated :-

+ 7,335 - 11,662 + 5,115 + 1,485

309,646 +40,040 + 95,079 1,346,448 +141,162 + 390,500

	the second have	town where is	and a static	and the second second	2. March 19 and 19	and the second
Description,	Month ended April sotb,	Decreas compar	e (+) or e (-) as red with oril,	Four Months ended April 30th,	Decreas compar corresp	e (+) or e (-) as ed with onding od in
	1906.	1905.	1904.	1906.	1905.	1904.
Cotton Yarn and	1000's	1000's	1000's	I000'S	1000's	1000's
Twist- Grey Bleached and Dyed	lbs. 14,131 3,029	1bs. + 990 + 335		lbs. 58,815 13,453	lbs. + 6,452 + 1,047	lbs. + 15,270 + 3,440
Total	17,160	+ 1,325	+ 4,612	72,:68	+ 7,499	+ 18,72
Cotton Piece Goods- Grey or Unbleached	1000's yds. 175,962	1000's yds. - 3,945	1000's yds. + 41,879	1000's yds. 792,085	1000's yds. + 51,378	1000's yds. + 168,49
Bleached Printed Dyed or Manu- factured of Dyed Yarn	125,323 78,318 77,336	- 13,737 + 4,947 - 424	+ 289	585,565 355,354 362,954	+ 1,049 + 29,953 + 12,740	+ 78,039 + 20,419 + 46,150
Total	456,939	- 13,159	+ 51,558	2,095,958	+ 95,120	+ 313,13

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES

(Based on 463 Returns-456 received from Employers, partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, and 7 from Local Correspondents.) EMPLOYMENT in the Woollen and Worsted trades showed an improvement, and was better than a year ago.

Woollen Trade.

Employment continued good, and was better than a year ago.

The number of workpeople employed by firms making Returns for the week ended April 28th was 36,087, an increase of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed by them compared with the week ended March 24th, and of 3.2 per cent. compared with the week ended April 15th, 1905.

		people co y returns		I	Carnings		Other Departments Unspecified	10,078 4,620 2,585	- 0'2 -	1.8 4		+ 1.4 + 2.1 - 1.8	+ 2'4 + 1'1 + 4'4
· · · · ·	Num- ber em- ployed in week ending	Increa o Decreas compare	r e(-), as	Aggre- gate amount of Wages paid in week ending			Total Districts. Bradford District Keighley District Hallfax District Huddersfield District	49,414 25,752 6 820 5,718 4,765	+ 1'1	- 5'9 18	8,304 4,95 ² 3,530	+ 0.6 + 1.1 - 1.5 - 3.5 + 3.9	+ 5" + 8" + 2" - 2" + 0"
	28th April, 1906.	A month ago.	A year ago.	28th April, 19c6.	A month ago.	A year ago.	Other Parts of West Riding Total West Riding Other Districts	3,474 46.529	+ 0 6 -	- 1.8 :	2,087	+ 2'4 + 0'7 - 0'3	+ 8
Departments. Wool Sorting Spinning Weaving Other Departments Unspecified	5,666 11,673 8,212 1,918	Per cent. + 1.6 + 0.8 - 1.1 + 1.0 + 0.8	Per cent. + 1'4 + 4'3 + 3'4 + 3'9 - 0'1	£ 783 4 808 9,849 8,223 1,723	Per cent. + 4'I + 0'3 - 1'6 + 1'8 - 0'9	Per cent. + 6.0 + 5.6 + 5.9 + 7.5 + 4.9	Total Worsted Pr. The course of pri with a month ago, a	ices of	Raw Ma	terial. furthe	r rise		ipare
Total	28,288	+ 0.1	+ 3'4	25,386	+ 0.1	+ 6.3							0 -
Districts	Parties and			I	A. 4. 6. 6. 6. 6. 6. 6. 6. 6. 6. 6. 6. 6. 6.				April, 190	6. Mar	., 1906	Apri	il, 1905.
Leeds District Dewsbury & Batley District	3,245	- 0'3 - 1'7 + 0'4	+ 7.0 + 4.2 + 0.9 + 5.8	5,655 2,894 3,516 1,709	- 2.0 - 1.5 + 1.1 + 2.6	+10 ^{.8} + 7 ^{.3} + 4 ^{.8} + 1 ^{.4}	40's Crossbred tops		Pence per 14 ¹ / _{18¹}	lb. Pence	e per lb. 14 17 3	Pence	e per l
Huddersfield District	3,245 3,544 1,508 14,045 7.576	 - I'7	+ 4'2	2,894 3,516	- 1.2 + 1.1	+ 7'3 + 4'8	Lincoln Hoggs 40's Crossbred tops 60's Super Botany tops Gourse of Prices:		Pence per 141 181 281	lb. Pence	e per lb. 14	Pence	e per l

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Firms employing 28,288 of these operatives have stated the wages paid in the periods under review. Compared with a month ago, both the number employed and the amount of wages paid by these firms showed an increase of o'I per cent. Compared with the week before Easter, 1905, the number employed showed an increase of 3.4 per cent., and the amount of wages an increase per cent.

In Huddersfield, although there was a slight decline, employment was very good, and overtime and night work were general in the Colne Valley. Employment in Leeds was good, with considerable overtime. In the heavy woollen district it was good. The improvement at Rochdale and Milnrow was well maintained, and employment was good at Stockport. In North Wales there was a decline. At Wellington employment was good; at Trowbridge it was fairly good. In Hawick, Galashiels, and Selkirk it continued good.

Worsted Trade.

Employment showed a further slight improvement, and was fairly good and better than a year ago.

The number of workpeople employed by firms making returns for the last week in April was 61,171, an increase of 0.3 per cent. compared with the week ended 24th March, and of 2.0 per cent. compared with the week before Easter, 1905.

Firms employing 49.414 of these operatives have stated the wages paid in the periods under review. Compared with the week ended 24th March the number employed by these firms showed an increase of o.5 per cent., and the amount of wages paid an increase of 0.6 per cent. Compared with the week before Easter, 1905, there was an increase of 2'3 per cent. in the nnmber employed, and of 5.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Employment in Bradford continued exceptionally good in the woolsorting and combing department; and a further slight improvement was apparent in the spinning and weaving branches. In the Keighley district employment was reported as good. In the Halifax district there was some decline in the combing and spinning branches. In Huddersfield employment continued good.

10144 (19 200) 200 / 200		y return		Earnings.			
	No. em- ployed in week ending 28th April, 1906.	ployed as compared with		Aggre- gate amount of Wages paid in	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with		
		A month ago,	A year ago.	week ending 28th April, 1906.	A month ago.	A year ago.	
Departments. Wool Sorting & Combing Spinning Weaving Other Departments Unspecified Total	5,660 25,871 10,678 4,620 2,585 49,414	Per cent. + 0 ⁻⁶ + 0 ⁻² + 1 ⁻⁹ - 0 ⁻² - 1 ⁻⁵ + 0 ⁻⁵	Per cent. + 6 ⁻⁴ + 1 ⁻⁸ + 3 ⁻² - 1 ⁻⁸ + 3 ⁻⁰ + 2 ⁻³	£ 5,490 13,551 9,1 9 4,55(1,873 34,584	Per cent. + 0'I + 1'4 + 2'I - 1'8 + 0'6	Per cent. + 11'3 + 6'0 + 2'4 + 1'1 + 4'4 + 5'1	
Districts. Bradford District Keighley District Halifax District Huddersfield District Other Parts of West Riding Total West Riding Other Districts	25,752 6 820, 5,718 4,765 3,474 46.529 2,885	+ 1'1 - 0'4 - 0'3 + 06 + 0'6 - 0'5	$ \begin{array}{r} + 5.9 \\ - 0.4 \\ - 2.9 \\ + 0.9 \\ - 1.8 \\ \hline + 2.7 \\ - 3.5 \\ \end{array} $	18,304 4,952 3,530 4,cc9 2,087 32,882 1,702	$ \begin{array}{r} + & 1^{1}1 \\ - & 1^{2}2 \\ - & 3^{2}2 \\ + & 3^{1}9 \\ + & 2^{1}4 \\ + & 0^{1}7 \\ - & 0^{1}3 \end{array} $	+ 87 + 27 - 29 + 09 + 80 + 54 - 09	
Total Worsted	49,414	+ 0'5	+ 2.3	34,584	+ 0.6	+ 5'I	

Imports and Exports.

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 :--

		578 1. Star 10			Sector Sector Sector	and the second second				
948 5 0 1 191 <u>2 -</u> 1	Month ended April 30th,	compar	e (-), as	Four Months ended April	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with corresponding period in					
	1906.	1905.	1904.	30th, 1906.	1905.	1904.				
- August	1,000 lbs.		1.000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.				
Sheep and Lambs' Wool	Raw Wool (Sheep or LAMBS')									
Imports (less	51,403	+ 17,445	+ 6,757	214,792	- 3,390	+ 36,485				
Re-Exports) British Exports	2,439	+ 743	- 248	10,838	+ 2,244	- 322				
Yarn :		British an	nd Irish M	lanufacture	es Exporte	1.				
Woollen Worsted	189 4,379	+ 63 + 749	+ 26 - 368	764	+ 2,346 + 2,346	+ 195 - 965				
Alpaca and Mohair	1,335	+ 213	+ 225	4,902	+ 451	+ 839				
Total	5,903	+ 1.025	- 117	22,751	+ 2,799	+ 69				
Piece Goods: Woollen Worsted	1,000 yds. 3,733 5,548	1,000 yds. - 172 - 1,438	1,000 yds. + 471 - 1,039	1,000 yds. 25,428 35,66 t	1,000 yds. + 1,274 - 1,181	1,000 yds. + 6,092 + 1,048				
Total	9,281	- 1,610	- 568	61,089	+ 93	+ 7,140				

FLAX (LINEN) TRADE.

(Based on 126 Returns—120 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 1 from a Trade Union, and 5 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good. It was not quite so good as a month ago, but rather better than a year ago. In Fifeshire it was much better than a year ago.

The number of workpeople employed by firms making Returns for the last full week in April was 50,116, a decrease of 0.6 per cent. upon the number employed by the same firms at the end of March, and an increase of 1.9 per cent. upon the number employed at the end of

April, 1905. In addition to supplying particulars of numbers employed, firms employing 42,746 workpeople made Returns of wages paid in the periods under review. From these Returns it appears that, compared with March, there was a decrease of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed, and of 1.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 1'3 per cent. in the number employed, and

of 3'4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. The Returns are summarised in the following Table. It will be seen that the increase in the wages paid in Fifeshire as compared with a year ago amounted to 11.8 per cent.

	Work	people cove Returns.	ered by	Ea	arnings.			
	Number employed in last full	mployed Decrease (-), as in last full		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid in last full	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with a			
	week of April, 1906.	Month ago.	Year ago.	week of April, 1906.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
Spinning Weaving	5,481 9,623 17,791 6,061 ot 3,790	Per cent. - 1'3 - 0'7 + 0'1 - 0'1 - 2'5	Per cent. - 1'0 + 4'3 + 0'5 - 2'9	£ 2,949 4,369 11,062 4,756 2,316	Per cent - 3'5 - 1'3 - 0'1 - 1'6 - 1'0	Percent + 2'0 + 1'7 + 5'3 + 2'4 + 2'1		
Total .	42,746	- 0'5	+ 1.3	25,452	- I.I	+ 3'4		
	14,213 15,663	- 0°5 - 1°0	 + 1'2	8,169 8,714	- 1.0	- 0.8 + 3.2		
Ireland	29,876	- o.8	+ 0.0	16,883	- 1.3	+ 1'2		
	in 7,418 3,762	+ 0.3	+ 5°1 - 1°4	5,004 2,541	+ 0'I - 2'3	+ 1.1 + 11.8		
Scotland	11,180	- 0.0	+ 2.8	7,545	- 0.7	+ 7'9		
United Kingdom*	}	- 0.2	+ 1.3	25,452	– 1.1	+ 3'4		
	* Incl	uding 7 retu	rns from E	ngland.				

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.	ended as compa		e (+) or ase (-) ared with oril,	Four months ended April 30th,	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in			
and the second second	and a set	1905.	1904.	1906.	1905.	1904.		
Imports: Flax (Dressed and Undressed, Tow or Codilla) Tons	6,628	brin	- 1,299	43,417	- 693	+ 5,544		
Exports:			Contraction of the					
Linen Yarn 100 Lbs. Linen Piece Goods 100 Yds.	12,286 148,535	+ 1,357 + 13,059	- 449 + 18,388	47,577 673,314	+ 1,729	- 1,143 + 105,503		

JUTE TRADE.

(Based on 48 Returns—41 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 1 from a Trade Union, and 6 from a Local Correspondent.) EMPLOYMENT in this industry remained good. It was rather better than a month ago, and much better than a year ago.

The number of workpeople employed in the last full week of April by firms making Returns was 23,439, an increase of 0.4 per cent. upon the number employed by the same firms in March, and of 3.8 per cent. upon April, 1905. Of the total number of workpeople covered by the Returns 18,181, or 78 per cent., were employed in Dundee.

Firms employing 18,905 workpeople supplied par-ticulars of the wages paid, as well as numbers employed. From these Returns it appears that, compared with the previous month, there was an increase of o.6 per cent. in the number employed, and of 1.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 5.6 per cent. in the number

employed, and of 9.9 per cent. in the wages paid. The following Table summarises these Returns, and shows that the improvement compared with a year ago was greatest in the weaving departments, where the increase in the wages paid amounted to 15.5 per cent. :--

	0		State State State	001	2.00.2000			
	Workp	eople cove Returns.		Ea	Earnings.			
Departments.	Number of work- people paid Wages on	Decreas	e(+) or se(-) as ed with a	Aggregate amount of Wages paid on	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a			
	the last pay day in April, 1906.	Month ago.	Year ago.	last pay day in April, 1906.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
Preparing Spinning Weaving Other Departments not	4,097 4,967 6,610 2,000 1,231	Per cent. + 0'8 - 0'8 + 1'3 + 1'2 + 0'2	Per cent. + 6°0 + 3°9 + 9°6 	£ 2,606 2,934 4,734 1,963 917	Per cent. - 0'0 + 0'2 + 2'8 + 3'2 + 2'1	Per cent. + 9'9 + 7'0 + 15'5 + 3'9 + 6'4		
specified Total	18,005	+ 0.0	+ 5'6	13,154	+ 1'7	+ 9.9		

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. A	Month ended April 30th, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with April,		Four months ended April 30th,	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in		
		1905.	1904.	1906.	1905.	1904.	
Imports:	1	1.14			and a start		

Jute Ions	23,805 -	- 07	+ 10,225	130,111	+ 13,244	- 7,300
Exports: Jute Yarn 100 Lbs.	34,063 -	- 4,744	+ 5,620	138,695	- 16,926	+ 13,050
Jute Piece Goods 100 Yds.	138,811 4	+ 41,977	- 47,690	534,252	+ 34,223	- 137,603

SILK TRADE.

(Based on 78 Returns-74 from Employers and 4 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the silk trade showed little change as compared with a month ago, but was rather better than a year ago.

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Number of Workpeople.

The number of workpeople employed by firms making Returns at the end of April was 10,523, an increase upon the numbers employed by the same firms of 0'3 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 3'8 per cent. compared with April, 1905. (Based on 114 Returns-109 from Employers, 1 from a Trade Union, and 4 from Local Correspondents.) EMPLOYMENT generally continued fairly good, and was much better than a year ago. Firms employing 11,737 workpeople, and paying £12,596 in wages in the week ended April 28th, made

Compared with a month ago, the numbers employed showed little change in any of the branches. Compared with a year ago, there was little change in the weaving and but a slight improvement in the throwing branch. There was a marked improvement in the spinning branch.

Districts.	1050	Number employed by firms making Returns	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		
	 340	in last week of April.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Lancashire and W. Riding of York Macclesfield, Congleton and District Leek	 	3,573 2,729 504 2,160 1,557	Per cent. + 0'I - 0'7 + 2'4 + 0'8 + 0'8	Per cent. 1.6 +11.5 +10.8 + 2.6 + 3.7	
Total	 	10,523	+ 0.3	+ 3.8	

Number of Spindles and Looms.

The number of spindles returned as working in the last week of April by firms making Returns showed a slight increase compared with a year ago, but a decrease compared with a month ago. The number of looms working was practically the same as a year ago, and showed an improvement as compared with a month ago.

Spindles and Looms.		er of Spind s working week of	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		
	April, 1906.	March, 1906.	April, 1905.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Throwing Spindles Spinning Spindles Looms	86,194 135,875 4,5°‡	88,137 138,654 4,433	85,321 135,430 4,518	Per cent. - 2'2 - 2'0 + 1'6	Per cent. + 1'0 + 0'3 - 0'3

At Macclesfield employment was good with silk spinners, all working full time. With handloom weavers it was moderate, and rather worse than a month ago. It was also moderate with powerloom weavers, but slightly better than a month ago and a year ago. It was good with silk throwers, all mills running full time, and moderate with silk finishers. At Congleton it was good with silk throwers; moderate with silk dressers, and the same as a month ago; it was slack with trimming weavers. At Leek it was good with twisters and braid makers, and moderate with pickers. With throwers it was fair, with short time in some firms. It was fair at Braintree and Sudbury. At Bradford and Halifax employment improved slightly, and at Brighouse it was moderate.

Imports and Exports.

The imports of raw and thrown silk, and of spun silk yarn, and the exports of thrown silk and yarn. and of silk broad-stuffs are shown in the Table below for the periods specified :-

					Increa	se (+) or		W	orkpeop	le.]	Earnings	
Description.	Month ended April 30th, 1906.	Decrea as compa	e (+) or ase (-) ared with ril,	Four Months ended April 30th,	Compar compar corresp	se (-) as red with ponding od in	. District.	Num- ber paid wages	Increa o Decrea comp	r ise () pared	Aggre- gate Amount of	Decrea comp	ase (-)
	1900.	1905.	1904.	1906.	1905.	1904.		on last pay-day in	wi		Wages paid on last	wi	
Imports : Raw Silk Thrown Silk		lbs. + 6,770 + 800	lbs. - 96,279 + 1,614	lbs. 313,110 -			ally all the second	April, 1906.	Mar., 1906.	April, 1905.	pay-day in April, 1906.	Mar., 1906.	April, 1905.
Spun Silk Yarn	49,519 25,509	- 7,387	+ 11,195	188,502 + \$0,138 -					Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Exports : Thrown Silk, Twist & Yarn	50,231*	- 22,229	- 823	+263,998 -			Leicester	8,404 2,765 2,813	+ 0.4 + 0.3 - 0.7 - 1.0	$+ 4^{2}$ + 7^{3} + 4^{6} + 6^{5}	6,578 2,325 2,134	- 0.3 + 0.1 - 0.3	+ 4 ^{.6} + 9 ^{.6} + 9 ^{.4}
Silk Broad-stuffs	yds. 464,114	yds. + 39,575	yds. +139,632	yds. 2.649,237 +	yds. 307,215	yds. +1,216,011	Other Parts of United Kingdom	2,647 672	- 1.3	- 2'3	1,496 360	- 4.8	+ 2'5 + 1'7
	* Yarı	n, 49,277 lbs	s. † Yarn,	259,428 lbs.			Total	17,302	- 0'2	+ 4.8	12,893	- 0.9	+ 5'9

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DE LABOUR GAZETTE.

LACE TRADE.

Returns, from which it appears that, compared with March, there was practically no change either in numbers employed or amount of wages paid. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 9.6 per cent. in the number employed; the amount of wages paid does not admit of comparison, as the last week in April, 1905, was

affected by Easter holidays. Employment in the Levers branch was fairly good, and was slightly better than a month ago; it was much better than a year ago. In the curtain branch it was bad in Nottingham, and showed a decline in Scotland. In the plain net branch employment was good, and much better than a year ago.

	W	orkpeop	le.	Earnings.			
1 <u>1</u>	No. em- ployed in last week of		nse (-) npared	Aggre- gate Amount of Wages paid in last	Increase Decrea as com wi	use (-) apared	
	April, 1906.	Mar., 1906.	April, 1905.	week of April, 1906.	Mar., 1906.	April, 1905.	
Branches. Levers Curtain Plain Net Others	2,973 3,297 4,076 1,391	Per cent. + 0.8 - 1.1 + 0.4 + 0.4 + 0.1	Per cent. + 18'9 + 0'8 + 13'4 + 3'9 + 9'6	£ 4,946 3,150 3,425 1,075 12,596	Per cent. + 1.7 - 2.5 + 0.1 - 0.1 + 0.0	Per cent. + 42'I + 16'7 + 39'7 + 28'0 + 33'0	
Districts. Nottingham City Long Eaton and other outlying districts Other English districts	2,856 3.777 2,823	+ 0.2 + 0.1 + 0.2	+ 7.5 + 14.6 + 12.2	2,777 5,281 2,485	+ 0°9 + 0°4 + 0°9	+ 33'8 + 49'6 + 30'4	
Scotland Total	2,281	+ 0.1	+ 9.0	2,053 12,596	+ 0.0	+ 4.7 + 33.0	

HOSIERY TRADE.

(Based on 103 Returns-97 from Employers, 1 from a Trade Union, and 5 from Local Correspondents.) EMPLOYMENT on the whole was fairly good. It was slightly

worse than a month ago, but better than a year ago.

Firms employing 17,302 workpeople, and paying \pounds 12,803 in wages on the last pay-day in April, made Returns, which are summarised in the Table below. From these it appears that there was a decrease of o'2 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 4.8 per cent. in the number employed, and of 5.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

In Leicester, a further slight improvement was reported; employment was better than a year ago. At Hinckley and Loughborough it was fairly good. In Nottingham and Derbyshire employment on the whole was fairly good, and showed little change compared with a month ago; it was better than a year ago. In Scotland employment on the whole showed a decline compared with a month ago, but was reported as good in the Hawick and Selkirk districts; it was better than a year ago.

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OTHER TEXTILE TRADES. Frinting, Dyeing, Bleaching, and Finishing.

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(Based on 17 Returns-4 from Employers' Associations, 5 from Trade Unions, and 8 from Local Correspondents).

Woollen and Worsted Dyers .- Employment in the West Riding continued moderate on the whole; it was better than a year ago. About two-fifths of the Trade Union dyers worked short time, and about one-fifth overtime.

Cotton Dyers .- Employment on the whole was fair.

Silk Dyers .- Employment at Leek was reported as fair. Calico Printers, etc.-Employment at New Mills was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago; with calico printers' engravers at Dinting it continued fair. At Glasgow it was reported as good with calico printers and printers' engravers; as fair with block printers.

Hosiery and Lace Dyers, Trimmers, etc.-At Leicester employment was reported as moderate. At Hinckley employment was fairly good; at Loughborough operatives continued fairly busy. At Nottingham employment generally was better than a year ago. It was reported as good with bleachers at Basford and Nottingham; as moderate with hosiery trimmers; as fairly good with dvers.

Calenderers, etc.-In Glasgow employment continued good, and was better than a year ago. In Dundee employment was reported as slack with calender workers; with bleachfield workers it was quiet.

TAILORING TRADE.

(Based on 138 Returns-113 from Employers, 1 from a Trade Union, and 24 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the bespoke branch was moderate in London, good in the provinces. In the ready-made branch employment was good, and better than a month ago and a vear ago.

Bespoke Branch

London.-Employment showed the usual seasonal improvement, but was not so good as a year ago.

Firms paying £13,455 to their workpeople during the four weeks ended April 28th showed an increase of 16.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the four weeks ended March 24th, and a decrease of 3'9 per cent. compared with the four weeks ended April 29th, 1905.

Other Centres.-Employment was reported as much improved at Liverpool and Dublin, and as good at Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Belfast.

Ready-made Branch.

London .- Employment continued fair, and was a little better than a year ago. The Trade Union cutters reported it as good on contract work, but bad on stock and shipping work.

Leeds .- Employment during the month continued good, and was better than a year ago. According to Returns in their factories, in addition to persons employed on work for them in workshops, employment was good with firms employing 83 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the Returns, moderate with firms employing 14 per cent., and bad with firms employing 3 per cent. Compared with a month ago, firms employing 46 per cent. reported employment as improved, firms employing 34 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 20 per cent. as worse. Compared with a year ago, firms employing 75 per cent. reported it as improved, firms employing 25 per cent. as unchanged. The Trade Union cutters reported employment as fair in the "specials" department, with overtime in some firms; as rather quiet on stock work, with occasional short time.

Other Centres .- Employment in Manchester was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. In Bristol it was good, and better than a year ago. In the Midlands and the Eastern Counties it was reported as good. In Glasgow it was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

(Based on 614 Returns-599 received from Employers, partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 4 from Trade Unions, and 11 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT showed a further slight improvement, and was better than a year ago.

The number employed in the week ended April 28th by 599 firms making Returns was 79,737, an increase of o'I per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 4'I per cent. compared with the week before Easter, 1905.

In addition to supplying particulars of numbers employed, 498 firms, employing 68,330 workpeople, stated the amount of wages paid in the periods under review. These Returns showed an increase of 0'5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 5'o per cent. compared with a year

Compared with a month ago, employment generally improved. In Leicestershire and Northamptonshire generally it was fairly good, but very slack in the Raunds district. At Stafford it was good. At Norwich it was fairly good. At Bristol it was seriously affected by the free reported at the end of March. Employment at Leeds continued bad; at Kingswood it improved, and was fairly good. At Glasgow and Maybole it was slack

Compared with the week before Easter, 1905, every district, except Birmingham, showed an improvement, which was especially marked in Kingswood, Leicester and Northampton country districts, Manchester, Bristol, and London

		people co the Retu		1900	Earning	3.	
District.	No. em- ployed on last pay day	Decreas	e (+) or se(-),as ed with week of	Aggre- gate Amount of Wages paid on	Increase (+) or Decrease(-),as compared with last full week of		
	April, 1906.	Mar., 1906.	April, 1905.	last pay day in April, 1906.	Mar., 1906.	April, 1905.	
		Per	Per		Per	Per	
ENGLAND & WALES.		cent.	cent.	£	cent.	cent.	
London	3,536	+ 0.2	+ 6.7	4,717	+ 2.6	+ 10.1	
Leioester Die	14,145	- 0.6	+ 1.0	15,455	+ 2.0	+ 0'2	
Leicester Country Dis-	3,570	+ 0.3	+ 57	3,411	- 1.0	T 120	
trict Northampton	8,812	+ 0'5	+ 3'0	8,376	+ 0'3	+ 0.1	
Northampton Country	9,849	+ 0'5	+ 74	9,174	- 0'4	+ 11.1	
District	91049	. 05	. 74	511/4	4		
Kettering	3,126	+ 15	+ 71	3,182	+ 0.8	+ 4.8	
Stafford & District	2,520	+ 0.6	+ 0'9	2,200	+ 1'3	+ 0'2	
Norwich & District	4,556	+ 06	+ 75	3,902	+ 1'4	+ 67	
Bristol & District	2,129	- 0.1	+ 72	1,978	- 06	+ 10 6	
Kingswood	2,485	+ 0.0	+ 2'2	2.373	+ 26	+166	
Leeds & District	2,809	- 0.0	- 1'1	2,379	- 0'7	+ 5'9	
Manchester & District	1,813	+ 0.4	+ 2'5	1,845	+ 0'5	+ 11.3	
Birmingham & District	1,067		- 3'5	859	- 16	- 5'4	
Other parts of England and Wales	3,176	- 0.6	+ 1.0	2,762	- 1.2	+ 75	
England and Wales	63,593	+ 0.1	+ 3.8	62,703	+ 0.8	+ 5'3	
COTLAND	4,222 515	+ 0'I + 2'2	+ 0.8 + 3.2	4,008 376	- 3'3 + 1'6	+ 1.5	
UNITED KINGDOM	£8,330	+ 01	+ 3.6	67,087	+ 0.2	+ 5'0	

Imports and Exports .- The following Table gives the quantities and values of the boots and shoes imported, exported, and re-exported during April, 1906, and the four months ended April 30th, 1906, together with the increases or decreases, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1905 and 1904 :---

			Month ended April 30th,	Decreas	e (+) or se (-),as red with oril,	Four months ended April 30th,	Decrea as compa correst	se (+) or ase (-), ared with ponding od in
			1906	1905.	1904.	1906.	1905.	1904.
The state of the state of the state	No.			100000	I	mports		
Dozen pairs Value		́£	19 966 82,445		+ 2,976	78,045	- 1,248	- 2,078 + 20,068
					Re	-Exports		Contractor 14
Dozen pairs Value		É	1,203 3,202	+ 578 + 1,148	- 215 - 641			- 1.909 - 2,077
				E	xports (B	ritish and	d Irish	STATISTICS .
Dozen pairs Value		Ξ.	52,594 134,135	- 850 + 957	+ 9,759 + 34,588	267,068 644,045	+ 20,62 + 66,082	+ 63,616 + 176,419

May, 1906.

HAT TRADE.

(Based on 15 Returns-3 from Employers' Associations and 12 from Trade Unions.)

In the Silk hat trade the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of April was 13.6, compared with 13.5 at the end of March, and 12.0 a year ago. In London employment continued dull and was worse than a year ago. In Denton it continued quiet, with much short time. In the Felt hat trade the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of April was 4.7, compared with 4.5 at the end of March, and 2.3 a year ago. Employment generally continued quiet; it was worse than a year ago.

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

(Based on 220 Returns-210 from Employers, 2 from Trade Unions, and 8 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the dressmaking and millinery trades in London showed a further slight improvement, and was better than a year ago. Employment in the shirt and collar trades continued fairly good, and was better than a year ago. In the corset trade it continued good, and was better than a year ago.

Dressmaking, Millinery, and Mantle Trades.—In London, Returns from retail firms, chiefly in the West-end district, employing 1,584 dressmakers in the last week of April, showed an increase of 3.0 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 1.3 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was moderate, and slightly better than a year ago. Court dressmakers, employing 1,588 workpeople, showed an increase of 3.5 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 5.3 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment during the month was fairly good, and better than a year ago. In the wholesale mantle, costume and blouse trades, firms employing 3,010 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) during the last week of April showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 3.5 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment during the month continued fairly good. Firms employing 1,348 milliners showed an increase of 2.4 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 6.8 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Returns from two Employment Bureaux showed an increase both in demand for and supply of dressmakers and milliners compared with a year ago, the demand being considerably greater than the supply in both periods.

In Manchester employment with mantle makers was fair, and about the same as a year ago. In the costume and skirt trade employment during the month was fair, and about the same as a year ago; firms employing 2,675 workpeople in the last week of April showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 5.4 per cent. compared with a year

In Glasgow employment in the mantle trade was fairly good, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

Shirt and Collar Trade.- Returns received from shirt and collar manufacturers in England, Scotland, and Ireland, employing 7,205 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers), and paying £4,986 in wages during the week ending April 28th, showed an increase of 0.6 per cent in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 3.6 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment was moderate in London, good in Manchester, Belfast and Glasgow, fairly good in Taunton, moderate in Londonderry.

Corset Trade .- Returns received from corset manufacturers employing 4,097 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) in the last week of April showed an increase of 0.6 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 6'9 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was good. compared with a year ago. Trade Unions with 39,865

EMPLOYMENT during April continued quiet on the whole, but was considerably better than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 4,548 had 5'7 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 5.5 per cent. in March, and 9.3 per cent. in April, 1905.

Skinners, Tanners, Curriers, Dressers, etc.-Employment continued quiet on the whole, but was considerably better than a year ago. At Bolton, Bury, Wigan, and Manchester, however, it was good, as also with curriers in London, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Edinburgh and Glasgow. A considerable amount of short time was worked in the Walsall and Birmingham district.

Saddle and Harness Makers, etc.-Employment was still quiet generally, though much better than a year ago. At Walsall brown saddlers reported it as worse than a month ago, and with gig saddlers and horse collar makers short time was prevalent.

Miscellaneous Leather Trades.-Employment with fancy leather workers and portmanteau makers remained fair.

(Based on 420 Returns-139 from Employers and Employers' Associations. 260 from Trade Unions, and 21 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT remained good in the paper trades. In the printing and bookbinding trades it was quiet, showing a considerable decline compared with a month ago, and a slight improvement on the whole compared with a year ago.

Employment remained good on the whole, and was rather better than a year ago.

Returns received from firms employing 20,811 work-people at the end of April showed that there was an increase of o'3 per cent. in the total number of workpeople employed as compared with March, and of o.9 as compared with April, 1905.

e-made Pa Northern Coun Midlands, Wal

Total Machine-Hand-made Paper

Trade Unions in the machine trade with 1,716 members had 2.7 per cent. unemployed at the end of March, as compared with 2'4 per cent. a month ago, and 2'3 per cent. a year ago. In the hand-made trade, Trade Unions with 626 members had 5'9 per cent. unemployed, compared with 5'6 in March, and 7'9 in April. 1905.

Employment was quiet generally. With letterpress printers it showed a considerable decline, especially in London, as compared with a month ago, but little change

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

Compared with a year ago, firms employing 60 per cent. reported employment as improved, and firms employing 40 per cent. as unchanged.

OTHER LEATHER TRADES.

(Based on 46 Returns-I from an Employers' Association, 29 from Trade Unions, and 16 from Local Correspondents.)

PAPER, PRINTING AND BOOK-BINDING TRADES.

PAPER TRADES.

a second and the second s	A State of the second second second	Mark Charles Barriers and the	
	Number of Workpeople paid Wages in last week of April, 1906,	Perce Increase (+) or in No. of We compare	r Decrease (-)
	by firms making Returns.	Month ago.	Year ago.
per and Milled			
ties es, and Ireland ties	6,5 14 2,057 5,858 5,439	- 0'I + I'6 + 0'I + 0'5	- 0.5 + 2.7 + 0.7 + 2.5
ade Paper, &c	19,868	+ 0.3	+ 1.0
	943		+ 0'2
Fotal	20,811	+ 0.3	+ 0'9

PRINTING TRADES.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE. May, 1906.

members had 5.3 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 3.8 per cent. in March, and 5.4 per cent. in April, 1905.

150

The lithographic trade remained quiet with printers and fair with artists, but was better with the former than in April, 1905. Trade Unions with 6,522 members had 4.7 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 4.5 in March, and 6.1 per cent. in April, 1905.

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 April, 1906	Percent Unemp	age retu ployed at	rned as end of	Decrease centage u	e (+) or (-) in per nemployed red with a
	included in the Returns.	April, 1906.	Mar., 1906.	April, 1905.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	18,662	5'3	3'3	5'5	+ 2'0	- 0'2
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	5,194	4'5	4.0	5.6	+ 0.2	- 1.1
Lancs, and Cheshire	6,420	6.I	5'3	7'5	+ 0.8	- 1'4
East Midland and Eastern Counties	2,045	4'C	3.6	4'5	+ 0'4	- 0.2
West Midlands	2,391	5'4	4°4	6.2	+ 1.0	- I.I
S. & S. W. Counties and Wales	3,726	2'7	2'5	3'7	+ 0'2	- 1.0
Scotland	5,488	3.7	3'4	2'9	+ 0'3	+ 0.8
Ireland	2,461	11.0	7'2	8.6	+ 3.8	+ 2.4
United Kingdom	46,387	5'2	3'9	5.2	+ 1.3	- 0.3

London .- Employment with compositors showed a decline as compared with a month ago and a year ago. With machine minders and electrotypers and stereotypers, however, an improvement was reported. Trade Unions of letterpress printers with 16,703 members had 5.2 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 3.1 per cent. in March, and 5.3 in April, With lithographic printers employment remained 1905. quiet, but was distinctly better than a year ago.

Other Centres .- In Edinburgh employment declined with compositors, especially towards the end of the month; with press and machinemen, however, it remained fairly good, and was better than a year ago. At most of the other principal towns included in the Returns employment was quiet, and worse than in March; but at Leeds and Belfast it was reported as fair, and better than a month ago, while at Derby it was reported as good. With lithographic printers employment was quiet generally.

BOOKBINDING TRADES.

Employment in these trades in London was slack and much worse than a month ago, short time being common. Elsewhere it was fair generally, except at Dublin, where it was slack, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. Employment on the whole was better than a year ago.

The following Table shows the percentage unemployed

	No. of Members of Unions at end of April, 1906		tage retu ployed at		Decrease	e (+) or (-) in per- nemployed red with a
	included in the Returns,	April, 1906.	Mar., 1906.	April, 1905.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London Other Districts	 3,660 3,184	7.5 4.1	4' 9 3'9	8.7 6.6	+ 2'6 + 0'2	- 1.2 - 2.2
United Kingdom	 6,844	5'9	4'4	7.7	+ 1.2	- 1.8

BUILDING TRADES.

(Based on 1,947 Returns—121 from Employers and Employers' Associations received through the Trade Correspondent, 1,781 from Trade Unions, and 15 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the building trades continued to show a general improvement. It was better than a year ago on the whole

Returns received through the Trade Correspondent from 59 London employers showed that in the last week o

April they paid wages to 11,306 workpeople of all classes, compared with 11,487 in March, and 12,792 in April, 1905. Employment generally was much the same as a month ago, but worse than a year ago. Painters and decorators were fairly busy. Other branches were very nuiet.

Returns were received from Employers' Associations in 60 districts outside London. In rather more than half of these employment was dull generally. At Burnley it was good ; at Ashton, Stratford-on-Avon, Exeter, and Taunton it was fairly good; and at the remaining towns (rather more than a third of the total) it was moderate or fair. Compared with a month ago, no change was reported in 45 towns. At Nuneaton and Cheltenham employment was worse, and at 13 towns, including Burnley, Bury, Birkenhead, Stockport, Swansea, and Dublin, it was better. Compared with a year ago no change was shown in 36 towns, in 7 employment was better, in 17 worse.

The following information is based on Returns from Trade Unions and Local Correspondents :-

With bricklayers employment was dull generally, but in most districts showed an improvement on the previous month. In Mid and North Lancashire employment was moderate generally. It was also moderate at South Shields, Middlesbrough, Stockton, Grimsby, Ipswich, Mansfield, Walsall, Shrewsbury and Reading; fair at Chesterfield, Long Eaton, Coventry and Hereford; good at Rotherham, Swindon, Plymouth and Glasgow. Not much short time was reported.

Employment with stonemasons was bad generally, but showed some improvement on the previous month. It was moderate at Sunderland, Liverpool, Preston, Oldham, Bolton, Bradford, Huddersfield, Rugby, Norwich, Cambridge, Eastbourne, Plymouth, Paisley, Leith, and Cork; good at Warrington and Leamington.

With carbenters and joiners employment was better in every district, the greatest improvement being shown in Lancashire and Cheshire, and Ireland. Compared with a year ago, there was a slight decline in Yorkshire ; in every other district there was an improvement, which was greatest in Lancashire and Cheshire, the Eastern Counties and the Northern Counties. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of April was 5'4, compared with 7'4 in March, and 7'5 in April, 1905. Employment was dull generally, but was fair at 1905. Employment was dull generally, but was fair at Middlesbrough, Burnley, Blackburn, and in Scotland; moderate at Stockton, Liverpool, Oldham, Preston, Stockport, Warringon, Crewe, Coventry, Rugby, Cheltenham, Lincoln, and Ipswich.

Employment with slaters and tilers was better than a month and a year ago. Generally it was fair, but it was bad in the Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Scotland (excepting Glasgow), and Dublin.

With plumbers employment was better in all districts, the greatest improvement being in Ireland, Wales and Monmouth, and the Eastern, Southern and South-Western Counties. Compared with a year ago some decline was shown in London and the Midlands; other districts showed an improvement, which was greatest in the Eastern Counties, Wales and Monmouth, the Northern Counties and Scotland. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of April was 9.0, as compared with 11.1 in March and 11.2 in April, 1905. Generally employment was bad, but it was fair at Hull, Doncaster, Norwich, Edinburgh and Dublin; moderate at Hartlepool, Jarrow, Sunderland, Ipswich, Newport, Dumbarton, Falkirk, Paisley and Perth.

Employment with plasterers showed a further improvement. It was dull generally, but was fair at Oldham, Bolton and Belfast, and in Scotland.

Owing to spring cleaning and Easter holiday work, painters were busy and were better employed than a month ago. Overtime was worked in many cases.

Labourers were rather better employed. Generally employment was quiet; at Oldham and Belfast it was good.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE. May, 1906.

FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

(Based on 150 Returns-7 from Employers' Associations, 117 from Trade Unions, and 26 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in April was fair on the whole, and showed an improvement compared with a month ago and a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of April was 3.4, compared with 4.3 at the end of March, and 4.6 at the end of April, 1905.

Millsawyers and Woodcutting Machinists.

Employment with millsawyers and woodcutting machinists on the whole was about the same as a month ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 4,839 reported 205 (or 4.2 per cent.) as unemployed at the end of April, compared with 4.5 per cent. at the end of March, and 5.6 per cent. at the end of April, 1905. Employment was good at Preston, Northampton, Coventry and Ports-mouth; fair at Hartlepool, Sunderland, Huddersfield, Liverpool, Birmingham; improving at Noticingham, Oldham and Burnley; and bad at Hull, Leeds, Wolverhampton, Leicester, and Dublin.

Furnishing Trades.

In the furnishing trades employment was fair, and again showed improvement compared with a month ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 13,595 reported 458 (or 3:4 per cent.) unemployed at the end of April, compared with 4.5 per cent. in the previous month, and 4.4 a year ago.

Coopers.

Employment with coopers continued dull, but was slightly better than a month ago. It was good at Fraserburgh and Peterhead, and fair at Greenock, Dublin, and Cork.

Coachbuilding.

Employment in this industry again showed improvement, and was good on the whole. With wheelwrights and smiths, however, it was moderate, though better than a month ago. Trade Unions of coachmakers, wheelwrights, smiths, &c., with a membership of 8,685 had 101 (or 1.2 per cent.) unemployed at the end of April, compared with 2.8 per cent. in the previous month and 3.0 per cent. a year ago.

Miscellaneous.

Brushmakers .- Employment with brushmakers maintained its improved condition, and was about the same as a year ago. In London it was quiet with ivory and bone brush makers, but fair with other branches. Trade Unions with a membership of 1,668 had 49 (or 2.9 per cent.) unemployed at the end of April. as compared with 3.0 per cent. at the end of March, and 2.9 per cent. at the end of April, 1905.

Other Trades .- With packing-case makers employment generally was fair; with lathrenders it was slack. basket-makers it was good, except at Nottingham.

POTTERY, AND BRICK AND TILE TRADES.

(Based on 28 Returns-7 from Employers and Employers' Associations, I from a Trade Union, and 20 from Local Correspondents.)

In the Pottery trade employment continued fairly good in England; in Scotland it was fair. In the Brick and Tile trades it continued slack.

Pottery Trade.-In Staffordshire employment continued At Swadlincote (Derbyshire) half the factories again worked 4 days per week. Employment in the South Yorkshire and River Aire district continued moderate. In the Woodville district it was quiet with makers of sanitary ware. In North and South Devon it was fair on the whole.

In Scotland employment generally was fair, and better than a year ago. With tobacco pipe makers at Glasgow employment was bad, and worse than in March

Brick and Tile Trades.- Employment on the whole continued slack, but was good in the Oldham district and in Norfolk and Cambridgeshire, and fair in South

Plymouth district.

Branches." Glass Bottle Plate Glass Flint Glass Ware (not Bottles) Other Branches ..

Total

Districts. North of England Yorkshire Lancashire Worcester and Warwich Scotland Other parts of United Kingdon

In the North of England and in Worcester and Warwick there was some slight improvement compared with a month ago, but employment was moderate on the whole. In Yorkshire, Lancashire and in Scotland there was a decline.

As compared with a year ago, there was an improvement in all districts except in Scotland, where the numbers employed show a decline.

glass makers and plate glass bevellers at Birmingham. Imports and Exports .- The following Table shows the quantities of the various descriptions of Glass imported and exported during the periods mentioned :---

Description

& Ge , plain, o

nports :

ornamented other man tures of I Glass Manufactures, other Bottles ..

Exports: Flint ... Manufacture Bottles

Wales, in the Tees and Hartlepool district, and in the

GLASS TRADES.

(Based on 121 Returns-76 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 19 from Trade Unions, and 26 from Local Correspondents.) EMPLOYMENT was moderate generally, and about the same as a month ago. It was better than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 9,022 workpeople, and paying $f_{10,662}$ in wages during the last week of April, 1906, show that compared with a month ago there was a decrease of o'1 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and of 2.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 2:4 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed.

v	Vorkpeople	e.	Earnings.				
Number employed on last pay-day	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on last pay-	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last full week of			
in April, 1906.	March, 1906.	April, 1905.	day in April, 1906.	March, 1906.	April,* 1905.		
4,743 195 2,719 1,365 9,022	Per cent. - 1'8 + 1'0 + 2'0 + 1'5 - 0'1	Per cent. + 3'0 + 8'9 + 0'9 + 2'9 + 2'4	£ 5,896 218 2.939 1,609 10,662	Per cent. - 4'8 + 5'8 + 1'0 + 1'1 - 2'2	Per cent. + 11'7 + 43'4 + 21'0 + 8'9 + 14'2		
1,179 2,282 2,592 1,916 676 377 9,022	$ \begin{array}{r} + 4.2 \\ - 3.8 \\ - 0.2 \\ + 0.3 \\ - 0.1 \\ + 8.6 \\ - 0.1 \\ \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} + 4.7 \\ + 2.0 \\ + 3.9 \\ + 3.1 \\ - 7.4 \\ + 4.4 \\ \hline + 2.4 \end{array} $	£ 1,214 2,738 3,254 2,332 741 383 10,662	$\begin{array}{r} + 3.5 \\ - 6.3 \\ - 3.7 \\ - 0.9 \\ + 0.8 \\ + 13.0 \\ \hline - 2.2 \end{array}$	+ 40'5 + 2'2 + 22'8 + 13'2 + 3'9 + 3'8 + 14'2		

Employment was reported as good at St. Helens with sheet glass makers and flatteners, and fair with flint

	Month ended 30th April,	Increase Decreas compar Ap	e (-) as ed with	Four months ended 30th April,	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in			
	1906.	1905.	1904.	1906.	1905.	1904.		
nan in- as &	cwts. 126,515	cwts. + 47,664	cwts. + 28,506	cwts. 500,849	cwts. +185,333	cwts. + 60,74 6		
t or and fac-	23,140 67,481	- 15,273 + 12,545		123 ,754 270,337,	- 36,896 + 42,536	- 34,007 + 88,313		
orts	2,628	- 4,853	- 18,170	16,823	- 12,094	- 71,626		
	gross 115,154	gross - 4,560	gross — 32,532	gross 496,237	- gross 5,533	gross - 56,238		
 	cwts. 9,063 3,952 19,8 64	cwts. + 2,578 - 1,025 - 3,699	- ,703	cwts. 41, 973 18,178 128,319	cwts. + 7,860 - 3,071 + 25,852	cwts. + 18,217 - 2,679 + 36,820		
	gross. 54,913	gross. + 7,657	gross. - 2,161	gross. 233,421	gross. + 40,778	gross. - 12,895		

* The last week in April, 1905, was not a full week, owing to the Easter

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

(Based on 174 Returns from Correspondents in various parts of England). FARM labourers were, for the most part, fully employed during April. The weather was generally fine and dry, and the sowing of spring corn and mangels and the preparation of the land for other crops proceeded with little interruption. The temperature was low, however, thus checking the growth of vegetation. There was consequently little hoeing to be done, and day labourers in some districts were not in constant employment.

The supply of labour was equal to the demand in most of the districts covered by the reports.

Northern Counties .- Reports from Cumberland and Westmorland show that agricultural employment was regular during April. Day labourers were generally in full work, but there was no scarcity of this class of men. Farm labourers in Lancashire were well employed, the weather being favourable for work in the fields. Regularity of employment was reported in Yorkshire. There was a somewhat increased demand for day labourers for potato planting and general farm work.

Midland Counties .- Agricultural labourers in Cheshive and Derbyshive were, for the most part, in regular employment. During the latter half of the month, some day labourers lost time through bad weather, which hindered seeding operations. In Notting hamshire and Leicestershire farm work proceeded with scarcely any interruption, and few labourers were in irregular employment. Similar reports were received from Staffordshire and Shropshire. A correspondent in the Oswestry Union (Shropshire) states that efficient carters and stockmen are scarce, and that their rates of wages show an upward tendency. Regularity of employment was reported in Worcestershire and Warwickshire. A report from the Warwick Union states that situations in farms seem to be filled rather more easily than was the case a year or two ago. Farm labourers in Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire were, generally speaking, in full employment. Owing to the cold weather, however, having checked the growth of weeds, there was but little hosing to be done, and a few day labourers were not in constant work. In Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, and Bedfordshire the weather was favourable for outdoor work, and employment was good with agricultural labourers of all classes.

Eastern Counties .- Employment was, on the whole, regular in Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire, but some day labourers were in irregular employment, less hoeing having been necessary through the cold weather. Most of the farm labourers in *Lincolnshue* were in full employ-ment during the month. The supply of labour was equal to the demand. Farm labourers in Norfolk and Suffolk were, generally speaking, regularly employed in sowing spring corn and mangels, preparing the land for turnip sowing, and other work. Some day labourers, however, were not in constant work, threshing being almost finished and hoeing scarcely begun. Regularity of employment was reported in Essex, and there was but little surplus labour in the agricultural districts of this county.

Southern and South-Western Counties. - Agricultural employment was generally regular in Kent, but the supply of day labourers was in excess of the demand in certain districts. In Survey and Sussex the fine, dry weather caused employment to be plentiful, and few men were in irregular work. Farm labourers in Hampshire and Berkshire were, for the most part, in full employment. A scarcity of men for permanent situations was reported from a few districts. Regularity of employment was reported in *Wiltshire* and *Dorsetshire*, and the supply of labour was generally said to be equal to the demand. In the counties of Somerset, Hereford, and Gloucester employment was regular, except with some day labourers in certain districts, who lost time owing to the small amount of hoeing required to be done. Agricultural labourers in Devonshire and Cornwall were in full employment. There was a fair demand for day labourers, and in some districts the supply of men was barely sufficient.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

(Based on 130 Returns, 107 from Employers, 9 from Trade Unions, and 14 from Local Correspondents.) EMPLOYMENT on the whole was moderate, and much

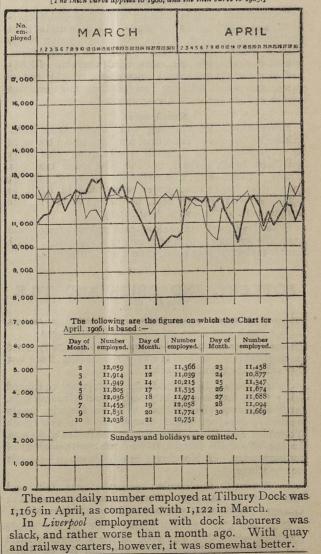
the same as a month ago.

London.*-Employment generally continued moderate, and showed little change as compared with a month ago. The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves during the four weeks ended April 28th was 11,543, a decrease of 0.8 per cent. on a month ago, and of 1.2 per cent. on a year ago.

The daily numbers in April ranged from 10,215 on the 14th to 12,059 on the 2nd. During the corresponding period of 1905, the numbers ranged from 10,375 on the 10th to 12,634 on the 17th.

	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed n Docks and at Principal Wharves.							
		In Docks*						
Perfod.	By Dock Companies or through Contractors.	By Ship- owners, &c.	Total.	At 107 Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves,			
Week ended April 7th ''''''''''''''''''''''''''''''''''''	3,605 3,840 3,872 3,823	2,780 2,121 2,447 1,969	6,385 5.961 6,319 5,792	5,485 5,337 5,299 5,564	11,870 11,298 11,618 11,356			
Average for 4 weeks ended April 28th	} 3,778	2,334	6,112	5,431	11,543			
Average for Mar., 1906	3,887	2,154	6,0 1	5,596	11,637			
Average for April, 1905	4,139	2,087	6,226	5,456	11,682			

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 107 of the principal Wharves, for each day during the months of March and April, 1306. The corresponding curve for March and April, 1305, is also given for comparison. [The thick curve applies to 1306, and the thin curve to 1305.]



* Exclusive of Tilbury.

May, 1906.

Other Ports .- Employment was good at Middlesbro', Leith, and Belfast; fairly good at Plymouth and Goole, and on the Tyne and Wear; fair at Glasgow; quiet at Dundee; moderate at Hull and Aberdeen; and slack at Hartlepool, Grimsby, Bristol, and Dublin, and at the South Wales Ports, except Swansea and Newport, where it was fair.

May, 1906.

SEAMEN SHIPPED IN APRIL.

(Based on 27 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) show that during April 34,868* seamen, of whom 4,363 (or 12.5 per cent.) were foreigners, were shipped on foreign-going vessels. In 8 instances there were increases, and in 9 there were decreases as compared with a year ago, the net result being a decrease of 638 on the number shipped in April, The principal increases were at Hull, London, 1905. and Bristol, and the principal decreases at Liverpool, Cardiff, Newport, and Leith.

During the four completed months of 1906, 141,127* seamen were shipped, of whom 19,897 (or 14.1 per cent.) were foreigners. Compared with the corresponding period of 1905, the only considerable decrease was at Swansea, the net result being an increase on the number shipped of 4,691 (or 3'4 per cent.). The principal increases were at London, Glasgow, Hull, Southampton, and Bristol.

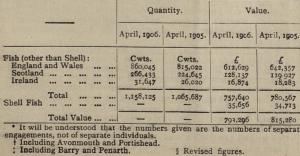
Lascars, who are engaged in Asia, are not included in these figures

Number of Seamen* shipped in consumed by work. Month Vyer Month Vyer Date. Antil Principal Ports. April, Four months ended April, Inc.(+) Topo. Inc.(+)	vessels at some of the pr periods mentioned :	incipal p	orts of	the Unit	ed Kinge	dom du	ring the	Place.		at 1st May, 1906, of quality* of bread most generally	Decreas	e(-) as d with a	Last Cha	ange.
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Total $35,506$ 34,868 - 638 136,436 141,127 + 4,691	Total	35,506	34,868						Sec. 1	Long the state of the state	1	1	1 Marshall	1 200

FISHING INDUSTRY.

(Based on 22 returns—2 from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, 10 from the Collectors of Fishery Statistics for England and Wales and the Fishery Board for Scotland, 1 from the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, 8 from Local Correspondents, and 1 from a Trade Union).

THE fish landed during April showed an increase in quantity, but a decrease in value, as compared with a year ago, as will be seen from the following Table :--



THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

Employment was reported as fairly good at most of the principal ports. On the South and South-West coasts of England and Ireland, however, it was bad, owing to severe weather. It was reported as bad also with fish curers at Yarmouth and fish dock labourers at Fraserburgh. At Lowestoft a number of men were out of employment, but at this port, and also at Grimsby, employment was better than a month ago and a year ago. An improvement was reported at Peterhead compared with a month ago, and at Hull compared with a vear ago. At Macduff and the Bristol Channel Ports employment was not so good as in March.

PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT, AND FLOUR.

I.-BREAD.

The Returns as to the price of bread per 4 lbs., as furnished by the Local Correspondents of the Department, relate to London and 26 large Provincial towns at the beginning of May.

As compared with a month ago, a change in price is recorded in the Potteries, in which district an increase of 1d. per 4-lb. loaf occurred.

As compared with a year ago, there is a decrease of 1d. at Middlesbro'. In 6 towns (2 in England, 2 in Scotland, and 2 in Ireland) the price is now 1d. per 4 lbs. less than a year ago.

II .- WHEAT AND FLOUR.

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

Month.	British Wheat Mean London Gazetts Price	Im	Imports. Average Declared Value.			
	(England and Wales).	Wheat.	Wheat-meal and Flour.	ex Mill for cash.		
1905. April	Per cwt. s. d. 7 2	Per owt. s. d. 7 2	Per owt. s. d. IO I	Per cwt. s, d. 10 $4\frac{3}{4}$		
1906. March April	6 7½ 6 9½	$\begin{array}{c} 7 & 2\frac{3}{4} \\ 7 & 1\frac{1}{2} \end{array}$	9 8毫 9 9 호	9 8 <u>1</u> 9 9 1		

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

The imports of wheat from foreign countries and the Colonies from September 1st, 1905, to April 30th, 1906, amounted to 53,325,722 cwts., or 14,968,078 cwts. less than in the corresponding period of 1904-5. The imports of wheat-meal and flour during September-April, 1905-6, amounted to 10,163,800 cwts., or 2,226,802 cwts. more than during September-April, 1904-5.

RAILWAY GOODS AND MINERAL TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

THE goods and mineral traffic receipts of twenty of the principal railways during the four weeks ended April 28th, 1906, amounted to £4,017,391, an increase of £159,880 (or 4.1 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1905. During the seventeen weeks ended April 28th, 1906, the total

amount was £17,546,664, an increase of £629,910 (or 3.7 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1905.

		nded April 1906.	17 weeks ended April 28th, 1906.			
	Amount.	Increase(+) or Decrease (-) as com- pared with 1905.	Amount.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as com- pared with 1905.		
English Lines :-	£	£	£ 6,355,686	£ + 282,352		
L. & N. W., Midland, Gt.	1,409,165	+ 69,026	6,355,686	+ 282,352		
Central, and N. London. Gt. Northern, Gt. Eastern,	422,997	+ 14,957	1,91 9 ,852	+ 60,658		
and London & Tilbury. Lancs. & Yorks., N.Eastern, and N. Staffs.	800,836	+ 52,481	3,415,677	+ 158,135		
L, & S.W., and Gt. Western. L. B. & S. C., and S. E. & C.	576,400 146,129	+ 7,600 + 7,217	2,553,800 631,147	+ 33,900 + 10,090		
Scottish Lines :- Glasgow & S. Western, N. British, and Caledonian.	544,216	+ 25,433	2,214,948	+ 92,166		
Irish Lines :- Gt. Southern and Western, Midland G.W., and Gt. Northern.	117,648	+ 3,166 -	455,554	- 7,391		
Total	4,017,391	+159,880	17,546,664	+ 629,910		

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

(1) Employers' Liability Act.

NEGLIGENCE OF PERSON TO WHOSE ORDERS WORKMAN BOUND TO CONFORM.

A right of action for damages against his employer is given by the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, to any workman where personal injury is caused to him by reason of the negligence of any person in the service of the employer, to whose orders or directions the workman, at the time of the injury was bound to conform. and did conform, where such injury, resulted from his having so conformed.

A number of workmen were engaged under a foreman to remove rails from a bogey on a railway which was in course of construction. The foreman directed one man to place a piece of wood under a rail on the bogey, and while he was carrying out this order a fellowworkman placed a crowbar under the rail, causing it to fall and seriously injure the first-mentioned workman. This man brought an action in the County Court under the Act, and recovered £250damages. The employers appealed, and it was contended on their behalf that the order given by the foreman was a proper one, that there was no duty on him to warn the other man not to commit an act of negligence; therefore there was no evidence of any negligence on the part of the foreman, and the Judge should have withdrawn the case from the jury. The High Court refused to accept this contention and dismissed the appeal.—Cully v. Underground Electric Railway Co., King's Bench Division, April 24th, 1906.

(2) Factory Acts.

WORKSHOP: PLACE USED FOR REPAIRING NETS FOR OWNER'S OWN BOATS.

It is provided by the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, that the prescribed abstract of the Act shall be affixed at the entrance of every factory and workshop, and in such other parts thereof as an cupier of the factory or workshop is liable to a fine if this provision is disregarded. "Workshop" is defined to include any premises not being a factory in which any manual labour is exercised by way of trade or for purposes of gain, in or incidental to the altering, repairing, ornamenting or finishing of any article, and to or over which premises the employer of the persons working therein has the right of access and control.

An owner of fishing boats occupied premises, part of which consisted of a room, locally known as a "beating chamber," in which his fishing stores were kept, and in which the nets used in his business were mended and repaired by persons in his employ. On a day in August last an inspector visited this beating chamber and found three women and one man at work mending and repairing their employer's nets. No abstract of the Act was affixed or exhibited on the premises, and the occupier refused to so affix cr exhibit one.

The inspector thereupon took proceedings against the occupier for an infringement of the Act, and he was convicted and fined in a nominal amount

May, 1906.

The defendant then appealed to the High Court on the ground that the beating chamber was not a "workshop" within the meaning of the Act. The High Court held that no manual labour was being exercised in the beating chamber for purposes of gain within the meaning of the Act, that the premises were not a workshop, and that the conviction was wrong .- Curtis v. Shinner, King's Bench Division, April 9th, 1906.

Employment of Children: Education: Bye-Laws: Half-Timers.

Under the provisions of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, no person can be employed in a factory or workshop who is under 12 years of age. A "child," however, may be employed half-time on condition that certain school attendances are made, and that a certificate of these attendances is given every week by the teacher to the employer. A "child" is defined to be a person who is under 14 years, or who has not, being of the age of 13 years, obtained a certificate of educational proficiency and attendance. A child over 13 years who obtains a certificate of proficiency may be employed

whole time as a "young person." By the Education Acts parents must cause their children to receive efficient education from the ages of five to 14 years, and the Education Authority may make bye-laws requiring parents (in the absence of reasonable excuse) to cause children to attend school, and determining the time during which children are to attend school. Disobedience to such bye-laws is an offence punishable by a court of summary jurisdiction. A child is entitled to obtain partial exemption from school attendance on attaining the age of 12 years if such child has made 300 attendances in not more than two schools during each year for five preceding years.

A child who was 13 years and 2 months of age on May 9th, 1905' had not attended school since March 20th, 1905. Previously to March 20th he had made 350 attendances in not more than two schools during each year for five years, and had a certificate from the principal teacher to that effect. He had not obtained a certificate of proficiency, as he had not reached a sufficiently high standard. As from March 20th he was employed full time in a factory. The bye-laws in force in the district did not permit full time exemption on an attendance qualification only, and made no provision for partial exemption. The father of the child was summoned for neglecting to cause his child to attend school for the whole time required by the bye-laws. The justices held that as the child was over 13 years and had obtained a certificate of due attendance he was legally employed full time in the factory. They therefore dismissed the summons

On appeal the High Court held that the justices were wrong, and that the child could not be employed full time.—Stevenson v. Goldstraw, King's Bench Division, April 6th and 24th, 1906. In another case heard at the same time to which the same bye-

laws applied, a child was 12 years and 5 months old on May 9th, 1905, and from March 20th, 1905, she had worked as a half-timer in a factory, and had attended school 30 out of a possible 59 times. Previous to March 20th she had made the required 300 attendances in each of the five preceding years, but she had not obtained any weekly certificate of attendances, this being refused because of the dispute which had arisen as to her right to partial exemption from attendance. The parent of the child was summoned on a charge similar to that mentioned in the first case. In support of the charge it was contended that as the bye-laws provided for total exemption only, and did not provide for partial exemption, the child could not be legally employed as a half-timer. On behalf of the parent it was contended, on the other hand, that as the child was over 12 years of age she was entitled by statute to partial exemption from school attendance, and to be employed as a half-timer, and that the bye-laws could not take away this right. The justices took the view put forward on behalf of the parent and dismissed the summons.

On appeal it was held by the High Court that the Justices were right, and that the child was entitled to be employed half-time in a factory, provided she made the required school attendances required by statutes.—Stevenson v. Craig, King's Bench Division, April 6th and 24th, 1906.

Denaby and Cadeby Main Appeal. HOUSE OF LORDS' DECISION, MAY 14TH, 1906.

The lifigation between the Denaby & Cadeby Main Colliery Company and the Yorkshire Miners' Association has at last come to an end by the judgment of the House of Lords affirming the decision of the Court of Appeal in favour of the defendants, the Trade Union. The facts in the case were stated in the LABOUR GAZETTE for March, 1904, at page 71, where the questions answered by the jury and the judgment given in favour of the Colliery Company are reported. The decision of the Court of Appeal setting aside that judgment, and ordering judgment to be entered for the Trade Union is reported in the LABOUR GAZETTE for June, 1905, at page 185.

The Lord Chancellor, in giving his Judgment (with which the five other Lords concurred), said that it was clear that the Central Council of the Union did not at the beginning consent to the strike at the two collieries in question, and that as soon as they knew of the strike they declared it to be illegal. There was no evidence that the persons who induced the men to break their contracts of service by striking acted as agents of the Union, or that the Union ratified their acts. The strike was brought about by the two local branches and their delegates contrary to the rules of the Union, and the Union was not answerable for what they did. There was no evidence fixing upon the Union responsibility for

May, 1906.

any acts of intimidation. As to the payment of strike pay by the Union, that had already been declared by the House of Lords to be illegal in the proceedings taken by Howden against the Union (see LABOUR GAZETTE, May, 1905, p. 152). The fact, however, that the Union misused their funds was a wrong against their own members, not against the colliery company. The company had no interest in the funds, and the use of them contrary to the rules could not confer upon the company any right of action which they would not otherwise have had.

There is nothing in itself illegal in helping to maintain men on strike, and though this may cause loss to the employers by prolonging the strike, no actionable wrong is thereby done to the employers. Hence there was no evidence to support the findings of the jury, that the defendants had conspired to injure the Company.—The Denaby & Cadeby Main Collieries, Limited, v. The Yorkshire Miners' Association and others, House of Lords, May 14th, 1906.

THE total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act during April was 52, consisting of 44 cases of lead poisoning, I of mercurial poisoning, and 7 of anthrax. Three deaths were reported, I due to lead poisoning and 2 to anthrax.

Disease and I

Lead Poisoning-Smelting of Metals Brass Works

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* Of the 8 persons a ¹ For the s bersons and clear in the china and carthornian and the transmission of the states and Plumbers.—In addition to the cases included in the Table, ¹ House Painters and Plumbers.—In addition to the cases included in the Table, 13 cases of lead poisoning (including 5 deaths) were reported during April, 1906, among house painters and plumbers. The number of such cases reported during the four months ended April, 1906, was 52 (including 13 deaths), and for 1905, 45 (including 9 deaths).

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

During the four months ended April, 1906, the total number of cases of poisoning and anthrax was 225, as compared with 205 in 1905. The total number of deaths during the same period was 23 in 1906, as compared with 13 in 1905. The number of deaths due to lead poisoning rose from 8 in 1905 to 14 in 1906. Deaths due to anthrax rose from 5 in 1905 to 9 in 1906.

[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.]

		CASES.		D	EATHS	DEATHS.			
lustry.	Month of April 1906.	Fo Mon end Ap	led	Month of April, 1906.	Mon	our nths led ril,			
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FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN APRIL.

155

(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 April, 1906, was 236, a decrease of 16 as compared with March, and an increase of 56 as compared with April, 1905. The mean number for April in the years 1901-1905 was 215, the maximum year in this period being 1902, with 248 deaths, and the minimum year 1905, with 180 deaths.

The number of fatal accidents to seamen reported in April, 1906, was 107. The number reported in April of the years 1901-1905 varied from 52 in 1904 to 163 in 1903, the mean for the five years being 104.

In the following Table the accidents reported in April, 1906, 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.	Numbe k	r of Workj illed during	people g	Increase Decrease April, 1 compare	(-) in 906, as
	April, 19 06.	March, 1906.	April, 1905.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Railway Service— Brakesmen and Goods Guards Engine Drivers Firemen	4 I	2	4	+ 2 - 2	-"3
Guards (Passenger) Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	I I2	т З	2	 + g	- I + 7
Porters Shunters Miscellaneous Contractors' Servants	3 3 16 2	4 I 24 	4 2 11 3	- I + 2 - 8 + 2	- I + I + 5 - I
Total Railway Service	42	38	35	+ 4	+ 7
Mines- Underground Surface	96 9	78 15	5 7 5	+ 18 - 6	+ 39 + 4
Total Mines	105	93	62	+ 12	+ 43
Quarries over 20 feet deep	8	8	4		+ 4
Factories – , Testile – Cotton	2 I I Sc ⁴	4 3 3 5	3 2 1 2	- 2 - 2 + I - I	- I - I + 3 + 2
Founding and Conversion of Metals Marine and Locomotive	6	11	II	- 5	- 5
Engineering Ship and Boat Building	12	4	7	- 2	+ I + 5
Wood	1 4 30	2 5 20	1 2 25	- I - I + 2	+ 2 + 5
Total Factories	66		5.9	- 9	+ 11
Workshops	*	*			
Accidents reported under Factory Act, Ss. 103-5- Docks, Wharves, and Quays Warehouses Buildings to which Act applies	57	12 2 13	12 	- 7 - 2 - 6	- 7
Laundries Total under Factory Act, Ss. 103-5	12	29	20	- 2	- 8
Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894		9	4	- 6	- 1
Total, exclusive of Seamer	236	252	180	- 16	+ 56
Seamen- On Trading Vessels- Sailing Steam On Fishing Vessels-	40 60	17 114	14 83	+ 23 - 54	+ 26 - 23
Sailing	I 6	I 12		6	+ I + 3
Total Seamen	107	144	100	- 37	+ 7
Total, including Seamen	343	396	280	- 53	+ 63

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.

* Now included under Factories.

TRADE DISPUTES IN APRIL.*

in April, 1905. By the 30 disputes, 6,441 workpeople were directly and 2,856 indirectly affected, and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople affected by old disputes which began before April, and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 12,712 workpeople involved in trade disputes during April, 1906, compared with 28,753 in March, 1906, and 12,515 in April, 1905.

New Disputes in April, 1906.—In the following Table the new disputes in April are summarised by trades affected :--

					No. of	No. of Workpeople affected,			
Tra			Disputes.	Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.			
Building					3	107		107	
Coal Mining					4	1,631	2,100	3,731	
Steel Manufacture					2	2,129	64	2,193	
Engineering and S	hipbu	uildí	ng		8	995	456	I,45I	
Other Metal Trade	S				2	35	25	60	
Cotton Weaving					6	1,282	168	1,450	
Pottery Trade					I	122	43	165	
Other Trades					4	140		140	
Total, April, 19	06				30	6,441	2,856	9,297	
Total, March, 1	906			•••	20	4,343	252	4,595	
Total, April, 19	905				28	5,515	2,378	7,893	

Causes .- Of the 30 new disputes, 6 arose on demands for increased wages, 4 on objections to reduction, and 9 on other wages questions, 6 on questions of the employment of particular classes or persons, 2 on questions of Trade Union principle, and 3 on other questions.

Results.—Definite results were reported in April in the case of 22 new disputes, affecting 6,638 work-people, and 10 old disputes, affecting 759 workpeople. Of these 32 new and old disputes, 13, involving 2,687 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; involving 488 persons, in favour of the employers; and 11, involving 4,222 persons, were compromised. In

Number and Magnitude.—Thirty new disputes began in April, 1906, compared with 20 in March, 1906, and 28 which the termination is reported, certain points are still under consideration.

May, 1906.

Aggregate Duration.—The aggregate duration in April of disputes that started or were settled in that month was 75,000 working days. In addition, 53,500 working days were lost during April owing to disputes which began before that month, and at the end of the month were still unsettled. Thus the duration in April of all disputes, new and old, was 128,500 working days, as compared with 181,800 in the previous month, and 145,700 in the corresponding month of 1905.

Summary for the First Four Months of 1905 and 1906[†].—Summarised by trades, the number of disputes, the workpeople affected, and the aggregate duration in working days for the four months January-April, 1905 and 1906, respectively, were as follows :--

5 41/4 St		January to April.						
	1905.		No. No.	190б.				
No. of Dis- putes.	Number of Work- people affected.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.	No. of Dis- putes.	Number of Work- people affected.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.			
0	3.742	70,700	8	625	27,100			
29			18	6,240	367,300			
26	3,944	120,800	33	8,376	76,800			
	8,118	79,700	28	24 599	225,500			
14	2,203	44,300	15		12,800			
3	208	4,500	2		400			
9	1,711	22,800	13	593	10,800			
IIO	30,027	518,200	117"	41,115	720,700			
	of Dis- putes. 9 29 20 20 14 3 9	No. of Dis- putes. Number of Work- people affected. 9 3,742 29 10,101 26 3,944 20 8,118 14 2,203 3 208 9 1,711	No. of Dis- putes. Number of Beople affected. Aggregate Duration Working Days. 9 3,742 70,700 29 10,101 175,400 26 3,944 120,800 20 8,118 79,700 14 2,203 44,300 9 1,711 22,800	No. of Dis- putes. Number of people affected. Aggregate Duration in Working Days. No. of Dis- putes. 9 3,742 70,700 8 29 10,101 175,400 18 26 3.944 120,800 33 20 8,118 79,700 15 3 208 4,500 15 9 1,711 22,800 13	No. of Dis- putes. Number of Beople affected. Aggregate Duration Working Days. No. of Dis- putes. Number of Dis- putes. 9 3,742 70,700 8 625 29 10,101 175,400 18 6,210 20 8,118 79,700 28 24,599 3 208 41,500 15 583 9 1,711 22,800 13 593			

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

Principal Trade Disputes.

Occupations.:	Locality.	Work	ber of people cted.	Date when Dispute began	Work-	Alleged Cause or Object.;	Result.‡	
		Di- rectly.	Indi- rectly.‡	in	ing Days.			
Coal Mining-							the second second	
Hauliers and Other Colliery Workpeople	South Wales & Monmouth	400	2,100	10 April	2	Dissatisfaction with new Wages Agreement	Amicable settlement effected.	
Miners, &c	Pontypridd	1,060		2 April	8	Refusal to work with non-unionists	Non-unionists joined the Sout Wales Miners' Federation, o left the district.	
Steel Workers Shipbuilding-	Workington	2,038		16 April		Refusal to work with non-unionists	No settlement reported.	
Caulkers, Rivetters and Holders-on	Jarrow	303		5 April	3	Against employment of labourers on work claimed by caulkers	Work resumed pending negotia tions.	
Rivetters, Holders-on, Rivet Heaters, Shipwrights, &c.	Glasgow	279	400	12 April	21	Objection to a rivet "counter "	Work resumed, and investigation made into charges agains	
Pottery Trade – Sanitary Pressers	Tunstall and Rugeley	122	43	2 April	19	Against proposed reduction in prices on certain articles, and for the fixing of a price for a new article	" counter." District prices to be observed, and price fixed for new article.	

* 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 no 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.

Statistical Abstract of British Empire.-The second number of pastoral products), and the number of cattle and other live stock in the Statistical Abstract of the British Empire* has recently been issued by the Board of Trade. The volume, which covers the years 1890 to 1904, is compiled from the various published official records of the United Kingdom and the British Colonial Possessions and Protectorates.

The Abstract contains statistics of the trade with foreign countries of the British Empire as a whole, and of its component parts ; the trade between the United Kingdom and British Colonies and Possessions, and the Inter-Colonial trade; and statistics are given relating to the shipping of the Empire. Other Tables relate to the production within the British Empire of certain staple articles (e.g., coal, iron ore, pig iron and other mineral products, wheat, barley, tea, coffee, cotton, wool and other agricultural and

* Cd. 2856. Wyman & Sons, Price rod.

various parts of the Empire. The consumption of certain articles within the Empire is dealt with in Tables which show the total amount retained for consumption, and the amount retained per head of population, of coal, iron ore, pig iron, wheat, barley, oats, maize, beer and tea. The area and population of the various parts of the Empire and the population of large towns are also dealt with.

H.M. INSPECTORS OF FACTORIES.

New District .- The North Scotland District having been divided, Mr. T. Brown is now the Inspector of Factories for the newly-formed Inverness District, which comprises the counties of Inverness, Nairn, Ross and Cromarty, Sutherland, Caithness, and Orkney and Shetland. Mr. Brown's official address is Castle Tolmie, Inverness

May, 1906.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.*

Wages. Changes reported in April.—The net effect of all the changes in wages reported in April was an increase of £11,795 per week, as compared with an increase of \pounds 1,700 per week in March, 1906, and an increase of \pounds 261 per week in April, 1905. The number of workpeople affected was 403,079, of whom 401,857 received advances amounting to \pounds 11,860 per week, while 1,222 sustained decreases amounting to $\pounds 65$ per week. The total number affected in March, 1906, was

48,466, and in April, 1905, 11,250. One change, affecting 350 workpeople, was settled by arbitration; two changes, affecting 41,500 workpeople were arranged by Conciliation Boards; and ten changes, affecting 3,458 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting 357,771 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives, four of these changes, affecting 20,744 workpeople being preceded by

disputes causing stoppage of work. Summary for the Four completed Months of 1906.—The number of workpeople (separate individuals) whose wages were reported to have been changed since 1st January was The total number of workpeople reported as affected by changes in hours of labour since 1st January last was 641,603, as compared with 134,872 for the corresponding period of 1905. The changes arranged gave 630,917 16,982, the net decrease in their working time being 24,911 hours per week. workpeople a net increase of £20,511 per week, and 6,586 workpeople a net decrease of £410 per week, while the Principal Changes in Wages and Hours in April. Particulars of the principal changes in rates of wages and hours of labour reported in April are given below. remaining 4,100 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 was an The details of the other changes reported are not increase of $f_{20,101}$ per week, as compared with a decrease separately stated in this Table, but they are included in of £3,035 per week in the corresponding period of 1905. the preceding statistics.

Trade.	Locality. Locality.		Occupation.		ximate ber of people ted by	Particulars of Change.	
		effect in 1906.	The second second	In- crease.	De- crease.	(Decreases in Italics.)	
200 3770			I.—RATES OF	WAG	GES.		
		9 & 16 April	Coal Miners :- Underground Workers and Banksmen (except Deputies, Mechanics, Enginemen and Firemen) Other Surface Workers	38,000		Advance of 1 ¹ / ₄ per cent. on standard rates, making wage 17 ¹ / ₂ per cent. above the standard of November, 1879.	
Mining	Northumberland	7 & 14	Deputies Mechanics	1,100 1,600		Advance of 1 per cent. on standard rates, making wage 14 per cent. above the standard of November, 1879: Advance of 1d. per day (5s. 8d. to 5s. 9d.) Advance of 1d. per day (4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.)	
	· · · ·	May	Enginemen	250		Advance of id. per day. Wages after change: Windin Enginemen, 4s. iod.; Hauling and Pumping Enginemen 4s. gd. Advance of i per cent. on standard rates, making wage	
	Cleveland and	16 April	Ironstone Miners	7,500		14 per cent, above the standard of November, 1879. Advance of 3'6 per cent. on standard rates, making wag	
Quarrying	Durham Weardale	April	Limestone Quarrymen Steel Millmen	1,500 3,500	···· }	27'9 per cent. above the standard of 1879.	
Steel	West of Scotland	1 April	Gas Producermen and Charge Wheelers	1,000		Advance of 24 per cent.	
Engineering	Lancs. and Cheshire (except Mersey District and Barrow)	1st pay in May	Enginemen, Boilermen and Cranemen Boilermakers	1,500 2,500		Advance of 5 per cent. on piece rates, and of 1s. per week of time rates.	
		4-6 April	Boilermakers	1,800		Advance of 5 per cent. on piece rates, and of 1d. per hour- is. per week on time rates.	
	Lancs , tCheshire,	3rd&4th (Spinners, Piecers & Doublers	44,000	Galanto.		
A second from the	'West Riding of	pay in	Card and Blowing Room Operatives	46,000		Advance of 5 per cent.	
Cotton	. Yorkshire and . Derbyshire	May Ist pay in May	Warpers, Reelers and Winders Weavers, Winders and Warpers	7,500 215,000		Advance of 2 ¹ / ₂ per cent., making wages at "Uniform List."	
Cotton	Lancs., and parts of Cheshire and and Derbyshire	I June	Beamers, Twisters and Drawers	2,900		Advance of 5 per cent.	
Jute	Dundee	Mar.	Jute Spinners and Preparers	20,000		Advance of 5 per cent.	
			II.—HOURS	OF LA	BOUR		
Engineering	Sheffield and Rotherhan	ist pay in April	Fitters, Turners, Smiths, Pattern- makers, Tool Makers, Boiler- makers, &c.		3,358	Decrease of I hour per week (54 to 53).	

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

Groups of Trades,		January-April.						
Groups of Trades,		19	05.	19061				
	1	No.	L £	No.	E.			
Building	-	224	- 19	2,177	- II4			
Coal Mining		48,190	- 1,303	158,250	+ 2,350			
Iron Mining		292	+ 7	8,272	+ 561			
Quarrying		2,531	- 151	2,864	+ 10			
Pig Iron Manufacture	1000 C 17700 C	14,121	+ 514	12,548	+ 952			
Iron and Steel Manufacture	A COLORADO	33,801	- 65	45,440	+ 1,944			
Engineering and Shipbuilding								
		29,903	- 2,349	75,076	+ 4,299			
		100	- 19		and the second second			
Textile Trades		487	+ 4	336,047	+10,044			
Other Trades		1,596	+ 36	414	+ 25			
Employees of Local Authorities		3,627	+ 310	515	+ 30			
Total		134,872	- 3,035	641,603	+ 20,101			

Hours.

The changes in hours of labour reported during April, 1906, affected 4,787 workpeople, whose aggregate working time was reduced by 4,986 hours per week.

Norz.-South Wales and monifouring their wages 3th per cent. and in the generation of the standard of t870. * Based on information obtained from all available sources verified and corrected by direct application to the Employers. Trade Unions, concerned. In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most The following kinds of changes are not included in the statistics:-(i) Changes in wages affecting agricultural labourers, seamen, and (2) Increments accruing under scales of pay, as in the case of policemen, some municipal employees, and many railway servants, &c.; of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c. + The advance on time rates to rivetters and caulkers in Clydebank, Greenock and Port Glasgow was id. per hour, or 6d. per weeks ; Except the Bolton district in the case of spinners, piecers and doublers. on to the Employers, Trade Unions, amended in accordance with the most r

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PAUPERISM IN APRIL.

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

THE number of paupers relieved in the 35 selected Urban Districts named below on one day in April corresponded to a rate of 222 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Compared with March, 1906, the total number of paupers relieved decreased by 19,665 (4.8 per cent.) and the rate per 10,000 by 11. There was a decrease of 8,089 (4.6 per cent.) in the number of indoor paupers, and of 11,576 (5.0 per cent.) in the number of outdoor paupers. Every district showed a decrease, the largest being shown in the Leicester district (43 per 10,000).

Compared with April, 1905, the total number of paupers relieved decreased by 6,391 (1.6 per cent.). There was a decrease of 1,232 (0.7 per cent.) in the number of indoor paupers, and of 5,159 (2.3 per cent.) in the number of outdoor paupers. Decreases occurred in 25 districts, and increases in 9 districts, while no change was shown in the Barnsley disrtict.

			on one day of April,		Decrea	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000		
Selected Urban Districts.	In- door.	Out- door.		mated	of Popu com w	A A		
in potnice and addition				Popula- tion.	month ago.	year ago.		
ENGLAND & WALES.*			1		0.9/4	acruat		
Metropolis.	11,734	3,641	15,375	184	- 5	+ I		
West District	15,974		25,207	234	- 17	- 4		
Central District	7,252	3,090		538	- 23	+ 21		
East District	15,404	7.777	23,181	322	- 24	- 18		
South District	24,967	18,935	43,902	236	- 12	- 8		
Total Metropolis	75,331	42,676	118,007	252	- 14	- 6		
West Ham	3,764	15,972	19,736	287	- 28	+ 59		
Other Districts.	S da h		1 . Torner	at a				
Newcastle District	2,170	5,204	7,374	168	- 6	- 2		
Stockton & Tees District	1,282	4,381	5,663 11,002	260 143	- 6	- I		
Bolton, Oldham, &c	4,089	6,913	8,505	212	- 6	- 24		
Wigan District	2,150	6,355 9,717	19,441	204	- 5 - 21	+ 4		
Manchester District Liverpool District	12,012	10,504	22,316	215	- 8	- 17 - 24		
Des Mart District	1,869	2,805	4,674	127	- 12	- 5		
Halifax & Huddersfield	1,315	4,205	5,520	151	- 5	+ 4		
Leeds District	2,657	6,429	9,086	188	- 3	- 4		
Barnsley District	805	2,981	3,786	154	- I	'		
Sheffield District	3,147	3,815	6,962	157	- 7	- 10		
Hull District	1.593	5,543	7,136	258	- 5	- 3		
North Staffordshire	2,377	8,107	10,484	278	- 8	+ 3		
Nottingham District	2,132	6,096	8,228	199	- 4	+ 4		
Leicester District	1,551	4,874	6,425 16,471	279	- 43	- I I		
Wolverhampton District	3,701	12,770	8,591	282	- 2	- 29		
Birmingham District Bristol District	5,163	3,428 6,833	9,608	147 246	- 9	- 8		
C	2,775	7,452	9,513	251	- 7 - 10	- 17		
Harrison Protocol	62,573	118,212	180,785	200	- 9	- 4 - II		
SCOTLAND.*			00 696					
Glasgow District	5,298	17,388	22,686 3,157	231	- 8	- 13		
Paisley & Greenock District	662 1,685	2,495 5,837	7,522	178 185	The second second second	- 9		
Edinburgh & Leith District Dundee & Dunfermline	965	2,849	3,814	105	- 7 - 21	- 5 - 17		
Aberdeen	685	3,327	4 012	238	- 8	- 5		
Coatbridge & Airdrie	339	1,522	1,861	194	- 6	- 5		
Total for the above Scottish Districts	9, 634	33,418	¥43,0 52	812	- 9	- 10		
IRELAND.				The second				
Dublin District	7,239	5,596	12,835	325	- 14	- 5		
Belfast District	3,626	401	4,027	99	- 10	+ 2		
Cork, Waterford, & Limerick }	4,400	4,804	9,204	876	- 21	- 6		
Galway District	385	34 7	732	207	- 4	+ I		
Total for the above Irish Districts	15,650	11,148	26,798	248	- 14	- 3		
Total for above 35 Dis- tricts in April, 1906	166,952	221,426	388,378	222	- 11	- 6		

* 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 a reclassified as not able-bodied,

LABOUR BUREAUX IN APRIL.

May, 1906.

TWENTY-ONE Bureaux furnished Returns, of which fifteen can be compared with similar Returns for a year ago. The figures for the remaining six are not available for April, 1905.

Name of	Applica- tions by Workpeople during			ations red by loyers ring	found	Workpeople found Work during	
Labour Bureau.	Apl., 1906.	Apl. 1905.	Apl., 1906.	Apl., 1905.	Apl., 1906.	Apl., 1905.	
London. Salvation Army(Whitechapel Rd., E.)	1.212	1,260	591	425	771	572	
St. Pancras (Crowndale Rd., N.W.)	126	169	51	62	62	63	
Southwark (Borough Road, S.E.)	6	25	I		I		
Hammersmith (Gt. Church Lane, W.)		52	12	39	12	39	
Finsbury (Rosebery Avenue, E.C.)	348	244	190	159	73	III	
Westminster (Hall, CaxtonSt., S.W.)		130	127	161	106	IOI	
Islington (93, St. Paul's Rd., N.)	243	312	27	110	266	215*	
Hampstead (Finchley Road, N.W.)	29	66	35	41	23	22	
Provincial.			12	1.		10.00	
Newcastle-upon-Tyne (Pilgrim St.)	174	323	84	97	73	68	
Ipswich (Fore Street)	41	36	22	16	02	IO	
Glasgow (158, George Street)	338	483	714	536	172	161	
Wigan (Library Street)	32	II	19	13	19	13	
Coventry (3, Market Hall Arcade)	167	93	84	70	78	65	
Eastbourne (Public Library)	2	2					
Dudley (Stone Street)	15	60	7	IO	12	18	
Total of 15 Bureaux	3,012	3,266	1,964	1,739	1,688	1,458	
London.				•			
Poplar (Glaucus Street, Bromley, E.)	58	•••	16		45	•••	
Lewisham (3, Springfield Pk. Cres.)	85		20		42	***	
Provincial. Croydon (Catherine Street)			53	Burner 1	53		
Manchester (King St., W. Deansgate)	291 408		176		132		
Birkenhead (68, Chester Street)	130		38		46		
Hove (Ventnor Hall, Hove)	54		83		71		
Total of 21 Bureaux	4,038		2,350		2,077		
* In addition, 10 men were fou	ind wo	rk by U	Unemplo	oyed Co	mmittee	•	
(II.) Employment fou App	nd fo cil, 1		rkpeo	ple di	aring		
Capacity in which employe	d.		No. per manentl			Cotal.	

apacity in which employ engaged. engaged. Engaged by Private Employers. n:--Building Trades... Carmen, Stablemen, &c. Porters and Messengers General Labourers Other Occupations 157 36 82 72 29 40 46 146 56 ... 42 44 606 2 90 752 58 Lads and Boys Women and Girls :---... 18 152 Domestic Servants Charwomen, daily work, &c.... 79 30 45 97 182 48 Other Occupation Total engaged by Private Employers ... 543 959 1,502 Engaged by Local Authorities :--Men, Lads and Boys 366 387 21 188 188 Engaged by Salvation Army ... Total of 21 Bureaux 564 1,513 2,077

(III.) Occupations of the Workpeople on the Registers of 20 Bureaux at the end of April, 1906.

			Lads	Women			
Name of Bureau.	Build- ing Trades.	Engineer ing Trades.	General Labour- ers.	Porters, Messen- gers, Carmen &c.	Other Occu-	and Boys,	and Girls.
London.	1			(interpret	TOT	San Dares	12
Salvation Army	46	IO	103	41 188	191 72	18	21
St. Pancras	39	48	243	100	72	3	I
Southwark		I	-	II	and the second se	3	2
Hammersmith	12	4	19	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	5 56		
Finsbury	70	29	17	70		31	45
Westminster	4	9	33	119	187	103	224
Hampstead	32	2 .	5	25	20 28	9	2
Islington	150	4	918	49	806	- 29 -	15 21
Poplar	628	271	401	311	25	3	21
Lewisham	99	13	24	37	20	N. T. B. Cal	Salar and
Frovincial.	A CONTRACT		-6	8	anan ana	- Carlor	
Ipsw.ch	2	3	16	Contraction of the second	4	5	3
Glasgow	23	25	37	32	32	16	ISI
Wigan	61	2	98	16	16	and the second s	E.
Newcastle-on-Tyne	91	82	362	54	77	2	64
Coventry	7	III	16	6	10	14	AND TO NO
Eastbourne	IIO	13	105	21	39	-	-
Croydon	150	16		30	51	6	9
Dudley	56	III	107	31	60	31	
Manchester	96	88	330	82	65	5	310
Birkenhead	22	29	181	22	36	29	27
Total	1,698	871	3,015	1,184	1,781	812	895

May, 1906.

- A CARLER CONTRACTOR
Central Bureau
9, Southampton St., W
Y.W.C.A.
26, George Street, { (1 Hanover Sq., W. { (2
Other Bureaux (Liverpo
Manchester Watto

Total of 8 Bureaux

Edinburgh and Dublin

Superintendents, Forewomen, e
Shop Assistants
Dressmakers, Milliners, e
Secretaries, Clerks, Typi
Apprentices and Learne
Domestic Servants, etc.
Miscellaneous
Total

	Month	ended 30th	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1900 as compared with		
and the second second	1904.	1905.	1906.	19 05.	1904.
The she was to make	£	£	£	£	£
I Food, Drink and Tobacco.	18,306,963	17,563,907	17,808,632	+ 244,725	- 498,3
IIRaw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanu- factured.+	14,890,689	14,240,761	16,517,964	+2,277,203	+1,627,2
IIIArticles wholly or mainly Manufactured.t	11,801,123	11,259,586	12,534,327	+1,274,741	+ 733,20
IVMiscellaneous and Un- olassified (including Parcel Post).	182,988	218,572	193,308	- 25.264	+ 10,3
Total value of Imports	45,181,763	43,282,826	47,054,231	+3,771,405	+1,872,4
and the colors and the				- Torolla Co	+1,

I.-Food, Drink, Tobacco. II.-Raw Materials Articles mainly manufactured§ III.—Articles wholl mainly Manufacture IV.—Miscellaneous Inclassified (in Parcel Post)

Total value

ports of produce The re-exports of

to $\pounds 6,754.370$ in April, 1904; $\pounds 6,303,877$ in April, 1905; and $\pounds 7,332,086$ in April, 1905. Canada. Report of the Department of Labour for the year ended June 30th, 1905. Proceedings under the Conciliation Act, 1900, and * The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight; or when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods. † Raw cotton, wool, wood and timber, metallic ores, oils and oil-seeds, hides the Railway Labour Disputes Act. 1903; strikes and lock-outs during 1904-5, &c. [Ottawa; S. E. Dawson, King's Printer: pp. 136: price 5d.]

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN APRIL.

DURING April, 633 fresh applications (354 from domestic servants, &c.) for work were registered by eight Bureaux furnishing Returns, and 721 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 168 persons, of whom 105 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 168 situations found for applicants, 126 were of a more or less permanent character, while 42 were temporary only. The work done by the Bureaux during April is shown by the following Table.

WORK DONE IN APRIL.

	Applications by Work- people during		Situations offered by Employers during		Number of Workpeople engaged by Employers.					
					Perma- nently.		Tem- porarily.			
	Apl., 1906.	Apl., 1905.	Apl., 1906.	Apl., 1905.	Apl., 1906.	Apl., 1905.	Apl, 1906.	Apl., 1905.		
1	Summary by Bureaux.									
	88	79	69	47	16	22	4	9		
	328 81	373 72	383 164	360 133	60 22	65 34	16 14	20 11		
d,	136	123	105	106	28	22	8	6		
	633	647	721	646	126	143	42	46		
	Summary by Occupations.									
c.	12	70 11	37 7	20	51	3 I	1 <u> </u>	II		
tc.	45	38	137	II2	17	26	14	13		

52 6 352 118 15 23 449 53 18 18 4 82 16 83 11 22 22 2 5 354 90 433 41 . 633 647 721 646 126 143 42 46

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM. Summary for April. IMPORTS.

	Month	ended 30tl	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1906, as compared with			
	1904.	1905.	1go6.	19 05.	1904.	
and	£ 1,130,139	£ 1,194,931	£ 1,315,209	+ 120,278	+ 185,070	
and Un-	2,995, 032	2,753,567	3,34 4, 91 7	+ 591,350	+ 349,885	
y or	19,111,128	19,835,570	21,917,784	+2,082,214	+ 2,806,656	
and and ading	248,535	354,400	454,396	+ 99,996	+ 205,861	
Ex- ritish	23,484,834	24,138,468	27,032,306	+ 2,893,838	+ 3,547,472	
			al mercl	handise a	mounted	

and skins, &c. 1 Yarns and textile fabrics, manufactures of metal and leather, chemicals, &c. 1 Yarns and textile fabrics, manufactures of metal and leather, chemicals, &c. 1 The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board " values. § Coal, wool, oil seeds, hides and skins, &c. 1 Yarns, textile fabrics, and apparel, metal manufactures, machinery, chemicals, &c.

COMMITTEE ON DANGER TO MEN IN RAILWAY SERVICE.

THE President of the Board of Trade has appointed Lieut.-Col. H. A. Yorke, R.E., C.B., Chief Inspecting Officer of Railways; Mr. Robert Turnbull, of the London and North Western Railway Company; and Mr. Richard Bell, M.P., to be a Committee to examine and test appliances designed to diminish danger to men employed in railway service.

Mr. J. P. S. Main, Assisting Inspecting Officer of Railways, Board of Trade, has been appointed to act as Secretary to the Committee.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING APRIL.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Mines and Quarries : General Report and Statistics for 1904. Part IV. Colonial and Foreign Statistics. Statistics relating to persons em-ployed, and accidents at mines and quarries in the British Colonies

and in Foreign Countries. [Cd. 2911: pp. 214: price 18. 9d.] Mines and Quarries, 1905. Reports of H.M. Inspector of Mines for the West Scotland (No. 2) District. Persons employed, accidents, output, &c. [Cd. 2910-1: pp. 43: price 4¹/₂d.] Twenty-third Report to the Board of Trade upon the working of the Builty Extlement of a 2000 during the upon the working of the

Boiler Explosions Acts, 1882 and 1890, during the year ended 30th June, 1905. Shows that the number of persons killed and injured by boiler

1905. Shows that the number of persons killed and injured by boiler explosions was smaller than for any year since the Act of 1882 came into operation. [Cd. 2676: pp. 17: price 2½d.] Report to the Home Department on the circumstances attending an Explosion during thawing of Gelignite at Nether Walstead, Sussex, on 26th October, 1905. [Cd. 2895: pp 8: price 2½d.] Railway Accidents. Returns of Accidents and Casualties during the three months ended 31st December, 1905. Table 10 shows the number of fatal accidents and nature of injuries during the quarter to various classes of railway workpeople, compared with the total number employed in 1904. [Cd. 2884: pp. 43: price 4½d.] Reports of the Chiet Registrar of Friendly Societies for the year ending

Reports of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the year ending 31st December, 1904. Part C. Appendix (M). — Trade Unions. Showing the membership, income, expenditure and funds at the end of 1904 of 646 unions which made returns, with comparative summary for the years 1874, 1884 and 1894. [H.C. 41-II. : pp. 40: price 41d.

Reports of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the year ending 31st December, 1904. Part B. Appendix (L). Industrial and Provident Societies. [H.C. 41-1: pp. iii. + 239: price 2s.] Labour Bureaux. Return. Copy of Report to the Local Government Board, by Arthur Lowry, Esq., one of the Inspectors of the Board. Constitution and work of Municipal and other Labour Bureaux. [H C. 86: pp. 2a: price 2dd] [H.C. 86: pp. 32: price 31d.]

International Conference on Labour. Return, 1905. Showing the terms of certain resolutions passed at the International Conference on Labour in Factories and Mines held at Berlin in 1890, and the degree to which the recommendations in each of the said resolutions are now carried out in each of the countries represented at that conference. [H.C. 291: pp. 39: price 52d.]

Regulations made by the Secretary of State for the Home Department with regard to the administration of the Aliens Act, 1905. [Cd. 2879: pp. 52: price 3d.]

Feeding of School Children in Continental and American Cities. Statement of Information collected by the Board of Education and the Foreign Office regarding methods adopted in great Continental and American cities for dealing with Underfed Children. [Cd. 2926: pp. 33: price 4¹/₂d.]

Statistical Abstract for the British Empire in each year from 1890 to 1904. Second number. [Cd. 2856: pp. xiii. 192: price 10d.]

Departmental Committee on Vagrancy. Vol. II. Minutes of Evidence, Digest of Evidence, and General Index to Evidence, Appendix and Report. [Cd. 2891 : pp. 503 : price 4s. 1d.]

Forty-eighth Annual Report of H.M. Inspector of Constabulary for Scotland, 1905. Authorised strength of forces, classification, rates of pay, &c.; census of vagrants, beggars, &c., 1905; analysis of census of vagrancy, 1896-1905. [Cd. 2890: pp. ix. 212: price is. 9d.]

Emigration Statistics of Ireland for the year 1905. Showing the number, ages, conjugal condition and destination of the emigrants from each county and province in Ireland during the year 1905; also the occupations and number of emigrants who left each port in each month of the year. [Cd. 2868 : pp. 15 : price 2d.]

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

BRITISH COLONIES.

The Canadian Labour Gazette, April, 1906. Special artic'es :---"Investigation of alleged fraudulent practices in England to induce printers to come to Canada"; "British Columbia and Quebec legislation affecting labour in 1905"; "Building operations n Canada in 1905.

New South Wales. Fifth Annual Report of the Labour Commissioners for year ending June 30th, 1905. Classification and number of persons registered for employment, number for whom work was found, &c. [Sydney : W. A. Gullick, Government Printer : pp. 24.]

Statistical Register for the year ended December 31st 1904. Part XIII. Industrial Wages. Number of persons employed, and average wages paid to different classes of employees in the industries of the Colony; industrial unions registered under the Industrial Arbitration Act, &c. [Sydney: W. A. Gullick, Govern-ment Printer: pp. 87: price 1s.]

Western Australia. Report by the Chief Inspector of Factories on the working of the Factories Act, 1904, Early Closing Act, 1902, Employment Brokers Act, 1807, and Seats for Shop Assistants Act, 1898, or the year ended November, 30th, 1905. Department of Commerce and Labour, 1906. Contains table of wages paid at various ages to certain classes of workpeople, as compiled from Returns supplied by factory occupiers. [Perth W.A.: A. Curtis, Acting Government Printer: pp. 10] Printer : pp. 19.]

Labour Bureau for the year ended December 31st, 1905. Number of persons registered for employment and found work by private employers and Government Departments; occupations desired, &c. [Perth : A. Curtis, Acting Government Printer : pp. 24.]

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

United States. Bulletin of the Department of Labour (Washington). No. 62. January, 1906. Articles upon "Municipal Ownership in Great Britain;" "Conciliation in the Stove Industry;" "Laws relating to the Employment of Children in the United States."

State of New York Labour Bulletin. No. 28. March, 1906. Statistics of American trade unions, &c.

Massachusetts. Twentieth Annual Report of the State Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the year ended 31st December, 1905. Reports of cases and decisions, appendix containing text of arbitra-tion laws in forms in other States. Poster Wright and Duty tion laws in force in other States. [Boston: Wright and Potter Printing Co., State Printers: pp. xi. + 296.]

Labour Bulletin of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. No. 40 March, 1906. Comparison of wages paid in Navy Yard and private establishments; trade union statistics of American and other countries, &c.

Rhode Island. Nineteenth Annual Report of the Commissioner of Industrial Statistics, 1905. Wages and hours of labour, 1894-1903, in certain selected occupations, strikes in 1905, immigration statistics, free employment offices, statistics of manufactures, &c. [Providence, R.I.: E. L. Freeman & Sons, State Printers : pp. 257.]

Report of Commission on State of the Textile Industry and Condition of Weavers. Chamber of Deputies. Session of 1904. No. 1922. 2 vols, 1906. [Paris: pp. 576 and xix. + 135.]

Germany.

Monthly Journal of the Imperial Insurance Department. April 15th, 1906.

Monthly Journal of the German Labour Department. April, 1906. Contains statistics of unemployment in Trade Unions in the first quarter of 1906.

Austria-Hungary.

Accident Insurance in Austria in 1903. Austrian Ministry of the Interior. [Pp. 253.] Sickness Insurance in Austria in 1903. Austrian Ministry of the

Interior, 1905. [Pp. 169.]
 Statistics of Austrian Savings Banks for 1903. Austrian Statistical
 Central Commission, 1905. [Vienna: pp. lv. + 75: price 2s. 6d.]
 Lead Poisoning in Austrian Smelting Works. Part III. Austrian
 Labour Department, 1906. [Vienna: A. Hölder, pp. x. + 32.]

Italy.

Laws, Decress, Regulations, &c., dealing with Credit Institutions. 1906. [Rome: G. Bertero e C.: pp. vi. + 276.] Industrial Statistics of Italy. Part III. Summary. 1906. [Rome:

pp. 131: price 1s. 7d.] Report on Italian Agravian Bill. Ministry of Agriculture, Industry

and Commerce. 1906. [Rome: pp. 104: price 3d.] Strikes and Lock-outs in Italy in 1902 and 1903. Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce. 1906. [Rome: pp. 510:

price 2s. 5d.] Belgium

Quarterly Journal of Belgian Department of Mines. Contains statistics of Miners' Pension Funds in 1902. [Brussels, 1906.]

Holland

Quarterly Journal of Dutch Labour Department. Contains statistics of prices of bread, July 1st, 1905-January 1st, 1906. Norway.

The 1905 Vol. of Monthly Journal of Norwegian Statistical Central Bureau. 1906. [Unristiania: H. Aschenoug: pp. 132. price 1s. 1d.]

Report on Work of Insurance Institutions in Norway in 1904. [Christiania, 1906.]

Census of Norway, December 3rd, 1900. Summary Volume. Norwegian Statistical Central Bureau, 1906. [Christiania: H. Aschehoug : pp. 204 : price 61d.]

Denmark.

Statistics of Denmark. Series IV. Vol. XIX. Contains prices of cereals in 1905, and statistics of labour disputes in Denmark, 1900-1904. Danish Statistical Office. [Copenhagen, 1906.] Consular Reports. Annual Series. No. 3544. Trade of Germany for the year 1905. Notes upon wages, labour disputes, cost of living, hours of labour, municipal labour bureaux, &c. [Cd.

pp. 28 : price 2d.]

Virginia, West Virginia and Kentucky for the year 1905. Prices of grain and flour, immigration, &c. [Cd. 2682-76: pp. 38: price 21d.]

Notes upon new industries, emigration, &c. [Cd. 2682-80: pp. 31: price 2d.]

District of Buenos Ayres for the year 1905. Strikes, notes on industries, &c. [Cd. 2682-82: pp. 28: price 2d.] No. 3560. Trade of Stockholm and Eastern Coast of Sweden for the year 1905. Wages in Stockholm, house rents, emigration, statistics of labour disputes, &c. [Cd. 2682-85: pp. 51: price 3d.]

- No.3563. Trade of Consular District of Leipzig, 1905. Notes upon cotton, wool, hosiery and other industries, strikes, increases in wages, reduced hours of labour, &c. [Cd. 2682-88: pp. 14: price 5d.]

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

INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN APRIL.

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

(I) REGISTERED.

THE total number of Industrial Unions and Societies registered in April was as follows: Under the Trade Union Acts, 3; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 12; under the Friendly Societies Act, 46 (including 26 branches of existing societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 4; in all 65.

Among the new Societies registered in April were the following :-

- Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—2, viz., Walthamstow and Dist. Street Sellers and Hawkers Union, Workman's Hall, High Street, Walthamstow; East London Ship Painters and House Decorators Society, Ship Tavern, High Street, Poplar, E. *Ireland.*—1, viz., Regular Glass Cutters, Glaziers and Lead Sash Makers of Dublin Trade Union, 128, Capel Street, Dublin.
- Sash Makers of Dublin Trade Union, 128, Capel Street, Dublin.
 Industrial and Provident Societies. England and Wales. 9, viz., Co-op. Soc. mainly for Distribution: 2, viz., Romsey and Dist. Co-op. Socs., Ltd., 23, The Abbey, Romsey; Glyn Neath Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Stores, Maeshir, Glyn Neath, Neath. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Stores, Maeshir, Glyn Neath, Neath. Co-op. Soc., mainly for Production: 1, viz., Glyncorrwg Builders Soc., Ltd., 2, Bagster Terrace, Glyncorrwg, Port Talbot. Co-op. Agric. Socs.: 2, viz., Teesdale Associated Farmers, Ltd., The Depot, Lartington, Darlington; Hawarden and Dist. Farmers' Assoc., Estate Office, Hawarden, Chester. Misc. Socs: 4. Scotland. 2 viz., Co-op. Soc., mainly for Distribution: 1, viz., Huntly Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 8, Gordon Street, Huntly. Co-op. Agric. Soc.: 1, viz., Durris Agric. Co-op. Agric. Soc.: Forth Co-op. Poultry Soc., Ltd., Tagoat.
 Friendly Societies. England and Wales. 17, viz., London Dental
- Co-op. Poultry Soc., Ltd., Tagoat.
 Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—17, viz., London Dental Aid Soc., 143 and 144, Holborn Bars, E.C.; North-Eastern Workmen's Accident Protection Soc., Sunderland; Neath and Port Talbot Perm. Money Soc., Neath; Crewe Amal. Anglers' Assoc. Club and Inst., Crewe; Belle Grove Labour Club and Inst., Welling, Kent; Woolwich Labour Inst., Woolwich; Park Village Working Men's Club, Heath Town, Wolver-hampton; Stanton Working Men's Club, Coventry; Cliffe End Working Men's Club and Inst., Lindley, Huddersfield; Thorp Green Working Men's Club and Inst., Golcar, Huddersfield; Edlesborough Juvenile Foresters' Friendly Soc., Dunstable; Flowery Field Benevolent Burial Soc., Newton, Hyde; United Progressive Collecting Soc., Liverpool; London, Brighton and South Coast Railway Passenger Guards' Newton, Hyde; United Progressive Collecting Soc., Liverpool; London, Brighton and South Coast Railway Passenger Guards' Sick Benefit and Superannuation Soc., Preston, Brighton; Chaloner Oddfellows' Friendly Soc., Guisborough; Conway and Dist. Mutual Benefit Tontine Soc., Conway; Griffin Tontine Soc., Gresford, Denbighshire. Scotland.—t, viz., Bathgate Working Men's Club and Inst., Bathgate. Ireland.— 2, viz., Knights of Labour Workmen's Temperance Club, Dublin; Castle Hill Credit Soc., Ballycroy. (2) DISSOLVED.

The total number of Industrial Unions and Societies reported as dissolved, or as wound up, or as having had registration cancelled, in April, was as follows :- Under the Trade Union Acts, 9; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 10; under the Friendly Societies Act, 23; under the Building Societies Acts, 7; n all 49.

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 DLIVER & BOYD, Edinburgh or E. PONSONBY, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin,—Price 1d.—May, 1906.