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## EMPLOYMENT CHART.

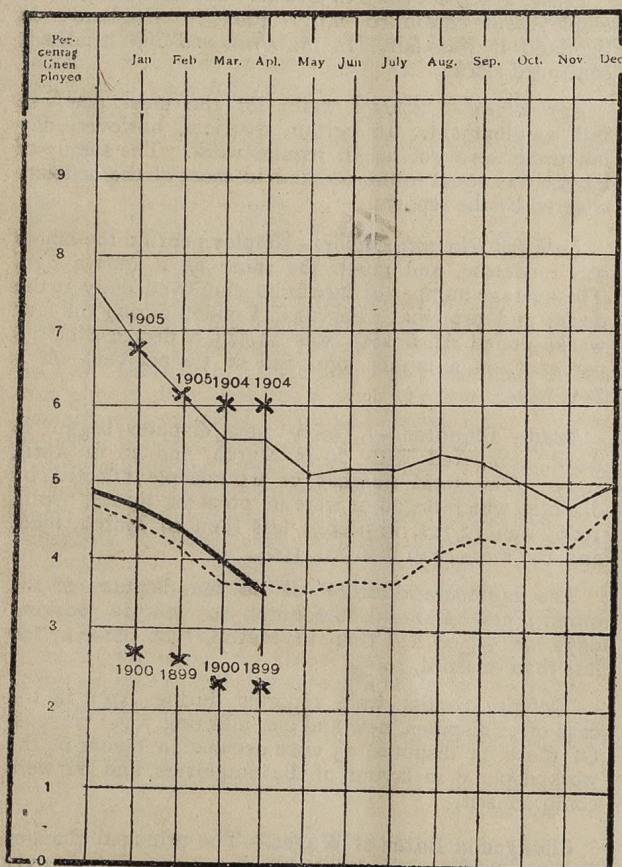


CHART SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

Thick Curve=1906. Thin Curve=1905.  
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 5.1 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 Fife, compared with a year ago. Returns from firms employing 42,746 workpeople during the last full week in April showed a decrease of 1.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the last full week in March, and an increase of 3.4 per cent. compared 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 a month 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 year 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 0.1 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

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 3.9 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.

**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 than a year ago. Returns from firms employing over 9,000 workpeople in the last week of April showed a decrease of 0.1 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, 1905. The total number of workpeople affected by 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 403,200, and the net effect of the changes was an increase of about £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 £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 disputes causing stoppage of work.

### 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 by 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.	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 ... ..	£ 4,000
Brussels ... ..	750
Copenhagen ... ..	2,350
Paris ... ..	57,000
Berlin ... ..	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 £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 4½d. (Additional information, kindly furnished by the Board of Education, has been used.)

† In New York the provision of free meals is confined to the industrial schools maintained by the Children's Aid Society.

‡ This is the sum expended annually by the "Educatore" 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 seaside in the summer, and the maintaining of homes to which the children can go out of school hours.

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 £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 1d. to 1½d. 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 1½d. per child.

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 £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 one-third of the cost by voluntary contributions, while 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.

### LABOUR DISPUTES IN GERMANY.\*

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 ½d.) 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 through the Foreign Office, and on newspaper reports.

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 9th 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 made to at a joint meeting of the Federation and the Amalgamated Northern Counties Association of Wappers, 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 wappers, 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.

##### Cotton Weaving.

At a meeting of the Joint Committee of the North and North-East Lancashire Cotton Spinners and Manufacturers' Association and the Northern Counties Amalgamated Associations of Weavers, on February 3rd, 1905, the operatives put forward a demand that wages, which were then 7½ per cent. below the Uniform List, should be raised to full list prices. Subsequently it was agreed that an advance of 5 per cent. should be given from the second Saturday in July, 1905, the question of the other 2½ 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 2½ 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 consideration 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:—

Year.	Total Production. Metric Tons.	Total Shifts Worked.	Average Production per Shift. Metric Tons.
Coal Mines.			
1901	11,738,840	11,739,771	1·000
1903	11,498,111	11,054,891	1·039
1904	11,868,245	11,137,620	1·066
Lignite Mines.			
1901	22,473,510	10,797,016	2·081
1903	22,157,521	9,937,265	2·230
1904	21,987,651	9,615,354	2·287

\* See GAZETTE, April, 1905, page 99.

† Based on an article in *Soziale Rundschau*, February, 1906, the Journal of the Austrian Labour Department.

‡ Mining establishments in Austria are under the control of the Ministry of Agriculture.

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 F. Montgomery, D.L. (a member of the Agricultural Board).

It is estimated that there are about 2,500,000 independent 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 3½ to 3¾ 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 4½ 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 administrators (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 £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. 2 (Revised 1906).

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.

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, 81·5 per cent. of the agricultural societies were established with unlimited liability, no less than 93·2 per 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 £1,037,469, and the collective turnover to £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 1904 at £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.

#### VAGRANCY IN SCOTLAND.

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 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 June, 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) and 1904 (7,948) and lowest in 1899 (6,654).

Of the total enumerated in June, 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 1 per cent. foreign.

\* Cd. 2890. Price 1s. 9d.





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.

#### 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 £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 first-class coachsmiths, coach-trimmers, harness-makers, and stitchers, but otherwise the local supply of labour continues 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 £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.

### 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. 129 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom and foreign countries. (See also p. 104 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, it 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 strike 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.

#### 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).

	Membership.			Percentage Unemployed		
	Mar. 1906.	Feb. 1906.	Mar. 1905.	Mar. 1906.	Feb. 1906.	Mar. 1905.
All Unions ...	13,001	12,851	12,345	4.8	5.8	5.3
Metal Workers & Moulders ...	5,587	5,278	5,843	1.8	1.6	2.5
Printers ...	1,150	1,146	1,077	3.7	6.2	4.5
Painters, Masons, & Bricklayers (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	2.0	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	16.7	40.5
Woodpulp Workers and Paper Makers ...	728	580	257	0.1	—	0.8

#### ITALY.

*Labour Disputes in March.*—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 Department.  
‡ Bollettino dell' Ufficio del Lavoro (Journal of the Italian Labour Department).

*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 trades. The resumption of work in the building 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 of Unions.	Number of Members to whom Returns as to Unemployment relate.			Percentage of such Membership Unemployed on		
	Mar. 31, 1906.	Dec. 31, 1905.	Mar. 31, 1905.	Mar. 31, 1906.	Dec. 31, 1905.	Mar. 31, 1905.
Metal Workers (Stuttgart) ...	285,985	260,305	205,507	1.0	1.4	1.4
Woodworkers (Stuttgart) ...	137,775	131,257	108,591	1.7	2.6	1.6
Miners (Bochum) ...	103,235	98,190	57,513	0.0	0.0	0.6
Commercial and Transport Employees (Berlin)	55,422	51,061	42,654	0.5	1.2	1.0
Engineers & Metal Workers (Berlin)	50,831	49,773	46,223	0.5	0.6	0.7
Printers (Berlin) ...	42,968	41,929	39,074	1.8	4.1	1.7

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 unemployment 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 newspaper reports.  
† Reichs-Arbeitsblatt (Journal of the German Labour Department).









Imports and Exports.

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

Table with columns for Description, Month ended April 30th, 1906, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with April, 1905, and 1904. Includes sections for Sheep and Lambs' Wool, Piece Goods, and Yarn.

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 Fifehire 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 Fifehire as compared with a year ago amounted to 11.8 per cent.

Table with columns for Departments, Workpeople covered by Returns, Earnings, and Districts. Includes sections for Departments, Districts, and United Kingdom.

\* Including 7 returns from England.

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:-

Table with columns for Description, Month ended April 30th, 1906, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with April, 1905, and 1904. Includes sections for Imports and Exports.

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 particulars 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 0.6 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.:-

Table with columns for Departments, Workpeople covered by Returns, and Earnings. Includes sections for Departments and Total.

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:-

Table with columns for Description, Month ended April 30th, 1906, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with April, 1905, and 1904. Includes sections for Imports and Exports.

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.

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.

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.

Table with columns for Districts, Number employed by firms making Returns in last week of April, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a month ago, and a year ago. Includes section for Total.

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.

Table with columns for Spindles and Looms, Number of Spindles and Looms working in last week of April, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a month ago, and a year ago. Includes sections for Throwing Spindles, Spinning Spindles, and Looms.

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 twistors 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:-

Table with columns for Description, Month ended April 30th, 1906, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with April, 1905, and 1904. Includes sections for Imports and Exports.

\* Yarn, 49,277 lbs. + Yarn, 259,423 lbs.

LACE TRADE.

(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 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.

Table with columns for Districts, Workpeople, and Earnings. Includes sections for Branches and Districts.

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 £12,893 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 0.2 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.

Table with columns for District, Workpeople, and Earnings. Includes sections for Leicester, Hinckley and Loughborough, Nottingham and Derbyshire, Scotland, and Other Parts of United Kingdom.







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.

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.

Table with 4 columns: Amount, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with 1905. Rows include English Lines, Scottish Lines, Irish Lines, and a Total row.

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.

NEGLECT OF PERSON TO WHOM 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...

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 fellow workman placed a crowbar under the rail, causing it to fall and seriously injure the first-mentioned workman.

(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 inspector may direct.

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.

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

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...

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...

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...

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...

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...

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 litigation 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 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...

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN APRIL.

(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 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.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

THE total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act during April was 52, consisting of 44 cases of lead poisoning, 1 of mercurial poisoning, and 7 of anthrax.

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.

(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.

Table with columns for Cases and Deaths, subdivided by Month of April 1906 and 1905.

Large table showing Diseases and Industry, Lead Poisoning, Mercurial Poisoning, Phosphorus Poisoning, Arsenic Poisoning, Anthrax, Grand Total. Columns include Month of April 1906 and 1905, and four-month totals.

\* Of the 8 persons affected in the china and earthenware industry in April, 1906, 3 were females.
† 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.

Table showing Trades, Number of Workpeople killed during April, March, April, 1905, Month ago, and Year ago. Includes Railway Service, Mines, Quarries, Factories, Workshops, and Seamen.

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.



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 district.

Table with columns: Selected Urban Districts, Paupers on one day in second week of April, 1906 (In-door, Out-door, TOTAL), Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with (A month ago, A year ago). Rows include ENGLAND & WALES, SCOTLAND, and IRELAND.

\* Exclusive of Vagrants; of Patients in the Fever and Small Pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards; and of Lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses. † Excluding Casuals, but including persons maintained in Institutions for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, &c., who are reclassified as not able-bodied.

LABOUR BUREAUX IN APRIL.

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.

(I.) Work done in April, 1906.

Table with columns: Name of Labour Bureau, Applications by Workpeople during (Apr. 1906, Apr. 1905), Situations offered by Employers during (Apr. 1906, Apr. 1905), Workpeople found Work during (Apr. 1906, Apr. 1905). Rows include London, Provincial, and Total of 15 Bureaux.

\* In addition, 10 men were found work by Unemployed Committee.

(II.) Employment found for Workpeople during April, 1906.

Table with columns: Capacity in which employed, No. permanently engaged, No. temporarily engaged, Total. Rows include Engaged by Private Employers (Men, Lads and Boys, Women and Girls), Engaged by Local Authorities, and Engaged by Salvation Army.

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

Table with columns: Name of Bureau, Men (Building Trades, Engineering Trades, General Labourers, Porters, Messengers, Carmen &c., Other Occupations), Lads and Boys, Women and Girls. Rows include London, Provincial, and Total.

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.

Table with columns: Applications by Workpeople during (Apr. 1906, Apr. 1905), Situations offered by Employers during (Apr. 1906, Apr. 1905), Number of Workpeople engaged by Employers (Permanent, Temporary). Rows include Summary by Bureaux and Summary by Occupations.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Table with columns: Month ended 30th April, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1906, as compared with 1905, 1904. Rows include Summary for April (Imports, Exports) and Summary for British Produce.

The re-exports of foreign and colonial merchandise amounted to £6,754,370 in April, 1904; £6,303,877 in April, 1905; and £7,332,086 in April, 1906.

\* 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 and skins, &c. ‡ Yarns and textile fabrics, manufactures of metal and leather, chemicals, &c. § 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. †† 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 employed, and accidents at mines and quarries in the British Colonies and in Foreign Countries. [Cd. 2911: pp. 214: price 1s. 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 4d.] Twenty-third Report to the Board of Trade 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 explosions was smaller than for any year since the Act of 1882 came into operation. [Cd. 2676: pp. 17: price 2d.] 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 2d.] 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 4d.] 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 4d.] 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-I: 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. 32: price 3d.] 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 5d.] 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 4d.] 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 1s. 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.

Canada. Report of the Department of Labour for the year ended June 30th, 1905. Proceedings under the Conciliation Act, 1900, and the Railway Labour Dispute Act, 1903; strikes and lock-outs during 1904-5, &c. [Ottawa: S. E. Dawson, King's Printer: pp. 136: price 5d.] The Canadian Labour Gazette, April, 1906. Special articles:—"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 in 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, Government 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, 1897, 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. 19.]

*Report by the Superintendent of Government 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 arbitration 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.]

##### France.

*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, Decrees, 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 Agrarian 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. [Christiania: H. Aschehoug: 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 6½d.]

##### 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. 2682-69: pp. 88: price 4½d.]

No. 3550. *Trade of Trieste for the year 1905.* Cost of living, emigration, notes on industries, &c. [Cd. 2682-75: pp. 28: price 2d.]

No. 3551. *Trade of the States of Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and Kentucky for the year 1905.* Prices of grain and flour, immigration, &c. [Cd. 2682-76: pp. 38: price 2½d.]

Annual Series. No. 3555. *Trade of Norway.* Notes upon new industries, emigration, &c. [Cd. 2682-80: pp. 31: price 2d.]

No. 3557. *Trade of the Consular 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.)

##### (1) 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.

**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. mainly for Production: 1, viz., Glyncorwg Builders Soc., Ltd., 2, Bagster Terrace, Glyncorwg, 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. Assoc., Ltd., Kirkton Mills, Durris. Ireland.—1, viz., Co-op. Agric. Soc.: Forth 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, Wolverhampton; 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' 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.—1, 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; in all 49.

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