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STATE OF EMPLOYMENT IN JULY.

I.—GENERAL SUMMARY.

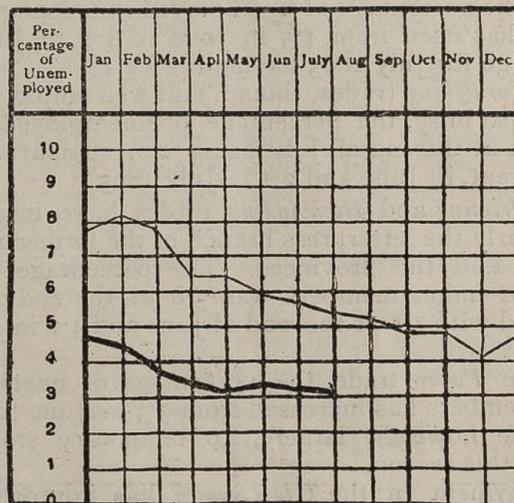
Most of the principal industries continue active, and the state of employment on the whole shows some slight improvement compared with last month.

In the 109 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 425,841, making returns, 13,071 (or 3·1 per cent.) are reported as unemployed at the end of July, compared with 3·2 per cent. in June, and with 5·3 per cent. in the 86 unions, with a membership of 391,093, from which returns were received for July 1895.

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

Chart showing the percentage of unemployed members of the trade unions making returns at the close of each month of 1895, and of each completed month of 1896.

[The thick line applies to 1896, the thin line to 1895.]



The proportions of unemployed in the 109 unions making returns may be classified as follows:—

	Unions.	Members.
Under 3 per cent.	64	306,442
3 and under 5 per cent.	16	33,347
5 and under 7 per cent.	13	33,270
7 and under 10 per cent.	9	48,423
10 per cent. and upwards	7	4,359

Employment in Various Industries.—Coal Mining.—

Employment in this industry was better than a year ago, the average number of days worked during July at 1,227 pits, employing 362,643 workpeople, being 4·83 days per week, compared with 4·53 days in July 1895. The proportion of unemployed miners in trade unions in Northumberland and Durham fell to 1·4 per cent. of the membership at the end of July, compared with 1·7 per cent. in June and 3·0 per cent. in July 1895.

Iron Mining.—Iron miners continue to be well employed. Returns from 129 iron mines and open works, employing 16,491 workpeople, show that the average number of days worked by the mines during July was 5·71 days per week, compared with 5·61 days in July 1895. The number of workpeople employed at these mines is about 4 per cent. more than a year ago.

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—GENERAL SUMMARY.

In the *Pig Iron* industry employment is about the same as in the previous month, but considerably better than a year ago. The ironmasters making returns had 348 furnaces in blast at the end of July, the same number as at the end of June, compared with 303 in July 1895. The number of workpeople employed at the 348 furnaces was 22,141, being 43 more than in June and 2,159 more than a year ago.

Employment at *Steel Works* shows no change compared with the previous month, and continues much better than a year ago. The number employed at the end of the month at the 121 works included in the returns received was 34,203, compared with 34,300 in the previous month and 29,285 in July 1895.

At the 86 *Puddling Furnaces and Rolling Mills* making returns employment remains unchanged as compared with June, but is rather better than in July 1895. The numbers employed were 17,382 in July, 17,393 in June, and 17,050 in July 1895.

The improvement in employment in the *Tinplate Trade* has been maintained during July. Of the 88 works covered by the returns, 25 are wholly idle, as compared with 26 in June. The total number of mills in operation at the end of the month was 308, compared with 307 in June.

The *Engineering* and kindred trades continue well employed, the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of July being 2.1, compared with 2.0 for June and 5.6 in July 1895.

Employment in the *Shipbuilding* trades has slightly improved, the percentage of unemployed union members having fallen from 7.8 in June to 7.5 in July, compared with 12.0 per cent. in July 1895.

Generally speaking the *Building* trades continue busy, though the percentage of unemployed in unions making returns has risen from 1.5 in June to 1.8 in July, the percentage for July 1895 having been 2.4.

The *Furnishing* trades, though still well employed, are scarcely so busy, the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of July being 2.0, compared with 1.4 per cent. in June and 2.1 in July 1895.

The *Printing and Bookbinding* trades have improved, particularly the letterpress branch of the former in both London and the provinces. The percentage of unemployed union members was 3.8 at the end of July, compared with 4.8 at the end of June and 4.1 in July of last year.

In the *Paper* trade the percentage of unemployed union members has increased from 3.3 in June to 5.1 in July, due however, largely, to temporary stoppages usual at this season.

Employment in the *Glass* trade has improved, the percentage of union members having fallen from 14.4 in June to 11.8 in July.

The *Leather* trades are not so well employed, the percentage of union members unemployed being 4.9, compared with 3.2 at the end of June and 3.1 in July 1895.

Employment in the wholesale *Boot and Shoe* trade has been very slack. In the bespoke trade it has been fairly good.

In the ready-made *Clothing* trade employment improved at the end of the month, but the bespoke branch showed some falling off.

Employment has continued fairly good with *Cotton Spinners and Weavers*.

Employment in the *Woollen* trade is not quite so good. A further decline is reported in the *Worsted* trade.

In most branches of the *Hosiery* trade employment continues good.

As regards the employment of *women* in the *Textile* trades, information respecting 465 mills, employing about 81,000 women and girls, shows that 88 per cent. were in mills giving full employment during the month, compared with 89 per cent. among those for whom returns were received for June; 11 per cent. in mills giving only partial employment or running short time,

while mills employing 1 per cent. were closed during the whole or part of the month.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—In London an average daily number of 14,045 labourers have been employed at the docks and principal wharves in July, or 977 more than in June.

Agricultural employment was generally regular in July. In a few counties, where corn harvest did not immediately follow hay harvest, there was some slight irregularity owing to the light turnip crop.

Trade Disputes.—The number of fresh disputes occurring in July was 85, involving about 20,000 workpeople, as compared with 95 disputes, involving about 11,800 persons, in June and 49, involving about 16,000 persons, in July 1895. Twenty disputes took place in the engineering and shipbuilding trades, 15 in the mining and quarrying industry, 14 in the building trades, 12 in the textile trades, 10 in the various metal trades, 2 in the clothing trades, 1 in connection with dock, &c., labour, and 11 in the miscellaneous group of industries. Of the 64 old and new disputes, involving about 18,000 workpeople, of which the settlement has been reported, 34, involving about 10,770 persons, terminated in favour of the workpeople, 19, involving about 4,200 persons, in favour of the employers, and 6, involving 545 persons, in a compromise, the results of the remaining 4 disputes, involving 2,320 persons, being at present classed as indefinite.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes in rates of wages reported during July affected 18,000 workpeople, about 17,500 receiving increases and 500 sustaining decreases. The estimated effect of all the changes was an average advance of 1s. 3d. per week in the wages of the total number affected. About 1,400 building trade operatives, 1,250 iron and steel workers, and 11,500 workpeople engaged in the engineering and shipbuilding industries obtained advances. The decreases were unimportant. Changes affecting about 2,400 workpeople were preceded or accompanied by strikes; one change, involving 1,100 workmen, was determined by a sliding scale; the remainder, affecting 14,500 workpeople, being arranged after negotiation between the parties, or otherwise.

Pauperism.—In 35 selected urban districts 315,490 persons were relieved on one day in the second week of July. These figures correspond to a rate of 204 per 10,000, as against rates of 205 in June and 209 in July 1895.

Emigration.—The number of British and Irish passengers who left the United Kingdom during July for places out of Europe was 13,476, as compared with 14,016 in July 1895.

II.—REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

(a) COAL MINING IN JULY.

(NOTE.—The following tables only profess to state the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal was hewn and wound at the collieries included in the returns received. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons employed at these collieries worked the whole number of days.)

Summary.—Employment in this industry was much better during July than a year ago, the increase in the time worked amounting to nearly one-third of a day per week. Pits at which the bulk of the coal raised was used for steam, manufacturing or coking purposes worked on an average over five days per week, and gas coal pits just under five. In house coal pits, however, the average was only 4.3 days.

Returns received respecting 1,227 pits, at which 362,643 workpeople were employed, show that the average number of days worked during the four weeks ended 25th July was 4.83 per week as compared with 4.53 in July 1895. In the four weeks ended 20th June of this year the average was 4.58 per week, but in this case it was somewhat reduced by the Whitsuntide holidays. The following table gives the average number of days

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

worked in each division of the United Kingdom during the above periods:—

District.	No. employed in July 1896 at the Collieries included in the Table.	Days worked per week in four weeks ending		
		25th July 1896	27th July 1895	20th June 1896*
England and Wales	332,208	4.84	4.50	4.53
Scotland	29,883	4.80	4.73	5.20
Ireland	552	4.10	4.93	3.50
United Kingdom	362,643	4.83	4.53	4.58

A classification of the workpeople, as in the table below, according to the number of days worked by the pits, brings out the fact that 53 per cent. of the workpeople were at pits which worked 5 or more days per week in July, as compared with only 40 per cent. a year ago, and 47 per cent. in June.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE WORKPEOPLE ACCORDING TO THE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED IN FOUR WEEKS BY THE COLLIERIES.

Number of days on which Coal was hewn and wound in four weeks.	July 1896.		Corresponding percentages in—	
	No. of Workpeople employed.	Percentage proportion to total.	July 1895.	June 1896.
24 days (full time)	10,906	5.5	2.7	1.7
23 and under 24 days	172,636	47.6	37.3	45.4
16 " " 20 " "	114,561	31.6	32.6	26.7
12 " " 16 " "	35,661	9.8	18.5	16.9
8 " " 12 " "	17,103	4.7	6.7	7.1
Under 8 days	2,776	.8	2.2	2.2
Total	362,643	100.0	100.0	100.0

The number of workpeople now employed at the pits covered by the returns exceeds the number in July 1895 by 2,927, England and Wales showing an increase of 5,204, while in Scotland and Ireland there are decreases of 2,247 and 30 respectively.

Comparison by Districts.—The greatest improvement in the time worked, as compared with a year ago, was in the Salop, Worcester, and Warwick district, where it amounts to three-fourths of a day per week. In North Wales, Lancashire and Cheshire, and Staffordshire, the improvement was over half a day per week. In the Lothians, Derbyshire, and Ireland, employment was not so good as in July 1895. The following table gives the average number of days worked in each district, arranged so as to show the improvement or falling off compared with July 1895:—

COMPARISON OF THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED BY COLLIERIES IN JULY 1896 AND 1895, AND IN JUNE 1896.

District.	No. employed in July 1896 at the Collieries included in the Table.	Days worked per Week in—		
		July 1896.	July 1895.	June 1896.
Salop, Worcester and Warwick	7,230	4.87	4.13	4.00
North Wales	6,411	4.61	3.96	4.23
Lancashire and Cheshire	45,086	4.86	4.22	4.56
Staffordshire	22,200	4.34	3.79	3.71
Yorkshire	40,652	4.75	4.38	4.14
Northumberland	31,096	5.07	4.73	5.03
Notts and Leicester	9,252	3.82	3.51	3.30
Fife	7,517	4.73	4.46	5.11
West Scotland	19,370	4.79§	4.66	5.21
Gloucester and Somerset	7,500	3.73	3.64	5.12
Cumberland	5,281	5.56	5.30	4.77
South Wales and Monmouth	58,588	5.21	5.18	5.23
Durham	75,366	5.10	5.09	5.02
Total and averages for group	335,549	4.89	4.53	4.65
(a) Districts in which July 1896 exceeds July 1895.				
The Lothians	2,996	5.11	5.29	5.45
Derbyshire	23,546	4.02	4.26	3.54
Ireland	552	4.10	4.93	3.50
Total and averages for group	27,094	4.14	4.43	3.77
Grand Total and Averages	362,643	4.83	4.53	4.58
(b) Districts in which July 1896 is less than July 1895.				

* Whitsuntide included in this period.

† Allowance is made in all the calculations for short days.

‡ The districts are arranged according to the differences in the number of days worked in July 1896 and July 1895.

§ The average in West Scotland was reduced by the Glasgow Fair holidays.

In five districts an average of over 5 days per week was worked during July, viz.:—Cumberland (5.36 days), South Wales and Monmouth (5.21 days), the Lothians (5.11 days), Durham (5.10 days), and Northumberland (5.07 days). In all other districts between 4 and 5 days per week were worked, except in Notts and Leicester, where the average was 3.82 days, and in Gloucester and Somerset 3.73 days. The difference in the number of days worked within the same county at pits raising different classes of coal is strikingly shown in the returns received from Yorkshire and Derbyshire. House coal pits in those counties worked only 3.92 and 3.36 days per week, respectively, in July, while steam coal pits worked 5.13 and 4.70 days.

The proportion of **Unemployed** miners in trade unions in Northumberland and Durham has fallen from 1.7 per cent. at the end of June to 1.4 per cent. at the end of July. In July 1895 the percentage was 3.0.

Exports of Coal.—The quantity of coal, coke, cinders and patent fuel exported during July was 3,131,019 tons, compared with 3,264,315 tons in June, and 3,362,398 tons in July 1895.

(b) IRON MINING INDUSTRY IN JULY.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry continues very good, over five days per week being worked in all districts. The number of workpeople employed is also more than it was a year ago.

For the four weeks ended 25th July the average number of days worked at the 129 iron mines and open works from which returns have been received was 5.71 days per week compared with 5.61 in July, 1895. In the two principal districts (Cumberland and Lancashire and Cleveland) and in Ireland practically full time was worked. The total number employed at the 129 mines was 16,491, or 618 more than in July of last year. The proportion of these workpeople employed at mines which worked 22 or more days in the four weeks was 85.8 per cent., compared with 74.6 per cent. in June and 75.7 per cent. in July 1895.

The tables below summarise the returns received:—

(1) Days worked per week in each district.

District.	No. of mines from which returns were received.	Total No. of workpeople employed at 25th July.	Average number of days worked per week by the mines in 4 weeks ended		
			25th July 1896.	27th July 1895.	20th June 1896.*
Cumberland & Lancs.	47	6,221	5.96	5.86	5.65
Cleveland	19	6,333	5.77	5.61	5.72
Lincolnshire and Leicestershire	13	681	5.36	5.79	5.39
Northamptonshire	9	363	5.27	6.00	5.49
Staffordshire and Shropshire	17	1,524	5.11	4.77	4.62
Other places in England	11	243	5.26	5.49	5.59
Scotland	6	915	5.11	5.17	5.73
Ireland	7	211	5.91	5.65	5.88
Total	129	16,491	5.71	5.61	5.67

(2) Percentage proportion of workpeople, included in the returns, who were employed at mines working the undermentioned number of days in four weeks.

Number of days worked by mines.	Percentage		
	July 1896.	July 1895.	June 1896.
24 days (full time)	43.5	30.8	22.0
22 and under 24 days	42.3	44.9	52.6
20 " " 22 " "	5.3	16.5	13.7
Under 20 days	8.9	7.8	9.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

(c) PIG IRON INDUSTRY IN JULY.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry remains about the same as in the previous month, but is still considerably better than a year ago.

According to returns furnished by ironmasters owning 91 per cent. of the furnaces in blast in the United

* Whitsuntide included in this period.

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—SPECIAL INDUSTRIES (continued).

Kingdom, they had 348 furnaces in blast at the end of the month, an increase of 45 compared with July, 1895. Of this increase, 40 furnaces were in England and Wales and 5 in Scotland. The number of workpeople employed at the 348 furnaces was 22,141, being 2,129 more in England and Wales and 30 more in Scotland than a year ago.

As compared with June the number of furnaces in blast remains unchanged, 3 having been relit, while 3 have been blown out or damped down. The number of workpeople employed, however, is 43 in excess of the number employed in June, a decrease of 34 in Scotland being more than counterbalanced by an increase of 77 in England and Wales.

The subjoined table gives—
Comparison of the number of furnaces in blast at end of July 1896 with the number in blast at end of July 1895, and at end of June 1896, so far as included in the returns made to the Department by 107 ironmasters owning 91 per cent. of all the furnaces in blast in the United Kingdom:—

Districts.	Present time compared with a year ago.			Present time compared with a month ago.		
	July 1896.	July 1895.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in July 1896.	July 1896.	June 1896.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in July 1896.
ENGLAND & WALES—						
Cleveland	96	84	+12	96	96	...
Cumberland & Lancs.	42	35	+7	42	41	+1
S. and S.W. Yorks...	16	8	+8	16	16	...
Lincolnshire ...	14	14	...	14	15	-1
Midlands	88	77	+11	88	86	+2
Glamorgan and Mon.	19	17	+2	19	19	...
Other districts ...	9	9	...	9	10	-1
Total England and Wales...	284	241	+40	284	283	+1
SCOTLAND	64	59	+5	64	65	-1
Total furnaces included in returns ...	348	303	+45	348	348	...

The following particulars respecting the pig iron industry of Cleveland are taken from the monthly circular issued by the Cleveland Ironmasters' Association:—

Production.—The make of pig iron in July amounted to 266,829 tons, or 7,610 tons more than in June, and 29,497 tons more than in July 1895.

Stocks.—On July 31st these amounted to 348,711 tons, or 3,186 tons more than at the end of June, and 51,899 tons more than at the end of July, 1895.

Shipments.—The amount of pig iron shipped coastwise and foreign from Middlesbrough and Skinningrove during July was 94,627 tons, or 12,091 tons less than in June, and 11,682 tons less than in July 1895.

The shipments of pig iron to foreign countries and British possessions from all ports of the United Kingdom amounted to 85,090 tons in July 1896; 92,491 tons in July 1895; and 86,741 tons in July 1894.

(d) EMPLOYMENT AT STEEL AND TINPLATE WORKS, PUDDLING FURNACES, AND ROLLING MILLS IN JULY.

A SUMMARY of the returns received from 230 employers in the above industries shows that employment, on the whole, was not quite so good as in June, but much better than in July 1895. The increase in the number of workpeople employed, as compared with a year ago, amounts to 4.2 per cent., and is most marked at steelworks, where the increase is 16.8 per cent. At tinplate works the number returned as employed has fallen off by 20.2 per cent. The total number employed at the works covered by the returns was 74,856 at the end of July, 75,360 at the end of June, and 71,839 at the end of July 1895.

Of these 74,856 workpeople, 34,203 were employed at 121 **Steelworks**, being 97 less than in the previous month, but 4,918 more than a year ago. In each district the number employed is equal to or more than last year.

At 86 **Iron Puddling Furnaces and Rolling Mills** the number employed at the end of July was 17,382, com-

pared with 17,393 in June, and 17,050 in July 1895. The improvement on last year was principally in the South Lancashire and Cheshire district and Scotland. Table showing the number of persons employed* in the under-mentioned occupations at the end of July 1896 and 1895 and June 1896 respectively, by 230 employers making returns:—

Occupation	Number Employed.		
	July, 1896.	July, 1895.	June, 1896.
Steel Making, Casting, Melting, Rolling and Forging.			
England and Wales	29,026	24,573	29,033
Scotland	5,177	4,712	5,267
Total	34,203	29,285	34,300
Iron Puddling and Rolling.			
England and Wales	13,565	13,367	13,586
Scotland	3,817	3,683	3,807
Total	17,382	17,050	17,393
Tinplate Manufacture.			
England and Wales	10,887	13,645	11,115
Other Workpeople who cannot be separately classified as above.*			
England and Wales	11,373	10,952	11,543
Scotland	1,011	907	1,009
Total	12,384	11,859	12,552
Grand Totals	74,856	71,839	75,360

Returns relating to 88 **Tinplate Works** in South Wales, Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire show that, at the end of July, 48 of these works were giving full employment and 15 partial employment, the remaining 25 being idle compared with 26 at the end of June. The number of mills in operation at these works was 308, or one more than at the end of June. The following table summarises the returns:—

Table showing number of tinplate works and mills in South Wales, Monmouth and Gloucestershire fully or partially employed, or wholly idle, at the end of July, so far as stated in the returns received by the Department.

	No. of Works.	No. of Mills.		
		Working.	Not Working.	Total.
Works giving full employment ...	48	245	—	245
Works giving partial employment ...	15	63	31	94
Works idle	25	—	143	143
Total for July	88	308	174	482
Corresponding Total for June ...	88†	307†	174†	481†

The owners of 57 tinplate works state that they had 10,887 persons employed at the end of the month, a decrease of 2,758 (or 20.2 per cent.) compared with the number employed a year ago.

The exports of tinplates and sheets from the United Kingdom during July amounted to 26,491 tons, as against 25,148 tons in June and 29,768 tons in July 1895. Of these quantities the United States took in July 13,930 tons, in June 11,753 tons, and in July 1895, 16,445 tons.

(e) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN JULY.

ENGLAND.

THE Agricultural Correspondent to the Department on the basis of 200 returns from various parts of the country reports as follows:—Generally speaking, employment was regular during the month of July. Corn harvest commenced unusually early, and in many counties followed almost immediately after hay harvest. In a few districts where this was not the case there was some slight irregularity of work owing to the light root and hay crops in consequence of the drought. Several reports from the Eastern Counties state that a few men were unable to obtain harvest work

* The table does not include workpeople engaged in machining or other engineering or constructive processes.
† Amended figures.

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—SPECIAL INDUSTRIES (continued).

owing to the contraction in the area of cereals, and also to the increased use of machines. These men generally found employment on ordinary weekly wages or by hoeing at piecework. In certain districts in the Northern and Midland Counties extra labour has been difficult to obtain.

Northern Counties.—Reports state that employment is generally regular in the counties of *Northumberland* and *Westmorland*, also in *Cumberland*, in the Unions of Bootle, Carlisle, Cockermouth, Longtown, Penrith, and Whitehaven; in *Lancashire* in the Unions of Fylde, Garstang, Lancaster, and Ulverston; and in *Durham* in the Unions of Chester-le-Street and Darlington. In the latter union extra labour has been difficult to obtain for hay harvest and turnip hoeing, and wages for extra hands have been higher than in 1895. In *Yorkshire* employment is said to be regular in the Unions of Easingwold, Malton, Knaresborough, Ouseburn, Ripon, and Thirsk.

Midland Counties.—In *Cheshire* in the Unions of Nantwich and Tarvin work is said to be plentiful. In the latter union extra labour is difficult to obtain. A satisfactory report comes from the Chesterfield Union of *Derbyshire*. Reports from *Staffordshire* from the Lichfield, Uttoxeter, and Burton-on-Trent Unions state that a few men are in irregular work owing to the partial failure of the turnip crop, and the light hay crop; but a favourable report comes from the Tamworth Union. In *Nottinghamshire* work was generally regular in the Unions of Mansfield, Newark, Southwell, and Worksop; but in the Bingham Union there was some slight irregularity. A favourable report comes from *Shropshire* from the Union of Tenbury, but in the Market Drayton Union there were a few men in irregular work. Employment is said to be generally regular in *Leicestershire* in the Unions of Billiesdon, Blaby, Melton Mowbray, and Lutterworth; in *Worcestershire* in the Unions of Evesham and Shipston-on-Stour; and in *Oxfordshire* in Banbury, Thame and Witney. In the Oakham Union of *Rutland* there was some slight irregularity of work, owing to a light hay and turnip crop. In *Northamptonshire* favourable reports come from the Unions of Brackley, Brixworth, Potterspurty, Peterborough, Kettering and Hardingstone; from *Warwickshire* from the Unions of Alcester, Banbury, Coventry, Foleshill, Meriden, and Stratford-on-Avon. In the Atherstone Union a good many odd men were in irregular work owing to the light hay and turnip crops. In *Huntingdonshire* there was no lack of employment in the Unions of Huntingdon, St. Ives, and St. Neots, and in *Bedfordshire* in the Bedford and Leighton Buzzard Unions.

Eastern Counties.—Reports from *Essex* state that work is generally regular in Essex in the Unions of Billericay, Braintree, Chelmsford, Colchester, Dunmow, Halstead, Maldon, Orsett, and Tendring. Favourable reports come from *Suffolk* from the Unions of Blything, Bosmere and Claydon, Cosford, Hartismere, Mildenhall, Mutford and Lothingland, Plomesgate, Risbridge, and Samford. In the Hoxne and Thingoe Unions a few were in irregular work in the early part of the month. In *Norfolk* the state of employment is said to be satisfactory in the Unions of Aylsham, Blofield, Docking, Downham, Erpingham, East and West Flegg, Forehoe, Giltcross, Henstead, Loddon and Clavering, Mitford and Launditch, Swaffham, Smallburgh, Thetford, Walsingham, and Wayland. In certain parishes in the Depwade and St. Faith's Union there was some irregularity of work in the earlier part of the month owing to the drought. In *Cambridgeshire* employment is said to be regular in the Unions of Ely and Whittlesea, but in certain parishes of the Chesterton and North Witchford Unions, particularly in the earlier part of the month, there was some irregularity of work owing to a considerable extent to the dry weather. From *Lincolnshire* favourable reports come from the Unions of Boston, Brigg, Grimsby, Lincoln, and Spilsby. In the Sleaford Union some slight irregularity of employment is reported in one parish, but generally in the Union work was regular.

Home Counties.—Regularity of employment is said to exist in *Berkshire* in the Unions of Wantage and Wallingford; in *Buckinghamshire* in the Unions of Aylesbury, Buckingham, Newport Pagnell, and Winslow; in *Hertfordshire* in the Unions of Buntingford, Hemel Hempstead, Hertford, and Hitchin. Favourable reports also come from *Surrey* from the Unions of Farnham, and Godstone, but some slight irregularity is reported in the Hambledon Union. In *Kent* work is said to be generally regular in the following Unions, namely, Bridge, Hoo, Hollingbourne, Faversham, Milton, and Sevenoaks.

Southern and South-western Counties.—Reports from *Sussex* state that the condition of employment is satisfactory in the Unions of Battle, Chailly, Horsham, and Rye, and work is also said to be regular in *Hampshire*, in the Unions of Hartley Wintney and Kingsclere. Favourable reports come from *Dorsetshire* from the Unions of

Blandford, Bridport, Dorchester, and Wimborne; from *Wiltshire* from the Unions of Devizes, Highworth and Swindon, Pewsey, and Wilton. In certain parishes in the Warminster Union some irregularity of work is reported. Also favourable reports come from *Gloucestershire* from the Unions of Cirencester, Gloucester, and Winchcombe, but a few were in irregular work in the Barton Regis Union. Employment is said to be generally regular in *Herefordshire* in the Unions of Bromyard, and Ledbury; in *Somersetshire* in the Unions of Frome, Langport, Wells, Wellington and Wincanton; in *Devonshire* in the Unions of Barnstaple, Crediton, Torrington, and Tavistock. In *Cornwall* a few men were in irregular work, owing to the light character of the crops in consequence of the drought, in the Bodmin, and Truro Unions.

(f) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN JULY.

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

REPORTS received from certain selected ports at which over 80 per cent. of the total tonnage of vessels engaged in the foreign trade is entered and cleared show that 38,973 men were shipped from these ports during July as the crews of foreign-going vessels. This is almost exactly the same number as in July 1895, viz., 38,978. During the seven months of this year the numbers shipped at the selected ports exceed those in the corresponding period of 1895 by 10,228. At Leith, Middlesbrough and Dublin men for sailing vessels were reported to be scarce and slightly so at Hull. Seamen for steamships were insufficient to meet the demand at Tilbury, and in the last week of the month the supply of firemen was short at Bristol. Elsewhere the supply was sufficient or more than sufficient to meet the demand.

Particulars as to variations in the rates of wages of seamen and firemen, affecting small numbers of men, will be found in the Table of Changes in Rates of Wages on page 255.

Table showing the number* of men, &c., shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom in July 1896 and 1895 respectively, together with the number* shipped in the seven months ended 31st July in each of these years:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Men, &c., shipped in July 1896.			Total in July 1895.	Total number shipped in 7 months ended July.	
	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in July 1896.		1896.	1895.
ENGLAND.						
East Coast.						
Tyne Ports	118	4,114	4,232	4,251	21,700	20,968
Sunderland ... ..	...	986	986	1,019	4,568	4,394
Middlesbrough	27	717	744	1,015	3,789	4,032
Hull	105	1,714	1,819	1,535	8,474	7,264
Grimsby	32	234	266	277	675	889
Bristol Channel.						
Bristol	4	237	241	201	1,584	1,338
Newport, Mon.	92	1,124	1,216	1,492	8,061	7,830
Cardiff	602	5,332	5,934	6,100	38,495	35,822
Swansea	79	770	849	977	4,347	4,205
Other Ports.						
Liverpool	343	9,254	9,597	10,164	67,167	65,840
London	551	6,333	7,384	6,218	41,650	38,077
Southampton ... ..	...	1,226	1,226	1,297	8,509	10,226
SCOTLAND.						
Leith, Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth	46	1,391	1,437	1,573	5,244	5,100
Glasgow	98	2,489	2,587	2,541	18,285	14,186
IRELAND.						
Dublin	29	146	175	48	458	310
Belfast	58	222	280	270	1,258	922
Total July 1896 ...	2,184	36,789	38,973	...	231,631	...
Ditto, July 1895 ...	2,554	36,424	...	38,978	...	221,403

(g) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN JULY.

EMPLOYMENT for both dock and wharf labourers was better in July than in June, but in the case of the wharves the improvement was confined to the south side of the river. As compared with a year ago dock labourers were not so well employed.

The average daily number of labourers employed at all the London docks and at 114 of the principal wharves is estimated at 14,045 for the four weeks ended 25th July, as compared with 13,068 for the four preceding weeks. Of this increase of 977, 872 was at the

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

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—SPECIAL INDUSTRIES (continued).

docks and 105 at the wharves. The estimated daily number at work varied from 15,125 on the 16th to 13,229 on the 22nd.

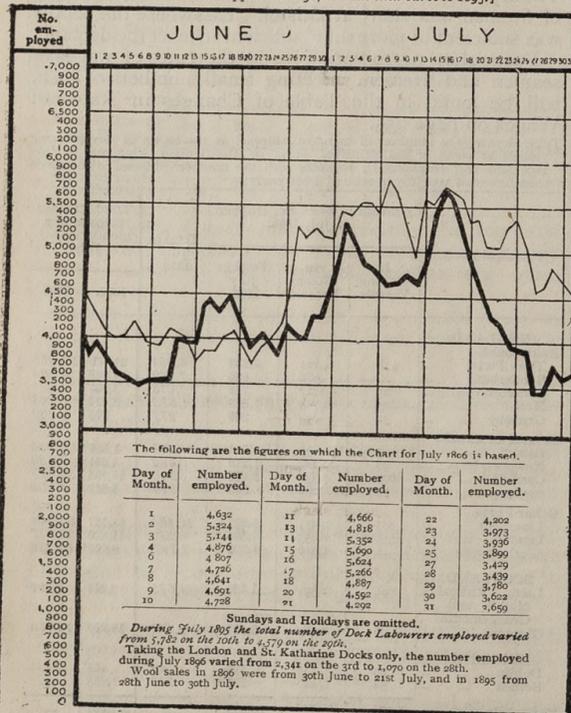
Detailed Figures.—(1) The following table shows the estimated daily average number of dock and wharf labourers employed in each week of the month:—

Period.	Labourers employed in Docks.			Labourers employed at 114 Wharves making Returns.	Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
1st week of July ...	7,441	1,635	9,076	5,062	14,138
2nd " " ...	7,225	1,668	8,893	5,014	13,907
3rd " " ...	7,694	1,363	9,057	5,183	14,240
4th " " ...	6,442	1,829	8,271	5,125	13,396
Average for 4 weeks ending July 25th ...	7,200	1,749	8,949	5,096	14,045
Average for 4 weeks ending June 27th ...	6,296	1,781	8,077	4,991	13,068

(2) The daily fluctuation in the number of dock labourers employed by the London and India Docks Joint Committee during June and July is shown on the chart below. The numbers in July ranged from 5,690 on the 15th to 3,429 on the 27th.

Chart showing the total number of Dock Labourers* employed by the Joint Committee at the London, St. Katharine, East and West India, Victoria and Albert Docks, and the Town Warehouses, for each day during the months of June and July 1896. The corresponding curve for June and July 1895 is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1896, and the thin curve to 1895.]



The average daily number of labourers employed by the dock companies continues less than at the corresponding period last year, as will be seen by the following table:—

Period.	Labourers employed by Dock Companies directly or through Contractors.			
	1896.	1895.	Increase.	Decrease.
1st week of July ...	7,441	8,024	—	583
2nd " " ...	7,225	7,926	—	701
3rd " " ...	7,694	8,234	—	540
4th " " ...	6,442	8,108	—	1,666
Average for 4 weeks ...	7,200	8,073	—	873

* Dock Labourers employed by Shipowners direct, Stevedores, and Coal Porters are not included.

Work in mid-stream was rather dull at the beginning of the month, but improved towards the end. Employment for stevedores and lumpers has been good; and for lightermen, coal porters, winchmen and tankmen moderate. Corn porters have been rather slack, and deal porters very busy. Employment for the fruit porters in Thames-street has been better than in June, the average daily number employed being 328, as compared with 289 in the previous month.

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

ACCORDING to returns from women correspondents, employment for women in the cotton trade during July has been about the same as in June. In the woollen and worsted trade there has been a further decline.

Information has been received with regard to the employment of women and girls in 465 cotton, woollen, worsted and silk mills. In the case of 330 mills the numbers usually employed are known approximately. If the same average number be assumed to be employed in the remaining 135 mills as in those for the same trade for which numbers are known, the information may be summarised as follows:—

State of Employment.	Number of Mills.	Approximate Estimate of Women and Girls employed.		
		Number.	Percentage for July.	Percentage for June.
Full time ...	421	71,690	88	89
Ditto, but partial employment ...	28	6,744	8	6
Short time ...	10	1,951	3	—
Closed for repairs ...	1	—	—	—
" on account of bad trade ...	1	876	1	1
" " disputes ...	4	—	—	—
Total ...	465	81,261	100	100

Cotton Trade.—According to this estimate the number of women and girls usually employed in the cotton mills reported on was 70,888. Of these 91 per cent. were employed in mills working full time (showing no change compared with June); 6 per cent. in mills running full time, but giving only partial employment; 2 per cent. in mills running short time; while mills employing 1 per cent. were closed during the whole or part of the month.

Woollen and Worsted Trade.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the woollen and worsted mills reported on is estimated at 9,248. Of these 68 per cent. were employed in mills working full time (compared with 78 per cent. among those for whom returns were received in June); 27 per cent. in mills running full time, but giving only partial employment; 4 per cent. in mills running short time; while mills employing 1 per cent. were closed during the whole or part of the month.

III.—DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

LONDON.

Employment in various Industries.—In most branches of industry the improvement of the past few months has been well maintained, and the state of employment in London continues good. Returns from 391 branches of 102 unions, with an aggregate membership of 69,291, show that 1,865 (or 2.7 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of July, compared with 2.8 per cent. last month and 4.2 per cent. for July 1895.

The **Engineering, Metal and Shipbuilding** trades are still well employed. Reports from 109 branches of 23 unions, with 21,507 members, show that 479 (or 2.2 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of July, compared with 2.0 per cent. in June and 5.0 per cent. in July 1895.

The **Building** trades continue busy. Reports from 182 branches of 8 unions paying unemployed benefit, and having a membership of 11,231, show that 173 (or 1.5 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of July, compared with 2.2 per cent. in June and 2.3 per cent. in July 1895. The bricklayers describe employment as good;

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—DISTRICT REPORTS.—LONDON.

the carpenters and joiners, plasterers, mill-sawyers and stone-carvers as fair; the painters and plumbers as moderate; and the stonemasons as improving.

The **Furnishing** trades are still exceptionally busy. Reports from 32 branches of 8 unions, with a membership of 5,135, show that only 13 (or 0.3 per cent.) were unemployed, as against 1.2 per cent. last month and 2.2 per cent. in July 1895.

The **Coopers** are still well employed. Two societies, with a membership of 970, report less than 1 per cent. unemployed, as in April, May and June, and also in July 1895.

The **Coachbuilding** trades are still brisk. Reports from 12 branches of 9 unions, with a membership of 1,221, show that 13 (or 1.1 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of July, compared with 1.2 per cent. in June and less than 1 per cent. in July 1895.

The **Printing and Bookbinding** trades have still further improved, particularly the former. Reports from 19 unions, with a membership of 20,465, show that 633 (or 3.2 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.5 per cent. in June and 4.1 per cent. in July of last year.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the wholesale clothing and bespoke trades continued good till the close of the month; the hatters were dull; the capmakers moderate; the fur skin dressers and the furriers slack.

Boot and Shoe Trades.—Employment in the machine branch is still exceptionally slack; in the high-class bespoke branch it is fairly good; with the slipper-makers there is a demand for men.

The **Leather** trades have fallen off. Returns from 5 unions, with a membership of 1,225, show that 49 (or 4.0 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.8 per cent. last month and 2.3 per cent. in July 1895.

Glass and Pottery Trades.—Employment in these trades has somewhat fallen off, though the latter are still busy. Returns from 7 unions, with a membership of 1,571, show that 81 (or 5.2 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.7 per cent. in June and 10.2 per cent. in July of last year.

Workers in Fibre, Hair, &c.—These trades continue to be moderately well employed. Returns from 7 unions, with a membership of 1,035, show that 48 (or 4.6 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.4 per cent. last month and 2.2 per cent. in July 1895.

The **Gold and Silver** trades continue well employed. Returns from 6 unions, with a membership of 1,102, show that less than 1.0 per cent. are unemployed, as in May and June.

The **Tobacco** trades have still further improved. Returns from 3 unions, with a membership of 2,109, show that 158 (or 7.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 7.8 per cent. last month and 10.8 in July 1895.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Employment at the docks and wharves was better in July than in June, but dock labourers were not so well employed as a year ago. In the docks and at 114 of the principal wharves the average daily number employed during the four weeks ended 25th July is estimated at 14,045, an increase of 977 as compared with the average for the four preceding weeks. Work in mid-stream, which was dull at the beginning of the month, improved towards the end. Stevedores and lumpers have been well employed; lightermen, coal porters, winchmen and tankmen moderately, while corn porters have been rather slack. Deal porters have been busy. Employment for fruit porters in Thames Street has improved. For further details see page 229.

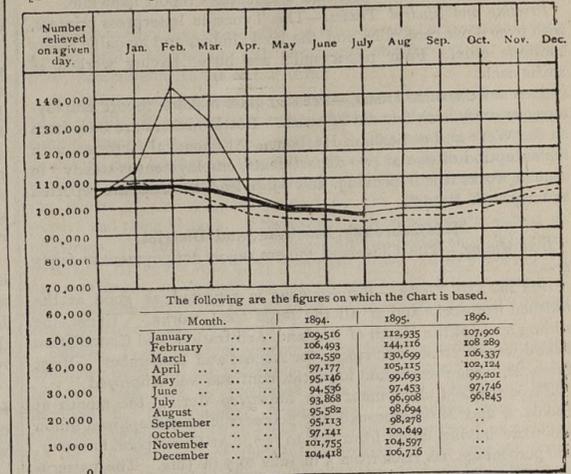
Disputes and Trade Movements.—Five fresh disputes have been reported during the month, the most important being those of about 260 engineers employed at a shipbuilding firm upon a question of demarcation of work (see p. 241), and of about 300 women employed in a mineral water manufactory for an advance of 1s. per week during the hot weather.

Labour Bureaux.—The five London bureaux which furnished returns for both July 1896 and 1895 registered during July of this year 1,476 fresh applications for work, compared with 3,580 in July 1895, a decrease of 2,104. Work was found during the month for 1,237 persons through these bureaux (1,039 being engaged by private employers and 198 by local authorities), as compared with 1,570 (1,406 by private employers and 164 by local authorities) in July 1895.

Pauperism.—The number of persons relieved on the last day of the second week of July was 96,845. This is a decrease of 901 on the number relieved on the corresponding day of June. As compared with July 1895, there was a decrease in the Northern and Central districts, which was almost balanced by an increase in the other districts. The total decrease amounted to 63.

The following chart shows the seasonal variations in the volume of pauperism in London at the middle of each month for the years 1894, 1895 and 1896:—

[The thick curve represents 1896; the thin curve 1895; and the dotted curve 1894.]



The number of vagrants in London on one day in the second week of July was 878, as compared with 1,017 in July 1895.

In West Ham the number of paupers on one day in the second week was 8,443 in July, 8,684 in June, and 8,613 in July 1895.

ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES.

Tyne and Wear District.

Coal Mining.—**Durham.**—Returns from 58 pits employing 38,910 men and boys show an average of 9.9 working days per fortnight. A number of these collieries getting coal for coking purposes have worked full time. Gas and steam coal pits are better employed. Three are laid idle owing to a dispute on the "house rent question." The number of unemployed miners is 1,004, or 1.99 per cent., as against 2.1 per cent. in June. Cokeworkers are fully employed. **Northumberland.**—Steam coal pits have averaged 5.11 days per week; house coal pits 5.06 days. Out of 20,244 members, 64 (or 0.32) are in receipt of stoppage pay. The Conciliation Board held a meeting on July 6th; prices are unaltered, and wages remain unchanged.

Metal Mining.—Iron and lead mining in the Weardale district continues depressed.

Quarrying.—Stone quarries at Blyth are busy. At Gateshead and district employment is good. Two limestone quarries at Stanhope have worked 5 days per week and one 6 days.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—**On the Tyne.**—In most of the locomotive, electrical and marine engineering shops, overtime and double shifts continue in force. In one department of the Elswick factory work is somewhat slack; and the ordnance works, however, remain busy. Boiler shops are busy, night shifts being worked at three firms. Angle iron smiths, platers, and frame turners are fully employed. Riveters and caulkers at Blyth and Shields are slack. Of the 10,013 members of these trades included in 45 returns, 724 (or 7.2 per cent.) are unemployed, as against 5.9 per cent. of members included in 45 returns for June. Joiners have been paid off at three yards, none are now idle. The shipwrights are all at work. **On the Wear.**—Five yards are fairly busy, two are slack, and several others are moderately employed. Marine engine building remains moderately active, overtime at one firm is discontinued. Of the 3,853 members of the engineering and iron shipbuilding trades comprised in 19 returns, 304 (or 7.9 per cent.) are idle, as against 8 per cent. of the members included in 19 returns for June. Sail-makers on both rivers are slack. The demand for shipwrights and joiners continues. Local steel plate mills and smelting shops are working full time. Angle mills are working five shifts per week, and iron mills four shifts per week.

Shipping, Dock and Riverside Labour.—The demand for sailors and firemen has been good. Trimmers and teemers report work as fair, except at Seaham Harbour, where employment is bad; coal porters and shippers are busy at Blyth, Dunston, Tyne Dock and at the South Dock, Sunderland; at the Northumberland Dock employment is bad. Tyne watermen and quayside labourers report employment as better.

Building and Woodworking Trades.—At Sunderland the masons are

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

fully employed; the bricklayers have 4 per cent., and the slaters and tilers 25 per cent. idle. On the Tyne, contract work continues fairly busy. Coopers are slack in chemical works, but busy in breweries. The mill-sawyers and woodcutters report none idle.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The Tyneside letterpress printers, with over 8 per cent. idle, and the bookbinders and machine rulers continue quiet. Four paper mills are busy, having worked 48 shifts each.

Glass and Chemical Trades.—Pressed glass-makers report employment as good, with few out of work. Bottle-makers are busy both on the Wear and at Seaham Harbour. At chemical factories, with the exception of one or two departments, employment is steady; in cement works it is improving, and white lead factories are reported as busy.—*J. Ratcliffe.*

Middlesbrough, Stockton, and District.

Iron Mining.—The Cleveland miners report employment as fairly good.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment is reported as good at the finished ironworks and at all the large steel works. Under the sliding scale of the North of England Arbitration and Conciliation Board wages remain unchanged for August and September. Blast furnaces, bridge works and foundries continue well employed.

Engineering.—Employment has improved during the month at Stockton and Middlesbrough, the percentage of unemployed union members having fallen from 3.3 to 1.7. At Hartlepool, however, the percentage has risen from 5 in June to 7 in July. The pattern-makers report employment as fair, with only one union member unemployed; the moulders as good at Stockton, fair at Middlesbrough, moderate at the Hartlepoons.

Shipbuilding.—Employment is only moderate, some yards being more active, others less so. Two yards have been re-opened; in the other yards employment is reported as dull in two cases, fair in four, and good in one. The smiths and strikers report employment as bad at Hartlepool, moderate elsewhere; the shipjoiners as not so good, men having been suspended at Hartlepool, Stockton and Middlesbrough.

Building Trades.—Employment continues fairly good in all branches.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—The sailors and firemen report employment as improving at Middlesbrough and Hartlepool. Dock labour is good at both towns; riverside labour is fair.

Miscellaneous.—Saltworkers are steadily employed. Tailors are moderately busy.—*A. Main.*

LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS.

Oldham and District.

Cotton Trade.—Employment in the spinning branch is reported as moderate in Oldham; as good in Mossley and Stalybridge; as fairly good in Stockport; and as slack in Ashton-under-Lyne and Rochdale. In these districts, out of 9,169 members, 286 (or 3.1 per cent.) are on unemployed benefit, as against 335 (or 3.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. The cardroom-workers in Oldham, with a membership of 10,983, report employment as moderate, with 230 (or 2.1 per cent.) unemployed, as against 314 (or 2.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. The power loom overlookers and weavers report employment as good in the velvet trade, and as slack in the calico trade. Employment continues fairly good in the twining, doubling and ring frame branches, but is slack in reeling and winding. One mill in Oldham is closed through disputes in the spinning and carding departments.

Woollen Trade.—The operatives report no change in the state of employment in Rochdale, Milnrow and Stockport districts.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—In nine branches of engineers, with 2,117 union members, 34 (or 1.6 per cent.) are unemployed, as against 45 (or 2.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. The brassfounders, tinplate workers, gas meter makers, and iron grinders report employment as good; the boiler-makers and ironfounders as improving; the machine-makers as moderate; and the spindle and flyer makers as fair.

Building Trades.—Out of 818 union members there are only two unemployed. The labourers are fully employed.

Coal Mining.—In Oldham the miners are employed from 3 to 5 days per week, in Royton 6 days, in Shaw 5 days, and at a colliery near Ashton-under-Lyne 6 days per week. With one exception, the men report employment as good.—*T. Ashton.*

Bolton and District.

Cotton Trade.—Employment in the spinning branch continues moderate, and mills are working full time. The card and blowing operatives and weavers report employment as fair. In Bury an im-

provement is reported amongst cardroom workers, spinners and weavers, all three branches being well employed. In Chorley few spinners are unemployed, except in one mill, which is changing machinery; weaving has slightly improved, with fewer unemployed than at the end of June.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—Engineers are reported as well employed, overtime being worked in some cases. Out of 1,800 members 20 are on the out-of-work books, as at the end of June. Iron machine-making establishments continue fairly busy. In Wigan the engineers, steel smelters, steel roller makers and cycle makers are exceptionally busy. In Chorley the engineers report employment as fairly good. The brass-finishers, smiths and strikers, iron dressers, steam engine makers, stove grate workers, spindle and flyer makers and pattern-makers in the district are reported as well employed.

Coal Mining.—Employment shows little change. The collieries in the Bolton and Wigan district are working in some cases as little as 3 days a week; in others as much as 5 and 6 days. In the Little Lever, Darcy Lever, Little Hulton, Walkden and Radcliffe district some collieries are working full time, employment being reported as fairly good.

Building Trades.—These trades in Bolton are fairly active, with fewer unemployed. In Bury all branches are reported as well employed. In Chorley employment is unsettled, owing to a dispute with the carpenters and joiners.—*R. Toothill.*

Blackburn, Burnley, and District.

Cotton Trade.—Weaving. Weavers generally are fairly well employed, although in Blackburn over 2,200 looms are stopped, and in Burnley about 2,700, mainly on account of failures and expiration of leases. In the Helmsshore district a shed containing 600 looms is being re-started. The hardwaste trade is again showing an improvement, employment being fair. Employment in the coloured goods trade is now moderate; warp-dressers are also well employed, one branch, with 573 members, having only 1.4 per cent. out of work. In the looming and drawing industry two branches, with 930 members, have only 2.3 per cent. unemployed. Winders and wipers continue to find employment more regular. **Spinning.**—In Preston 16 (or 1.5 per cent.) of the spinners are reported as unemployed; in Blackburn 8 (or under 1 per cent.); in Darwen 8.1 per cent. In Accrington there is no change, only two members being unemployed, together with 26 (or 16 per cent.) who are out through a dispute. The cardroom workers report employment as fair, with only a small percentage unemployed.

Printing and Dyeing Trades.—Employment in these trades keeps good, full time being worked. The felt carpet printing trade in the Rossendale district is not so brisk.

Building Trades.—These trades continue exceptionally good, men being in demand; three branches of carpenters and joiners in the Burnley, Blackburn and Accrington districts, with 430 members, have had no members unemployed for several weeks back.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—Employment continues good in the various branches of the engineering and machine making industry, with practically no unemployed.

Coal Mining.—Miners in the Townley district are working on an average about 4 days per week, whilst the Burnley miners are working 5 days per week.

Miscellaneous.—The letterpress printing trade shows a slight improvement. Tailors continue busy.—*W. H. Wilkinson.*

Manchester and District.

General.—Societies and branches with 20,364 members return 357 (or 1.8 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 349 (or 1.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment in these trades continues good. Branches of engineers, boiler-makers, ironfounders, brassfounders, braziers, machine-workers and smiths in Manchester and Northwich, with 8,720 members, return 138 (or 1.6 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 152 (or 1.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. The steam engine-makers are all employed. At Warrington wire drawers, wire weavers and file smiths are fully employed, and ironworkers in general are busy. At Macclesfield moulders and fitters report employment as moderate.

Textile Trades.—Employment in cotton spinning is again reported as good, and all mills in the Manchester district are running full time. In Macclesfield the cotton-workers in general are fully employed. Doublers in Stockport report employment as good; fustian cutters are fairly well employed in both Macclesfield and Stockport; silk weavers and dyers report employment as moderate. Branches of spinners, bleachers, dressers, dyers and finishers, with

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

YORKSHIRE.

Hull and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 8,296 members return 277 (or 3.3 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 205 (or 2.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Employment in the marine engine and general engineering and boiler-making trades continues good. Employment at the railway works at Doncaster is reported as moderate, and notices of short time have been issued to some of the men. Employment in shipbuilding is slowly recovering from the effects of the stoppage caused by the dispute between the platers and their helpers. The shipwrights report employment as moderate; the shipyard and engineering and boiler-shop labourers as good. Branches with 4,537 members report 120 (or 2.6 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 133 (or 3.1 per cent. of their membership) unemployed at the end of June. The sailmakers again report employment as bad.

Building Trades.—Employment in the building trades generally continues brisk, but the plumbers report employment as bad; the builders' labourers as moderate; the painters report a large increase in the number unemployed. Branches with 2,658 members report 138 (or 5.2 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 45 (or 1.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. The building trades at Grimsby, Goole, Doncaster, Selby, Beverley, Bridlington and Driffield continue fairly well employed.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—The sailors and firemen report employment as moderate; the dock labourers as fair.

Fishing Industry.—The trawl fishermen report employment as moderate; the steam trawling and line fishing engineers and firemen as good, with none unemployed; the fish curers in Hull as good, with none unemployed; at Grimsby as bad at first, but improving.

Seed Crushing, Paint and Colour Trades.—Employment in the seed crushing mills in Hull is slack; most of the mills are still either stopped or working short time. Employment in the paint and colour trades continues good, overtime being worked.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Four branches of the letterpress and lithographic printers and bookbinders, with 394 members, report 6 (or 1.5 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 20 (or 5.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Miscellaneous.—The coachbuilders report employment as good, with none unemployed; the flour millers and the tailors as moderate; the cabinet-makers as dull. Employment in Selby is reported as good.—*W. G. Millington.*

Leeds and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 6,074 members report 222 (or 3.7 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 266 (or 4.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Metal Trades.—Employment in these trades is good. In the engineering branch one firm has started a night shift and some others are working overtime; at Wakefield employment is moderate. Branches of engineers, ironfounders, pattern-makers, boiler-makers, brass-workers, stove-grate workers, and whitesmiths, with 2,952 members, return 85 (or 2.9 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 78 (or 2.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Clothing Trades.—Some boot and shoe factories have been rather better employed. In the ready-made clothing branch employment has been slack, but is improving; bespoke tailors are fairly well employed.

Textile Trades.—Willeyers and fettlers are busy. In Leeds employment in the mills is fair; at Yeadon and Stanningley moderate. Cloth and wool dyers in Leeds are slack; stuff dyers are busy.

Building Trades.—Owing to the prolonged dispute, several bricklayers, masons, plasterers and labourers have left the town to work elsewhere. Branches of the carpenters and joiners and plumbers with 890 members return 20 (or 2.2 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 50 (or 5.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. At Harrogate, York and Wakefield the building trades are brisk.

Mining.—Work in the pits in Leeds and district has been much brisker during July, 5 days and full time being worked at some collieries. At Wakefield 3 to 4 days has been the average.

Leather Trades.—The tanners, curriers and leather shavers report employment as slack.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress printers report em-

1,968 members, return 89 (or 4.5 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 84 (or 4.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Clothing Trades.—The bespoke tailoring department in Manchester, Macclesfield, Warrington and Stockport, report employment as moderate; the boot and shoe operatives and the hatters as bad. Employment in the wholesale garment-making, mantle-making and shirt-making trades is not plentiful, but improving; cap-makers continue busy.

Building Trades.—Branches, with 3,806 members, return 7 (or 0.2 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 17 (or 0.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. Employment at Macclesfield is reported as dull.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress printers in Manchester, Warrington and Stockport report employment as improved; the lithographic printers as good; the bookbinders as moderate.

Furnishing and Coachbuilding Trades.—The cabinet-makers report employment as good; the French polishers and upholsterers as moderate. Coachmakers continue busy, with only 4 members unemployed out of 770.—*G. D. Kelley.*

Barrow-in-Furness District.

Iron and Steel Trades.—The ironworkers continue busy; steel workers are also busy, although there is a temporary slackness in the plate-rolling and steel-casting departments, owing to a fire at the Belfast shipyards.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Marine engineers have been well employed, night shifts having been re-started, and a few extra men taken on. Other branches of engineers are fairly busy, with no unemployed. In shipbuilding yards all are fully employed.

Iron Mining.—The iron miners are well employed, with no men out of work.

Coal Mining.—The miners report no improvement.

Building Trades.—All branches continue fairly busy.

Shipping.—Shipping at the Barrow docks has been fairly good; at the other ports employment is moderate.

Miscellaneous.—Paper and pulp workers are busy; jute workers have moderate employment.—*J. D. Couper.*

Liverpool and District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—The boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders have improved, with 3 per cent. idle, instead of 8 per cent. at the end of June. The engineers continue well employed; the pattern-makers are rather quiet; the shipwrights, shipjoiners, brassfounders, ironfounders, iron and steel dressers, whitesmiths and ship painters are fully employed.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—The cabinet-makers, French polishers, upholsterers, coachmakers and painters are well employed; the coopers in Liverpool are busy, in Widnes slack; packing-case and box makers are slack.

Clothing Trades.—The tailors report employment as good in all branches, and the boot and shoe makers continue well employed.

Building Trades.—The plumbers report an improvement; all other branches are fully employed.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress printers report employment as moderate; the lithographic printers as good; the bookbinders and machine rulers as quiet.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—The sailors and firemen report employment as fair; the dock labourers as dull; the flatmen, quay and railway carters, coal and salt heavers as quiet.

Glass and Chemical Trades.—The glass bottle makers report employment as fair, with 5 per cent. unemployed; the sheet glass makers continue fairly well employed. Chemical workers remain slack.

Mining and Quarrying.—In Skelmersdale District employment is dull, with an average of about 3 days per week; quarrymen continue busy.

Miscellaneous.—The tanners and beltmakers report employment as moderate; the gasworkers and general labourers as moderate.—*C. Rouse.*

A report from Winsford states that employment in the salt trade has not been good in Winsford and Middlewich, short time being worked in some cases. In the building trades employment is moderate at Winsford and brisk at Middlewich. The moulders at Winsford report employment as moderate, with none idle; painters and paper-hangers are well employed; fustian cutters report a decline.

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

ployment as moderate; the lithographic printers as fair; the bookbinders and machine rulers as quiet.

Glass Bottle Trade.—Employment continues good at Hunslet; moderate at Wakefield.—O. Connellan.

Bradford and Huddersfield District.

Worsted Trade.—Employment throughout the district seems worse than in June, especially in Bradford, where woollsorters, woolcombers and weavers find difficulty in getting employment, whilst spinners are not much better off. In Halifax, Keighley and the Worth Valley employment is reported as quiet, and in Huddersfield firms that were recently working full time and overtime are now only working 4 days a week. The woolcombers report employment as bad, with one-third out of work; the woollsorters as bad, with 10 per cent. unemployed, and a number casually employed.

Woolen Trade.—Employment in and around Huddersfield in the woolen trade has also fallen off. One firm which has been working overtime and night shifts for a considerable time has stopped overtime, and the weavers are kept waiting for warps a day or two at a time. One or two mills are, however, working long hours, and two are running all night. In the heavy woolen trade of Dewsbury and Batley employment is still quiet, with some exceptions. The number unemployed is reported to be increasing.

Metal Trades.—Employment in the iron and kindred trades is reported as good. The dispute with the engineers in Keighley continues. The engineers in Bradford, Halifax and Huddersfield, with 1,668 union members, return 54 (or 3·2 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 41 (or 2·4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. The ironfounders at Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield and Keighley, with 639 union members, return 14 (or 2·2 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 19 (or 3·0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

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

Miscellaneous.—The tailors report a slight falling off in all centres. Employment in printing and other minor trades is reported as quiet.—A. Gee.

Sheffield, Barnsley and Rotherham District.

General.—Societies in Sheffield and Rotherham (exclusive of coal miners), with 12,413 members, report 119 (or 1 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 128 (or 1·1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. There has, however, been less work done during the month, owing to a number of firms taking stock.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Blast furnacemen, Siemens steel smelters, armour plate pressers, drillers, planers and slotters, forgemen, tyre rollers, and merchant iron rollers are well employed. Makers of cycle parts are busy. The engineers, ironfounders and rollers, boiler and girder makers, wire drawers, stove grate workers, and general steel and iron workers report employment as good; the railway spring makers as fair. Branches with 4,361 members return 41 (or 0·9 per cent.) as unemployed, or the same percentage of their members as at the end of June. At Barnsley the ironfounders are fairly well employed, but with a few out of work; the machinists are well employed. At Rotherham all branches of the steel trade are busy; the ironworkers generally are slack.

Cutlery and Tools.—Workmen employed in the table and butcher knife trade, the engineers' and joiners' tool makers, edge tool and jobbing grinders, pen and pocket-knife blade forgers and grinders, the saw grinders and smiths, and all departments of the file trade report employment as good; the pen and pocket-knife cutlers as moderate; the edge tool grinders as fair; the haft and scale pressers as slack, but improving; the razor grinders as quiet. Spade, shovel, and agricultural fork makers are busy. Branches with 5,854 members report 31 (or 0·5 per cent.) as out of work, as against 35 (or 0·6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Other Metal Trades.—Employment in the silver trade has improved in all branches and is fair in the electro-plate and Britannia metal trades. Brassworkers are busy. At Rotherham and Doncaster the brassworkers in all departments are busy.

Building Trades.—In Sheffield four sections of these trades with 1,003 members, report none out of work. Employment in Barnsley is good all round, and in Rotherham is busy.

Coal Mining.—There is little change to report, although at some collieries there has been a rather better demand for house coal. Notices have been given for a reduction of 10 per cent. at one colliery employing over 600 men and boys. In the Barnsley and Swinton district the thick seams are working 5 days; in thin seams work varies, 3 and 4 days being the average, few making 5 days. A number are out of work, owing chiefly to disputes. In the Rother

Valley and Kiveton district seams are being worked 5 days, but the average is rather less in the Rotherham and Parkgate district.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the bespoke tailoring trade is good. In Barnsley employment in the ready made tailoring trade is satisfactory, and it has improved in the boot and shoe trade.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress printers and bookbinders, with 440 members, return 40 (or 9·1 per cent.) as unemployed, as at the end of June.

Glass and Pottery Trades.—At Rotherham and Mexborough the bottle and jam jar makers are quieter. At Barnsley the glassworkers have received notice of short time. The potters are better employed than in June.

Railways.—Four branches of railway workers, with a membership of 761, report 10 (or 1·3 per cent.) as out of work.—S. Utley.

ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Derbyshire District.

General.—Branches of societies with 5,436 members report 22 (or 0·4 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 32 (or 0·6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Engineering and kindred Trades.—Branches of these trades, with 2,125 members, report 8 (or 0·4 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 11 (or 0·5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. The locomotive works at Derby continue well employed, with overtime in some departments. Bridge, girder, and boiler yards are fairly well employed. In Long Eaton the lace machine builders are slack. Cycle works continue busy.

Coal Mining.—Returns from 27 collieries show an average of nearly 4 days per week, a slight increase on June returns. Thirty-five of the men thrown out of work in June continue unemployed.

Quarrying.—In most limestone quarries employment is reported as dull. In Ambergate one quarry is working four days a week, after a fortnight's stoppage. Owing to haytime workmen are, however, rather scarce.

Building Trades.—Returns from branches of brickmakers, bricklayers, masons, carpenters, plasterers, plumbers and painters, with 1,346 members, report 7 as unemployed, the same number as at the end of June.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the cotton trade is reported as good in Glossop, Belper, and Borrowash. The hosiery workers and dyers in Belper are brisk. Employment in the lace trade is reported as slack in Long Eaton, better in Borrowash. Merino and silk workers in Lea and Holloway continue well employed.

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—The railway carriage and wagon builders in Derby continue slack, 4 to 5 days per week being worked. Carriage builders in private shops are fairly well employed. In Burton-on-Trent the coopers report employment as good, with none unemployed. The wagon builders in Long Eaton are busier.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is fair in the printing and clothing trades.—C. White-Deacon.

Nottingham and District.

Lace Trade.—There has been no actual improvement in either the levers or curtain branches, although there is a slight decline in the number on unemployed benefit. The plain net branch, however, continues fairly busy. In the warp lace and warping branches employment is irregular. The curtain readers, designers, and draughtsmen report employment as bad; the female lace workers as worse.

Hosiery Trades.—Employment is brisk on heavy goods, but slack on hose and half-hose. The rib-top branch is improving, and hand-frame workers on best goods continue busy. Elastic bandage makers are well employed. Employment in Sutton-in-Ashfield and Mansfield is reported as good. The woollen branch is fairly active at Carlton, Arnold, and Hucknall Torkard. Female labour generally is well employed.

Coal Mining.—There is a slight improvement in employment during the month. Returns from 32 collieries, estimated as giving employment to 16,000 miners, show an average of 13½ days each colliery, or 3½ days per week.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—All branches continue well employed, with the exception of steam-engine makers. Fitters are fully employed at cycle, hosiery and lace machine building. Blast furnacemen are fairly busy. Brassworkers are busy, a few firms working overtime. Employment is moderate at Newark; brisk at Beeston, Retford, Netherfield and Mansfield with ironfounders and cycle fitters. Branches with 2,415 members return 36 (or 1·5

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

per cent.) as unemployed, as against 34 (or 1·4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Clothing Trades.—The tailors report employment as fair, with no unemployed; boot and shoe operatives as good.

Building Trades.—Carpenters and joiners are well employed. The plumbing trade is almost at a standstill on account of a dispute. Employment is good at Worksop, Retford, Newark, Beeston, Bulwell, Colwick and Mansfield. Branches with 2,664 members return 16 (or 0·6 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 12 (or 0·5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. The painters are slack.

Woodworking Trades.—Cabinet-makers, French polishers and brushmakers are busy.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress printers in Nottingham report employment as no better; the lithographic printers as moderate, with few unemployed. The bookbinders are not so brisk, several firms making short time.

Railways.—Employment is good at Worksop, Retford, Mansfield and Colwick; fair at Toton and Nottingham.

Miscellaneous.—Female cigar-makers are fully employed. The dyers report employment as moderate.—W. L. Hardstaff.

Leicester and Northampton District.

Boot and Shoe Trades.—Employment in the boot and shoe trade has not been so slack for years. The majority of the workpeople are only averaging half-time. Operatives in the leather currying trades are also working short hours.

Other Clothing Trades.—In the wholesale tailoring trade work continues good, but it is less regular in the bespoke branch. Employment with corset-makers is regular, but is slacker with milliners, dressmakers, and hatters. It is improving with mantle-makers.

Hosiery, Yarn and Woolspinning Trades.—At Leicester workpeople in the hosiery trade are fully employed; at Hinckley and Loughborough a slight decline is reported. In the woolspinning mills employment is fairly good. Trimmers, dyers and scourers report employment as slightly duller.

Elastic Web Trade.—Employment is good in the cord, braid and garter departments of the trade, but slacker in the weaving branches.

Engineering and Cycle Trades.—Work is good among machine and locomotive builders, pattern-makers, turners, iron bridge and roof makers, moulders, lamp-makers and ironfounders; moderate with boiler-makers; and slack with electrical engineers, needle-makers and boot and shoe machine builders; cycle-makers are still busy.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment continues short with the South Leicestershire coal miners; at a few pits, however, a slight improvement is reported. Ironstone-workers and stone quarrymen are regularly employed.

Printing and Bookbinding Trades.—The letterpress printers at Leicester and Northampton report employment as good. It is moderate with lithographic printers and fair with bookbinders.

Building Trades.—Employment with bricklayers and builders labourers is reported as good at Leicester, Northampton and Rugby; moderate at Hinckley and Kettering. Four branches of carpenters and joiners report work as good, and three branches as fair. It is good with stonemasons and plasterers; much slacker with painters and decorators, and quiet with plumbers; brickmakers are in full work.

Furnishing and Coachmaking Trades.—Coachmakers, road, tram and railway car and wagon builders, and painters and polishers in the carriage-making industry are in full work. In the general furnishing trades employment is less regular.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is reported as good with mill sawyers and woodcutting machinists and navvies; fair with cigar-makers, with 12 per cent. on short time; moderate with gas stokers and labourers, and slack with cardboard box makers.—T. Smith.

Potteries District.

Pottery Trades.—Seven societies, with a membership of 4,450, report 89 (or 2 per cent.) as unemployed, the same percentage as at the end of June. Hollow-ware and sanitary pressers have fewer unemployed, but a larger number are on short time, working four days per week; flat pressers have more unemployed; printers and transferrers are working only three and a half days per week; modellers, designers and women decorators report a further decline; throwers and turners in the general trade are slack, but in the china, furniture and electric department an improvement is noticeable. Encaustic tilemakers are working short time.

Iron and Steel Trades.—The improvement is maintained in all branches.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers at Crewe, Stafford and the Potteries, with 2,270 members, report employment as good, with only 2 out of work. At Longport brassmoulders are not so brisk, but finishers are busy. Copper-workers at Oakamoor and Froghall are very busy. Agricultural engineers at Uttoxeter are slack, working only 30 hours per week. At Rugeley they are well employed.

Coal Mining.—The North Staffordshire miners report employment as generally slack. At the ironstone pits they are moderately employed, and at a few steam collieries fairly employed, but not more than 4 days on the average. Around Cheadle some of the unemployed miners have gone harvesting.

Textile Trades.—At Leek employment in the silk trade has further improved; the weavers and dyers are busy. At Congleton trimming weavers and spinners are busy, but dressers are slack. Fustian cutters are well employed. At Cheadle and Tean both silk and tape workers are fully employed.

Clothing Trades.—The tailors are busy, with none out of work. Shoemakers at Stafford are slack, all firms being on short time in one department or another. At Stone shoemakers are not so busy. Corset-makers at Uttoxeter keep busy.

Building Trades.—In all branches there is an improvement, employment generally being good.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Letterpress printers in the Potteries are still slack. At Stafford employment is good; lithographic artists and printers report employment as moderate; bookbinders and machine-rulers as fair.—I. S. Harvey.

Wolverhampton and District.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Both mills and forges in East Worcestershire and South Staffordshire are reported to have been fully employed; some have had to stop owing to the hot weather. In South Shropshire employment at Wombridge and Stirchley has been better. Sheet rollers have worked full time, and wire rollers have been better employed. At Horsehay full time has been worked. Steel smelters are stated to be fairly well employed throughout the district.

Engineering and kindred Trades.—Employment in all branches is reported as good, overtime being worked in many cases.

Hardware Trades.—Cable and chain makers, small anchor-smiths, vice and anvil makers, all branches in the lock and key trade, edge tool and plantation hoemakers, makers of nuts, bolts and rivets, tubes and fittings, wrought ironwork, and builders' ironmongery, tinplate-workers, japanners and enamellers are fully employed. Galvanisers, spring-trap and nailmakers have improved. Makers of malleable castings and annealers are busy. Ironplate-workers are rather slack.

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoe makers are fairly busy, and all branches of the tailoring trade are well employed.

Coal Mining.—Employment in the coal-mining industry in the Cannock Chase district is reported as slightly better at some of the collieries; others are not working half time. On the Hedgesford side of the Chase (household coal) a slight improvement is also reported; the average time worked is stated to be from 2½ to 3 days per week. In the Black Country district (largely manufacturing coal) the depression continues. In South Shropshire miners are reported to be working 5 days per week on coal for manufacturing purposes.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Employment generally is good.

Glass Trades.—The flint glass trade continues good at Dudley, Wordsley, and Brierley Hill, and a new furnace has been started. Glass bottle makers are still on short time.

Building Trades.—All branches continue busy throughout the district.

Miscellaneous.—Carpet weavers in Kidderminster have been moderately employed; wool spinners busy; chemical workers and tar distillers fairly well employed.—W. F. Mee.

Birmingham and District.

Engineering.—Employment is good in all branches, some overtime being worked. Tool-makers and machinists throughout the district are well employed. Smiths and strikers report employment as good.

Brass and Copper Working.—Employment in the chandelier and electrolier, water and steam fitting, art metal, cabinet, bedstead and fender mount, and clock case branches is good. In the

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—DISTRICT REPORTS (continued).—E. AND S.-W. COUNTIES, AND WALES

common gas fitting, brass and copper tube, and metal-rolling branches overtime is being made. Copper working is moderate.

Jewellers, Silversmiths and Electro-platers.—Employment in the jewellery trade continues quiet; silver-workers are fairly well employed; electro-platers are fairly busy, overtime being worked in some cases. Britannia metal work is regular.

Other Metal Trades.—The ironfounders report employment as good, with much overtime; the ironplate workers as quiet, except on government contracts, more than half the men making short time; the bedstead-workers report one-half as only partially employed. The cycle industry in Coventry is even busier than in Birmingham, but employment has been interrupted by a fire. It is also reported as busy at Redditch. The improvement in the file trade continues. An alliance has been formed in the fender trade, similar to those in the bedstead and metal-working trades. Japanners are fairly busy, and employment in the smallware trades is good on the whole. In Redditch needle-makers are quiet; fishing tackle workers are busy. Employment in the Walsall trades is better.

Building Trades.—The plumbers report employment as moderate; the other branches as good on the whole. Building work is active at Coventry.

Glass Trades.—Employment in flint-glass making continues to improve. Bevelers and silverers are busy.

Woodworking Trades.—Cabinet-makers are fully employed. Mill-sawyers report employment as good. Railway wagon work is still brisk.

Miscellaneous.—The printers report employment as improving; the tailors as moderate. Leather-workers are generally busy. Some branches of the brush trade are brisk. In Coventry employment in the watch trade and the ribbon trade is slack.—*W. J. Davis.*

ENGLAND: EASTERN COUNTIES.

Norfolk and neighbouring District.

General.—Societies and branches with 2,605 members report 32 (or 1·2 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 27 (or 1·0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Building Trades.—Employment throughout the district is fairly brisk. Branches with 1,288 members return 23 (or 1·8 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 12 (or 0·9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Employment is good throughout the district. Branches with 323 members return no unemployed.

Clothing Trades.—The clothing factories at Norwich are on full time, and employment is fair. In the boot and shoe trade in Norwich riveters and finishers are slack, many working less than half time; in the sew-round department work is fair and full time is being made.

Textile Trades.—The silk and crape factories at Norwich and Yarmouth are running full time.

Fishing Industry.—Trawling at both Yarmouth and Lowestoft has been bad, in some cases insufficient to pay wages; at Yarmouth a few herring boats have met with fair catches. At Lowestoft the midsummer herring fishing has been bad.—*G. Cleverley.*

Suffolk, Essex, and District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Employment in the engineering trade is reported as good at Bury St. Edmunds, Beccles, Colchester, Chelmsford, Halstead and Earl's Colne; moderate at Ipswich; bad at Wickham Market. At Ipswich the boiler-makers report employment as fair; the shipwrights as dull, but improving.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the boot and shoe trade at Ipswich is dull; at Colchester, moderate; at Braintree, good. Employment in the wholesale clothing trade is busy at Ipswich; moderate at Colchester. The corset-makers are well employed at Ipswich and Sudbury.

Textile Trades.—Except at Hadleigh and Glemsford matmakers are well employed; the silk and crape workers are busy at Halstead, Bocking, and Braintree; slack at Sudbury.

Building Trades.—At Ipswich employment has been good with bricklayers; moderate with carpenters; fair with plasterers; dull with painters. Employment has been good at Bury St. Edmunds, Hadleigh, Chelmsford, Halstead, Earl's Colne, Southend, and Braintree.

Printing Trades.—Employment has improved throughout the district.

Miscellaneous.—The horticultural workers are well employed at Ipswich and Chelmsford; general labourers are dull and gas-workers well employed at Ipswich and Colchester. Employment in the leather trade is moderate at Colchester; at Ipswich shipping is reported as dull; dock labour as improved.—*R. W. Mather.*

ENGLAND: SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES.

Bristol, Somerset, and Gloucestershire District.

Building Trades.—Societies with 3,103 members report 47 (or 1·5 per cent.) as unemployed. All branches report employment as brisk, with the exception of painters and plumbers in Bristol, and stonemasons at Gloucester.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment in the Bristol coalfield continues slack. Some men at one pit have stopped work in resistance to a reduction. In the Forest of Dean employment with house coal miners is reported to average about three days per week; with steam coal miners, four days. Employment with stone quarrymen is reported as good.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment continues brisk in these industries. Out of 2,639 members, 5 only are returned as unemployed.

Dock Labour.—Employment with deal runners is reported as fair; in other branches, as quiet.

Clothing Trades.—The silk hatters and bespoke tailors report employment as quiet; the wholesale garment-makers as fair; the boot and shoe operatives as slack in Bristol and improving at Kingswood.

Textile Trades.—Employment generally in the Trowbridge district is reported to have slackened, the weavers not working above half time.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Out of 674 members of unions connected with these trades 13 (or 1·9 per cent.) are reported as out of work. The letterpress printers and bookbinders report employment as good; the lithographic printers as moderate.

Miscellaneous.—The coopers, glass bottle makers, cabinet-makers, brush and basket makers report employment as good; the curriers as quiet; the sawyers, railway men, and saddle and harness makers as steady.—*J. Curle.*

Plymouth and South-Western District.

Mining, Quarrying and Clay Industries.—Employment in the metal mining industry of Cornwall has shown no further improvement. At two of the mines wages have been reduced. Clay-workers and quarrymen continue busy.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Branches of engineers, ironfounders, and boiler-makers, with 1,359 members, report no unemployed. The brassfounders and finishers, smiths and wheelwrights report employment as fair.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in both the ready-made and the bespoke departments of the tailoring trade has continued good. The boot and shoe operatives again report employment as bad. The bespoke branch is quiet.

Building Trades.—Employment in these trades, except at Torquay, continues good. Branches of masons, bricklayers, carpenters, plasterers, plumbers, and painters, with 2,340 members, report only 10 as unemployed. Builders' labourers continue well employed.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Seamen's berths are still difficult to obtain. Employment on excursion boats has been busy. Dock and quayside labourers have not been so well employed.

Printing Trades.—Employment is reported as dull, with many still idle.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Cabinet-makers, upholsterers and polishers report employment as fair. Coachbuilders continue well employed.

Miscellaneous.—The fishing industry has shown a slight improvement. General labourers have been better employed.—*J. Welland.*

WALES.

North Wales District.

Coal Mining.—Reports received from the various collieries in the district show an improvement in the number of days worked as compared with June. Of 22 pits in Flintshire and Denbighshire, 2 worked full time in July, 6 others worked five days or over per week, 10 worked four but less than five days, and the remaining 4 over three days but less than four.

Quarrying.—Employment in the slate quarries of Carnarvon and Merioneth continues good, with all fully employed. Employment continues moderate in lime rock quarries. Freestone quarrymen of Ruabon and Flint are fully employed.

Iron, Steel and Engineering Trades.—Employment is reported as good in the steel works at Wrexham and at the iron works at Mostyn. The tinplate works at Mold have restarted. Railway wagon workers at Johnstown, Ruabon, are fully employed. The engineers at Oswestry again report employment as moderate; at Ruabon as brisk; other reports are favourable.

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

Chemical Works.—Employment continues good in the chemical works of Ruabon, and fair at the Flint works.

Building Trades.—At Oswestry the carpenters and joiners report employment as good, with none unemployed. At Wrexham the bricklayers report employment as moderate; the painters and house decorators as slack. Employment at Ruabon and Rhoslanerchrugog is reported as steady in all branches.

Brick and Terra-cotta Industry.—The brick and terra-cotta works of Wrexham, Ruabon, and Rhos are fully employed in all branches. A Buckley one-third of the men are unemployed for want of water.

Miscellaneous.—The tweed mills in Montgomeryshire continue on full time, with occasional overtime, but are not so busy as in June. The lead miners in Flintshire are fully employed. The general labourers report employment as good.—*G. Rowley.*

South Wales District.

Coal Mining.—Employment seems to be duller. The Ebbw Vale collieries have been averaging about 4 days a week. Few collieries in Blaina and Nantyglo district have averaged more than 5 days a week. Several in the Rhondda and Rhondda Fach district have only averaged about 3 days during the month, the management stopping and re-starting the collieries in turns, to distribute the work as much as possible. Reports from the West Glamorgan district and from the eastern and western valleys of Monmouthshire describe employment as dull; one large colliery employing 1,200 men and boys has been stopped a fortnight for repairs.

Building Trades.—Returns from 10 branches of carpenters and joiners, with 1,185 members, return 25 (or 2·1 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 40 (or 3·4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. Plumbers, painters and decorators are slack, otherwise employment has improved.

Ship Repairing and Engineering.—Employment has been quiet at the ports in this district, nearly every branch reporting it as bad. The boiler-makers report 25 per cent. as unemployed; the shipwrights 30 per cent. Returns from 15 branches of engineers, representing 1,935 members, show 114 (or 5·9 per cent.) as unemployed. Upwards of 50 have within the last fortnight been taken from the unemployed list at Cardiff and sent to work at Chatham and elsewhere. Returns from most of the iron and steel works show the engineering departments to be well employed, and in the inland and colliery districts engineering firms are reported as fairly busy.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Reports from Blaenavon, Ebbw Vale, Briton Ferry, and Neath state that mills and furnaces are going regularly. At a works near Cardiff the millmen and furnacemen are averaging about three days a week.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Employment has been fairly good throughout the month at all the ports. The demand for firemen and sailors has been steady.

Miscellaneous.—Employment in the patent fuel trade has been moderate. The copper and silver smelting works are going steadily. Chemical workers are dull. Wagon-builders report employment as good, with none idle.—*T. Davies.*

The Tinplate Trade in South Wales and Monmouth.—During July the improvement in employment which took place in June has been maintained. At 88 works, respecting which returns have been received, the number of mills in operation at the end of the month was 308 as compared with 307 at the end of June. Of the 88 works, 48 with 245 mills were reported as having all their mills at work, 15 with 94 mills as partially employed (63 of the mills being at work), while 25 works with 143 mills were reported as idle. There are still considerable numbers of tinplaters unemployed in Monmouthshire and in the neighbourhood of Swansea, though some have found work at the collieries and steel works.

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 13,343 members return 211 (or 1·6 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 196 (or 1·5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Coal Mining.—In West Lothian the miners generally are making from 10 to 12 days per fortnight; in East and Mid Lothian about 90 per cent. are fully employed, the remainder working from 3 to 4 days per week.

Mineral Oil Trades.—All sections continue well employed. Of the workpeople employed at 34 shale mines in Mid and West Lothian, 55·5 per cent. were employed at mines which worked full time during the four weeks ended July 25th. The number of men at work at these mines was 4,434, as against 4,298 in July 1895.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Returns from 16 branches of these trades, with 3,713 members in Edinburgh, Leith and Falkirk, show 71 (or 1·9 per cent.) idle, as against 68 (or 1·8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Shipbuilding.—The boiler-makers report employment as bad, with a large increase in the number idle; the shipwrights as good. Returns from three branches, with 605 members, show 70 (or 11·6 per cent.) idle, as against 22 (or 3·6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Textile Trades.—The carpet-weavers in Midlothian report employment as good. Employment in the linen industry in Dunfermline shows no improvement. In the woollen industry in Hawick many weavers are unemployed, and spinners are not busy. Employment in the hosiery trade in Hawick is good, except in the hand-made departments, which are slack.

Building Trades.—Employment is reported as good, except with the plumbers and glaziers, who report it as fair. Returns from 15 branches, with 4,238 members, show 10 (or 0·2 per cent.) idle, as against 38 (or 0·9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—These trades continue well employed. Ten branches with 973 members return 7 (or 0·7 per cent.) idle, as at the end of June.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—The sailors and firemen report employment as good, with few idle. The dock labourers and coal porters are well employed.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Employment in these trades continues good. Seven branches, with 2,134 members, return 41 (or 1·9 per cent.) idle, as against 47 (or 2·2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Miscellaneous.—The saddlers report employment as good; the shoemakers and glass cutters as fair; the tailors and dyers as quiet; the curriers as bad.—*J. Mallinson.*

Glasgow and West of Scotland.

Shipbuilding.—Shipbuilding and marine engineering are fairly busy on the reaches of the Clyde. At Greenock, Govan and Dumbarton employment is reported as plentiful. Branches with 8,439 members return 326 (or 3·9 per cent.) as idle.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—These trades have been busy, although interrupted by the Fair holidays. Branches with 20,000 members return 450 (or 2·25 per cent.) as idle, as against 2·0 of the membership reported in June.

Mining.—Employment in Stirlingshire is reported as fair, the men averaging about 5 days per week; in Ayrshire as fairly good, from 5 to 6 days per week being worked. The ironstone workers, at Dalry are working only 4 days; at other places 6. In Renfrewshire employment in the coal and ironstone trades continues good. In Lanarkshire employment is reported as steady on the whole.

Building Trades.—Employment in all branches is reported as good generally. Branches with 9,322 members show 31 (or 0·3 per cent.) idle, as compared with 0·5 per cent. of the membership reported in June.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—These trades are busy. Branches with 3,256 members show 26 (or 0·8 per cent.) idle.

Textile Trades.—Weavers in cotton goods are fully employed. Silk weaving has not been so brisk in Glasgow; at Newmilns, Galston, and Darvel all branches are fairly well employed. The flaxdressers at Kilbirnie are now working full time. The calendermen report employment as good; the power loom carpet weavers as busy; the power loom beamers as dull; the rope and twine spinners and hempressers as good.

Clothing Trades.—The clothiers' operatives report employment as quiet until the holidays, but fair at the end of the month. The boot and shoe operatives report employment as moderate.

Shipping.—The sailors and firemen again report improvement.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress printers report no improvement. The lithographic printers report employment as moderate; the bookbinders as still dull. The electrotypers and stereotypers report none unemployed.

Miscellaneous.—The pottery workers report all branches busy till the Fair holidays. The tobacco pipe makers and finishers report employment as fair; the bottlemakers as dull. The general labourers have been busy. The curriers report employment as still dull; the settmakers, spindle and flyer makers, engine-men, calico engravers and cork cutters as good.—*A. J. Hunter.*

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

Dundee and District.

General.—Societies with 4,491 members return 112 (or 2·5 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 116 (or 2·6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Textile Trades.—The jute industry remains satisfactory, the percentage of unemployed being normal. The linen trade continues quiet, but manufacturers are still keeping most of their looms going. There has been a week's stoppage of work for the annual summer holidays.

Coal Mining.—Returns relating to collieries at which some 6,500 workpeople were employed show an average of 4·71 days worked per week during the four weeks ending 25th July.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Activity still prevails in all branches of the engineering and shipbuilding trades, and overtime continues to be worked. Eight branches of these trades, with 2,068 members, report 95 (or 4·6 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 96 (or 4·7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Building and Woodworking Trades.—The building trades generally continue well employed, and the furnishing trade remains busy. Ten societies, with 1,412 members, report 17 (or 1·2 per cent.) as idle, as compared with 12 (or 0·9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Dock and General Labour.—Employment at the docks has been rather quiet during the month. General labourers in the city have been fairly well employed.

Fishing Industry.—The herring fishing has been prosecuted with considerable success by the fleet from the Arbroath and Montrose districts. The salmon fishing boats have done well during the month.

Miscellaneous.—The letterpress printers report employment as good; the lithographers and bookbinders as moderate; the tailors and boot and shoe makers as quiet; the floorcloth and linoleum makers as good.—*P. Reid.*

Aberdeen and District.

General.—Societies with 4,597 members report 55 (or 1·2 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 92 (or 2·1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Quarrying.—The quarrymen and settmakers report employment as good; the monumental stonecutters and granite polishers as moderate.

Building Trades.—Branches of the carpenters and joiners, plasterers, painters, sawmillers and masons, report employment as good; the plumbers and slaters as moderate. Branches with 2,500 members return 12 (or 0·5 per cent.) as idle, as against 34 (or 1·5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—The boiler-makers, iron and steel shipbuilders, and bridge builders report employment as moderate. The shipwrights, blacksmiths, pattern-makers, ironmoulders, tinplate workers, engineers, brassfounders and finishers report employment as good. These societies, with 990 members, report 29 (or 2·9 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 35 (or 3·6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Letterpress and lithographic printers, bookbinders and machine-rulers report employment as good; paper workers as fair.

Fishing.—In July the trawl boats landed 28,168 cwts., realising £14,649; and the line boats 18,768 cwts., realising £7,037, a large decrease in both quantity and value as compared with June.

Textile Trades.—The carpet weavers, and jute, flax, cotton and woollen workers report employment as good.

Miscellaneous.—The railway servants report employment as good; the combmakers as moderate.—*W. Johnston.*

IRELAND.

Dublin and District.

Building Trades.—The dispute in these trades has continued during the month (see p. 240). Of the 5,255 union members of this group, 1,664 are unemployed. Those employers who conceded the men's demands have been unusually brisk, and therefore the dispute has not been so severely felt, except among the builders' labourers, of whom fully 900 have been unemployed. The carpenters, bricklayers, painters, slaters, and plasterers report employment as good; the lathsplitters, paviors, and whiteners as fair; the plumbers as moderate; the mill sawyers and builders' labourers as bad; and the glaziers as dull.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—The wagon-builders report employment as good; the coachmakers, cabinet-makers, coopers, organ builders, brushmakers, saddlers, and upholsterers as fair. Societies with 743 members report 31 (or 4·2 per cent.) as idle.

Metal Trades.—The engineers and smiths report employment as good; the whitesmiths as dull; the boiler-makers, tinsmiths and brass finishers as slack. Out of 1,021 union members in this group, 67 (or 6·6 per cent.) were reported as idle.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress printers and the bookbinders report employment as quiet. Societies with 1,335 members return 73 (or 5·5 per cent.) as unemployed.

Miscellaneous.—The bottle-makers report an improvement; dock labourers, engine-drivers and tram-men report employment as fair. Employment in the bootmaking industry has been dull.

—*J. P. Nannetti.***Belfast and District.**

General.—The number of unemployed has been greatly increased this month by a fire at a large shipbuilding yard and engineering works. Societies with a membership of 19,516 report 1,529 (or 7·8 per cent.) as out of employment, as against 448 (or 2·3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Societies with a membership of 8,689 report 1,128 (or 13 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 130 (or 1·5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. The boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders, engineers, iron turners and furnishing trades, brassfounders, and carpenters and joiners report employment as fair; the shipwrights as moderate, the ironfounders, machine workers, blacksmiths, blacksmiths' helpers and strikers, pattern-makers, enginemen, firemen, and cranemen and general labourers as good.

Linen Trades.—Societies with a membership of 4,150 report 176 (or 4·2 per cent.) as out of work, as against 187 (or 4·5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. The flax roughers report employment as bad; the flax dressers as dull; the linen-lappers, power-loom tenters, power-loom yarn dressers and women workers as fair; the hackle and gill makers, beetling enginemen, yarn bundlers, and spindle and flyer-makers as good.

Building Trades.—Societies with a membership of 2,811 return 96 (or 3·4 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 10 (or 0·4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June, the painters being responsible for more than half the total of unemployed. The carpenters and joiners, painters, mill-sawyers and machine-men, and plasterers report employment as fair; the plumbers as moderate; the bricklayers and hodsmen as good.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Societies with 618 members return 19 (or 3·1 per cent.) as out of work, as against 16 (or 2·6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. The brushmakers and upholsterers report employment as quiet; the cabinet-makers as steady; the packing-case makers as fair; the coopers, coach-builders, and French polishers as good.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Societies with 842 members return 51 (or 6·1 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 44 (or 5·2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. The letterpress printers report employment as dull; the bookbinders and machine rulers, lithographic artists and designers as fair, and the lithographic printers as good.

Clothing Trades.—Societies with 741 members report that while none are totally unemployed a number are only partially employed, and both the boot and shoe operatives and the tailors report employment as dull.

Miscellaneous.—Nine societies, with 1,665 members, return 59 (or 3·5 per cent.) as out of work, as against 61 (or 3·7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.—*R. Sheldon.*

Cork and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—The boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders in Limerick, Cork and Passage West report employment as fair. All branches of the engineering trade are dull.

Building Trades.—All branches of these trades send in good reports from Limerick, Waterford, and Cork. In Cork the carpenters and joiners have 25 per cent. unemployed owing to a dispute.

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

Clothing Trades.—Flax and tweed operatives in Cork, Limerick and Waterford report employment as fair; the tailors and boot and shoe operatives as dull.

Miscellaneous.—The farriers, railway servants, stationary engine and crane-men, corporation labourers, quay labourers and coal-porters, report employment as steady; the cabinet-makers as fair. Both river and sea fishing have been dull.—*P. O'Shea.*

THE GERMAN INDUSTRIAL CENSUS.

RESULTS FOR PRUSSIA.

THESE returns (based on data collected on June 14th 1895) are not yet complete for the Empire, as the Confederated States have not all supplied their reports. The returns for Prussia, however, are given in the *Deutscher Reichs-Anzeiger* of July 28th. The following account is based on a memorandum, prepared by Mr. Spring Rice, Secretary of Embassy at Berlin, and on the report in the above-named journal.

The total population of Prussia on June 14th 1895, was 31,490,315. These are classed under four groups:—(I.) Those engaged in a fixed business or occupation, numbering 12,020,655; (II.) those engaged in household service, 835,100; (III.) relatives living with and supported by those having a fixed occupation, 17,412,962; (IV.) those who were not dependent on others in the above sense and were without profession or occupation, 1,221,598.

The population is further classified by households, including the members of each family and the domestic servants employed in each. Thus the total population was divided as follows, according to the occupation on which they are dependent:—

Agriculture, gardening, stock-raising, forestry and fishery	11,375,096
Mining, smelting, manufactures, handicrafts, and building	12,196,352
Trade and transport	3,585,430
Casual employment (e.g., charwomen, &c.)	658,896
Army and Navy and other branches of public service	1,671,827
Persons living on dividends or annuities, pensioners, &c., and persons of no stated occupation (including but of no occupation)	2,002,714
Total	31,490,315

As to the proportional increase of the different branches of occupation, it appears that the group of those who live by fixed trade or occupation has increased proportionally since 1882 from 37·09 per cent. of the whole population to 38·17 per cent. in 1895. The proportion of Group II. (household service) has diminished from 3·25 to 2·65 per cent. of the whole. The proportion of Group III. (dependent) has diminished from 57·08 to 55·30 per cent. Group IV. comprises those who live by their property or on pensions or annuities or on the support of the public, also students, and apprentices not living at home, and all persons without occupation or home. The proportion of this class has risen from 2·58 per cent. in 1882 to 3·88 per cent. in 1895. It appears that this increase is due to a large addition since 1882 to the number of those who live on their property, or on pensions or annuities. This class now amounts to 732,379, an increase of 90 per cent., while the number of those who live on public support has not nearly kept pace with the population. This is attributed to the working of the accident, sickness, invalid and old age insurance laws.

A remarkable proof of the change which is coming over the economical situation in Prussia is the fact that whereas in 1882 the proportion of persons living by agriculture and fishery to the whole population was 43·6 per cent., it appears to have sunk in 1895 to 36·1 per cent.

The proportion of those living by mining, manufactures, crafts, and building, rose from 34·4 to 38·7 per cent., and of those employed in trade and transport, from 10·0 to 11·4 per cent.

The actual number of persons employed in agriculture has slightly increased, though it has not kept pace with the increase of population. As to the relative number of persons employed in the various pursuits, it appears that under three principal headings only (agriculture, textiles, and the clothing industry) there has been a relative decrease; in all others an increase.

Of every hundred persons employed in agriculture, industry, and trade, 43·50 were engaged in agriculture, &c.; 8·21 in the clothing and cognate trades; 7·29 in building; 6·22 in commerce; 4·84 in metal working;

4·5 in mining, smelting, and saltworks; 4·36 in preparing foods, drinks, and tobacco, and 3·8 in textiles.

Of 3,102,351 cases of persons who, besides their regular trade or occupation, had secondary employments, agriculture was the subsidiary occupation of about four-fifths.

Tables are given showing in each occupation the proportion of those having independent positions or employing others. In agriculture the proportion of these has much increased, while in other occupations it has diminished; showing the growth, on the one hand, of peasant proprietorship in the country, and, on the other, of large business concerns in the towns. It appears that domestic industry, while it has not fallen back to a great extent, has not kept up with the growth of population.

The percentage of the female population who earn their living in a trade, profession or occupation (other than household service) has increased from 15·42 in 1882 to 17·03 in 1895, while those engaged in household service have fallen from 6·16 to 5·11 per cent.

CONCILIATION (TRADE DISPUTES) ACT, 1896.

THE following is the text of the clauses of the "Act to make better provision for the Prevention and Settlement of Trade Disputes," which received the Royal Assent on 7th August:—

1.—(1) Any board established either before or after the passing of this Act, which is constituted for the purpose of settling disputes between employers and workmen by conciliation or arbitration, or any association or body authorised by an agreement in writing made between employers and workmen to deal with such disputes (in this Act referred to as a conciliation board), may apply to the Board of Trade for registration under this Act.

(2) The application must be accompanied by copies of the constitution, byelaws and regulations of the conciliation board, with such other information as the Board of Trade may reasonably require.

(3) The Board of Trade shall keep a register of conciliation boards, and enter therein with respect to each registered board its name and principal office, and such other particulars as the Board of Trade may think expedient, and any registered conciliation board shall be entitled to have its name removed from the register on sending to the Board of Trade a written application to that effect.

(4) Every registered conciliation board shall furnish such returns, reports of its proceedings, and other documents as the Board of Trade may reasonably require.

(5) The Board of Trade may, on being satisfied that a registered conciliation board has ceased to exist or to act, remove its name from the register.

(6) Subject to any agreement to the contrary, proceedings for conciliation before a registered conciliation board shall be conducted in accordance with the regulations of the board in that behalf.

2.—(1) Where a difference exists or is apprehended between an employer, or any class of employers, and workmen, or between different classes of workmen, the Board of Trade may, if they think fit, exercise all or any of the following powers, namely:—

(a) inquire into the causes and circumstances of the difference;

(b) take such steps as to the Board may seem expedient for the purpose of enabling the parties to the difference to meet together, by themselves or their representatives, under the presidency of a chairman mutually agreed upon or nominated by the Board of Trade or by some other person or body, with a view to the amicable settlement of the difference;

(c) on the application of employers or workmen interested, and after taking into consideration the existence and adequacy of means available for conciliation in the district or trade and the circumstances of the case, appoint a person or persons to act as conciliator or as a board of conciliation;

(d) on the application of both parties to the difference, appoint an arbitrator.

(2) If any person is so appointed to act as conciliator, he shall inquire into the causes and circumstances of the difference by communication with the parties, and otherwise shall endeavour to bring about a settlement of the difference, and shall report his proceedings to the Board of Trade.

(3) If a settlement of the difference is effected either by conciliation or by arbitration, a memorandum of the terms thereof shall be drawn up and signed by the parties or their representatives, and a copy thereof shall be delivered to and kept by the Board of Trade.

(4) The Arbitration Act, 1889, shall not apply to the settlement by arbitration of any difference or dispute to which this Act applies, but any such arbitration proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with such of the provisions of the said Act, or such of the regulations of any conciliation board, or under such other rules or regulations, as may be mutually agreed upon by the parties to the difference or dispute.

3.—If it appears to the Board of Trade that in any district or trade adequate means do not exist for having disputes submitted to a conciliation board for the district or trade, they may appoint any person or persons to inquire into the conditions of the district or trade, and to confer with employers and employed, and, if the Board of Trade think fit, with any local authority or body, as to the expediency of establishing a conciliation board for the district or trade.

4.—The Board of Trade shall from time to time present to Parliament a report of their proceedings under this Act.

5.—The expenses incurred by the Board of Trade in the execution of this Act shall be defrayed out of moneys provided by Parliament.

6.—The Masters and Workmen Arbitration Act, 1824, and the Councils of Conciliation Act, 1867, and the Arbitration (Masters and Workmen) Act, 1872, are hereby repealed.

7.—This Act may be cited as the Conciliation Act, 1896.

STRIKES AND LOCK-OUTS IN THE UNITED STATES, 1881—1894.

The First volume of the Tenth Annual Report of the United States Commissioner of Labour, contains a record of strikes and lock-outs throughout the United States during the seven and a half years 1887 to June 30th, 1894, in continuation of the record from 1881 to 1886 inclusive, contained in the Third Annual Report. The summaries as a rule relate to the whole period of years 1881 to June, 1894. The distinction made between a "strike and a lock-out" is as follows:—

"A strike occurs when the employees of an establishment refuse to work unless the management complies with some demand. A lock-out occurs when the management refuses to allow the employees to work unless they will work under some condition dictated by the management."

The very slight difference between a strike and a lock-out, as mentioned above, is stated to have caused some difficulty in classification. (It will be remembered that in the annual report on strikes and lock-outs published by the Labour Department of the Board of Trade, the attempt to distinguish strikes and lock-outs has been abandoned owing to the difficulty of maintaining a satisfactory definition). In the report under review, several of the summary tables apply to strikes only, and the disputes classified as lock-outs form a very small proportion of the total disputes recorded. Thus during the whole period of thirteen and a half years the number of employees thrown out of work by strikes was 3,714,231 (a yearly average of 275,128), while those thrown out by lock-outs numbered only 366,690 (a yearly average of 27,162).

The following table, showing for each year the magnitude and results of the strikes recorded, is based on two of the summaries printed in the Report (pp. 16 and 28).

Year.	No. of Strikes.	No. of Establishments.	No. of employees thrown out of Work.	Percentage of employees thrown out of work.		
				In successful Strikes.	In partly successful Strikes.	In unsuccessful Strikes.
1881	471	2,928	129,521	42.93	13.50	43.57
1882	454	2,105	154,671	29.48	4.60	65.82
1883	478	2,759	149,765	36.82	11.37	51.81
1884	443	2,367	147,054	35.86	3.43	60.71
1885	645	2,284	242,705	47.54	9.85	42.63
1886	1,432	10,053	508,044	38.46	14.60	46.89
1887	1,436	6,589	379,676	33.50	6.97	59.43
1888	906	3,506	147,704	27.83	7.54	64.65
1889	1,075	3,786	249,559	28.89	25.09	46.02
1890	1,833	9,424	351,944	45.12	13.76	41.11
1891	1,717	8,116	298,939	27.02	7.65	65.33
1892	1,298	5,540	266,671	29.58	7.95	62.47
1893	1,305	4,555	265,911	23.32	13.71	60.45
1894 (six months) ...	896	5,154	482,066	13.49	18.34	68.17
Total	14,389	69,166	3,714,231	32.00	12.46	55.50

The years in which the relative success of the work-people engaged in strikes reached its maximum were 1885 and 1890. Ever since 1890 the degree of success

of strikes has been below the average, while in the first half of 1894 it sank to its lowest point.

Of the establishments affected by strikes 71 per cent. were in the five states, Illinois, Massachusetts, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania. Among the cities most disturbed by strikes Chicago stands first with 8,325 establishments affected and 282,611 employees thrown out of work. New York follows with 6,467 establishments and 215,649 employees.

As regards trades affected, of the 69,166 establishments involved in strikes, 26,860 were in the building trades, 8,018 in the coal and coke trade, 5,465 in the tobacco trade, 4,769 in the clothing trade, 3,817 in the food preparation trade, and 3,454 in the metal trades.

The following summary of the causes of strikes from 1887 to June 1894 (calculated not on the number of employees but of establishments), is abridged from the table given on p. 29 of the report* :—

	Establishments.
For increase of wages	13,086
Against reduction of wages	3,830
For reduction of hours	6,199
For increase of wages and reduction of hours	3,473
For adoption of new scale or Union scale	3,186
For recognition of Union	1,314
Against employment of non-union men	2,160
In sympathy with strike elsewhere	3,620
All other causes	9,994

Total establishments affected (1887-1894) ... 46,862

The average duration of strikes per establishment during the whole period was 25.4 days, and of lock-outs 47.6 days. Tables are given showing the estimated loss of employers and employees through strikes and lock-outs, and the amount of assistance given to employees by labour organisations.

THE DUBLIN BUILDING TRADE DISPUTE.

An account of the origin and early stages of this dispute appeared in the LABOUR GAZETTE for May (page 142), and further notices have appeared in subsequent numbers in the local reports from Dublin.

At the beginning of August a settlement was arrived at between the Master Builders' Association and the carpenters and joiners.

In this section the men had applied for an advance of 2s. per week, making their wages 36s. for a week of 54 hours. The employers made a counter-proposal of a new code of rules, which embraced the introduction of the hour system of payment.

Some negotiations took place, and by the end of June the employers made an offer of 8d. per hour, or 36s. per week of 54 hours for nine months of the year, and for three winter months 8½d. per hour for a week of 45 hours. This proposal was rejected by the men. On July 25th a conference between the representatives of the parties was held, at which the opposition of the men to the hour system was withdrawn, and they were prepared to close the dispute on a basis of 50 hours per week, at 8d. per hour for the three winter months, the 50 hours arrangement to apply to all men "in or out." After some further negotiations a final conference was held on August 1st, when a code of rules was agreed to under which it was arranged that the rate of wages for competent carpenters and joiners should be 8d. per hour, and for outside men during the shortened hours 8½d. per hour; aged workmen to be paid as provided for in Section 2, Rule 40, of the Carpenters' and Joiners' Society. In shops, or where artificial light is provided, the hours are to be 54 per week. At outside work and where artificial light is not provided the hours are to be 54 for 39 weeks (middle of February to middle of November), 52½ per week for 2 weeks, 49½ for 4 weeks and 45½ for 7 weeks. Artificial light will be provided wherever it reasonably can. Carpenters employed by private persons or by breweries, religious institutions, &c., are to be paid ¼d. per hour above the standard rate paid by master builders. The carpenters and joiners have therefore

* In some cases causes stated separately in the Report have been grouped together to save space.

resumed work, but some further difficulties have occurred since the settlement, with regard to the employment of a foreman carpenter who worked during the strike.

So far as the other sections are concerned the dispute still continues. On August 8th the secretary of the Master Builders' Association withdrew the proposed clause in the bricklayers' working rules, requiring them to be paid an extra ¼d. per hour when working for private employers, and offered to confer on the proposed rule empowering employers to take apprentices. On the following day the bricklayers replied suggesting a conference under the presidency of the Archbishop of Dublin.

PRICES OF COAL AND IRON.

THE result of the last audit of the selling prices of coal and iron in certain districts is shown in the following table. In the case of the South Wales coal trade and the manufactured iron trade the prices stated are averages determined over the months of May and June, which regulate wages for August and September. The result of the previous audit is shown for the purpose of comparison. In each case the rates of wages for August and September remain as during the previous two months.

The figures given for the Northumberland coal trade and the pig iron trade are unchanged, as the ascertainment of prices is made once in three months, and no audit has taken place since the last publication of the table (see GAZETTE for July, p. 207).

Product and District.	Number of work-people.	Period over which prices were ascertained at last audit.	Dates from which last audit affects wages.	Average ascertained selling price per ton.		
				According to last audit.	According to previous audit.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in price per ton.
Coal.				s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Northumberland:— (Average for all classes of coal at pit's mouth)	30,000	1896. Mar. Apr. May	1896. July 1	5 0.17	5 0.77	- 0 0.60
South Wales and Monmouth:— (Average for certain classes of coal, &c.)	100,000	May, June	Aug. 1	9 1½ to 9 3½	9 1½ to 9 3½	—
Pig Iron.						
Cumberland and N. Lancashire	1,980	Apr. May June	July 1	47 7	48 1	- 0 6
Cleveland	5,000	Apr. May June	July 1	37 8.26	37 2.54	+ 0 5.72
Manufactured Iron.						
North of England:— (Rails, plates, bars and angles)	6,000	May, June	Aug. 1	96 6.17	96 0.21	+ 0 5.96
Midlands:— (Bars, hoops, sheets, plates, and strips)	20,000	May, June	Aug. 1	113 8.90	115 4.84	- 1 7.94

RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES AND COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS.

Demarcation Dispute between Engineers and Boilermakers.

A DISPUTE took place during July between the engineers and the boilermakers and shipbuilders employed by a firm of torpedo boat builders on the Thames, with respect to the demarcation of the work to be performed by these two classes of workmen. The difficulty arose chiefly in connection with the new forms of water-tube boilers lately introduced, and in the manufacture of which the processes of the engineer are more largely used than in the older forms of boiler. These changes have led to considerable friction between the two branches of trade, and the boilermakers and shipbuilders of this firm some time ago formulated thirteen claims as to the work which should be done by them. The firm in a majority of cases decided in favour of the boilermakers and shipbuilders. The engineers, being aggrieved at the apportionment, struck work on July 20th to the number of about 260, mostly members of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers. After some negotiation the points in dispute were referred to the decision of Sir Benjamin Baker, who gave his award on July 31st. Eleven of the 13 claims of the boilermakers and shipbuilders (some of which were not seriously questioned by the engineers), were upheld by the Arbitrator. The other two points referred to the testing of boilers and the use of machine

tools. The Arbitrator decided that the work of fitting the testing apparatus to the boilers was the work of engineers and that they should be present to see their own portion of the work under test, but that the testing itself is boilermakers' work. In respect to the claim to do the cutting of bunker holes and manholes and holes in the shell of ships or boilers, the decision was generally in favour of the boilermakers, except in cases in which it is necessary for engineers to fix their own work, or in which holes are to be cut by ratchet brace or machine tools. The fitting of rings to the bunker holes was also given to the engineers. The two trade societies concerned are endeavouring to arrange a system of mutual action which may tend to prevent or minimise demarcation disputes in future.

Agreement in the London Printing Trade (for Working Composing Machines).

REPRESENTATIVES of London morning, evening and weekly newspapers and master printers and of the London Society of Compositors have agreed to a list of rules for composing by hand and machinery in substitution for the rules hitherto in force. These new rules are the result of lengthy negotiations between the parties concerned, extending from November 1895 to July 27th 1896, on which date they were signed. Hitherto the rules in vogue (which were agreed to in June 1894) applied only to morning and evening newspapers, but rules have now been framed for operators employed upon the three machines most generally in use on morning, evening and weekly papers, and in book offices. Among the more important of the points are (1) That all skilled operators shall be compositors and members of the London Society of Compositors; (2) That facilities shall be given to compositors employed in offices in which machines are introduced to learn them in their own time, preference to be given such qualified learners; (3) That case hands and machine operators commence work simultaneously, but that machines may be employed on morning papers in the daytime under certain conditions, copy to be given out in fair proportion; (4) That the prices per 1,000 ens remain, except that ¼d. per 1,000 reduction be made on morning papers; (5) That all stoppages of ten minutes and upwards be cumulative, with a minimum charge of twenty minutes. Similar rules apply to weekly newspapers and bookwork, except that the prices per 1,000 ens are slightly less. Elaborate and highly technical conditions of working have also been agreed to.

The rules come into operation from and after the first working week in September 1896.

The following resolution was also agreed to:—

"That in cases of dispute between the London Society of Compositors and any London newspaper proprietors or printers in regard to the interpretation to be placed upon the foregoing rules, the point at issue may, at request of either side of the parties concerned, be referred for arbitration to a Committee consisting of five employers' representatives and five representatives of the London Society of Compositors—the gentlemen forming such Committee of Arbitration to be nominated hereafter by the Employers and Society respectively."

Conciliation Board for Federated Districts (Coal Trade).

Owing to no agreement being arrived at for the further continuance of this Board, it came to an end on July 31st.

DISTRESS FROM WANT OF EMPLOYMENT.

Final Report of the Committee.

THE report of the Select Committee on Distress from Want of Employment* has been issued. The Committee recommend that provision should be made for the more accurate ascertainment locally of the numbers of the unemployed. They consider that ample powers are already possessed by guardians of the poor to give relief to able-bodied persons destitute from want of employment and those dependent on them. They recommend certain forms of labour test (e.g. digging, corn grinding, sawing) as more suitable in

* Report from the Select Committee on Distress from Want of Employment; with the proceedings of the Committee. P.P. No. 322. Price, 4½d.

some cases than stone-breaking and oakum-picking, and are of opinion that the relief scale should not be high enough to deter recipients from seeking other employment. Without pronouncing on the prospects of experiments in the employment of the poor by boards of guardians under certain statutes of Elizabeth and William IV., the Committee recommend that the Local Government Board should facilitate the execution of any carefully planned schemes submitted by boards of guardians. They do not recommend that the Local Government Board should attempt to devise rules of general application to govern all such schemes.

As regards the class of unemployed who are indisposed to accept Poor Law relief, the Committee recommend that on local relief works payment of wages should be at piece-rates current in the district, and certain safeguards are suggested with a view to ensure that the neediest local labourers should benefit by them, and should at the same time not be deterred from seeking work elsewhere. State grants in aid are not recommended, and if grants be made in London from the Metropolitan Common Poor Fund (as suggested by the Committee of 1895), precautions would be necessary to prevent extravagance. The Committee conclude that Farm and Labour Colonies do not offer a general remedy for the evils resulting from want of employment. Only a small proportion of the town unemployed can be usefully set to work upon the land, "free" colonies become the resort of the idle and vicious with whom the respectable unemployed will not mix, such colonies cannot be made self-supporting, and cannot easily deal with married persons, and in winter when the demand for employment is greatest, comparatively little labour can be applied to the land. The Committee consider that it is not possible to decide by individual inquiries whether recipients of poor relief deserve to be relieved from franchise disabilities, and recommend that no one should be disfranchised, unless he has received relief for a period exceeding a month during the qualifying year, and has also received relief at some period during the year immediately preceding.

Lastly, the Committee recommend more co-operation between boards of guardians, workmen's associations, and those responsible for the management of charitable and benefit funds, including temporary bodies such as relief committees formed in times of exceptional distress.

SUNDAY LABOUR IN BELGIUM.*

THE first question inquired into by the recently established *Office du Travail* in Belgium has been that of Sunday labour, the first instalment of the report on which has now appeared in a volume of over 500 pages. The present volume practically deals with all the chief industries carried on in Belgium, except transport trades, mines, and quarries. The number of typical establishments or branches of establishments, selected for investigation numbered 1,459, employing 119,477 workpeople on weekdays. Of these establishments 946 employed Sunday labour to the amount of 41,679 workpeople.

A distinction is made between regular and irregular Sunday labour, *i.e.*, between the establishments (of which 430 were included in the inquiry) in which workpeople are employed on every Sunday in the year, and those (516 in number) in which they are employed on occasional Sundays only. Of the above 41,679 workpeople, 13,651 (or 11.5 per cent. of the total number employed in the establishments) work every Sunday; 14,712 (or 12.3 per cent.) every other Sunday, and 13,316 (or 11.2 per cent.), on occasional Sundays. For the great majority (11,916 out of a total of 14,712) of those described as working every other Sunday the hours of such employment are from midnight on Saturday till 6 o'clock on Sunday morning.

The following table shows the particulars of the

duration of work in the case of those employed every Sunday and those employed irregularly on Sundays:—

No. of Sundays worked in the Year.	No. of Workpeople employed					Total.
	In shifts (usually of 6, 12 or 18 hours).	12 hours or more.	6 and under 12 hours.	Less than 6 hours.	For an undetermined number of hours.	
All Sundays ...	8,533	1,055	2,259	1,721	83	13,651
26 and under 52	105	139	470	223	13	950
10 and under 26	2,345	100	905	885	119	4,352
Under 10 ...	1,714	1,151	1,205	2,147	88	6,315
Number undetermined	234	190	740	219	316	1,699
Totals ...	12,931	2,645	5,579	5,193	619	26,967

The great majority of those employed in Sunday labour (37,166, or 89.2 per cent.) are engaged in production properly so-called, as distinct from repairing and cleaning plant, keeping furnaces alight, caretaking, conveyance of goods, &c.

STRIKES, LOCK-OUTS, CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION IN FRANCE IN 1895.*

THE report of the French Labour Department for 1895 on labour disputes, and the working of the Conciliation and Arbitration Law of 1892 gives more detailed particulars with regard to the disputes than those of previous years. It records 405 strikes, affecting 45,801 persons (strikers only), compared with 391 strikes affecting 54,576 persons in 1894. The total number of days lost was 617,469, compared with 1,062,480 in 1894, including 61,597 days lost by 5,899 workpeople other than those actually on strike. Two lock-outs took place, one of which (affecting 280 rope-makers) was the only dispute of 1895, which arose from the application of the Factory Act of 1892, restricting female and child labour, which caused 11 disputes in 1894, and 55 in 1893.

The trades most disturbed by disputes in 1895 were those of the textile group in which the strikes numbered 141, and the strikers 14,641. Of these, 32 strikes, affecting 3,101 workpeople, were successful.

In the following statement the strikes of 1895 are grouped according to cause, extent and result:—

CAUSES.	Strikes.	Strikers.	Workpeople engaged in strikes which were:		
			Successful.†	Partly successful.†	Unsuccessful.†
For increased wages ...	No. 196	No. 28,866	No. 4,224	No. 15,751	No. 8,861
Against reduced wages ...	57	3,204	682	842	1,649
Other wage questions ...	16	5,936	2,646	1,165	2,115
For reduction of hours (with maintenance or increase of wages)	49	6,106	3,602	777	1,727
Disagreement as to method of working or workshop rules	47	6,362	1,317	2,742	2,303
For or against dismissal of workpeople, &c.	85	10,170	2,256	1,584	6,318
Other causes ...	16	708	249	142	265

The principal data relating to the working of the Conciliation and Arbitration Law were reported in the April GAZETTE (p. 115), the information being supplied to the Department by the *Office du Travail*.

SPECIAL RULES FOR DANGEROUS TRADES.

Report of Departmental Committee.

AN interim report has been published by the Departmental Committee on Dangerous Trades (C-8149, price 3d.). It contains the recommendations of the committee with regard to special rules in the following trades—bronzing in lithographic works, paper-staining, colouring and enamelling, india rubber working, dry-cleaning, aerated water manufacture. It also contains suggested recommendations with regard to the use of inflammable paints on ships in docks, and the use of steam locomotives in factories. In these two cases, however, certain legal difficulties occur with regard to the enforcement of special rules, and a suggestion is

* Statistique des Grèves et des Recours à la Conciliation et à l'Arbitrage Survenus pendant l'Année 1895. (Office du Travail.) On sale at establishment of MM. Berger-Levrault et Cie, Paris.

† As far as the definite results could be ascertained.

* "Travail du Dimanche." Volume I. Belgique. Etablissements Industriels. non compris les mines, minières et carrières. Office du Travail, Brussels, 1896. Société Belge de Librairie, Rue Treurenberg, 16.

made for the insertion of a clause in any future Factory Bill extending and defining the meaning of the words "factory or workshop."

Order under the Factory and Workshops Acts.

UNDER date 23rd July 1896, the Home Secretary has certified that, in his opinion, the process of sorting wool, goat hair or camel hair, and the processes incidental thereto, are dangerous or injurious to health. This brings such processes within the scope of Section 8 (1) of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1891, empowering the Chief Inspector to require the adoption of special rules or measures by the occupiers of factories and workshops in which these processes are carried on.

OLD AGE PENSIONS.

THE Committee on Old Age Pensions held a preliminary meeting on Wednesday, 22nd July. The committee adjourned until November, when they will be prepared to consider any schemes that may be submitted to them "for encouraging the industrial population, by State aid or otherwise, to make provision for old age." Any schemes falling within this definition which it may be desired to submit for consideration, should be forwarded to the secretary of the committee, Mr. B. H. Holland, 23 Great George Street, Westminster, before October 1st next. The full text of the reference is as follows:—

"To consider any schemes that may be submitted to them for encouraging the industrial population, by State aid or otherwise, to make provision for old age, and to report whether they can recommend the adoption of any proposals of the kind, either based upon or independent of such schemes, with special regard, in the case of any proposals of which they may approve, to their cost and probable financial results to the Exchequer and to local rates, their effect in promoting habits of thrift and self-reliance, their influence on the prosperity of the friendly societies, and the possibility of securing the co-operation of these institutions in their practical working."

LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.*

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

Canada.—A Manitoba newspaper states, "Though harvest has not started yet, there appears to be a considerable demand for farm help. There is considerable summer following doing this season, and haying is now starting. In the city there are few idle men and most of those who are idle refuse to go to the country to accept work. Wages offered for farm hands varies from 18 dols. to 25 dols. per month, including board. There has also been some demand for men for railway work. In a short time a large number of men will be wanted, if crop prospects keep good." In British Columbia the mining of gold and other minerals has been developing greatly of late, and there are stated to be many thousands of miners now prospecting in the Province; successful miners earning 3 to 5 dollars a day.

New South Wales.—The Public Service Board are making further changes in the Department of Public Instruction, by which the salaries of teachers and others will be reduced and an aggregate saving of nearly £40,000 a year be effected. The agricultural returns for 1895-6, which have just been issued, show that owing to the severe drought of that year the area under grain greatly diminished, though the increased area under hay and green crops more than counter-balanced this decrease. Stock suffered enormously, and the number of sheep decreased by 10½ millions. The number of farm and station hands employed was as a natural consequence much less than in the previous year. Attempts are being made to work the large local deposits of iron; if they are successful the iron industry will be established on a very large scale at Mittagong; most of the iron throughout Australia is now imported. The coal mines to the south of Sydney have been busy in consequence of the strike at Newcastle. At the Broken

* The statistics of callers at and letters to the Emigrants' Information Office for the quarter ended 30th June last show a large increase of enquiries with regard to South Africa and Western Australia, as compared with the corresponding quarter of last year.

Hill silver mines only good practical miners have any chance of work at the present time.

Victoria.—With a view to encourage wine making in the Colony, the Government have determined to give a bonus of 3d. per gallon on all Victorian wine exported, and also a bonus of 1s. per gallon on brandy made from Victorian wine or grapes, and shipped abroad. There is a plentiful supply of mechanical and other labour in the Colony.

South Australia.—The local labour is sufficient. A report from the south-east of the Colony states that there is a little revival in business generally, but not enough to require more labour.

Queensland.—There was more Crown land taken up in 1895 than in any previous year, and the aggregate rents were greater. A considerable number of agricultural farms were taken up, but the greatest increase was in the selections of grazing farms and grazing homesteads. The local supply of mechanical and other labour is sufficient. The timber industry in Brisbane has lately been very brisk, and mill hands have been busy.

Western Australia.—The Government is introducing a Bill to construct works to supply the Coolgardie Gold Fields with water at a cost of £2,500,000. The agricultural statistics for 1895, which have just been issued, show that the area under cultivation was 17,000 acres larger than in 1894. Hay was the principal crop responsible for this increase, but wheat, oats and vines all had a share in it. Considerable sums of money are now being expended in the Colony upon public works, the town industries are active, and employment on the gold fields is plentiful. Building stone has been discovered near Coolgardie, and labour for building purposes is scarce.

Tasmania.—The yield of gold in the various mines last quarter was 17,000 ozs., which was 10,000 ozs. more than in the corresponding quarter of last year. The agricultural statistics for 1895-6, which have just been issued, show that farmers have on the whole been doing well; the total cultivated area is much larger than it was two years ago, wheat having an increased area of over 9,000 acres; prices all round have risen, and the average yields of nearly all grain and root crops have increased. The yield, however, of apples and pears, the cultivation of which is largely carried on in the south of the island, was not so good as usual, and the hay and green forage crops did not show so large an increase as might have been expected.

New Zealand.—There is general prosperity in all parts of the Colony, and the temporary depression which prevailed some two years ago is passing away. The revival of gold mining has been most noteworthy during the past year, and the output of gold was valued at £250,000 more than that of last year. The settlement of people on the land has also progressed most satisfactorily. The population has greatly increased since the census of 1891, especially that in the north island. It is stated that the building trade in the town of Auckland has been brisk, and that there is scarcely an industry in the province of Auckland that is not being successfully carried on, so that labour is plentifully employed. At Reefton, in the south island, the miners have struck against a notice to reduce their wages from 60s. to 48s. a week, which is the current rate in the Auckland district in the north island.

Cape Colony.—A report from Bechuanaland states that there is no demand for farm hands, mechanics, or miners. In the eastern portion of Cape Colony much more attention than formerly is being given to dairy farming, especially in the matter of winter feeding, and large areas of land have been put under lucerne. The locusts during this year have done much harm in Cape Colony, especially on the Eastern coast. No recruiting is going on in this country for the police forces in Cape Colony, or in the Territories to the north.

Natal.—The June returns from the coal mines show that the number of employees and the quantity of coal raised in June was greater than in June 1895, and has been steadily increasing. A report from Pietermaritzburg states that trade is fair just now.

LABOUR ABROAD.

FRANCE.*

Employment in July.—Employment has slightly fallen off. Four hundred and fifty trade unions, with 115,000 members, reported 7 per cent. unemployed on July 15th, the proportion so reported on the same date in June being 4.9 per cent.

The *Building Trades* show some tendency towards slackness, but stonemasons, carpenters and joiners are well employed. In the *Metal Trades*, iron and steel workers and engineering operatives are fully employed. The wool and silk branches of the *Textile Trades* are slack. In the *Clothing Trades*, tailors and dress and mantle makers are not so busy as in June; the boot and shoe and the glove trades are slack, but felt hat makers are recovering from their slack season. Employment in the *Glassworking Trade* is improving.

Labour Disputes in July.—Fifty-six new disputes, affecting 150 establishments, were reported to the *Office du Travail* in July, the number of new disputes reported in the previous month having been 68. The number of workpeople known to have been involved in 45 disputes was about 5,500. Twenty disputes were in the textile trades, 10 in the metal trades, 6 in the building trades, 4 each among miners, leather-workers, and workers in stone and clay, 3 in transport trades, 2 in the fishing industry, and 3 in unclassified trades. Over one-third of those on strike were involved in disputes which occurred in the Nord department, one of these affecting 1,184 foundrymen of Lille and neighbouring towns. Over 1,000 miners took part in a strike at La Vernardé, in the department of Gard. Of 43 strikes, old and new, which terminated in July, 6 were successful, 17 partially so, and 16 unsuccessful, while in 4 cases the results were indecisive.

Conciliation and Arbitration in July.—The law on Conciliation and Arbitration was put into operation in connection with 13 disputes in July, the initiative being taken in 8 cases by the workpeople, and in 4 by the *juges de paix* or *maires*. Information on this point is wanting for one case. Conciliation proceedings took place in 10 cases and terminated 3 strikes, one being that of the miners of La Vernardé (see above under *Labour Disputes*), against a proposed 10 per cent. reduction of wages. The proposed reduction was withdrawn. Conciliation was also proposed, at the request of the workpeople, in the strike of foundrymen in the Nord department, but was rejected by the employers.

GERMANY.

Labour Disputes in July.—Of 43 disputes of which accounts appeared in the *Deutscher Reichs-Anzeiger* in July, 32 were reported for the first time, some 9,000 workpeople being involved in 17 disputes for which figures were given. Of the newly-reported disputes, 8 were among metal-workers, 6 in the printing trades, 3 each in the building and woodworking trades and among dock labourers, 2 each in the textile, clothing, brewing and tobacco trades, and 1 among miners. The most noteworthy of the newly-reported disputes appear to have been: a strike of shipbuilding operatives in Flensburg, in consequence of which a shipyard was closed and some 1,500 operatives deprived of work; a strike of small masters and journeymen in the cap-making industry in Berlin, to obtain a new list of prices from the wholesale firms and a strike of scissors-finishers in Solingen for a new price list. The putters-together in the penknife branch (see last month's *GAZETTE*) have resumed work, the employers promising to revise their wage list. It has also been agreed to form a permanent board of conciliation for the settlement of future disputes in this branch. A strike of operatives in the Berlin felt hat trade, in progress since May 20th (see *GAZETTE*), was declared unsuccessful on July 20th by the workers.

Württemberg Municipal Labour Registries in June.—The 10 municipal labour registries in Württemberg found work for 2,232 persons (1,666 men and 566 women) during June. The situations applied for by workpeople numbered 4,485, and those offered by employers 4,383.

The Agreement in the Printing Trade.—The agreement arrived at in May, between representatives of employers and journeymen in the book-printing trade, involving the acceptance of a uniform basis for regulating the wages and working hours of the trade in Germany (see *GAZETTE* of May, p. 147, and June, p. 179), had met with strong

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the French *Office du Travail*.

opposition from a considerable number of the unions belonging to the Book-printers' Federation, more especially owing to the fixing of 9½ instead of 9 hours as the duration of the working day. An extraordinary conference of delegates of the federated unions, which met at Halle from July 13th to 18th, has, however, accepted the agreement, 48 out of 67 delegates voting in favour of it.

The guild of employers in the book-printing trade of Leipsic have resolved to introduce the new tariff in Leipsic from July 1st, the effect of which will, it is said, be to increase the cost of printing by 10 per cent. A number of small strikes have occurred in Leipsic during the month, owing to delay in applying the new tariff (*Correspondenzblatt der General-Kommission der Gewerkschaften Deutschlands und Deutscher Reichs-Anzeiger*).

SWITZERLAND.

*Labour Disputes in July.**—The chief dispute of the month has been the general boycott declared by the Swiss Workmen's League against the beer manufactured by brewers belonging to the Association of Brewery Owners of Switzerland, the circumstances leading to which were reported in last month's *GAZETTE*. The organised workers—said to number 190—employed by the boycotted breweries have been dismissed. Of 2 fresh disputes reported in July, one took place in Zürich, where a "block" has been placed on 16 tinworking establishments, owing to non-insurance of the men against accidents; the other was a strike of brickmakers in Oberriet (St. Gall), to protest against their treatment by the manager of the works. The building operatives of Chaux-de-Fonds, whose strike was reported last month, have obtained the 10 hours day and the following rates of pay per hour:—Masons, first class, 4.3d. to 5.3d.; ditto, second class, 3.4d. to 4.3d. Labourers, first class, 3.1d. to 3.8d.; ditto, second class, 2.4d. (minimum wage). Mortar boys, 2.1d. to 2.9d. The general lock-out of furniture joiners in Lausanne, for refusing to accept a new price list, has also been settled, the men receiving a minimum time wage of 4.8d. per hour, and 10 per cent. increase in piece wages.

Federal Co-operation in Schemes for Unemployed Insurance, &c.—In answer to a circular note addressed to the Cantonal Governments by the Federal Council on the question of Federal Co-operation in Schemes for Unemployed Insurance and Labour Registries, the Cantonal Government of St. Gall has replied to the effect that legislative intervention on the part of the Federation in such matters would be premature. A revision of the constitution would be necessary to give the Federal Government the required powers, but the granting of Federal subventions in aid of existing institutions was worthy of consideration.

Working hours in Factories, &c.—The Federal Department of Industry has published the results of a census of establishments subject to the Federal Factory Act, carried out on June 5th, 1895, by the Federal Factory Inspectors.† Among the information set forth in the report are particulars as to the length of the working day, which show the hours of actual work per week for the 200,199 operatives employed in establishments subject to the Federal Factory Act on that date to have been as follows:—

	54 and under.	Over 54 to 57.	Over 57 to 60.	Over 60 to 62½.	Over 62½ to 65.	Total.
Number of Workpeople	3,983	6,651	56,738	18,530	114,297	200,199
Per-centage of total	2.0	3.3	28.4	9.3	57.0	100.0

Eighty-three per cent. of Swiss textile operatives, including practically all the cotton spinning operatives, work 65 hours a week.

Co-operative Consumers' Societies.—The Conference of Swiss Co-operative Consumers' Societies, which met in Geneva, on July 20th and 21st, was attended by 130 delegates, representing 59 federated societies, and by representatives of 4 non-federation societies. The federation only admits societies in which all the profits are given to the consumers.

BELGIUM.‡

Employment in July.—Employment has continued satisfactory on the whole, more especially as regards the *Metal* and *Engineering* branches. The *Building Trades*, too, are well employed. *Coal Mining* is being actively carried on in the Liège and Charleroi districts, but in the Borinage fields slackness is reported, involving temporary suspension of work in two mines.

* Based on information published in *Der Grütliener*.
† Schweizerische Fabrikstatistik, nach den Erhebungen des eidg. Fabrikinspektorates vom 5. Juni 1895. Herausgegeben vom Schweiz. Industrie-Departement. Berne, Buchdruckerei S. Collin, 1896.

‡ Supplied through the courtesy of the Belgian *Office du Travail*.

Among *Textile* operatives, cotton spinners in Ghent and combed wool spinners in Verviers are busy; Ghent flax spinners and carded wool spinners in Verviers are, however, slack. *Brickmakers* continue well employed. In the *Clothing Trades* the slack season has begun, the effect on employment being most marked in the tailoring branch.

Labour Disputes in July.—Thirteen strikes, involving 914 workpeople, were in progress in July, of which all except 2 ended by August 1st. Six strikes were for increased wages, 3 for the re-instatement of dismissed workpeople, and 1 to procure the dismissal of a foreman. Two of the remaining 3 had reference to new working rules, and 1 was due to the introduction of a new kind of machine. Eight out of 10 strikes which terminated were unsuccessful.

General Strike of Joiners in Brussels.—Some 3,000 joiners of Brussels and its suburbs struck on August 3rd for minimum wages of 5d. per hour. By August 10th a number of the smaller employers had conceded this demand, which the majority, including the principal employers, continued to oppose. Efforts at conciliation, made by the provincial governor, have been unsuccessful.

Inquiry as to Minimum Wages in Municipal and Provincial Contracts.—An inquiry just completed, under the auspices of the Brussels Communal Council, shows that 8 out of 9 provincial administrations, and 47 of the principal towns in Belgium, having an aggregate population of 1,427,515 persons, have adopted the practice of requiring their contractors to agree to the payment of minimum wages in public contracts. The inquiry was undertaken in connection with the proposal of some members of the Brussels Communal Council that contractors for municipal works in Brussels should be required to guarantee minimum wages, a maximum working day, Sunday rest, and insurance against accidents for those whom they employed in the execution of such contracts. The Communal Council has not yet decided with regard to this proposal.

Minimum Wages in Government Contracts.—In accordance with a promise made by the Minister of Labour to the Chamber of Representatives, it has been decided that, from July 1st, 1896, to December 31st, 1897, clauses providing for the payment of minimum wages to masons, paviors and navvies shall, tentatively, be inserted in all Government contracts, in which such labour is employed. (See last month's *GAZETTE*, p. 213.)

DENMARK.

Strike at Elsinore Dockyard.—Captain James Boyle, Her Majesty's Consul in Copenhagen, reporting under date of July 30th, stated that work was to be resumed on August 1st at the Elsinore Dockyard, which had been closed for some time in consequence of a strike with regard to wages. The settlement of this dispute was effected by compromise.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

The strike in Neunkirchen.—In a report to the Foreign Office, dated July 19th, Sir E. Monson, H.M. Ambassador at Vienna, announces the termination of the strike of textile operatives and metal-workers at Neunkirchen, a brief notice of which appeared in last month's *GAZETTE*. The employers have acceded to none of the demands put forward by the operatives, who resumed work at all the factories on July 18th.

Other Labour Disputes in July.—Thirty-six labour disputes in addition to the above were reported on in the principal Austrian labour papers* in July, some 6,000 workpeople being involved in 23 of the disputes, for which figures were given. Of 23 of the above 36 disputes which were new, 9 were among building operatives, 6 among metal-workers, 3 among woodworkers, 2 in the brewery trade, and 1 each among hatmakers, leather bag makers and handloom weavers. The last-named dispute is said to involve some 1,200 weavers in Prossnitz (Moravia), who struck on July 21st for increased wages.

* *Die Arbeiter-Zeitung* and *Die Gewerkschaft*.

Other noteworthy disputes, begun in July, are general strikes of plumbers and cartwrights in Vienna. The plumbers, numbering it is said, from 1,000 to 1,200, struck on July 13th, their chief demands being the 9 hours day and 15 per cent. increase in wages, the weekly minimum to be 16s. 8d. These demands were said to have been conceded in a certain number of workshops by the end of the month. Of some 500 cartwrights who struck on July 6th, about 170 were said to be still on strike at the end of the month. One of their principal demands is the 10 hour day.

Scarcity of Agricultural Labourers in Hungary.—According to official returns prepared by the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture the supply of workpeople needed for this year's harvesting operations falls very short of the demand. The wages of harvesters vary from 2s. to 4s. 2d. per day for adult males in the lowlands, and in the highlands, where the harvest is later, from 1s. 4d. to 3s. 4d. (*Handelsmuseum*, July 16th, 1894.)

ITALY.

Strike in Florentine Straw-plait Industry.—Under date of July 15th, Mr. Gennaro Placci, H.M. acting Consul-general at Florence, has furnished an account of a strike of the women straw-plaiters in the villages to the south and east of Florence, which broke out on the 17th of May, and in which some 4,000 out of a total of 50,000 employed in this industry in the district took part. The object of the strike was to obtain an increase of wages, these being so low that a straw-plaiter is said to have only earned 1d. or 2d. per day. Wages of at least 5d. per day were demanded by the strikers. The dispute lasted ten days, during which some serious riots and conflicts with the troops occurred. A settlement was effected on the 27th of May through the intervention of the local Labour Chamber on behalf of the strikers, and by the Chamber of Commerce on behalf of the manufacturers. With a view to affording some immediate though temporary relief to the workers the manufacturers decided to give orders at once for 300,000 pieces of plait and 106,000 hats, to the value of £20,000.

The lowness of the wages of the straw-plaiters is said to be due, firstly, to the fact that Florentine straw is being superseded in the market by straw from other countries, notably from China and Japan; secondly, to the usurious practices of middlemen who advance money to the workers to buy straw, which when plaited they collect and deliver to the manufacturer; lastly, to the fact that straw-plaiting, formerly confined to the inhabitants of the villages (*pigionali*), is now carried on as a supplementary source of income by the peasantry (*contadini*) as well.

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK CONSULAR DISTRICT.

The following is based on information supplied to the Foreign Office, under date of July 31st, by Mr. G. Fraser, H.M. Acting Consul-General at New York:—

Strike in the Tailoring Trade of New York and Brooklyn.—There is now in progress a strike of some 20,000 persons employed in the manufacture of clothing in New York and Brooklyn, involving indirectly a much larger number of persons connected in various ways with the trade. The strikers, the majority of whom struck on July 22nd, allege that their earnings have been reduced 50 per cent. within the past six months, through the re-introduction of the task system, abandoned two years ago after a strike (see *GAZETTE* of October, 1894, pp. 319-20), and the gradual increasing of the task.

The strikers now demand that 59 hours shall constitute a week's work, for which specified rates of wages shall be paid, varying from 18 dollars (£3 15s.) for operators, to 8 dollars (£1 13s. 4d.) for second class finishers. They also demand that a helper be employed for every 3 machines, that the separation in certain branches into two classes be based upon ability, and that a board be constituted for securing the fulfilment of these conditions.

It is reported that about 40 contractors, employing about 300 persons, settled individually with their workers on those terms on July 30th, and have resumed work. The remaining contractors insist that any agreement made should be between the "Brotherhood of Tailors" and the Contractors' Association.

CHICAGO CONSULAR DISTRICT.

The following is based on information supplied by Mr. A. G. Vansittart, H.M. Consul at Chicago, under date of July 26th:—

Labour Disputes.—The only new dispute reported in July was that of the iron ore handlers employed in one of the establishments of the Illinois Steel Company, who struck on July 22nd, the shovellers and dumpers demanding 1s. 2½d. instead of 11d. per hour, and the car pushers an increase on the existing rate, which is 6½d. per hour. In consequence of this strike, several steamers have had to take their cargoes to Milwaukee. A strike of machinists employed by the Illinois Steel Company in Joliet, which began on the 2nd of May, was declared at an end on July 11th at a meeting of the International Association of Machinists and the Amalgamated Association of Engineers. Fifteen hundred rolling-mill operatives of Milwaukee, employed by the same company, who have been out of employment since July 1st, will shortly resume work under a new scale, approved by the company on July 11th, at a joint conference between the officials and representatives of the various departments of the rolling mill.

FOREIGN TRADE FOR JULY.

Imports.—The total declared value of the imports during July was £34,382,850, a falling-off of £714,664, or 2.0 per cent., compared with £35,097,514, the declared value in July 1895. For the seven months of this year there is an increase of £12,049,421, or 5.0 per cent. over the corresponding period of last year, the values for the two periods being respectively £250,834,885 and £238,785,464.

The following table gives the declared value of the imports grouped in large classes for July 1896 and 1895:—

Class of Goods.	July 1896.	July 1895.	Increase.	Decrease.
Food, Drink, and Tobacco ...	£ 15,324,474	£ 16,201,717	—	£ 877,243
Metals ...	1,820,622	1,765,051	55,571	—
Oils, Chemicals, Dyeing and Tanning Substances ...	1,252,800	1,276,408	—	23,608
Raw Materials for Manufacture ...	7,902,842	8,328,948	—	426,106
Manufactured Articles ...	6,850,798	6,341,987	508,811	—
Miscellaneous ...	1,231,314	1,183,403	47,911	—
Totals ...	34,382,850	35,097,514	—	714,664

Among food-stuffs corn again shows a great decrease amounting to £984,617, or over 20 per cent., and there is also a noticeable falling-off in the imports of potatoes, butter, cheese and lard. The imports of sugar and oxen and bulls have considerably increased. In the metal group the principal increase is in the value of iron ore, amounting to £123,331. Raw materials for textile manufactures have decreased by £733,498. Raw cotton accounting for £318,993, sheep and lambs' wool for £185,286, flax for £151,362, and goats' hair for £114,736. Jute has increased by £100,232. Of other raw materials imported the value of wood has increased by £362,760, and of caoutchouc by £167,866. Among manufactured articles, iron shows an increase of £150,574, cotton goods of £120,120, and leather of £103,958.

British and Irish Exports.—These amounted during July to the declared value of £21,334,785, being £775,299, or 3.8 per cent. more than in July 1895. The total for the seven months is £140,337,507, an increase of £13,660,505, or 10.8 per cent. over the corresponding seven months of last year.

The figures for July 1896 and 1895 grouped in large classes are shown in the following table:—

Class of Goods.	July 1896.	July 1895.	Increase.	Decrease.
Articles of Food and Drink ...	£ 976,126	£ 986,815	—	4,689
Raw Materials ...	1,553,795	1,810,076	—	256,281
Yarns and Textile Fabrics ...	9,703,895	9,437,848	266,047	—
Metals and Articles manufactured therefrom (except machinery) ...	2,964,036	2,565,418	398,618	—
Machinery and Mill Work ...	1,552,724	1,333,891	218,833	—
Miscellaneous ...	4,584,209	4,431,438	152,771	—
Totals ...	21,334,785	20,559,486	775,299	—

The decrease under the head of raw materials was mainly in coal and patent fuel, which fell off to the extent of 231,379 tons in quantity, and £168,058 in value. Under textile fabrics, cotton piece goods and cotton yarn show increases of £346,812 and £113,683 respectively, in face of the continued decline in the importation of raw cotton, while worsted tissues have decreased by £171,915. Of increases under other heads that of wrought and unwrought iron amounts to £398,878, and of machinery, &c., to £218,833.

Re-exports of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.—During July these amounted to £4,274,686, as compared with £4,789,951 in July, 1895.

Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared.—The total tonnage of vessels entered at all ports of the United Kingdom from Foreign Countries and British Possessions was 3,180,460 tons during July, being 15,368 tons more than in July of last year. The tonnage of vessels cleared was 3,446,552 tons, or 23,670 tons more than a year ago. The tonnage entered Coastwise was 2,712,078 tons, and cleared 2,613,513 tons, as compared with 2,677,071 tons, and 2,622,996 tons respectively in July 1895.

LABOUR CASES IN JULY.

The following are among the more interesting legal cases of the month specially affecting labour of which the Department has received information. The accounts are based principally upon reports appearing in local newspapers. A general statistical account of prosecutions under the Factory and Workshop Acts, the Mines Acts, and the Merchant Shipping Acts, will be found on page 247.

(1) EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACT.

Voluntarily taking a risk.—This was an appeal from the County Court judge by defendant, a veterinary surgeon, whose coachman had obtained a verdict and judgment against him for injuries sustained from the kick of a horse while driving it [see LABOUR GAZETTE, July 1896, p. 214.] It was argued for the respondent that he had not voluntarily submitted himself to danger; that if he had not driven the horse he would have lost his employment. The Court set aside the judgment, holding that there was no evidence of vice, except that which was well known to the coachman, who made no complaint.—*Queen's Bench Division, July 17th.*

Liability of Person Supplying Defective Plant.—In the Bow County Court an action was brought by a labourer for injuries sustained while unloading wheat from a vessel in the docks, owing to the breaking of a defective sack. The defendants were the consignees of the grain, and they employed the dock company to unload, supplying them with sacks, which they hired from a person who was also joined as a defendant. This defendant knew the purpose for which the sacks were hired. In the County Court judgment was obtained against the consignees, but in the case of the other defendant the Judge directed a non-suit. The question raised was whether this defendant was liable under the principle of the case of *Heaven v. Pender* (11 Q.B.D. 503), there being no contractual relation between the plaintiff and defendant. It was contended on behalf of the plaintiff that the defendant was liable because he had supplied goods of an improper character for the purpose for which he was aware they were wanted. The following authorities were also quoted in support of this contention: *Mowbray v. Merryweather* (1895, 2 Q.B. 640); *Elliott v. Hall* (15 Q.B.D. 315). The Court allowed the appeal, and ordered a new trial.—*Queen's Bench Division, July 18th.*

Maximum Compensation offered under the Act by a Corporation.—An employee of the Huddersfield Corporation died from injuries received owing to the explosion of a gas retort, caused by a portion of the brickwork giving way. The widow and administratrix sued on her own behalf and of her six children for damages. The Corporation stated that whatever their position was in law they had resolved to pay the full damages allowed by the Employers' Liability Act. The action was in the nature of a friendly one, it being necessary to take the verdict of the jury in order to apportion the damages between widow and children. The jury awarded the widow £150, and £21 19s. 7d. for each of the children.—*Huddersfield County Court, July 23rd.*

(2) CONSPIRACY AND PROTECTION TO PROPERTY ACT.

"Following" in order to compel a person to abstain from doing a lawful act.—A carpenter was indicted under the Conspiracy and Protection to Property Act, 1875 (38 and 39 Vict.), for having unlawfully, wrongfully, and without legal authority followed another carpenter with a view to compel him to abstain from doing a certain act, namely, to act as a carpenter and joiner, and as a foreman of carpenters and joiners, on certain days in May, 1896. An objection was raised to the indictment by the defence, but was overruled by the Recorder, namely, that the "act" which must be prevented was not the general following of an occupation, but the pursuing of some definite act, which must be specified and comprehended within the terms of the profession or occupation. The facts put forward in support of the prosecution were that during the carpenters' and joiners' strike at Portsmouth the defendant collected a crowd of people on three occasions, and followed prosecutor from place to place in a disorderly manner. Prosecutor while being followed by the crowd on the last occasion gave prisoner into custody, because he stated he was afraid the prisoner would do him some harm. Evidence, including that of the police, was called to prove that the conduct of the crowd was disorderly, and that it was calculated to result in a breach of the peace. On the other hand, witnesses for the defence were called to prove that the crowd was not disorderly. Prisoner, when at the police-station, stated that he thought he was justified in following prosecutor, as long as he did not assault him. The jury found the prisoner guilty. Sentence, 21 days' imprisonment with hard labour.—*Portsmouth Quarter Sessions, July 21st.*

Maliciously interfering with the Carrying on of a Business.—A pianoforte maker and his foreman sued three trade societies and

six other defendants, of whom three were secretaries of the societies, for damages, and for an injunction to restrain the defendants from watching or besetting the house where the plaintiffs resided or carried on their business, and from illegally interfering with the business of the plaintiffs, whether by intimidation, the publication of a black list, or otherwise, and from maliciously persuading or compelling, or from conspiring to persuade, or compel, tradesmen or workmen or others to break or not to enter into contracts with the first-named plaintiff, and generally from maliciously interfering with the plaintiffs in carrying on their lawful trade or business. An objection was taken that the societies could not be sued, but the Judge said that as the defendants' solicitor gave an undertaking to enter an appearance he should direct an appearance to be formally entered. The plaintiff's case was that in September 1895 a foreman was discharged for incapacity, and that another man, one of the plaintiffs, was put in his place. In consequence, plaintiffs' premises were picketed. A further cause of dispute also arose in consequence of another man in plaintiff's employment withdrawing from one of the defendant trade societies and continuing to work for plaintiff. It was stated that, as the result of the picketing and loss of men, plaintiff had lost £400 from the dispute. With reference to the case of the foreman, one of the plaintiffs, he stated that his name was on a black list in a neighbouring public-house, which made it impossible for him to get a job anywhere in England. For the defence it was contended that the defendants had not maliciously injured plaintiffs, and that they had acted lawfully. The Judge in his summing-up said that the actions of the defendants were illegal unless they showed that what had been done was merely for the purpose of obtaining or communicating information. He quoted *Temperton v. Russell* [1893, 1 Q.B.]: "If the persuasion be used for the indirect purpose of injuring the plaintiff, or of benefiting the defendant at the expense of the plaintiff, it is a malicious act, which is in law and in fact a wrong act, and therefore a wrongful act, and therefore an actionable act, if injury ensues from it." The Judge referred to certain instructions of one of the societies which told their members to peacefully persuade the men not to work. Verdict for plaintiffs. Damages to the first named, £300; and to the second, £20. An injunction was also granted. Stay of execution was granted on condition the money was paid into Court in a fortnight.—*Queen's Bench Division, July 27th, 28th, and 29th.*

(3) MINES REGULATION ACT.

Liability of Miners in Different Seams of a Mine to pay Check-weighman.—A check-weighman sued three "contractors" or colliers for £2 1s., being the defendants' share of the moneys due to the plaintiff for services rendered as check-weighman. The case for the defendants was that they were not liable, as they worked in a seam of the mine by themselves, and did not avail themselves of the plaintiff's services, or vote for his appointment. The Judge gave judgment for the plaintiff for the amount claimed, and costs. He held that, although the seams were distinct and worked separately, there was no division of the mine in accordance with the provision of the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1887, section 19, sub-section 1. As the seams in question constituted one mine, it rested entirely with the majority (ascertained in the prescribed way by ballot) of the persons employed in the mine, who are paid according to the weight of the mineral gotten by them, to appoint a check-weigher to each place appointed for the weighing of the mineral; and whether the majority appoints a check-weigher for each place appointed for weighing, or for only one such place, when the check-weigher has acted as such, he may receive "from any person for the time being employed at such mine, and so paid, his proportion of the check-weigher's wages or recompense." Section 14 (2) provides that "the owner or manager of any mine where the majority of the before-mentioned persons ascertained as aforesaid so agreed" may "retain the agreed contribution of the person so employed, and paid as aforesaid for the check-weigher."—*Wrexham County Court. Reported July 16th.*

(4) MISCELLANEOUS.

Compelling employers to discharge a fellow-workman.—A blacksmith sued five other blacksmiths for £50 damages for maliciously inducing or compelling his employers (a naval construction and armaments company) to discharge him. Plaintiff's case was that, as he would not join a trade society, the other blacksmiths in the same employment came out on strike, and they exercised such pressure upon their employers that they were compelled to discharge him. Plaintiff had been in the same employment for 17 years, and his average weekly earnings were £2 5s. a week. In his evidence plaintiff stated that he had been approached by the defendants and asked to join a trade society, but that he declined. The manager of the works produced a letter from the joint committee of two trade societies, which stated that the men would refuse to work unless three other men, including the plaintiff, became trade unionists. After certain negotiations had taken place the men struck work. The manager stated in evidence that at this time the Company had no option but to meet the men's demands, as they had to get their ships finished. The plaintiff was therefore paid off. For the defence it was urged that the defendants were actuated by no malicious motives, and that they were only exercising their right to dispose of their labour to the best advantage. The trade unionists who were working in the yard were restricted as to the number of hours they could work overtime, whereas the non-union men were not. Plaintiff admitted that he had worked more overtime than most of the other smiths, and that he had earned as much as £4 in a week, including wages and overtime pay. The Judge held that the act of the defendants was malicious, and that they had conspired to deprive the plaintiff of his legal rights. Judgment for plaintiff. Damages £21. Execution stayed until August 17th.—*Barrow County Court, July 29th.*

INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN JULY.

I.—Under Factory and Workshop Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Prosecutions.	Convictions.	Total Amount of Penalties.	Total Amount of Costs.
By Owners, Managers, &c.:			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Neglecting to Limeswash ...	3	3	3 5 0	1 2 6
Failure to keep Factory in Cleanly Condition ...	1	1	0 10 0	1 1 0
Neglecting to Fence Machinery ...	12	12	30 15 6	15 3 8
Employing Young Persons without necessary Certificates ...	17	17	12 12 6	13 2 9
Employing Children under the legal age ...	1	1	0 10 0	0 10 6
Illegal Hours or Times of Employment—				
Before or after the legal hour ...	61	57	47 16 0	45 10 9
During meal times, or without proper intervals for meals ...	9	8	14 17 6	17 15 11
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day substituted ...	24	24	19 12 6	16 5 9
On Sundays or holidays, or children on successive Saturdays ...	5	5	5 18 0	3 5 3
At night ...	5	5	5 13 0	3 17 6
Employing children full time, otherwise than in morning and afternoon sets, &c. ...	5	5	1 7 0	2 5 6
Allowing persons to remain in prohibited room during meal hours ...	1	1	0 10 0	0 8 0
In factory or workshop and in shop on same day beyond total legal period ...	4	2	1 6 0	0 15 0
Neglecting Rules as to Registers, Abstracts, Notices, &c.—				
Not keeping Registers ...	29	29	18 16 6	12 9 10
Not affixing or properly filling up Notices and Abstracts ...	24	23	7 10 0	7 18 5
Not sending Notices required by Act ...	4	3	4 0 0	1 19 8
Not supplying sufficient or correct particulars ...	4	3	1 16 0	5 16 6
Breach of (or not affixing) Special Rules ...	2	1	—	0 3 6
Under Cotton Cloth Factories Act, 1889 ...	4	4	15 0 0	1 12 0
By Workmen:				
Allowing children to clean machinery in motion, &c. ...	1	1	0 5 6	0 9 0
Breach of Special Rules ...	3	2	1 1 0	1 11 0
Total for July 1896 ...	219	207	193 2 0	143 4 0
Total for July 1895 ...	173	161	137 6 6	120 10 2

II.—Under the Mines Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Prosecutions.	Convictions.	Cases with-drawn.	Cases dis-mitted.	Amount of Fines and Costs imposed on Defendants.
By Owners, Managers, &c.:					£ s. d.
Fencing ...	4	4	—	—	12 0 0
Ventilation ...	1	—	—	1	—
Shatts and Manholes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ...	5	2	2	1	2 0 0
By Workmen:					
Safety Lamps ...	3	3	—	—	1 19 6
Shot-firing and Explosives ...	6	6	—	—	5 17 6
Timbering ...	3	3	—	—	3 18 0
Lucifer Matches, &c. ...	3	3	—	—	9 11 0
Riding on Trams ...	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ...	3	3	—	—	2 17 6
Total for July 1896 ...	33	29	2	2	38 3 6
Total for July 1895 ...	65	52	5	8	63 13 0

III.—Under the Quarries Act.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Prosecutions.	Convictions.	Cases with-drawn.	Cases dis-mitted.	Amount of Fines and Costs imposed on Defendants.
By Owners, Managers, &c.:					£ s. d.
Abstracts, Registers, Notices ...	3	3	—	—	1 5 0
By Workmen:					
Explosives and Blasting ...	8	8	—	—	5 12 0
Total for July 1896 ...	11	11	—	—	6 17 0
Total for July 1895 ...	Nil	—	—	—	—

IV.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts.

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

Nature of Offence.	Prosecutions.	Convictions.	Total Penalties.	Total Cost.
By Owners or Masters of Ships:			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Illegally engaging seamen... ..	3*	3	3 0 0	4 9 4
Not providing lights... ..	1	1	2 0 0	3 0 0
By Seamen	—	—	—	—
Total for July 1896	4	4	5 0 0	7 9 4
Total for July 1895	5	5	9 10 0	7 5 0

V.—Under Friendly Societies and Trade Union Acts.

None reported.

* Three offences by the same person.

WORK OF LABOUR BUREAUX IN JULY. THE 12 bureaux furnishing returns registered 2,348 applications for work during July. Private employers engaged 1,249 persons, and local authorities 301. Out of this total of 1,550 persons engaged, 894 are stated to have obtained work of a temporary character only. Of the 2,171 workpeople on the registers at the end of July, 1,458 were men, 562 women and girls, and 151 lads and boys.

Taking the figures of the 9 bureaux which also furnished returns for July 1895, it will be seen that the number of fresh applicants for work decreased by 54 per cent., the totals being for July last 1,789, and for July 1895, 3,907.

Table I. Work Done in July. Columns: Name and Address of Labour Bureau, No. of fresh Applications offered by Workpeople during July 1896, July 1895, No. of Situations offered by Employers during July 1896, July 1895, No. of Workpeople found Engaged by Private Employers, Engaged by Local Authorities, July 1896, July 1895, temp. perm., temp. perm. (1895).

Table II. Workpeople on Registers at end of July classified by Occupations. Columns: Name of Labour Bureau, Building, Engineering and Metal Trades, Carmen, Stablemen, Horsemen, &c., Clerks and Warehousemen, Porters and Messengers, General Labourers, Other Occupations, Total Men.

Table III. Women and Girls. Columns: Name of Labour Bureau, Lads and Boys, Char-women, Daily Work, &c., Dress-makers and Sempstresses, Others, Total Women and Girls, July 1896, July 1895.

* Particulars relating to men only have been furnished. † Cannot be given. ‡ In addition, temporary or permanent work was found for 1,451 persons in the works and depôts of the Army. § Women and Girls are not registered at Hackney and Plymouth.

PAUPERISM IN JULY.

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

The number of persons relieved in 35 selected urban districts of the United Kingdom on one day in the second week of July was 315,490. This corresponds to a rate of 204 per 10,000 of the estimated population of these districts in 1896.

Compared with June there is a decrease of 2,660 in the number relieved, and of 1 in the rate per 10,000. In three districts, viz., Bradford, Cardiff and Swansea, and Dundee and Dunfermline, the rate increased very slightly. In Wigan, Liverpool, Halifax and Huddersfield, North Staffordshire, Wolverhampton, Birmingham, Dublin, and Cork, Waterford and Limerick districts the rate remained the same; in all other districts it decreased, the largest decrease being 13 per 10,000 in the Stockton and Tees district.

Compared with July 1895 the number relieved is less by 4,384 and the rate per 10,000 by 5. The decrease was almost entirely confined to outdoor pauperism. In seven districts the rate has increased, viz., in Coatbridge and Airdrie (23), Dublin (16), Dundee and Dunfermline (7), West London and Bristol (3 each), and East London, and Cardiff and Swansea (1 each). The greatest decreases took place in Barnsley (47), Stockton and Tees (38), Galway (25), Cork, Waterford, and Limerick (20), Wolverhampton (18), Sheffield (17), Hull (14), and Halifax and Huddersfield (13).

Table IV. Paupers on one day in second week of July 1896. Columns: Selected Urban Districts, In-door, Out-door, TOTAL, Rate per 10,000 of estimated Population, Paupers on corresponding date in previous year, Total Number, Rate per 10,000 of estimated Population.

Table V. ENGLAND & WALES. Metropolitan Districts. Columns: District, In-door, Out-door, TOTAL, Rate per 10,000 of estimated Population, Paupers on corresponding date in previous year, Total Number, Rate per 10,000 of estimated Population.

Table VI. SCOTLAND. Glasgow District, Paisley & Greenock District, Edinburgh & Leith Dist., Dundee & Dunfermline, Aberdeen, Coatbridge & Airdrie. Columns: District, In-door, Out-door, TOTAL, Rate per 10,000 of estimated Population, Paupers on corresponding date in previous year, Total Number, Rate per 10,000 of estimated Population.

Table VII. IRELAND. Dublin District, Belfast District, Cork, Waterford & Limerick District, Galway District. Columns: District, In-door, Out-door, TOTAL, Rate per 10,000 of estimated Population, Paupers on corresponding date in previous year, Total Number, Rate per 10,000 of estimated Population.

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

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN JULY.

THE numbers of workpeople of the undermentioned classes killed or injured by accidents reported in July 1896 and 1895 respectively were as follows:—

Table VIII. Summary. Columns: Occupations, Killed (July 1896, July 1895), Injured (July 1896, July 1895). Rows: Railway Servants, Seamen, Miners, Quarrymen, Factory and Workshop Operatives, Others (so far as reported), Totals.

* See note to Table I. below. † No returns.

The particulars are given in greater detail in the following Tables:—

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

Table showing the number of railway servants reported as killed or injured by accidents in which the movement of railway vehicles was concerned during the month of July 1896.

Table IX. Railway Servants. Columns: Class of Service, Killed, Number of Persons injured, distinguishing Class of Accident (Caus. Amputations, Dislocations, Fractures, Bruises, Internal Injuries, Contusions, &c., Cuts, Sprains, Burns, &c., Unspecified and Miscellaneous Injuries, Total of Injuries).

NOTE.—In addition to the above the companies have reported 1 servant killed and 887 injured by accidents occurring on the companies' premises, but in which the movement of vehicles was not concerned, during July. These figures have been reported in accordance with a new order recently issued by the Board of Trade, and are scarcely comparable with those for July 1895.

II. Seamen (Fatal and Non-fatal Accidents). (Supplied by the Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen.)

Table showing the number of persons forming the crews of registered vessels of the undermentioned classes, belonging to the British Islands, reported during the month of July 1896 as having been killed or injured by accidents at sea, or in rivers or harbours.

[The returns of non-fatal injuries are probably far from complete, the tabulation being first made in February last.]

Table X. Seamen Accidents. Columns: Cause and Class of Accident, Number reported as Killed or Injured (In July 1896, On Trading Vessels, On Fishing Vessels, Total in July 1896, Total for 3 months May 1896 to July 1896, Corresponding total for 3 months of 1895).

NOTE.—Deaths or injuries on yachts and vessels employed exclusively in rivers and inland navigation, and injuries on fishing vessels employed in and out of Scottish Ports, and on vessels trading exclusively between Scottish Ports, or to Asiatics under Asiatic agreement, are not included. The majority of the non-fatal injuries occurring among the crews of vessels trading within the Home Trade limits are only reported half-yearly, and will be so published.

III. Miners and Quarrymen.*

Table showing the number of persons reported as killed or injured in and about mines and quarries, during the month of July 1896. [The number of persons employed in and about mines was returned as 733,657, and in and about quarries as 104,625 in 1895.]

Table XI. Miners and Quarrymen. Columns: Cause of Accident, Number of Persons (Killed, Injured), Cause of Accident, Number of Persons (Killed, Injured). Rows: Underground (Explosions of Fire-damp, Falls of ground, Miscellaneous), Surface (Miscellaneous), Totals for July 1896 and July 1895.

* Supplied by the Home Office.

IV. Factory and Workshop Operatives.*

Table showing the number of persons reported to H.M. Chief Inspector by Certifying Surgeons as killed or injured during the month of July 1896. [The classes of accidents reported are those specified in Section 18 of the Factory and Workshop Act of 1895.]

Table XII. Factory and Workshop Operatives. Columns: Cause of Accident, Number of Persons (Killed, Injured), Cause of Accident, Number of Persons (Killed, Injured). Rows: Males (Adults over 18, Young Persons, Boys), Females (Adults over 18, Young Persons, Girls), Totals for July 1896 and July 1895.

* Supplied by the Home Office. † There were also 1,708 other non-fatal accidents only required to be reported to H.M. Inspectors.

V. Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894. (Supplied by the Railway Department of the Board of Trade.)

Table showing the number of persons killed and injured in accidents reported to the Board of Trade under the Notice of Accidents Act, 1894, during the month of July 1896.

Table XIII. Accidents under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894. Columns: Nature of Works, &c., Construction or Repair, Use or Working, Number of Persons (Killed, Injured, Total).

* Accidents during the working of railways being reportable under other Acts are not notified under the Act of 1894. † Authorised by any local or personal Act of Parliament. ‡ Or other steam engine or machine in the open air.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS. (Based on Home Office Returns.)

DURING July 122 cases of lead poisoning in factories and workshops were reported, as compared with 126 cases in June. Of those affected 79 were men, 40 women, and 3 young persons (1 lad and 2 girls).

TRADE DISPUTES IN JULY.

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

Number and Magnitude.—Eighty-five disputes occurred in July 1896, compared with 95 in June and 49 in July 1895. In 81 of these disputes 19,002 workpeople were affected.

Trades Affected.—In the building trades 14 disputes occurred, 12 involving 1,156 workpeople; mining and quarrying, 15 disputes, involving 10,695 workpeople; engineering and shipbuilding, 20 disputes, involving 2,957 workpeople; other metal trades, 10 disputes, 9 involving 652 workpeople; textile trades, 12 disputes, involving 2,590 workpeople; dock, &c., labour, 1 dispute, involving 80 workpeople; clothing trades, 2 disputes, involving 64 workpeople; and in the miscellaneous group of industries, 11 disputes, 10 involving 808 workpeople.

Causes.—Of the 85 new disputes, 49 arose mostly upon questions of wages, 3 upon hours of labour, 1 solely upon local working rules, 4 upon various aspects of unionism, 4 in defence of fellow workpeople, and 14 upon questions of working arrangements or material; 4 were demarcation disputes between classes of workpeople, 3 owing to dissatisfaction with action of officials, 2 to objection to presence or action of other men, and 1 was a sympathetic strike.

Results.—12 old disputes, involving 4,114 workpeople, and 52 new disputes (50, involving 13,783 workpeople), have been reported as settled. In 34 of these disputes, involving about 10,770 persons, the workpeople were successful; in 19 (18 involving 3,973 persons), unsuccessful; in 6, involving 545 persons, partially successful; and in 4 disputes, involving 2,320 persons, the results must at present be classed as indefinite.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN JULY 1896.

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Estab-lish-ments.	Work-people.	Com-mence-ment.	Termi-nation.	Result.
Building Trades.							
Slaters and Plasterers	Beeston, Notts.	Against the employment of a non-unionist plumber	1	7	July 27	July 31	Non-unionist dismissed.
Bricklayers	Ipswich	For advance in wages from 6½d. to 7d. per hour with code of working rules	12	170 dir. 30 indir.	7	18	Rules accepted, advance granted to take effect from 5th September. Still unsettled.
Stonemasons	Plymouth	For rate of wages and hours of labour current in the town	1	7	14	...	Still unsettled.
Ditto	Cheltenham	For observance of local code of rules	2	3	...	...	Employers agreed to conform to the rules.
Ditto	Samlesbury, Lancs.	To compel a unionist to pay a fine imposed by the society	1	...	...	...	Man paid the fine.
Ditto	Rishton	Against a labourer being employed at walling	1	5	...	...	Still unsettled.
Carpenters and Joiners	Hartlepool (East & West)	For advance in wages and amended code of working rules	...	300	1	28	Advance to 8½d. per hour with amended working rules granted. The question of an additional ¼d. per hour advance to be submitted to arbitration.
Ditto	Winsford	For advance in wages of 4s. per week	1	41	8	...	Still unsettled.
Ditto	Oldham	For guarantee from employer that foreign made joinery should not be used	1	32	20	21	Demand for guarantee withdrawn, employer stating that the use of the joinery objected to had been discontinued.
Painters	London, W.	Against discharge of a fellow-workman for alleged neglect of work	1	55	28	28	Work resumed, the man in question finding work elsewhere.
Plumbers	Nottingham	For advance in wages from 8½d. to 9½d. per hour, reduction in hours from 54 to 50 per week and alteration in working rules	40	92	27	...	Still unsettled.
Plasterers	Hanley	For advance in wages	...	14	2 days in July	...	An immediate advance of ¼d. per hour with promise of an additional ¼d. per hour in April 1897. No details of settlement.
Builders' Labourers	Batley	For reinstatement of two discharged fellow-workmen	1	...	...	...	Still unsettled.
Ditto	Scarborough	For advance in wages from 5½d. to 6d. per hour	...	400	28	...	Still unsettled.
Mining & Quarrying.							
Coal Miners	Bristol	Against reduction in wages	1	35	2	...	Ditto.
Ditto	Irvine	Dispute as to amount of coal to be hewed on introduction of improved methods of haulage	1	43	3	7	Work resumed on employers' terms.
Ditto	Walkden, Bolton	For payment of extra allowances when working in difficult places	1	17	8	13	Arrangement arrived at by which the men are to be enabled to earn as much as their fellow-workmen.
Ditto	Ditto	Men locked out on account of foregoing dispute	1	550	9	13	Work resumed on termination of foregoing dispute.
Ditto	Durham	Alleged refusal of employer to pay house rent (as per county custom) at their collieries	3	About 3,000 dir. & indir.	11	...	Still unsettled.
Ditto	New Tredegar	To compel a workman to pay up his arrears to the trade union	1	About 1,000 530	14	16	Man left the district.
Ditto	Tow Law	To compel non-unionists to join the union	1	...	27	5 Aug.	150 miners summoned and fined for breach of contract, but the non-unionists joined the union.
Ditto	St. Helens	Dispute as to prices for getting coal	1	40	29	July 29	Amicable settlement arrived at.
Drawers	Hapton, Burnley	For advance in wages	1	30 dir. 200 indir.	11	18	Work resumed on promise of a favourable consideration of grievance.
Stokers and Firemen	Clydach Vale, Rhondda	For advance in wages	1	26 dir. 2,890 indir.	14	16	Advance of about 1½d. per day granted.
Hauliers	Merthyr	Dispute as to working arrangements	1	1,028 dir. & indir.	14	14	Work resumed unconditionally.
Putters	Washington, Co. Durham	Alleged violation of an agreement	1	1,000 dir. & indir.	21	21	Agreement to be observed.
Drivers	Gt. Broughton	Against reduction in wages of 1d. per day	1	291 dir. & indir.	3 days in July	...	10 drivers accepted reduction.
Tin Miners	Carn Brea, Cornwall	Against reduction in wages	1	205	20	21	Reduction accepted varying from 1d. to 3d. per day.
Settmakers	Minford, N. Wales	Dispute as to price to be paid for new size of sett	1	10	16	...	No details of settlement.
Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades.							
Pattern Makers	Leeds	Against doing work from a shop where the hands were on strike	1	12	1	7	Employer agreed to take no more work from firm in question during dispute.
Fitters, Turners, &c.	Wakefield	For reduction in hours of labour to 53 per week	2	30	2	...	Still unsettled, but some of the men have obtained work elsewhere.
Brass Moulders and Brass Finishers	Halifax	Against the employment of labourers on work alleged to belong to brass finishers	1	18	3	...	Still unsettled.
Brass Moulders	Glasgow	For advance in wages of ¼d. per hour	1	24	6	...	Advance granted.
Engineers	Ditto	For advance in wages	1	20	7	...	No details of settlement.
Iron Moulders	Oldham	For advance in wages from 36s. to 38s. per week	11	40	10	29	Advance granted.
Fitters	Great Grimby	For advance in wages of 1s. per week	1	23	9	21	Ditto.
Brass Founders and Finishers	Leeds	Against employer withholding the wages of six piece-workers	1	58	13	14	Employer agreed to pay the piece-workers their wages.
Iron Moulders	Dewsbury, Batley and district	For advance in wages of 2s. per week, a reduction in hours from 54 to 53, and extra rates for overtime	5	47	13	18	Men's demands granted.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN JULY 1896—continued.

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Es-tab-lish-ments.	Work-people.	Com-mence-ment.	Termi-nation.	Result.
Ironfounders	Huddersfield and district	For advance in wages of 2s. per week	5	30	July 18	July 18	13 men have returned to work with 1s. per week advance.
Engineers, &c.	Huddersfield	For advance in wages of 2s. per week	7	40	4	...	All but 16 have resumed work at the advance.
Machine Workers	Openshaw, Manchester	For advance in wages	1	103	20	27	Advance granted of 1s. per week to those receiving 27s. and over, and 2s. per week to those receiving less than 27s.
Brass Founders and Finishers	Leeds	For advance in wages	5	180	20	...	Advance granted by four employers to 172 men.
Iron Moulders	Halifax	For advance in wages of 2s. per week	1	50	20	...	No details of settlement.
Engineers	Chiswick	Against demarcation line of work laid down by boilermakers and agreed to by firm	1	260	20	1 Aug.	An arbitrator somewhat modified two of the claims made by boilermakers (see p. 241).
Ditto	Shipleigh	For advance in wages of 2s. per week, and reduction in hours from 54 to 53 per week	3	About 300	18	...	Still unsettled.
Pattern Makers	Bury	For advance in wages of 2s. per week	3	39	13	25	Advance granted.
Iron Drillers	Dundee	Objection by men to rate paid for repair work	1	23	17	3 Aug.	Work resumed, the men accepting a compromise.
Caulkers	Howden and Jarrow	Caulkers claiming machines hitherto worked by drillers	1	1,100 dir. & indir. 200	28	3 Aug.	Work resumed pending settlement.
Riveters	Greenock	Alleged excessive strictness of a tester	1	...	31	...	Still unsettled.
Tinplate Trade.							
Tinplate Workers	Llansamlet	Refusal to work at a greater reduction than 25 per cent. off the standard list	1	...	13	July 31	Work resumed at 20 per cent. below standard list.
Millmen	Swansea Valley	Dispute as to proper prices for big-mill work	1	12	15	...	Still unsettled.
Cold roll boys	Briton Ferry	Against reduction in wages of 5 per cent.	1	20	27	29	Four of the boys discharged, the remainder accepting the reduction.
Miscellaneous Metal Trades.							
Ironworkers	Butterley	Objection to the quality of the metal supplied	1	27 dir. 45 indir. 125 indir. 22 indir.	1	61	Men summoned and fined 2s. 6d. each for absenting themselves from work. Manager promised to remedy grievance.
Puddlers	Motherwell	Objection to alleged inferior quality of the fuel supplied	1	13	9	9	Still unsettled.
Bedstead Mount Workers	Birmingham	Alleged refusal of employer to pay the trade bonus of 20 per cent.	1	...	4	...	Still unsettled.
Bell Punch Makers and Rivet, Stud and Peg Makers	London, E.C.	For reinstatement of discharged fellow workmen and objection to new overseer	1	50	6	...	No details of settlement.
Metal Workers	Blackheath and Rowley Birmingham	For advance in wages of 12½ per cent.	...	200	11	7 Aug.	Advance of 12½ per cent. granted.
File Cutters (hand)	Manchester	For advance in wages to the 1854 price list	...	95	13	...	Still unsettled, but 30 of the men have found work elsewhere.
Textile Trades.							
Cotton Operatives	Macclesfield	Alleged bad material	1	1,050	16	July 20	Employer promised to improve material.
Cotton Spinners	Accrington	Alleged bad material	1	26	1	...	Still unsettled.
Blowing-room Hands and Lap Pickers	Preston	For advance in wages	1	25 dir. 275 indir.	20	30	Hands replaced.
Cardroom Hands	Bolton	Against the employment of jack frame tenters on work alleged to belong to other hands	1	80	31	...	Still unsettled.
Cotton Weavers	Hyde	Against cutlooker returning spoiled tents into the weaving shed to be made good	1	341	18	25	Work resumed on previous terms.
Ditto	Preston	For reinstatement of a discharged fellow-workman	1	250	22	...	Still unsettled.
Ditto	Walsden	Dispute as to list of prices	1	180	23	25	Work resumed pending negotiations between the firm and the weavers' representatives. No details of settlement.
Strippers and Grinders	Bolton	Dispute as to the employment of new machinery on shoddy-scutching	1	54	29	...	No details of settlement.
Dyers	Halifax	Against alleged attempted withdrawal of extra payment for increased work	1	240	3	3	Extra payment allowed.
Willeys and Fettleys	Leeds	Men locked out for giving notice for advance in wages	1	5	6	...	Still unsettled.
Ditto	Ditto	For advance in wages of ¼d. per hour for ordinary time and 1d. per hour for overtime	...	26	11	...	Still unsettled, but some of the men have obtained work elsewhere.
Twine Spinners	Gt. Yarmouth	Alleged unfair distribution of work	1	38	28	28	Dispute satisfactorily arranged.
Dock, &c., Labour.	Hull	Against employment of an alleged inefficient workman in a responsible position	1	About 80	25	28	Amicable arrangement arrived at.
Clothing Trades.							
Lasters and Finishers (boot and shoe)	Edinburgh	Dispute as to classification of certain work	1	14	8	3 Aug.	Employer agreed to pay for the class of work in dispute at the "Specials" rate.
Tailors	Leicester	Against reduction in wages	4	50	6	...	Still unsettled.
Miscellaneous Trades.							
Agricultural Labourers	Worstead, Norfolk	Refusal to accept harvest wages offered by employer	1	11	30	4 Aug.	Four men resumed work on employer's terms, the others found work elsewhere.
Bakers	London	To secure the enforcement of arbitrators' award as to the weekly hours of labour	40	60	6	...	Hands replaced.
Cabinet-makers, Carvers and Polishers	Halifax	Objection to "task" work	1	26	9	...	Still unsettled.
French Polishers	Nottingham	For advance in wages from 7d. to 7½d. per hour	2	5	27	29 July	Advance granted.
Cigar Makers (Female)	Nottingham	Against reduction in the amount of tobacco-leaf supplied	1	5	25	...	Hands replaced.
Coal Lifters	Aberdeen	For advance in wages	...	130	31	1 Aug.	Advance of 1s. per 100 tons granted.
Firemen and Stokers (gas works)	Falkirk	For advance in wages and against the introduction of piece work	1	...	25	...	Still unsettled.
Flour Millers, &c.	Hull	For dismissal of alleged objectionable foreman	1	32	25	July 7	Ditto.
Female Employees (mineral water works)	London, S.E.	For advance in wages of 1s. per week	1	300	7	(about 5 hours)	Advance granted.
Navvies	Swansea	For advance in wages from 4½d. to 5d. per hour	1	53 dir. 150 indir.	8	13	Hands replaced.
Strappers and Stablemen (Tram)	Glasgow	Alleged unsatisfactory arrangement of working hours	1	36	27	27	Hands replaced.

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

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Es-tab-lish-ments.	Work-people.	Com-mence-ment.	Termi-nation.	Result.
Building Trades.							
Bricklayers	Newmarket	For advance in wages and code of working rules	...	40	1 June	July 20	Demands granted.
Plumbers	Bradford	Lockout by employers on account of dispute with workpeople on the question of non-unionists	...	80	6 June	28	Dispute settled by alteration and extension of bye-laws.
Plasterers	London	For advance in wages and new code of working rules	...	About 2,000	1 May	1	Advance of ¼d. per hour granted, and a revised code of rules agreed upon.
Bricklayers' labourers	New Basford, Nottingham	Against the employment of men belonging to another union	1	12 dir. 13 indir.	22 June	...	Hands replaced.
Brickmakers	Bridgwater	For advance in wages	...	798	28 May	15	Work resumed at old rates.
Mining.							
Coal Miners	Hanley	Dispute as to proposed scale of deductions for "dirt"	1	450 dir. 50 indir.	3 June	6	Proposed scale withdrawn.
Textile Trades.							
Cotton Weavers	Rishton	Alleged bad material	1	450	6 May	9	Work resumed unconditionally, six of the men not being allowed to restart.
Ditto	Ditto	In sympathy with above dispute	1	...	22 May	...	

II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE JULY, AND WERE SETTLED IN THAT MONTH—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Estab-lish-ments.	Work-people.	Com-mence-ment.	Termi-nation.	Result
Woolen Weavers ...	Skelman-thorpe	For payment of same prices, on reduction of the "yard" from 40 to 36 inches	1	32 dir. 38 indir.	25 June	July 16	Employer agreed to pay old prices on a yard of 40 inches in one class of goods and 38 inches in the other classes.
Clothing Trades. Clickers, Lasters and Finishers	Abersychan ...	Against excessive boy labour and deductions for gas in winter months	1	40	30 June	4	Work resumed on terms satisfactory to the men.
Boot and Shoe Operatives	Norwich ...	Employer declined to submit sample of boot to Arbitration Board for classification	1	60	30 June	14	Boot in question withdrawn by firm.
Miscellaneous Trades. Clay Tobacco-pipe Makers	Waterford ...	For advance in wages	1	10 dir. 20 indir.	23 May	27	Work resumed at old rates.
Compositors ...	Stockport ...	Against the employment of female compositors at a lower rate than is paid to men	1	21	13 April	8	Firm agreed to work the office in accordance with the rules of the union.

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

The following disputes reported in last month's issue as commencing in June were still unsettled:—Bedstead mount and spinning trades' employees, Birmingham (12 of the men have found work elsewhere); stonemasons, St. Austell; carpenters and joiners, Cork and Chorley; coal miners, Stanton Hill, Notts; cotton spinners, Slaitwhaite; saddlers, Glasgow; poulterers, Dublin; woollen weavers, Longwood, Huddersfield; overlookers, Bradford, Manchester; platers' helpers, Govan; spring makers, West Bromwich.

The following disputes which commenced before June were also still unsettled:—Coal miners, Barnsley; building trade employees, Dublin (except carpenters and joiners who settled on August 1st); engineers, Keighley and near Huddersfield; bricklayers and bricklayers' labourers, Leeds; carpenters and joiners, Portsmouth and Nantwich; painters, Portsmouth; silk dyers, Macclesfield; cotton weavers, Barnoldswick (2 disputes); fustian weavers, Norden; tailors, Dumbarton; brushmakers, Glasgow; sawyers and woodcutting machinists, Cork; calciners, &c., Hebburn (since settled, August 6th); compositors, Manchester; brass founders and finishers, Salford; fitters, &c., Dowlais; cotton weavers and winders, Burnley; carters, Haslingden; coopers, St. Helens (10 on strike).

The following disputes commencing before June, of which information has only recently been obtained, were also still unsettled.

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Estab-lish-ments.	Workpeople.	Date of Com-mence-ment.
Carriers ...	{ Hayes, Middlesex London, S.E. ... }	Against a reduction in wages and the employment of unskilled labour	{ 1 1 }	6	June

RECENT PROGRESS IN CO-OPERATION.

REPORTS received for the second quarter of 1896 from 691 co-operative distributive associations in Great Britain, comprising a total membership of 1,028,210, show total sales for the quarter amounting to £7,301,132, and net profits* amounting to £1,071,381, or 14.6 per cent. on sales. The volume of trade shows an increase of 8.7 per cent. compared with the corresponding period of 1895, the sales of 597 of the associations for which the corresponding figures are available being £7,081,565, as compared with £6,513,736 in 1895. Of these 474 showed an increase and 123 a decrease in sales.

England and Wales.—Reports received during the month show that in England and Wales four new co-operative associations for distribution and one for production have been registered. Five existing distributive associations have opened new branches or departments, and one in the Eastern Counties has decided to commence dairy farming; one existing boot and shoe manufactory has opened a new factory, and another recently registered has commenced manufacturing. A new Co-operative Printing Society is in course of formation at Blackpool, as the outcome of a dispute in the printing trade of the town. Three old distributive associations, at Blackburn, London, and Ebbesbourne, have been dissolved, and one at Shefford has amalgamated with an association at Bedford.

Reports for the second quarter of 1895 received from 529 distributive associations in England and Wales, with a total membership of 852,483, show total sales for the quarter amounting to £5,787,426 and net* profits amounting to £831,760, or 14.4 per cent. on sales. Of 449 of the associations for which the figures for the corresponding period of 1895 are available, the total sales amounted to £5,598,672, as compared with £5,167,807 in 1895. Three hundred and thirty-five of these associations show an increase, and 94 a decrease, the net increase being £430,865, or 8.3 per cent.

Scotland.—Reports from Scotland show that no new associations have been registered, but that 6 existing distributive associations have opened new branches and departments. Reports for the second quarter of 1896 received from 162 distributive associations in Scotland, with a total membership of 175,727, show total sales amounting to £1,513,706 and net* profits amounting to £239,621, or 15.8 per cent. on sales. Of 148 of the associations, for which the corresponding figures for 1895 are available, the total sales amounted to £1,482,893, as compared with £1,345,929 in 1895. One hundred and nineteen of these associations show an increase and 29 a decrease, the net increase being £136,964, or 10.2 per cent.

Ireland.—Two dairy and agricultural, one "Home Industries," and one Pig-feeders' Society have been registered in Ireland.

* After allowing for interest on capital and depreciation of property.

As a result of several conferences and meetings, the societies recently formed in the Roscommon and Castlereagh districts, with the object of starting co-operative bacon curing, have now decided to confine their efforts for the present to improving the breed of bacon pigs reared in the district.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The number of passengers who left the United Kingdom during July for places out of Europe was 19,904, as compared with 22,140 in July, 1895.

British and Irish.—Of these 19,904 passengers, 13,476 were of British or Irish nationality, being 540 less than the number who left in July of last year. The falling off is in passengers to the United States and Australasia, the number to South Africa and British North America having increased. The total number of British and Irish passengers for the seven months ended 31st July was 89,734, a decrease of 9,770 or 9.8 per cent., as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

The following are the figures for July 1896 and 1895:—

Destination.	July 1896.	July 1895.
United States ...	8,293	9,564
British North America ...	1,898	1,536
Australasia ...	633	876
South Africa ...	2,011	1,385
Other places ...	641	655
Totals ...	13,476	14,016

Foreign.—The remainder of the 19,904 passengers, viz., 6,428 were foreigners and others whose nationality was not distinguished. This number is 1,696 less than that for July 1895.

Alien Immigration.—The number of aliens who arrived in the United Kingdom from the continent during July was 7,493. Of these, 2,718 were stated to be en route to America, as compared with 4,123 in July of last year. Those not stated to be en route to America numbered 4,775 (including 938 sailors), the number in July 1895 being 4,700 (including 1,097 sailors).

Friendly Societies.—The report* of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for 1895, recently issued, contains a review of the legislation of the year, in so far as it affected registered industrial organisations. Sets of model rules for friendly societies and for trustee savings banks, and notes on the important law cases of the year bearing on friendly societies are included in the appendices.

* Report of Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, 1895, Part A. No. 94, 1896, price 1s. 3d.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN JULY.

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

Summary.—The total number of workpeople affected by the changes in rates of wages reported during July was 18,000, and the estimated general effect of all the changes on the wages of these persons was an increase of 1s. 3d. per week. About 17,500 received increases amounting on the average to 1s. 4d. per week, and 500 sustained decreases averaging 1s. 9d. per week.

Increases.—The more important increases were again in the metal trades. In the engineering and ship-building industries over 11,500 workmen have secured increases, and in most cases the increase reported is the second during the current year. This number includes 2,400 engineers and pattern-makers at Barrow, Huddersfield, Keighley, and other towns, and 5,000 ironmoulders on the Clyde and at other engineering centres. Increases affecting about 2,000 workpeople in the shipyards at Belfast were also reported. In other branches of the metal trade 1,100 steelworkers at Eston (Cleveland) received an advance under sliding scale, and 550 brassworkers at Leeds, Rotherham, and Hexthorpe secured increases. The remaining advances include about 1,400 building trade operatives and 750 workpeople engaged in the woodworking and furnishing trades.

Decreases.—The few decreases reported include 205 workpeople engaged in the Cornwall metal mining industry and 200 gas workers at Leicester. The latter benefited, however, by a reduction in hours of labour. The reduction in the wages of Linotype operators is important although, at present, it affects 40 men only. It is specially referred to on p. 241.

Method by which Changes of Wages were made.—Of the 18,000 workpeople whose wages were changed, 1,100 were affected by changes under sliding scale and 16,300 after negotiation or mutual arrangement. Of the latter number changes affecting 2,400 workpeople were preceded or accompanied by strikes, although in some cases only a section of the men whose wages were altered actually struck work. The changes in the case of the remaining 600 workpeople were advances conceded or reductions enforced by the employers without negotiation with their workpeople.

NOTE.—It will be understood that increments accruing under scales of pay, as in the case of policemen, some municipal employees, and many railway servants, &c., are not recorded here. The same remark applies to changes in the pay of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c.

Employment.	Locality.	Date of Change.	Approximate Number of workpeople directly affected.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in Italics.)	Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, exclusive of overtime.†		Increase or Decrease in a full week, exclusive of overtime.	
					Before change.	After change.	In-crease per week.	De-crease per week.
13 Increases—1,365 persons.					BUILDING TRADES. Decreases—Nil.			
Bricklayers ...	Ipswich ...	5th Sept.	170	Advance of 1d. per hour (6d. per 7d.), and code of working rules agreed to	s. d. 29 3½	s. d. 31 6½	s. d. 2 3	s. d. ...
Ditto ...	Romford & District Newmarket	11th July	65	Advance of 1d. per hour (8d. to 8½d.)	29 8	31 11½	2 3½	...
Ditto ...	Nelson, Brierfield and Barrowford	20th July	40	Advance of 1d. per hour (6d. to 7d.)	29 8	31 11½	2 3½	...
Masons, Wallers, &c. ...	Hyde & District	1st Aug.	300	Advance of 1d. per hour (8½d. to 9d.)	34 5½	35 5	0 11½	...
Carpenters and Joiners ...	Hartlepool ...	28th July	300	Advance of 1d. per hour (8½d. to 8¾d.) (See also under changes in hours)	35 10½	36 5½	0 7½	...
Ditto ...	St. Anne's-on-the-Sea	1st Aug.	45	Advance of 1d. per hour (7½d. to 8d.)	30 11½	33 0	2 0½	...
Ditto ...	Tonbridge ...	18th July	34	Advance of 1d. per hour (7d. to 7½d.)	32 0½	34 4	2 3½	...
Ditto ...	Kirkintilloch ...	3rd Aug.	20	Advance of 1d. per hour (8d. to 8½d.)	32 10½	34 11	2 0½	...
Ditto ...	Dumbarton ...	6th July	80	Advance of 1d. per hour (8½d. to 9d.)	34 11	36 11½	2 0½	...
Plasterers ...	Ashton Stalybridge Hyde & District	1st July	100	Advance of 1d. per hour (8½d. to 9d.)	35 6½	37 8	2 1½	...
Ditto ...	Hanley ...	Aug.	21	Advance of 1d. per hour (8d. to 8½d.)	33 5½	35 6½	2 1	...
Whitewashers ...	Dublin ...	1st July	64	Advance of 6d. per week ...	22 0	22 6	0 6	...
Lathers ...	Glasgow ...	7th Sept.	126	Advance of 1d. per hour (8d. to 8½d.)	34 0	36 1½	2 1½	...
2 Increases—114 persons.					MINING. 1 Decrease—205 persons.			
Coal—Hewers ...	Hunwick ...	16th July	88	Advance of 7½ per cent.	—	—	—	—
Firemen ...	Clydach Vale, Rhondda	16th July	26	Advance of 1½d. per day	25 10	26 7	0 9	...
Metal—Surface Workers (Men)	Carn Brea and Illogan, Cornwall	1st July	80	Decrease of 1s. 6d. per week	13 6	12 0	...	1
Ditto (Women)	Illogan, Cornwall	1st July	40	Decrease of 1s. per week	13 0	12 0	...	1
			85	Decrease of 6d. per week	5 0	4 6	...	0
3 Increases—1,245 persons.					IRON AND STEEL TRADES. Decreases—Nil.			
Steel Workers ...	Eston (Cleveland) Glangarnock	1st July 20th July	1,100 100	Advance of 3 per cent. under sliding scale Advance of 1s. to 1s. 6d. per week (see also under Changes in Hours of Labour)	24 0 to 30 0	25 0 to 31 6	1 0 to 1 6	...
Engineers in Steel Works	Wolsingham ...	July	45	Advance of 1s. 6d. per week	31 6	33 0	1 6	...
38 Increases—11,730 persons.					ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES. Decreases—Nil.			
Engineering Shops—Engineers ...	Barrow-in-Furness	6th Aug.	569	Advance of 1s. 6d. per week	—	—	1 6	...
Patternmakers ...	Ditto ...	6th Aug.	61	Advance of 1s. per week	34 6	36 0	1 6	...
Machinemen ...	Ditto ...	6th Aug.	46	Advance of 1s. per week	—	—	1 0	...
Brassmoulders ...	Ditto ...	13th Aug.	29	Advance of 1s. 6d. per week	—	—	1 6	...
Shipbuilding—Plumbers ...	Ditto ...	2nd July	22	Advance of 1s. per week	33 9	34 9	1 0	...
Engineers ...	Ditto ...	6th Aug.	258	Advance of 1s. 6d. per week	32 6	34 0	1 6	...
Shipsmiths ...	Ditto ...	30th July	30	Advance of 1s. 1½d. per week	32 7½	33 9	1 1½	...
Patternmakers ...	Ditto ...	6th Aug.	33	Advance of 1s. 6d. per week	32 6	34 0	1 6	...
Ditto ...	Bury and District	6th Aug.	13	Ditto	34 0	36 0	1 6	...
Blacksmiths ...	Oldham ...	25th July	39	Advance of 2s. per week	34 0	36 0	2 0	...
Ditto ...	Oldham ...	27th July	4	Ditto	32 0	34 0	2 0	...
Irondressers ...	Ditto ...	July	100	Advances of 1s. and 2s. per week	—	—	—	...
Ironfounders ...	Oldham and District	July	387	Advance of 2s. per week on time wages and of 5 per cent. on piece rates	36 0	38 0	2 0	...
Turners in Loom and Machine Shops	Blackburn ...	1st Aug.	60	Advance of 2s. per week	30 0	32 0	2 0	...
Machinemen ...	Openshaw, Manchester	27th July	45	Advance of 2s. per week (men who were receiving less than 27s. per week)	—	—	2 0	...
Irondressers ...	Manchester ...	June and July	350	Advance of 1s. per week (men who were receiving 27s. per week and above)	—	—	1 0	...
Coremakers ...	Manchester ...	July	36	Advance of 2s. per week	—	—	2 0	...
	Bury ...	Aug.	7	Advance of 2s. per week. Wages, after change, 34s. in jobbing shops and 32s. in framing shops	—	—	2 0	...
	Manchester ...	July	130	Advance of 2s. per week	—	—	2 0	...

* In all cases the accuracy of newspaper reports is enquired into before the information is used here.

† Where the winter and summer hours are known to differ in any trade, the weekly rate given in the table is the result of averaging the wages for five summer weeks and two winter weeks. When a change in wages is accompanied by a change in hours of labour, the weekly wages before and after change are computed on the basis of the old and new hours respectively.

Table with columns: Employment, Locality, Date of change, Approximate Number of workpeople directly affected, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week. Includes sections for Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades, Tinplate Trade, Other Metal Trades, Textile Trades, and Wood-working and Furnishing Trades.

Tinplate Trade section with columns: Employment, Locality, Date of change, Approximate Number of workpeople directly affected, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week.

Other Metal Trades section with columns: Employment, Locality, Date of change, Approximate Number of workpeople directly affected, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week.

Textile Trades section with columns: Employment, Locality, Date of change, Approximate Number of workpeople directly affected, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week.

Wood-working and Furnishing Trades section with columns: Employment, Locality, Date of change, Approximate Number of workpeople directly affected, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week.

* See also under Changes in Hours of Labour.
† A similar advance to Ship Joiners on the Clyde came into operation on 17th July, particulars of which were published in the April GAZETTE.
‡ This change was agreed to on 16th July, but under the agreement the men received the increase from 12th June.

Table with columns: Employment, Locality, Date of change, Approximate Number of workpeople directly affected, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full Week, Increase or Decrease in a full Week. Includes section for Employees of Railway Companies.

Table with columns: Employment, Locality, Date of change, Approximate Number of workpeople directly affected, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full Week, Increase or Decrease in a full Week. Includes section for Employees of Local Authorities.

Table with columns: Employment, Locality, Date of change, Approximate Number of workpeople directly affected, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full Week, Increase or Decrease in a full Week. Includes section for Dock Labour.

Table with columns: Employment, Locality, Date of change, Approximate Number of workpeople directly affected, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full Week, Increase or Decrease in a full Week. Includes section for Printing and Allied Trades.

Table with columns: Employment, Locality, Date of change, Approximate Number of workpeople directly affected, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full Week, Increase or Decrease in a full Week. Includes section for Miscellaneous Trades.

Table with columns: Port, Voyage, Occupation, No. shipped at new Rate during July, Particulars of Change, Monthly Rates. Includes section for Seamen.

Wages of Masons at Edinburgh and Leith.—At the end of July new bye-laws were agreed to between the representatives of employers and employed, to date from June 8th. Under these rules the standard rate of wages has been advanced from 8½d. to 9d. per hour, but it is stated that all masons in Edinburgh are at present getting upwards of that rate, the majority receiving 9½d.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.
Traffic Receipts.—For the four weeks ended 25th July the total receipts of 21 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom amounted to £6,369,650, an increase of £257,642 (or 4.2 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

Cotton Statistics.—The imports of raw cotton during July were considerably less than in July 1895 and July 1894, but the quantity forwarded from ports to inland towns was greater.

last year, due almost entirely to a decrease of 724,000 bales in the imports of American cotton. The figures for the different periods are as follows:—

Table with columns: Imports, Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns, Exports. Includes data for July 1896, 1895, 1894 and seven months ending.

Fishery Statistics.—During July fish and shell fish to the value of £717,351 were landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom. This represents a decrease of 5.5 per cent. on the value for July 1895, the value of the fish landed having decreased in Scotland by £46,775, and increased in England and Wales by £4,854, and in Ireland by £449.

Bankruptcies.—The number of bankruptcies gazetted during July was 377, being 6 less than in July 1895, 9 less than in July 1894, and 3 less than in July 1893.

* See also under Changes in Hours of Labour.

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING JULY.

The changes in hours of labour reported during July affected 2,448 workpeople, of whom 2,348 had their working hours reduced and 100 had them increased. The reductions included 812 workpeople in the metal, engineering and shipbuilding trades, 223 in the printing and allied trades, and 88 tramway employees at Sheffield whose hours of labour were decreased from 16 to 10 per day upon the Corporation taking over the tramways. Two hundred workpeople in the Leicester gasworks have secured a reduction of hours from 56 to 48 per week, accompanied, however, by a slight reduction of wages, the result of an arrangement by which no man shall work more than 6 days per week; and at the gasworks at Stockton-on-Tees the 3-shift system has been adopted for the stokers.

The increase reported relates to a case of reversion from the 8 to the 9 hour day affecting 100 workpeople employed at some brass works at Leeds.

Employment.	Locality.	Date of change.	Approximate number of workpeople directly affected.	Hours of labour in a full week (exclusive of overtime).		
				Before change.	After change.	Dec. or Inc. per week.
-- DECREASES.						
Building Trades.						
Joiners	Hartlepoons	28th July	300			3*
Whiteners	Dublin ...	1st July	64	53	50	6
				56 for 35 weeks	50 for 35 weeks	
Metal & Engineering Trades.						
Workpeople in Engineering Shops	Shipleigh ...	18th July	110	54	53	1*
Ironfounders	Batley ...	20th July	20*	54	53	1
Workers in Engineering Shop						
Brass Finishers and Brass Casters	Rotherham	5th July	32	54	53	1*
Sawsmiths ...	Sheffield ...	26th July	6	52	50	2
			6	54	50	4
Workpeople in Engineering Shop	Lilleshall, Salop	25th July	350	—	—	1
Workpeople in Ship Repairing Yard	Hull ...	25th July	68	54†	53†	1†
Engineers, Joiners, &c. in Iron and Steel Works	Glengarnock	20th July	100	60	57	3*
Woodworking Trades.						
Cabinet Makers ...	Rochdale ...	1st July	51	54	53	1*
Printing, &c., Trades.						
Lithographic Printers	Manchester	July	120	52½	50	2½
Bookbinders and Machine Rulers	Ditto ...	July	103	52½	50	2½
Employees of Local Authorities						
At Gasworks (Stokers)	Stockton-on-Tees	18th July	36	62	56	6
On Tramways ...	Sheffield ...	13th July	88	102½	70	32½
At Gasworks ...	Leicester ...	30th June	200	56	48	8*
Other Trades.						
Signalmen ...	Leicester ...	1st July	5	60	48	12
Ditto ...	Desford ...	1st July	2	72	60	12
Surface Workers at Metal Mines (Male & Female)†	Carn, Brea and Illogan, Cornwall	1st July	500*	55½	49½	6
Farriers (Firemen and Doormen)	Leeds ...	1st week in Sept.	67	55½ to 59	54	3
-- INCREASES.						
Workpeople in Brass Works	Leeds ...	27th July	100	48	54	6

* See also under Changes in Rates of Wages.
 † The reduction is 1 hour per week all the year round, but the hours of labour of 32 of these workpeople are now 50 during November and February and 47 during December and January.
 ‡ Previous to the change these workpeople were allowed to work by piece and to leave off at irregular hours.

Changes in Pay and Conditions of Workmen in Dockyards.—A return of changes, taking effect from 1st April last, in the pay and conditions of workpeople employed in H.M. dockyards at home has recently been furnished to the Labour Department by the Admiralty. From the return it appears that 3,460 shipwrights, joiners, caulkers, plumbers, &c., and riggers have received an advance of 6d. per week, 57 sailmakers and wheelwrights of 1s. 6d. per week, and 31 leading men of 3s. and 6s. per week. Of the 3,548 workpeople whose wages were thus increased, 196 were on the establishment, 3,133 were hired, and 219 were on probation. Other concessions were also granted.

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN JULY.

(Supplied to the Department by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.)

THE summary given below of the changes in the Register of Industrial Organisations during July shows that 7 Trade Unions, 4 Co-operative Associations for Distribution, 3 Co-operative Associations for Production, 5 Miscellaneous Provident Associations, 30 new Friendly Societies, and 48 new branches of existing Friendly Societies have been added to the Register for the United Kingdom during the month. Four Industrial and Provident Societies have been dissolved, and 1 amalgamated with another Society; while 9 Building Societies are returned as having sent notice of commencement of dissolution or as having ceased to exist.

NEW ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

Trade Unions.—*England and Wales.*—National Alliance Building Trades Society, 45 Tonsley Hill, Wandsworth, S.W.; Footway Masons and Carriageway Paviers' Trade Protection Society, Club Union Buildings, Clerkenwell Rd., E.C.; Liverpool Jewish Tailors', Machinists' and Pressers' Trade Union, 126 Brownlow Hill, Liverpool; Rotherham Labourers' Trade Society, Oddfellows Arms Inn, Wellgate, Rotherham; Bradford and District Builders' Labourers' Protective Accident and Burial Union, Manor House, Northgate, Bradford; Liverpool District of the Amal. Union of Operative Bakers and Confectioners of Great Britain and Ireland, 38 Juvenal St., Liverpool. *Scotland.*—Greenock and District Brass Finishers, Victoria Hall, Rue Ena St., Greenock. *Ireland.*—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—(A) *Associations for Distribution.*—*England and Wales.*—Stanningley and District Working Men's Coal Association, Ltd., 9 Sunfield, Stanningley, Leeds; Bailiffe Bridge and District Mutual Coal Supply Association, Ltd., Punch Bowl Hotel, Bailiffe Bridge, Brighouse; Moreton-in-Marsh Co-op. and Industrial Soc., Ltd., 1 Oxford St., Moreton-in-Marsh; United Kingdom Farmers' Co-op Supply Association, Ltd., 27A Sackville St., Piccadilly, W. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

(B) *Associations for Production.*—*England and Wales.*—Leicester Builders, Ltd., 48 Hartington Rd., Leicester. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Ballinagleragh Co-op. Home Industries Soc., Ltd., Ballinagleragh, Dowra, Carrick-on-Shannon; Springmount Co-op. Agricultural and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Springmount; Roscommon Co-op. Pig Feeders' Soc., Ltd., Roscommon.

(C) *Miscellaneous Associations.*—*England and Wales.*—Folks Hall Social Democratic Working Men's Club and Institute, Ltd., Folks Hall, 105 Dalston Lane, N.E.; Higham Ferrers Athletic Club, Ltd., 2 Backway, Higham Ferrers; Guildford Workman's Home, Ltd., 56 Chertsey St., Guildford; General Stationery Association, Ltd., 35 Anning St., Shoreditch, E. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Friendly Societies.—(A) *New Friendly Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—Ordinary Friendly, 14; Specially Authorised, 8; Dividing, 4; Working Men's Clubs, 2; Benevolent, 1; Collecting, 1. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

(B) *New Branches of Existing Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—I.O. Rechabites, 8; G.U. Order of Odd Fellows, 8; U.A.O. Druids, 4; O. Sons Temperance, 4; Various others, 21. *Scotland.*—Various, 3. *Ireland.*—None.

OLD ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

Trade Unions.—*England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland.*—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—*England and Wales.*—Blackburn and District Farmers' Association Supply Soc., Ltd., 2 Salford, Blackburn; Old Kent Road Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 654 Old Kent Rd., S.E.; Kettering Working Men's Club Association, Ltd., Wellington Street, Kettering; Ebbesbourne Working Men's Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Ebbesbourne Wake, Salisbury; Shefford and District Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Co-op. Stores, Shefford (Amalgamated with Bedford Co-op. Soc., Ltd.). *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Building Societies.—*England and Wales.*—Dissolved by instrument, 3; sent notice of commencement of dissolution, 3; of termination of dissolution, 3.

INSPECTORS OF FACTORIES.

New Addresses.—J. Jackson, County Buildings, Bridge Street, Walsall; S. Erant, 22 Prospect Vale, Fairfield, Liverpool; A. Newlands, 173 Allison Street, Glasgow; T. Brown, 121 West Regent Street, Glasgow.

NOTICE.

Communications respecting the contents of the GAZETTE should be addressed to:—

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