# LABOUR GAZETTE

THE JOURNAL OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

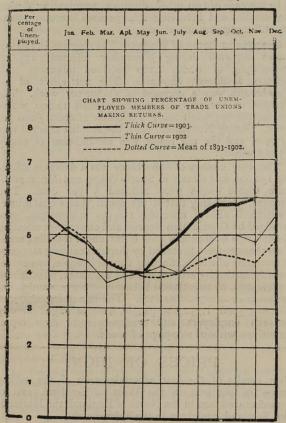
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DECEMBER, 1903.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

## EMPLOYMENT CHART.



## STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN NOVEMBER.

[Based on 3,960 returns, viz.: 2,579 from Employers, or their Associations, 1,289 from Trade Unions, and 92 from other sources.]

EMPLOYMENT in November, on the whole, shows no material change as compared with October, and remains quiet generally. The improvement in the cotton industry, which commenced towards the end of October, has been maintained, while the metal, engineering and shipbuilding trades have continued to decline.

As compared with a year ago, a general falling off is shown, and the percentage of unemployed Trade Union members continues higher than the mean percentage for the corresponding month in the past ten years.

for the corresponding month in the past ten years.

In the 228 Trade Unions, with an aggregate membership of 562,954, making returns, 33,614 (or 6 o per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 5 8 per cent. in October, and with 4 8 per cent. in the 224 Trade Unions, with a membership of 549,197, from which returns were received for November, 1902. The mean percentage of unemployed returned at the end of November during the past decade was 4 2.

Employment in various Industries.—Coal Mining.— Employment during November showed little change compared with a month ago, and was not so good as a year ago. At collieries employing 498,821 workpeople, the pits worked an average of 5.24 days

weekly, as compared with 5.21 in October, and 5.51 in November, 1902. The number of workpeople employed at pits for which returns were received for both periods was 1.3 per cent. greater than a year ago.

Iron Mining.—Employment in this industry continues good. In the 139 mines and open works covered by the returns received from employers, and employing about 15,700 workpeople, the average number of days worked by the mines was 5.74, compared with 5.73 in October, and 5.81 in November, 1902.

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment in this industry shows, on the whole, no change compared with a month ago; but as compared with a year ago there has been a decline, mainly in the Cumberland and North Lancashire district. Returns relating to the works of 113 ironmasters show that 314 furnaces, employing about 21,800 workpeople, were in blast at the end of November, as compared with the same number at the end of October, and with 324 in November, 1902.

Iron and Steel Manufacture.—Employment continues to show a falling off compared with a month ago and a year ago. At 199 works covered by the returns received from employers, 73,392 workpeople were employed during the week ended November 28th, and the total volume of employment (taking into account both the number employed and the number of shifts worked) shows a decrease of 2.6 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 2.5 per cent. compared with November, 1902.

Tinplate Manufacture.—Employment shows little change

Tinplate Manufacture.—Employment shows little change compared with October, and continues worse than a year ago. At the end of November 360 mills were working, as compared with 359 at the end of October, and 398 a year ago. The number of workpeople employed at the 360 mills was about 18,000.

360 mills was about 18,000.

Engineering Trades.—Employment generally is bad and worse than a month ago and a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members was 600 at the end of November, as compared with 502 in October, and 503 in November, 1902.

5'3 in November, 1902.

Shipbuilding Trades.—Employment is bad, worse than a month ago, and considerably worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members was 17'1 at the end of November, as compared with 15'0 in October and 120 in November 1903.

October, and 13.0 in November, 1902.

Building Trades.—Employment in these trades remains dull, and is rather worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members among Carpenters and Joiners was 6.1 at the end of November, compared with 5.6 at the end of October, and 4.4 a year ago. The percentage for Plumbers was 7.2 at the end of November, compared with 6.6 at the end of October, and 5.7 a year ago.

5.7 a year ago.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Employment in these trades remains dull, and is worse than a month and a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of November was 5.9, as compared with 5.2 in October, and 4.6 in November,

Printing and Bookbinding Trades.—Employment in the letterpress printing trade shows a considerable improvement, especially in London, and is rather better on the whole than a year ago. Other branches of the printing and bookbinding trades show little change as compared with October, but are worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the

October and 2.8 per cent. in November, 1902.

Employment in the Papermaking trade remains fairly good, the percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of the month being 2.4, against 2.5 in October, and 2.3 per cent. in November, 1902.

Employment in the Glass trades continues bad in the bottle-making branch, and is rather worse than a year ago; in the flint-glass trade it is fair on the whole. In the Pottery trades short time is still general. In the Brick and Tile trades employment is moderate on the whole.

Towards the end of October many of the Cotton Spinning mills resumed full hours of working after several months of short time, and employment is now fair. The Weaving sheds were slow in getting to full hours in November, but at the close of that month most of the looms that had been empty of warps for some time were regaited. Information respecting cotton factories employing about 98,700 women and girls show that 75 per cent. of those in spinning mills were working in mills giving full employment during the whole month, compared with 42 per cent. in October, and 85 per cent. in November, 1902. The corresponding percentage of full time for those employed in weaving factories was 44 during November, compared with 25 per cent. in October and 82 per cent. in November, 1902.

Employment in the Woollen trade shows a decline, but is still fairly good on the whole. In the Worsted trade it shows a further decline and is bad. Returns from firms employing 91,323 workpeople in the woollen and worsted trades show a decrease of 0.7 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 1.8 per cent. compared with a year ago. Of the total number of operatives reported on, 29 per cent. were employed in firms reporting short time or machinery standing in one or more departments; 12 per cent. were employed in firms working some overtime.

Employment in the Hosiery trade continues bad. Employment in the Jute trade continues fairly good. In the Flax trade it is fair.

Leather Trades.—The general state of employment remains slack, and is worse than a month and a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of November was 8.3, as compared with 6.3 at the end of October, and 7'3 at the end of November,

Employment in the Boot and Shoe trade has slightly improved but is still quiet. Returns from firms employing 72,812 workpeople show an increase of 0.5 per cent. as compared with the number employed at the end of October, and a year ago. Of the total number of operatives reported on, 58 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout November, the same percentage as in the returns received for October.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the Tailoring trade is only moderate, and worse than in October and a In the ready-made branch employment continues bad and is worse than a month and a year

Employment in the *Hat-making* trade has been quiet with both silk and feit hatters. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of November was 4.5, as compared with 2.6 per cent. at the end of October, and 3.6 per cent. a year ago.

Agricultural Labourers have been moderately employed during November, outdoor work being interrupted somewhat by rain and by the sodden condition of the land. Casual labourers have not been, generally speaking, in much demand.

Dock and Riverside Labour. — Employment during November was on the whole fair, and was rather better than in October, but showed little change as compared with a year ago. The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves in London during the four weeks ended November 28th was 15,134, an increase of 7 i per cent. on the average for October, and of 0.4 per cent. en the average for November, 1902. The average daily number employed

in November during the six years 1897-1902 was 16,388.

Trade Disputes.—The total number of workpeople

end of November was 3:0, as compared with 4:3 in | involved in disputes which began or were in progress during November, 1903, was 13,763, compared with 10,747 in October, 1903, and 19,797 in November, 1902.

The aggregate duration of all the disputes of the month, new and old, amounted to 108,400 working days, compared with 113,000 in the previous month, and 308,000 in the corresponding month of last year. Thirty disputes began in November, involving 10,215 workpeople, compared with 20 in October, 1903, and 24 in November, 1902.

Definite results were reported during the month in the case of 22 disputes, new and old, affecting 11,081 workpeople. Of these disputes, two, involving 1,700 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; ten, involving 6,651 persons, in favour of the employers; and ten, involving 2,730 persons, were compromised.

In the case of two other disputes, terminating during the month, and involving 274 persons, certain points are still under consideration.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes in rates of wages reported during November affected 153,600 workpeople, of whom 1,100 received advances and 152,500 sustained decreases. The net effect of all the changes was a decrease of £6,800 per week. The changes of the previous month affected 12,000 workpeople, the net result being a decrease of about £200 per week. During November, 1902, the number affected was 247,300, and the net result was an increase of nearly £7,900 weekly.

The only change of importance was a decrease affecting 150,000 coal miners in South Wales and Monmouthshire whose wages were reduced 5 per cent. Two changes, (one being that of the South Wales coal miners mentioned above) affecting 150,550 workpeople, were arranged by Conciliation Boards, and one change affecting about 1,050 workpeople took effect under a sliding scale. Two changes were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work, one of which, affecting 190 workpeople, was subsequently settled by arbitration, and the other, affecting 50 vorkpeople, by negotiation between employers and workpeople or their representatives. The remaining changes, affecting about 1,750 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople or their representatives without stoppage of work.

## PRICES OF IRON.

THE results of the last ascertainments of the selling prices of pig iron in the West of Scotland, and of manufactured iron in the North of England, the Midlands and Scotland, are given in the Table below.

Compared with the previous audits and those for the corresponding periods of last year, prices show a decline, the fall being most marked in the case of West of Scotland pig iron, the price of which is 10 per cent. lower than a year ago.

As a result of these ascertainments no change has been made in the wages of the workpeople employed in these

Product and	Period covered	Asc			verag		ing	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) of last Audit as compared with			
District.	by last Audit.	La	ist lit.*		vious idit.		ear go.		vious dit.		Zear
Pig Iron.	1	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	S.	d.	S,	d.
West of Scotland	Aug	} 51	8.17	52	5.40	57	2.11	-0	9'23	-5	8.94
Manufact'r'd Iron. North of England:— (Rails, plates, bars and angles)		124	0.44	126	1.08	125	7'36	-2	1.51	-1	6.5
Midlands:— (Bars, angles, tees, hoops, sheets, plates, and strips, &c.)	Sept-	135	3.81	135	10.87	138	7.72	-0	7.06	-3	3.9
West of Scotland:— (Rounds, squares, flats, angles, tees, hoops and rods)		123	10.33	124	9.83	126	2'11	-0	11.20	-2	3'7

## CHANGES IN THE COST OF FOOD IN THE amusements, &c., and intoxicating liquors. These UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 1890-1902.

An investigation has just been completed by the United States Department of Commerce and Labour into the cost of living of working men's families and the retail prices of the principal staple articles of food used by such families, and a short summary of the results of this investigation, especially as they relate to the cost of living, is given in the "Bulletin of the Bureau of Labor" for November, 1903.

Figures of income and expenditure for the year 1901 were furnished in detail by 2,567 families in 33 States, representing the leading industrial centres of the country. In order to ascertain the course of retail prices of food for a series of years, and the consequent changes in the cost of living as regards food, the Bureau, through its agents, secured from the books of 814 retail merchants, in the same localities from which data relating to family expenditure were obtained, the retail prices of 30 distinct articles of food in each month during the period 1890 to 1902. From the prices so obtained relative prices were calculated. The average price for the ten-year period 1890-1899 was taken as equal to 100, and the price for each of the 13 years covered by the Inquiry was expressed as a percentage of that average. The importance of the various articles or groups of articles of food in the family consumption being known from the expenditures of the 2,567 families referred to above, the relative prices of the several articles of food were weighted according to this importance.

The results are shown in the following Table:-Relative retail prices of food consumed in one year by a working man's family in the United States of America, expressed as percentages of the average price for the ten-year period 1800-00.

Year.	Relative Retail Price.	Year.	Relative Retail Price.
1890	102'4	1897	96·3 98·7
1891	103.8	1898 1899	98.7
1893	104.4	1900	IOI.I
1894	99'7	1901	105'2
1895 1896	97.8	1902	110.0

From the above figures it will be seen that the lowest prices were reached in 1896, and the highest in 1902, the average for that year being 10'0 per cent, above that of

the ten-year period 1890-99.

If the average price for the year 1890 be taken as representing 100, and those of the succeeding years be expressed as percentages of that price, we get the follow-

Year.	Relative Retail Price.	Year.	Relative Retail Price.
1890	100.0	1897	94.0
18or	101'4	1897 1898	96.4 97.8 98.7
1892	99'5	1899	97.8
1892 1893 1894 1895 1896	102.0	1900	
1894	97.4	1901	102'7
1895	95.5	1902	108.3

The average income in 1901 of the 2,567 families who supplied detailed information on this point was £172 6s. 8d. The average expenditure for all purposes was f. 160 2s. 3d., and the average expenditure for food was £68 2s. id. per family, or 42.54 per cent. of the average expenditure for all purposes. By taking the sum which represents the cost of food in 1901 (viz. £68 2s. 1d.) and applying to it the percentage changes calculated as shown above, it is found that in 1800 the cost of food per family was £66 5s. 10d. In 1896, the year of lowest prices, it fell to £61 16s. 6d., and in 1902 reached f.71 15s. 11d., an increase of 16'1 per cent. over 1896, and of 10.9 per cent. over the average for the ten-year period 1890-99.

The increase in the cost of living, as shown by the results of this investigation, relates to food alone, representing 42.54 per cent. of the total family expenditure.

Of the remaining items, constituting 57.46 per cent. of the family expenditure, some are from their nature affected only indirectly and in a very slight degree by any rise or fall in prices. Such are interest on loans, taxes, insurance, religion, charity, books and newspapers,

together constituted 14.51 per cent. of the family expenditure in 1901 of the 2,567 families investigated. Miscellaneous purposes, not reported, made up 5.87 per cent., and rent, for which no prices for the several years are available, made up 12.95 per cent.

The remaining classes of family expenditure, 24.13 per cent. of all, consist of clothing 14:04 per cent., fuel and lighting 5.25 per cent., furniture and utensils 3.42 per cent., and tobacco 1.42 per cent. For these no retail prices covering a series of years are available, but accepting as true of wholesale and retail prices here what this investigation has found true in the case of food, namely, that retail prices rise and fall more slowly and in smaller degree than wholesale prices, an examination of the relative wholesale prices of these classes of articles (already published by the Bureau of Labor\*), giving them their proper weight according to family consumption, leads to the conclusion that the retail prices of these articles as a whole in 1902 could have been but little, if at all, above the level indicated by food.

The Report concludes, therefore, that the increase in the cost of living, as a whole, of working class families in the United States in 1902, when compared with the year of lowest prices, was not over 16.1 per cent., the figure given above as the increase in the cost of food as shown by this investigation. This assumes that the same articles and the same quantities of such articles are purchased in years of low prices, low wages, and more or less irregular employment, as are purchased in years of nigher prices, higher wages, and steady employment.

#### BRONZING: HOME OFFICE CIRCULAR.

A CIRCULAR has been issued by the Chief Inspector of Factories giving the following summary of precautions recommended for the protection of persons employed in every room in which bronzing or dusting off is done,

(1) No person under sixteen years of age should be employed.
(2) No food or drink should be brought into the room or consumed there. (3) Twice daily, say at 11 a.m. and 4.30 p.m., half a pint of milk should be supplied to each person employed. (4) Lavatories and baths should be provided, with hot and cold water laid on, soap, nailbrushes and towels. There should be one basin for every five persons, and one bath for every ten. (5) Every person employed should always wash hands before meals and before leaving work. Time should be allowed for this. (6) Suitable washable respirators should be provided and worn, and washed or renewed not less than thrice a week. Respirators of woven woollen material of open texture are recommended. (7) Suitable overalls and head coverings, of such a colour as to show the bronze, should be provided and worn, and should be washed or renewed at least once a week. (8) A suitable place should be provided in which the persons employed may change and leave their clothes. (9) The escape of dust in the process of bronzing and dusting off should be prevented as far as possible by the use of closed machines and efficient local exhaust ventilation, carrying away any dust that may escape as near as possible to the point of origin, vithout allowing it to enter the air of the room. Where such closed machines and local exhaust ventilation are not in use, no other process (except printing in size) should be carried on in the same room as bronzing and dusting off. (10) A register of persons employed in the room should be kept. Arrangements should be made with the certifying surgeon to examine them, at the works, every three months: to enter in the register the dates and results of examination: and to suspend from employment in the room any person whose health is found to be endangered thereby.

#### FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS IN 1902.

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The second part† of the Annual Report for 1902, of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops has been issued.

The number of factories under inspection rose from 97,845 in 1901 to 100,424 in 1902, and the number of workshops under inspection from 143,065 to 145.721. Progress is being made with the systematic registration of "Men's Workshops," the net increase during the year being 3,483, b inging the total to 12,799. The number of fatal accidents reported amounted to 1,110, compared with 1,035 in 1901, and the non-fatal to 89,245, compared with 82,725 in the previous year. The cases of lead, mercury, phosphorus and arsenic poisoning and anthrax declined from 936 in 1902 to 681 in 1902.

\*Course of Wholesale Prices, 1890-1902 ("Bulletin of the Department of Labor." No. 45. March, 1903). Government Printing Office, Washington. + Factories and Workshops: Annual Report for 1902. Part II. (Tables). [Cd. 1816. Eyre and Spottiswoode. Price 8\frac{1}{2}d.]

## ACT.

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THE Fourth Report\* by the Board of Trade of Pro ceedings under the Conciliation Act, 1896, which ha recently been issued, covers a period of two years, viz from July 1st, 1901, to the end of June, 1903.

The total number of cases in the period of nearly seven years that has elapsed since the passing of the Ac amounts to 154. Of these, 56 have been in the building trades, 31 in the metal, engineering and shipbuildin trades, 21 in the mining and quarrying trades, 14 in the transport trades, 8 in the textile trades, 7 in the printing bookbinding and paper-making trades, 6 in the clothin trades, and II in other groups of trades.

Of the total of 154 cases which have arisen since 1896 gg have been settled under the Act, and 14 others wer settled by the parties themselves during the negotiations In 40 cases either the Board declined to take action o no settlement resulted from their intervention. Of th 99 settlements, 65 were effected by arbitration and 34 b conciliation, 23 of the latter being arranged by official of the Department.

During the two years ending June, 1903, 41 case were dealt with, in 21 of which a cessation ot work wa involved. The number of cases settled under the Act is these two years has been 29, in 13 of which a stoppage work took place. Of the 29 cases, 27 were settled by arbitrators or umpires appointed by the Board of Trade and 2 by conciliators. Four other cases were settled by the parties during negotiations by the Board of Trade, and in 7 cases either the application was declined by the Board of Trade, or such action as was taken did not result in a settlement. The remaining case was pending at the date of the report.

The above numbers are exclusive of certain disputes in which no application was received from either party, and the sole step taken by the Board of Trade was preliminary and informal inquiry with a view to ascertain if action could usefully be taken.

In the period covered by the Fourth Report, the most important of the cases settled under the Act was the dispute in the Grimsby fishing trade, which lasted about three months, and affected directly about 4,000 men. The main question at issue was one of wages, the employers desiring to introduce a system by which the men would be paid partly by results. After protracted negotiations the parties ultimately applied to the Board of Trade to appoint an arbitrator to settle all outstanding matters in dispute, and the Board appointed Sir Edward Fry. The arbitrator held a number of sittings at Grimsby, and issued an award in December, 1901.

Among other cases settled by arbitration, reference may be made to a dispute affecting carpenters and joiners at Bradford in which 315 men struck against a proposed reduction of wages and which was referred to arbitration after a stoppage of more than 15 months; a case affecting builders' labourers in the Potteries and Newcastle district, about 1,000 men having their wages changed by the award; a dispute involving 744 sheet millmen and other workpeople at Pontardawe; and a dispute in the London bookbinding trade, the award in this case affecting the wages of about 1,000 workpeople.

Of the two cases settled by conciliators appointed by the Board of Trade, one affected practically the whole of the building trades at Bristol; the other affected the printing trade at Reading, and at one time threatened to spread to London and other districts.

### PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT AND FLOUR.

#### BREAD.

RETURNS have been collected from the principal Co-operative Societies in Great Britain, and Local Correspondents, showing the price of ordinary household bread per 4lbs. on December 1st, 1903.

#### Returns from Co-operative Societies.

The figures in the following Table are based on 239 returns from Co-operative Societies in England and Wales and 127 from Scotland, and give the highest,

\*[ Cd. 1846. Eyre & Spottiswoode. Price 6d.]

PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE CONCILIATION | lowest, and the mean of the prices returned in various districts per 4 lbs. of bread.

s s	WO MAN TO A STATE OF		sent P		g	rice la juarter Sept.,		Price a year ago. (1st Dec., 1902.)		
n	District.	High- est.	Low- est.	Mean.	High- est.	Low- est.	Mean.	High- est.	Low- est.	Mean.
t	ENGLAND AND WALES.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
g	N. Counties and Yorkshire	61	41/2	5-66	61	41/2	5-65	62	41/2	5.28
e	Lancs. & Cheshire	6	4	5-14	6	4	5.16	6	4	5.10
,	N. Mid. Counties	51/2	4	4.63	51/2	4	4.60	51	4	4.54
	W. do. do	51	41	5-05	51/2	41/2	5-09	51	4	4.94
g	S. do. do	51	4	4-74	51/2	4	4.76	51/2	4	4.64
1	Eastern Counties	6	5	5.38	6	5	5.37	51/2	5	5.10
),	London	51	5	5-36	51/2	5	5.32	51/2	5	5.23
e	S.E. Counties	6	5	5-20	6	5	5.44	6	5	5.40
3.	S.W. Counties, Wales & Mon.	6	41/2	5.04	6	41	4-98	6	41	4.96
r e y	England and Wales	61/2	4	5-11	61/2	4	5-10	61/2	4	5.02
	SCOTLAND.			100	1300		2000			1939
S	N. Counties	6	5	5-46	6	5	5-40	6	41	5-11
	Eastern Counties	6	4	5.44	61	4	5.43	6	42	5.08
S	Lanarkshire	6	5	5.57	6	51	5.58	51	5	5.10
S	Other Southern	140 14		100	1300	32		33		
n	Counties	6	51/2	5.84	6	5	5-67	6	5	5.43
of	Scotland	6	4	5.57	61/2	4	5.51	6	4	5-19
y e,	Great Britain	63	4	5-27	61/2	4	5-25	61	4	5.08

It will be seen that the mean of the prices at 1st December, charged by the Co-operative Societies making returns, remains about the same as three months ago, while showing a rise of rather less than 1th of a penny per 4 lbs. as compared with the price a year ago. The most considerable change as compared with a year ago is in the southern counties of Scotland, where a mean rise of nearly ½d. per 4 lbs. has taken place.

#### Returns from Local Correspondents.

The returns as to the price of bread, furnished by the Local Correspondents of the Department, relate to London and 24 large Provincial Towns at the beginning of December and of each of the twelve preceding months, Though it is not possible to state that the quality of bread referred to is in all cases the same, the figures for each place are believed to be, generally speaking, comparable over the whole period. Other qualities of bread are sold at both higher and lower prices than those quoted in the Table. The prices selected represent, so far as can be ascertained, the prevailing prices paid at the various places by workpeople for 4 lbs. of ordinary household bread of average quality.

Place.	Present Price, 1st			190	03.			1902.
Flace.	Dec , 1903.	2nd Nov.	ıst Oct.	ıst Sept.	ıst Aug.	July.	2nd April.*	Dec.
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
London	5 & 51	5 & 51	5 & 51	5 & 5 2	41 & 5	42 & 5	41 & 5	41 & 5
Birmingham	5 & 6	5 & 6	5 & 6			41 & 51	41 & 51	2000
Bolton Bristol	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
	5	41 & 5	5		5	5	5	5
Cardiff	42 8 5	43 & 5	5	4 8 5	5	43 & 5	42 & 5	5
Derby	41 & 5	5	42 & 5		43 & 5		5	42 &
Hudders- field	5	1000000	5	5	5	5		5
Hull	4 to 5	4 to 5	4 to 5	4 to 5	4 to 3	4 to 5	4 to 5	4 to 5
Ipswich	51/2	51/2	51/2	51	5	5	5	5
Leicester	42	42	41	41	41	41	42	43
Liverpool	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4
Manchester	41/2	41/2	41	41/2	4	4	- 4	4
Middlesbro'	6	6	6	6	51	51	51	51
Newcastle- on-Tyne	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
Norwich	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Nottingham	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Oldham	43	45	43	4	4	4	4	4
Plymouth	5	5	5	5	41	5	5	5.
Wolver'pton	5		51	51	5	5	5	5
Aberdeen	51	57	51	51	51	51	51/2	5
Dundee	6	6	6	6	51	51	51	51
Edinburgh	58	6	6	6	51	51	51	51
Glasgow	51	51	51	51	5	5	5	5
Belfast	58	51	51	5	5	5	5	5
Dublin	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51

\* No change was recorded in any of the towns at 1st January, 2nd February, 2nd March, 1st April, 1st May, or at 1st June, 1903, except at Aberdeen, where the price per 4 lbs. was advanced \( \frac{1}{2}d. \) (5\frac{1}{2}d. \) on 5\frac{1}{2}d. \) on 5\text{th March, 1903.}

As compared with a month ago, the price per 4 lbs. has been reduced 1d. in Edinburgh. In London, while the prevailing prices are still 5d. and 51d., prices show a downward tendency, especially in certain districts.

December, 1903.

#### WHEAT AND FLOUR.

The imports of wheat from foreign countries and the Colonies in 1903 from 1st September to 30th November amounted to 25,459,200 cwts. (5,940,480 quarters), compared with 23,737,627 cwts. (5,538,780 quarters) in the corresponding three months of 1902. The imports of wheat-meal and flour in September-November of 1903 amounted to 6,250,855 cwts., compared with 5,229,262 cwts. from 1st September to 30th November, 1902.

The Table below gives the mean London Gazette price of British wheat, and the average declared value of the wheat and flour imports, for each of the months September, 1902, to November, 1903:-

					British Wheat.	Im	ports.
	Month.				Mean London	Wheat.	Wheat-meal and Flour.
					Gazette Price.	Average Declared Value.	Average Declared Value.
77 -		19 75 1	777		Per cwt.	Per cwt.	Per cwt.
	190	2.			s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
September					6 53	6 74	9 31
October					5 103	6 61	9 14 9 24 9 14
November					5 10	6 61	9 25
December					5 93	6 8	9 17
D COOLINGOL	190			• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	3 94		-
January		3.			5 10	6 81	9 3
February	***	***	***	***	5 11	6 11	
	***	***	***	•••			9 2 2 3 9 2 3
	***	***	***	•••	5 10		9 27
April	***	***		***	6 04	6 8	9 23
May	***	***		***	6 51	6 103	9 34 9 13
June*					6 5	6 9}	9 13
July		***			6 74	6 04	9 43
August					6 11	6 83	9 43
September					6 6	6 9	99999449494949494949494949494949494949
October					6 0}	6 91	9 78
November					6 01	6 01	0 01

#### HOME OFFICE ORDERS.

#### Manufacture of Electric Accumulators.

The Home Secretary has made an Order,† dated November 21st, 1903, to come into force 1st January, 1904, regulating the manufacture of electric accumulators. Such manufacture has, in pursuance of Section 79 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, been certified to be dangerous, and the regulations are accordingly made, under the powers conferred by that section, to apply to all factories and workshops, or parts thereof, in which electrical accumulators are manufactured. The term "lead process" is defined to mean pasting, casting, lead burning, or any work involving contact with dry compounds of lead. Regulations are made for ventilation, and for the separation of different processes; and stringent rules are laid down for the protection of the workers from fumes and dust. No woman, young person, or child may be employed in the manipulation of dry compounds of lead or in pasting. Every person employed in a lead process must be examined once a month by a medical practitioner referred to as the "Appointed Surgeon," who has power to suspend from employment in a lead process, and is required to enter in a ' Health Register" the results of his examinations. Overalls must be provided for persons employed in manipulating dry compounds of lead or in pasting; and must be washed or renewed once a week. No food may be taken into or consumed in any room in which a lead process is carried on, but a dining room must be provided unless the factory is closed during meal hours. Suitable provision must be made in the factory for the deposit of clothing and of food brought to the factory. Lavatory and bath accommodation must be provided for persons engaged in a lead process. Floors and benches must be thoroughly cleansed daily. Lastly, the persons employed are required to wear the overalls provided, and observe certain other regulations made for their health and safety.

#### H.M. INSPECTORS OF FACTORIES.

Changes of District Inspectors .- On December 9th Mr. A. Lewis took changes of District Inspectors.—On December 9th Mr. A. Lewis took charge of the Manchester District, in succession to Major Roe (retired). His office address is 72, Bridge-street, Manchester.

Mr. J. E. Ashworth will take charge of the South Wales District, in succession to Mr. Lewis (transferred), and his office address will

be 51, St. Helens-road, Swansea.

\* The Import Duty was abolished from 1st July, 1903. † Statutory Rules and Orders, 1903, No. 1004. (Eyre & Spottiswoode: Price 1d.)

## RECENT CONCILIATION & ARBITRATION CASES & COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS.

(a) CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

#### Colliery Workmen at Gwaun-cae-Gurwen.

Differences having arisen between the New Cwmgorse Colliery Company, Limited, and their workpeople as to the schedule of prices payable at the colliery, it was agreed on July 18th, 1903, to submit the matters in dispute to four arbitrators, two appointed by each side, and that in the event of the arbitrators failing to agree as to any items in the price list, they should appeal to the Board of Trade to appoint an umpire.

The arbitrators settled 44 out of 46 items in dispute, but were unable to agree as to two of the matters submitted to them, and accordingly on October 3rd they applied to the Board of Trade for the appointment of an

The Board appointed Sir Clement Le Neve Foster, F.R.S., to act in this capacity (See GAZETTE for October,

One of the points referred to the umpire was as to the payment of day-wage men for night work. The arbitrators or the company allowed that a man who had worked five night-shifts consecutively in a week was entitled to six times the wage specified for a day-shift (the extra wage being given as a bonus), but if the number of nightshifts worked in a week was less than five, they refused to admit the workmen's claim to a share in the bonus. (2) The second point was whether or not extra remuneration should be paid to colliers engaged in cutting or getting coal when they changed from the single-stall system of working to the double-stall system.

The umpire decided as to (1) that the remuneration of day-wage workmen when working night-shifts shall be proportionate to the number of nights worked, one fifth of the day-wage being added for each night-shift, and as to (2), that extra remuneration was not necessary.

Plasterers at Bradford.
On July 1st, 1902, the Bradford Master Plasterers' Association gave notice to their employees of a reduction in the rate of wages from 91d. to 81d. per hour, and other alterations of working rules. The operatives gave a counter notice for an advance to 101d. per hour; and, no agreement being arrived at, work ceased on January 1st, 1903, about 190 plasterers being directly

On November 12th a joint application was made by the parties for the appointment of an arbitrator by the Board of Trade, and the Board appointed Mr. A. A. Hudson, barrister-at-law, to act in that capacity.

Mr. Hudson issued his award on November 30th, deciding that the rate of wages should be reduced to 81d. per hour from the date of the award, and that the working rules should be those signed by the arbitrator and annexed to the award.

#### Tinplate Trade

In 1902 it was agreed by the South Wales and Mon-mouthshire Tinplate Conciliation Board that payment should be made on area except for certain plates known as "Canadas" and "doubles," as to which the question was left over for twelve months. This period having elapsed, the employers in June, 1903, proposed that payment for the plates referred to should also be by area. The Conciliation Board were unable to agree upon the matter, and in August the associated employers gave a month's notice to cease contracts, work to be restarted only on the price list as amended by them. In consequence 41 works, comprising about 250 mills, closed on August 29th, some 14,000 workpeople being affected.

On September 7th it was agreed at a meeting of the Conciliation Board to refer the matters in dispute to a joint committee of investigation, and, failing settlement by them, to arbitration, work meanwhile to be resumed on the old conditions. The committee failed to come to an agreement, and it was decided to ask the Board of Trade to appoint an arbitrator. An application was made accordingly on November 21st by the secretaries of the employers' Association and the men's Wages and Disputes Board.

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The Board of Trade have appointed Sir Kenelm E. Digby, K.C.B., to act as arbitrator.

Shipwrights and Joiners at Belfast.

A joint application on behalf of the Belfast District Branches of the Amalgamated and Associated Societies and General Union of Carpenters and Joiners, and of the Associated Shipwrights' Society has been received by the Board of Trade for the appointment of an arbitrator to deal with certain matters as to which a committee for the demarcation of work between the two trades are unable

The Board of Trade have appointed Mr. T. Smith, of Leicester, to Act as arbitrator.

### (b) OTHER CASES. Letterpress Printers.—Linotype Piece Scale.

The Committee of the Linotype Users' Association and the Executive of the Typographical Association met in conference at the Midland Hotel, Manchester, on September 29th and October 7th, 1903, with the object of framing a scale for linotype piecework. As a result of their deliberations, they have agreed to a piece scale of twenty-two clauses which is dated October 7th. This scale is to apply to the area covered by the Typographical Association, and may become operative in any branch of the Association upon the customary notice being given of a change in the working conditions. London and Scotland are not affected by the new scale, and as regards Ireland the hours now worked are to be maintained.

## RECENT PROGRESS IN CO-OPERATION.

RETURNS received from the four Co-operative Wholesale Federations in the United Kingdom for the third quarter of 1903, show total sales in their distributive departments amounting to £6,406,609, as compared with £5,909,427 in the corresponding period of 1902, an increase of £497,182, or 8.4 per cent., while compared with the corresponding quarter of the year 1898, the sales show an increase of 53.2 per cent.

The sales and transfers from the manufacturing to the distributive departments of the English and Scottish Wholesale Societies amounted to £1,225,791, compared with £1,153,165 in the third quarter of 1902, an increase of £72,626, or 6.3 per cent., while compared with the corresponding quarter of 1898 an increase of

73.6 per cent. is shown. The following Table shows separately the particulars returned by each Federation for the third quarter of 1903, together with the figures for the corresponding

quarters of	190	2 and 1	1898:	N. W.		W. IVIN			
	Memb	ber and bership of eties in eration.	Sales.						
	Socie-	Member-	In 3	rd quarter	of	Percent crease of compare	f 1903 as		
	ties.	ship.	1903.	1902.	1898.	A year ago.	Five years ago.		
ENGLAND AND			£	£	£		SECTION SECTION		
Wales:- Distributive)		25.	( 4,738,444	4,409,588	3,042,081	7.5	55.8		
Depts. Manufactur- ing Depts.	1,127	1,435,990	792,391*	722,159*	392,175*	9'7	102'1		
Scotcano:- Distributive)			(1,592,263	1,433,508	1,085,011	11.1	46.8		
Depts. Manufactur- ing Depts.	281	298,946	433,400*	431,006*	314,039*	0.6	38.0		
IRELAND:-	1.00	( and	Contract B	22 34		62.60	Tellion I		
Agency:- Distributive	not	stated	73.092	63,508	53,778	15.1	35'9		
Depts.† Agricultural (Distribution)	28	3,404	2,810	2,823	not stated	0.2;	-		
Total Dis-			6,406,609	5,909,427	4,180,870	8.4	53'2		
Total Manu- facturing Depts.			1,225,791	1,153,165	706,214	6.3	73.6		
Grand Total	1,436	1,738,340	7,632,400	7,062,592	4,887,084	8.1	56:2		

Sales and transfers from productive to distributive departments.

## LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

## (1) Workmen's Compensation Acts.

PROCEEDINGS UNDER, AND ALSO INDEPENDENTLY OF, THE ACT.

It is provided by the Workmen's Compensation Act 1897, that when the injury was caused by the personal negligence or wilful act of the employer, or of some person for whose act or default the employer is responsible, nothing in the Act shall affect any civil liability of the employer, but in that case the workman may, at his option, either claim compensation under the Act, or take the same proceedings as were open to him before the commencement of the Act; but the employer shall not be liable to pay compensation for injury to a workman by accident arising out of, and in the course of the employment both independently of, and also under the

The plaintiff was a boy employed by the defendant upon his premises in Dublin at weekly wages. In the course of his employment he was seriously and permanently injured by a machine saw. He thereupon took proceedings in the Recorder's Court to obtain compensation under the Act. The employer contended that the compensation under the Act. The employer contended that the claimant's employment was not within the Act; and the Recorder, believing himself to be bound by two English decisions cited in the employer's favour, refused to award compensation and disallowed the claim. The two English decisions were afterwards reversed by the House of Lords. The plaintiff did not appeal against the Recorder's decision; but he sued his employer, the defendant, for damages for negligence in the state of the result of the plaintiff to do work. not safeguarding the saw, and in employing the plaintiff to do work upon which only a skilled workman should have been employed, well knowing that the plaintiff did not possess the required skill This action was never tried upon its merits, for the Court held that under the Act the plaintiff, having once exercised his option of claiming compensation, was not entitled to bring an action. The plaintiff appealed to the King's Bench Division, and this decision was reversed. The defendant then appealed to the Court of Appeal, and that Court upheld the King's Bench Division. It has decided that the mere "claiming" of compensation under the Act did not prevent a workman from subsequently bringing an action; but that if the claim were a successful one, then the employer was protected from further proceedings by the provision that he was not to be liable "to pay compensation both independently of the Act and also under the Act.—Court of Appeal (Ireland). Reported 6th November, 1903.

INJURY CAUSED BY STRANGER: COMPENSATION PAID BY EMPLOYER: INDEMNITY OF EMPLOYER BY STRANGER.

Where the injury for which compensation has been paid to a workman by his employer under the Act was caused under circumstances creating a legal liability in some person other than the employer to pay damages in respect thereof, the employer is entitled under the Act to be indemnified by the said other person.

The plaintiffs in this action were a calico printing company and the defendant was an engineer and machine maker. Early last year the plaintiffs were obliged to renew a steam chest connected with an ageing machine. The defendant's tender for a new one was accepted, and the new steam chest was supplied and fixed by him. The day after it was fixed, when steam was turned on, the chest burst, and a workman of the plaintiffs' was very severely injured, the sight of one eye being destroyed and that of the other damaged. The workman claimed compensation under the Act, and the plaintiffs had paid him 16s. 3d. a week, half his former wages, and

It was alleged that the explosion had occurred by reason of defective casting in the defendant's works, and that the injured man might, if he had chosen, have sued the defendant for damages instead of claiming compensation from his employers. In these circumstances the plaintiffs brought an action against the defendant for a declaration that the defendant was bound to indemnify the plaintiffs against the liability incurred by them under the Act.

In the course of the hearing the point was raised that as the plaintiffs were insured against liability under the Act they could not recover, as they had lost nothing, and were therefore entitled to no indemnity. The Judge, however, refused to take this view of the law, and held that the fact that the plaintiffs were insured had nothing to do with their claim for indemnity, and that the had nothing to do with their claim for indemnity, and that the jury should not in any way take that fact into their consideration, and should deal with the case as if it were an action for damages by the injured workman against the defendant. The jury found that the accident was due to the defective character of the steam chest supplied by the defendant, for which the defendant was

Judgment was accordingly given that the plaintiffs were entitled be indemnified by the defendant against the whole of their liability (past and future) to the injured man.—Horrocks Lane Dyeing and Printing Co. v. Wood. Manchester Assizes, November 16th and 17th, 1903.

COMPENSATION: NO REVIEW; FULL WAGES PAID: COMPEN-

SATION NOT ALSO PAYABLE. Where weekly payments are awarded under the Act to an injured workman, such payments may be reviewed at the request either of the employer or of the workman, and on such review may be ended, diminished or increased, subject to the maximum provided by the Act, and the amount of payment shall, in default of agreement, be settled by arbitration under the Act.

A workman in the employ of a firm of engineers and ironfounders,

of his employment. He returned to his employment about a month after the accident. On January 10th, 1902, he made a claim for compensation under the Act. He left his employment on February 15th, 1902, as the employers alleged, on account of slackness of work. On February 21st his claim was heard by the Sheriff, but no decision was livery to February 15th, but no recommendation was significant to the claim was been accounted to the claim of the claim was been accounted to the claim of the claim was been accounted to the claim of the claim was been accounted to the cla decision was given. On February 26th the claimant again returned to work. On March 19th the Sheriff made his award, and fixed the compensation payable to the claimant at 17s. a week, as from February 15th, being half his wages. The Sheriff was not informed that the claimant had resumed work. On April 6th, 1902, he again left his employment, but resumed work on April 21st, and continued in work subsequently at 34s. a week. The employers took no steps under the Act to review the award, although the workman was in their employment at the full wages he had earned before the accident, nor was any compensation paid to him as such while at work. In December, 1902, the workman took proceedings to obtain the compensation awarded to him as from the February 15th previous to date. The employers resisted the claim, maintaining that by taking the workman back to their employment at his former wages they had paid or extinguished his claim, and that it was out of the question for him to draw 34s. a week, his full wages, and also 17s. a week on the ground of incapacity. They were, however, always ready and willing to pay him compen-

sation for the weeks he was out of work. The First Division of the Court of Session took the workman's view of his rights, and held that he was entitled to the compensation in addition to the wages he had been paid. The Second Division, however, overruled this decision. The Court held that when the workman returned to work at full wages one of two things happened. Either he got full wages on an implied agreement that his incapacity had come to end, and that, therefore, no further compensation was due; or else it was mutually understood that his incapacity continued, and that the payment of 34s. a week was, as to one half compensation, and as to the other half wages for such services as the workman in his partially disabled condition was able to render. When a workman chooses to accept employment from his former employers after an njury and an award of compensation, at full wages, he is absolutely precluded by his own act from enforcing the award as ong as he is in receipt of such wages.—Beath and Keay v. Ness. Court of Session, November 28th, 1903.

## (2) Employers' Liability Act.

SUFFICIENCY OF NOTICE.

A workman who suffers an injury cannot successfully maintain an action for compensation under the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, unless notice that injury has been sustained is given within six weeks from the occurrence of the accident. It is further provided by the Act that such notice shall not be deemed invalid by reason of any defect or inaccuracy therein unless the Judge who tries the action shall be of opinion that the defendant in the action is prejudiced in his defence by such defect or inaccuracy, and that the defect or inaccuracy was for the purpose of misleading.

A workman in the employment of a firm of ironmasters, while at work, was knocked down by a train of wagons, and so injured that one of his feet had to be amputated. He subsequently made a claim under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, and the employers at once agreed to pay compensation. He then brought an action at common law and under the Employers' Liability Act, alleging negligence on the part of the employers and their servants. The only notice given was the above-mentioned claim under the Workmen's Compensation Act. At the trial of the action it was found by the Court that there was no cause of action at common law, but that the facts showed a cause of action under the Employers' Liability Act. The defendants, however, relied on the defence that no action was maintainable against them under the Act as they had received no notice. The plaintiff relied upon the formal claim under the Workmen's Compensation Act as being a sufficient notice. The Court decided against the plaintiff, holding that that claim could not be regarded as a notice under the Employers' Liability Act, and that therefore the action under that Act was not maintainable. The workman, therefore, was left to his remedy under the Workmen's Compensation Act alone.—Thomson v. Baird & Co. Court of Session, November 26th, 1903.

## (3) Shop Clubs Act, 1902.

CLAIM ON FUND BY SERVANT LEAVING.

It is provided by the Shop Clubs Act, 1902 (which came into operation January 1st, 1903), that no employer shall make it a condition of employment that any workman shall join a shop club or thrift fund, unless such shop club or thrift fund is registered under the Friendly Societies Act, 1896, and certified by the Registrar of Friendly Societies to be one that affords certain substantial advantages to the workman, and to be of a permanent character, and that no member is required, except in accordance with Section 6 of the Act, to cease his membership upon leaving the employment. Section 6 provides that in any case where a workman, by the condition of his employment, is a member of a shop club, he shall upon his missal from, or upon leaving, his employment, unless contrary to the rules of the club, have the option of remaining a member or of having returned to him the amount of his share of the funds of the

The plaintiff was in the employ of the defendants, the Army and Navy Auxiliary Co-operative Society (Ltd), having entered their employment in 1898. It was a condition of his employment that he should join and contribute a portion of

on September 27th, 1901, lost his left eye by accident in the course his wages to a provident fund controlled by the defendants. One of the rules of the fund (which was not registered as a friendly society) was that "no person dismissed from the company's employment, or leaving it of his own accord, shall have any claim upon the provident fund." The trustees, however, were given discretionary power in case of prolonged service to make certain payments to such person. In view of the near coming into operation of the Act, the defendants in October, 1902, cancelled the rule making membership of the fund compulsory, and issued a new form of agreement for servants by which they became voluntary subscribers to the fund. On January 3rd, 1903, the defendant voluntarily left the defendants' employment He then brought an action against the defendants, claiming a declaration that they could not discharge members of the compulsory provident fund without their consent, and deprive them of their rights thereunder, and that the transfer of the funds to the new voluntary provident fund was illegal; and he claimed his share of the funds of the compulsory provident fund. He failed in his action, however, the Judge holding that Section 6 of the Act contemplated that rules might provide that a member should not have the option there mentioned; that in this case a rule existed which deprived a member on leaving of any claim upon the provident fund, and that therefore the plaintiff had ceased on leaving his employment to have any turther claim on the fund.—Balchin Lord Ebury and Others. Chancery Division, November 24th, 1903.

## HOME OFFICE ORDER.

#### Limewashing of Factories.

By Section 1 (4) of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, it is provided that where it appears to the Secretary of State that in any class of factories or parts thereof the provisions of Section 1 (3) of the Act with respect to limewashing or washing are not required for the purpose of securing therein the requirements of the Act as to cleanliness, or are by reason of special circumstances inapplicable, he may, if he thinks fit, by special order grant to that class of factories, or parts thereof, a special exception that the said provisions shall not apply thereto. In pursuance of these powers the Home Secretary has made an Order,\* dated and November 1903, revoking Orders of 16th November, 1895, 8th February, 1896, and 26th March, 1902, and granting to the factories, and parts of factories, named in the Schedule a special exception that the said provisions as to limewashing or washing shall not apply thereto :-

Provided

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

(1) That the special exception shall not apply to any part of a factory included in Schedule A which does not afford clear 500 cubic feet, or to any part of a factory included in Schedule B which does not afford clear 2,500 cubic feet, for each person employed therein;

(2) That the exception shall not apply to mess rooms, engine houses, fitting shops, or sanitary conveniences, except as regards walls or tops made of glazed bricks, tiles, glass, slate, marble, or galvanized iron, and washed with water and soap once at least within every 14 months;

(3) That nothing in this Order shall be taken to affect the obligation of keeping the factory in a cleanly state as prescribed by Section 1 (1) of the Act;

(4) That if it appear to an inspector that any part of a factory to which the exception applies is not in a cleanly state, he may, by written notice, require the occupier to limewash or wash the same; and in the event of the occupier failing to comply with such requisition within two months from the date of the notice, the special exception shall cease to apply to such part of a factory.

This Order is to come into force on 1st January, 1904. The schedules are as follows:—

Schedule A .- Blast furnaces; iron mills; copper mills; stone, slate and marble works; brick and tile works in which unglazed bricks or tiles are made; cement works; chemical works; gas works; flax scutch mills in which neither children nor young persons are employed; sugar factories.

The following parts of factories:-

Rooms used for the storage of articles, and not for the constant carrying on therein of any manufacturing process.

Parts in which dense steam is continuously evolved in the process of manufacture.

Parts in which pitch, tar, or like material is used, except in brush works.

Parts in which unpainted or unvarnished wood is manufactured. The part of a glass factory known as the glass house.

Parts in which there are no glazed windows in the walls or roof. Walls, or tops of rooms, which are made of glazed bricks, tiles, glass, slate, marble, or galvanized iron, on condition that they are washed with water and soap once at least within every 14 months.

Tops of rooms which are at least 20 feet from the floor.

\* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1903, No. 934. Eyre & Spottiswoode Price 1d.)

<sup>†</sup> Figures for butter making not available.

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(r) in print works, bleach works, or dye works, with the exception of finishing rooms or warehouses; or

(2) in grist mills; or

(3) in works in which are carried on the processes of agricultural implement making; coach making; engraving; manufacture of starch, soap, candles; salting, tanning or dressing of hides and skins

Schedule B.—Shipbuilding works; gun factories; engineering works; electric generating works; frame dressing rooms of lace factories; foundries other than foundries in which brass casting is carried on.

## EMPLOYMENT IN THE COLONIES.

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

#### Canada.

Some coal miners are wanted at the coal mines now being opened up near Grand Lake in New Brunswick; miners make about two dollars a day, and work can be carried on through the winter months. Skilled coal miners are wanted in the East Kootenay district of British Columbia, and gold mining in British Columbia has materially improved. The manufactories continue busy throughout Canada with very few exceptions, and skilled men can even at this season of the year find employment in the indoor trades. There is the usual demand for female servants. Altogether Canada has had a very prosperous year, and there has been a continuous demand for labour.

#### Australia.

New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia .- There is no demand for more labour, unaccompanied by capital, in any of these States at the present time.

Queensland.—The returns for the quarter ending Septem-

ber 30th last, show as follows :- There was no demand in the North except for some mechanics (such as men in the building trades and blacksmiths), and for general labourers and female servants at Charters Towers, Townsville, etc. There was a demand in the Central districts for general labourers and a few agricultural hands; there was a demand in the South for mechanics, agricultural labourers, and especially for general labourers. In no part of Queensland was there a demand for miners.

Western Australia .- The returns from the various districts throughout the State for the quarter ending September 30th last show as follows: There was a demand for mechanics in the building or other trades at Kalgoorlie, Boulder, Geraldton, Bunbury, Beverley and Northam; at Coolgardie, Kanowna, and Albany the supply of all kinds of mechanics was excessive, and at Perth and Fremantle the supply was sufficient in the building trades, except for bricklayers, and excessive in other trades; at other places the supply was sufficient.

The supply of miners was sufficient everywhere except at Kalgoorlie, Boulder, and Nannine, and at Kanowna and Cue was excessive. Farm labourers were wanted at Geraldton, Northam, Beverley, Bridgetown and several other places. Unskilled labour was excessive at Kanowca, Kalgoorlie, Murchison, Perth, Fremantle, etc. Female domestic servants were in demand in most places. There was an opening for good timber hands at Tarrahdale.

#### New Zealand.

The last reports show that nearly all trades were well employed, and that few persons were without work. Skilled sawmillers were in demand. It is now the busy season in New Zealand, and agricultural labourers and others have good prospects.

#### South Africa.

Cape Colony.—No persons are now allowed to land in Cape Colony unless they have secured definite employment there, and possess £20 on arrival. At Cape Town, Kimberley, and in the Colony generally the supply of skilled and unskilled white labour is more than sufficient, and many persons are unable to find work. At Cape Town the plasterers' strike is still on. Emigrants are cautioned against going to Cape Colony \* Handbooks with maps, on the different Colonies, may be obtained from the Emigrants' Information Office at a penny each, post free.

at the present time, unless they go to situations guaranteed to them by trustworthy persons, or have means to keep themselves for three or four months. Male or female domestic servants may, under certain conditions, obtain aided passages to the Cape at £3 a head on application to the Agent-General for Cape Colony, 96a, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

Natal.—The supply of labour is excessive, and persons

are warned against going to Natal on the chance of work. The plasterers' strike at Maritzburg has ended, the men consenting to a reduction in their wages, making them 17s. a day instead of 19s., but no men were to be taken on as long as the plasterers' strike at Durban continued. Nominated passages are granted under certain conditions at £5 5s. a head to female relatives of resident colonists, to female servants, female shop assistants and clerks, dressmakers, governesses and agriculturists, on application in Natal. A few experienced platelayers and one angleiron smith are required for the Government railways; application must be made to the Agent-General for Natal, 26, Victoria-street, London, S.W. All persons are warned against unofficial agencies guaranteeing them employment in Natal. At the end of last October a number of joiners, carpenters, painters and bricklayers applied to the Chief Magistrate of Durban to find them employment, which they said had been promised to them before leaving this country by a so-called employment agency. For trustworthy information persons should apply to the Emigrants' Information Office, or to the Agent-General for Natal, at the above addresses.

Transvaal.—No one may enter the Transvaal without a permit. No skilled labour of any description is now in demand, and a great many persons are unable to obtain employment. Road-making, building, and other public works are being abandoned by Government, so as to restrict expenditure as far as possible, and considerable numbers of mechanics and labourers have already been discharged. Besides the increasing scarcity of employment, a reduction of wages in many cases has accentuated the depression. Advanced passages may be procured for female servants through the South African Colonisation Society, 47, Victoria-street, London, S.W. Women

going unprotected are exposed to dangers.

Orange River Colony.—No one can enter the Colony without a permit. There is no demand for labour, and emigrants are advised not to go there on the chance of

## LABOUR ABROAD. FRANCE.\*

Employment in October.—Workpeople employed in building yards became less busy as the slack winter season approached. Employment in the metal trades improved, the number out of work becoming gradually less in those districts where the depression was still being felt. The decline in employment in the automobile industry at Paris came to an end. In the textile trades there was no change in the existing depression. The busy season was at its height in garment-making and hatmaking; but boot and shoe making continued slack. The revival in the printing and bookbinding trades still fell short of being general. Furnaces were in blast at all the glassworks in the Nord Department. Agricultural labourers in the north of France were chiefly engaged in threshing corn and in gathering the beetroot crop; in the south the early termina-tion of the vintage season left many without work. Fishing was bad on the whole, both on the Atlantic and Mediterranean coasts, the boats being prevented from leaving the harbour on account of the weather.

Of a total of 140,316 members of 914 Trade Unions which made reports as to the state of employment in October, 15,953, or 11.3 per cent., were out of work in that month, as compared with 12.6 per cent. in the preceding month, and 10 per cent. in October, 1902.

Coal Mining in October. The average number of days worked per week by coal miners employed underground in October was 5.92, as compared with 5.83 in the previous month, and with 2.33 in October, 1902 (the figures being affected on this last date by the strike of coal miners). Taking surface and underground workers together, 81 per cent. worked full time (6 days and over per week), and 18 per cent. worked from 5 to 6 days, as compared with 66 and 33 per cent. respectively in September. The above particulars were supplied to the French Labour Department by the Committee of Coal Owners, and relate to over 148,000 workpeople—more than three-fourths of all employed in and about the mines.

Labour Disputes in October.—Forty-nine disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in October, the number of workpeople taking part in 46 of these being 4,571. The number of disputes in the previous month was 51, in 49 of which 8,910 persons participated; while in October, 1902, there were 24 disputes, in which 8,478 participated. Six of the fresh disputes occurred in the building trades, I in mining, 11 in the metal trades, 12 in the textile trades, 3 in transport, 3 in the chemical and glass trades, 4 in food preparation trades, 5 in hide and skin-working trades, and I each in papermaking, chairmaking, and amongst enginemen and musicians respectively.

Conciliation and Arbitration in October.—Eight cases of recourse to the Conciliation and Arbitration Law were reported to the French Labour Department in October, the initiative being taken in 2 cases by the Justice of the Peace, in 5 by the workpeople, and in 1 by the employers and workpeople jointly. Committees of Conciliation met in 5 cases, resulting in the settlement of 2 disputes (1 of the other 3 being afterwards decided in favour of the workpeople, and 2 in favour of the employers). In 1 of the 3 cases in which Committees of Conciliation did not meet the dispute came to an end before the committee could meet, while in 2 cases the employers refused to meet the workpeople, and the disputes were eventually compromised.

Strike of Weavers and Spinners at Lille and neighbouring Districts. In continuation of previous reports (see GAZETTE, November, 1903, p. 304), Mr. C. A. Payton, H.M. Consul at Calais, in a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated November 21st, states that the weavers' strike at Lille came to an end about November 12th, the hands returning to work on the old conditions, the only concession granted by the masters being an advance of \( \frac{1}{2} \) to I centime per metre (about \( \frac{1}{4} \)d. to \( \frac{1}{2} \)d. per 6 yards) on certain special articles.

At Armentières and district, work was resumed on November 14th, although partial strikes took place after that date on minor questions. The terms conceded by the employers were: (1) The integral application of the wages list of 1889. (2) Nomination of a mixed committee to draw up a new wages list for the preparatory workers (bobbin and pirn-winders, warpers, etc.). (3) An indemnity of £12,000 (equivalent to one week's wages) to be paid in a lump sum on the Saturday following the resumption of work. (4) A guarantee that the application of the 10-hour day on April 1st, 1904, should not affect the rate of wages.

A Parliamentary Commission has been nominated by the Chamber of Deputies to examine the rates of wages in Armentières.

The strike of spinners has not extended beyond Armentières and Houplines, where nine mills, representing about 4,000 hands, were stopped. The employers maintain the wages list they offered on October 3rd, and at the time of reporting the dispute was still unsettled.

#### GERMANY.

Employment in October.\*—The state of the labour market in October was, on the whole, fairly satisfactory, and much the same as in September, although there was a decline in certain branches of employment, and a few trades were already beginning to be affected by the approach of the winter season. So far as the building trades were concerned, the mild weather of October proved very favourable. The same cause, however, reacted unfavourably on the clothing trades by delaying the winter demand. Coal miners were busy as in

previous months; the metal and engineering trades (with the exception of blast furnaces) were well provided with orders, and the textile industry, with the exception of certain branches, was fairly satisfactorily employed. The conditions prevailing in the chemical and electrical trades were also favourable, while an impetus had already been given to a number of other industries by the commencement of the Christmas trade.

Disputes in November .- According to the Berlin journal Der Arbeitsmarkt, 19 disputes began in November, as compared with 22 in the previous month. Of these, 8 occurred in the building trades, 2 in the metal and engineering trades, 2 in the pottery trades, 2 in the food preparation trades, I in each of the following trades: clothing, transport, printing, woodworking, and I in a trade not falling within any of the foregoing groups.

#### AUSTRIA.\*

Employment in October.—Returns for October made by public and private labour registries to the Austrian Labour Department show that, on an average, 153 applications for work were made for every 100 situations offered in that month, as compared with 136 in the previous month, and with 162 in October, 1902. Taking the sexes separately, there were, in the case of men, 189 applications for every 100 situations offered, as against 182 in September; in the case of women there were 113,

as against 90 in September.

Labour Disputes in October.—Twenty disputes were reported as having begun in October, in 16 of which 773 workpeople were involved. Six of the disputes occurred in the metal and engineering trades, 3 in the textile trades, 5 in the clothing and cleaning trades, 3 in the woodworking, etc., trades, 2 in the chemical and pottery trades, and I in the building trades. Of 17 disputes, the results of which were reported, 6 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 5 in favour of the employers, and 6 were compromised. (The foregoing particulars do not include disputes which may have occurred in the mining

#### SPAIN.

Strike of Miners at Rio Tinto. - In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated November 16th, Mr. C. F. Frederick Adam, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, reports a strike of 10,000 workmen employed at the Rio Tinto mines in Andalusia.

According to reports published in the newspapers, the men demand increased wages and a reduction of working time.

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

CHICAGO CONSULAR DISTRICT.

In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated November 12th, Mr. W. Wyndham, H.M. Consul at Chicago, stated that the steel mills at South Chicago had resumed work after being closed for two weeks.

Reporting on November 30th, H.M. Consul stated that the Inland Steel Company at Indiana Harbour had closed, the men, numbering 1,600, having refused a reduction of wages. The International Harvesting Company closed their blast furnace at South Chicago on November 28th, as the demand for their output had fallen off. This involved the discharge of 1,500 men, and of a further 1,500 in other departments, besides some of the clerical and agents' staff. The Emlyn steel plant in East Chicago had also closed, throwing out 400 men. Telegraphing on December 12th, H.M. Consul stated that 4,000 steel workers were idle, and that 2,000 had returned to work at 10 to 20 per cent. reduction of wages.

The south side street cars of Chicago were laid idle by a strike which began on November 12th, and lasted ten days. The strikers, who numbered about 2,500, demanded an increase in wages of 2d. per hour (present wages being is. per hour), and recognition of the Union The Company agreed to arbitrate on the question of wages, not to discriminate against Union men, and to organise the work so that a man's daily working time should not be spread over 19 hours, as in some cases it had been

The copper mines in Montana, employing 21,000 men,

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

<sup>\*</sup> Reichs-Arbeitsbiatt (Journal of the German Labour Department

<sup>\*</sup> Sociale Rundschau (Journal of the Austrian Labour Department).

resumed work on November 11th, after having been closed for three weeks.

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The metal miners in Colorado were still out on November 30th, and had been reinforced by a strike at the coal mines. (See Labour Gazette for October, p. 276). It was stated that on November 12th at least 10,000 men were on strike in the three Colorado coal districts. On November 30th about 6,000 men were discharged owing to the closing of the Colorado Fuel, Iron and Steel Works.

# REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

BUILDING TRADES.

According to returns furnished by 87 Employers' Associations whose members are estimated to employ about 96,000 workpeople, and by Trade Unions with an aggregate membership of about 194,000, employment in the building trades remains dull and is rather worse than a year ago. The state of employment continued to be adversely affected by bad weather.

The returns from Employers' Associations show that employment was good with 11 oper cent. of the workpeople reported on, fair or moderate with 17 6 per cent., and dull or bad with 71 4 per cent. The corresponding figures for a year ago show that employment was then good with 11 per cent., fair or moderate with 20 per cent., and dull or bad with 69 per cent.

Employment with bricklayers is dull, and about the same as a month ago and a year ago. With masons it is moderate. With carpenters and joiners, painters, plasterers, and plumbers it is dull generally, and worse than a month and year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union carpenters and joiners at the end of November was 6.1, compared with 5.6 at the end of October, and 4.4 at the end of November, 1902. For plumbers in November was 7.2, as against 6.6 in October and 5.7 in November, 1902. Slaters and tilers report employment fairly good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. Some distress is reported among builders' labourers in certain districts.

The Table given below shows the proportion of unemployed carpenters and joiners and plumbers in the principal districts according to the returns of certain

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Nov	of Men	Percentage of the desired as Une at end of	Unions	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage for Nov., 1903, as compared with a		
	1903.*	Nov., 1903.	Oct., 1903.	Nov., 1902.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
	(	CARPEN	TERS A	AND JOI	NERS.	Legal L	
ENGLAND AND WALES.		1. 150.00	100	100	1000	11000	
London	7,356	7.2	6.9	6.8	+ 0.3	+ 0.4	
Northern Counties and Middlesbrough	6,186	II.I	12.0	3'5	- 0.9	+ 7.6	
Lancashire and Cheshire	10,387	6.0	4.9	4.5	+ 1.1	+ 1.8	
Yorkshire	5,217	6.6	6.4	7.0	+02	- 0.4	
East Midlands	3,144	4'I	4.5	2.0	- 0.1	+ 1.3	
West Midlands	4,652	4.5	4.0	3.4	+ 0.5	+ 0.8	
Eastern Counties	1,205	0.1	6.6	3.2	- 0.2	+ 2.9	
S. and S.W. Counties	5,799	4'I	4'I	3.6		+ 0.2	
Wales and Monmouth	1,767	4.4	2.8	4'0	+ 1.6	+ 0.4	
Other Districts	624	5'9	4.4	1.8	+ 1.2	+ 4.1	
SCOTLAND	5,323	4'2	3.5	1.7	+ 0.7	+ 2.2	
IRELAND	4.788	5.9	2.6	4.8	+ 3.3	T 11	
UNITED KINGDOM	56,448	6.1	5.6	4.4	+ 0.2	+ 1.7	
			PLUMI	BERS.	Constitution of	NO.	
ENGLAND AND WALES.		No. of the last	0	1		+ 0.1	
London	1,103	12.2	9.8	15.1	+ 2.4		
Northern Counties and Middlesbrough	1,615	70		3.1	+1.0	+ 3.9	
Lancashire and Cheshire	2,548	6.3	6.4	5.2	- 0.1	+ 0.8	
Yorkshire	1,180	4.7	3.8	4'0	+ 0.0	+ 0.7	
East Midlands	594	3'5	4'1	2.7	-0.6	+ 0.8	
West Midlands	504	6.5	4'0	4.6	+ 2.5	+ 1.0	
Eastern Counties	117	8.5	7.4	1.2	+ 1.1	+ 70	
S. and S.W. Counties	519	6.7	7.5	5.6	- 0.8	+ 1.1	
Wales and Monmouth	278	5.4	79	5'4	- 2.5	1. "	
Other Districts	36	16.7	13.9	15.0	+ 2.8	+ 1.7	
SCOTLAND	1,873	8.1	2.1	4.2	+ 1.0	+ 3.0	
IRELAND	612	9.8	10.1	5.7	- 0.3	+ 4.1	
UNITED KINGDOM	10,070	2.0	6.6	F-14	+ 0.6	+ 1.4	

\* Exclusive of Superannuated Members.

London.—Employment in London continues dull, and is rather worse than a year ago. Returns received by the Trade Correspondent from 76 employers show that in the last week of November they paid wages to 17,298 workpeople, as compared with 17,202 in the last week of October, and 15,850 in the corresponding month a year ago.

Bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, painters, plasterers and plumbers report employment as dull or bad; masons as fair.

Northern Counties.—Employment is dull with bricklayers and carpenters. Masons report employment as fair at Newcastle and Shields; dull at Middlesbrough and Hartlepool. With plumbers employment is moderate at Sunderland, Middlesbrough and Stockton; bad at Newcastle, Shields and Hartlepool. With painters it is bad on the Tyne and Wear; moderate on the Tees.

Lancashire and Cheshire.—Employment is slack generally. Much time has been lost through wet weather.

Yorkshire.—Employment is dull generally, but good with masons at Hull, fair with carpenters at York, and moderate with plumbers at Sheffield and Leeds.

East Midland Counties.—Employment is slack, except with plumbers, who are moderately well employed at Nottingham, dull at Leicester.

West Midland Counties.—Employment continues dull generally, but is fair at Coventry. Work has been interfered with by bad weather.

Eastern Counties .- Employment remains quiet.

Southern and South Western Counties.—Employment is reported as quiet generally.

Wales.—Employment is slack at Cardiff, moderate at Swansea.

Scotland.—Employment is quiet on the whole. It is good with masons and moderate with plumbers at Aberdeen; fair with carpenters and plumbers at Glasgow.

Ireland.—Employment at Dublin shows a slight improvement, and with bricklayers and labourers is moderate; with plasterers, plumbers and stonecutters fairly good; with carpenters and painters dull. At Belfast and Cork employment is dull generally.

#### COAL MINING.

[Note.—The following figures only show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal was hewn and we used 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.]

EMPLOYMENT during November showed little change as compared with a month ago, and was not so good as

Returns received relating to 1,301 pits employing 498,821 workpeople show that the average number of days worked per week by the collieries included in the returns, during the four weeks ended 21st November, was 5.24, compared with 5.21 in October, and 5.51 in November, 1902. The number of workpeople employed at collieries from which returns were received for both periods was 1.3 per cent. greater than a year ago.

A comparison of the district averages given in the Table below shows that in November, as compared with October, there was a slight increase in the average number of days worked in Durham, Lancashire and Cheshire, Staffordshire, North Wales, West Scotland, the Lothians and Ireland. In the remaining districts there was a falling off, the decline being greatest in the Notts and Leicester district. Compared with a year ago, the general falling off in the number of days worked by the collieries was most marked in the Midland coalfields.

The only districts in which the number of days worked by the collieries exceeded 5½ per week were South Wales and Monmouth (5.79), the Lothians (5.61), Cumberland (5.55), and North Wales (5.51). In Lancashire and Cheshire, Derbyshire, Notts and Leicester, and Salop, Worcester and Warwick the weekly average was under 5 days; the lowest (4.41 days) being in Notts and Leicester. In the remaining districts the average was between 5 and 5½ days.

EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER-COAL AND OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING; PIG IRON.

The following Table gives for the different mining districts a comparison of the average number of days worked per week by collieries in November, 1903, and 1902, and in October, 1903.

District.	No. employed in Nov., 1903, at the	worked   Colli	ge No. of per week eries in for eks ende	by the	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov., 1903, as compared with		
that villationed at	Collieries included in the Table.	21st Nov., 1903.	24th Oct., 1903.	22nd Nov., 1902.	A m'nth ago.	A year ago.	
ENGLAND & WALES.	DESTRUCTION OF THE	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days	
Northumberland	40,197	5'35	5'35	5'47		- '12	
Durham	98,411	5'47	5'37	5'54	+ .10	- '07	
Cumberland	6,682	5'55	5'59	5.69	- '04	- 14	
Yorkshire	75,260	2.11	5'26	5.26	12	- '15	
Lancashire and Cheshire	50,040	4.96	4'74	5'34	+ '22	38	
Derbyshire	39,567	4.68	4.82	5'50	- 14	82	
Nottingham and Leicester	26,738	4'41	4.61	5.10	- '20	- '78	
Staffordshire	29,447	5.22	4'79	5'57	+ '43	- '35	
Salop, Worcester and	P. STREET, S. P.	03166	-	PAND D	1 Same	P. C. C.	
Warwick	10,330	4.21	4.88	5.70	17	00	
Gloucester and Somerset	8,665	5.31	5.58	5.68	07	- '47	
North Wales	12,976	5.21	5.27	5.78	+ .54	- '27	
South Wales and Mon	59,268	5'79	5.83	5.88	- '04	09	
England & Wales	457,581	5.22	5.20	5.81	+ .02	- *29	
SCOTLAND.			1	100 mm	1199	1000	
West Scotland	19,429	5'37	5'35	5'45	+ '02	- '08	
The Lothians	4,583	5'61	5'40	5.68	+ '21	- '07	
Fife	16,620	5.36	5'47	5'53	11	17	
SCOTLAND	40,632	5.40	5.41	5.51	01	11	
	DESCRIPTION OF REAL PROPERTY.	1 1/20 30	MITOW	BRIDE	SE E	1383	
IRELAND	6c8	5'32	5'15	5'24	+ '17	+ .08	
United Kingdom	498,821	5*24	5.21	5.51	+ .03	27	

Of the total number of workpeople included in the returns, 73.7 per cent. were employed in collieries working 20 or more days during the four weeks ended 21st November, 1903, compared with 71.8 per cent. in October, and 89.5 per cent. in November, 1902.

Reports received from Local Correspondents and others show that in Northumberland employment has been good. In Durham, manufacturing, gas and coking pits averaged 5.5 days and house coal pits 5.4 days. In the Leeds district an improvement has taken place owing to the greater demand for house coal. In the Oldham, Wigan, Bolton and Burnley districts employment has improved; at Accrington it was fair. In the Sheffield, Barnsley and Rotherham district the weekly average was 5.28 days. In Cannock Chase the average was between 3 and 4 days per week; in the Oldbury, Dudley, Old Hill and Blackheath district it was 4½ days. In Shropshire and North Wales employment was fair. In the Mid and East Lothians an improvement took place. In the West Lothians employment was about the same as in October; in Fifeshire it was fair.

The **Exports** of coal, coke, and patent fuel during November amounted to 3,826,208 tons, as compared with 4,197,229 tons in October and 4,101,322 tons in November, 1902.

#### OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING.

INFORMATION has been received from 75 firms employing about 18,350 workpeople, from 6 Employers' Associations, from a Trade Union and from Local Correspondents.

Employment in iron mines has been good; in lead, tin and copper mines quiet; and at limestone, granite and other stone quarries fairly good.

#### Mining.

Iron Mining.—Employment in this industry has been good generally, and shows little change compared with either a month or a year ago. During the four weeks ended November 21st the average number of days worked by the 139 mines and openworks covered by the returns received from employers was 5.74, as compared with 5.73 in October, and 5.81 a year ago.

The following Table summarises the returns received:-

District.	No. em- ployed in Nov., 1903,	worked	number per week n 4 week	Increase (+) or Decrease () in Nov., 1903, as compared with		
District	at the Mines included in the Table.	21st Nov., 1903.	24th Oct., 1903.	22nd Nov., 1902.	A month ago.	A year ago.
England-	Par sit	100	BALL STREET			1
Cumberland and		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Lancashire	4,777	5.77	5'93	5.88	- 0.16	- 0.11
Cleveland	7,108	5.82	5'76	5.75	+ 0.06	+ 0.07
Lincolnshire and	TO MAN	100000		Pro-		
Leicestershire	900	5'91	5.84	5'96	+ 0.07	- 0.02
Northamptonshire	602	5.41	5'91	5.85	- 0.50	- 0'14
Staffordshire and						
Shropshire	969	4'45	4'32	5'57	+ 0.13	- 1,15
Other places in						
England	126	5.87	5'56	5'56	+ 0.31	+ 0.31
Total, England	14,482	5.71	5-71	5.78		- 0.07
SCOTLAND	1,104	6:00	5'95	6.00	+ 0.05	
	120	6.00	6.00	5'94	1.003	+ 0.00
IRELAND	120	000	000	3 94		
Total and Averages	15,706	5-74	5.73	5-81	+ 0.01	- 0-07

The number of workpeople employed at the mines included in the returns was 15,706, as compared with 15,712 a month ago, and 15,780 in November, 1902. During the four weeks ended November 21st, 86 per cent. of the workpeople were employed at mines working 22 or more days as compared with 89 per cent. a month ago and 90 per cent. a year ago.

Shale Mining.—Returns received relating to 25 mines show that in November, 2,631 men were employed, as compared with 2,707 in October and 2,688 a year ago. The average number of days worked by the mines in the four weeks ended November 21st was 4.55, as compared with 4.65 in October and 5.60 in November, 1902. The averages for October and November, 1903, are affected by stoppages of work at certain mines owing to disputes.

Lead, Tin and Copper Mining.—In North Wales employment continues quiet. With tin and copper miners in Cornwall employment has been quiet in the Calstock district; in the Camborne district they have been fairly well employed.

Quarrying.

Slate.—With slate quarrymen employment has been good in North Wales and moderate in Cornwall.

Limestone.—In Cumberland and Weardale employment has been good. In the Millers Dale and Buxton districts of Derbyshire limestone quarrymen have been fairly well employed. In North Wales employment has been fair, and in Devon and Cornwall moderate.

Granite.—Employment in Leicestershire has been fairly good; in North Wales good; at Gunnislake good; at Princetown and Penryn dull; and fair elsewhere in Devon and Cornwall. In Aberdeenshire and Kincardineshire it has been fair, but slightly worse than a month ago. In Forfarshire it has been bad.

Other Stone.—In the Barnsley district employment has been good; and at Normanton fairly good. In the Rowsley district (Derbyshire) it has been bad, short time being worked. In North Wales employment in sandstone quarries has been fair.

Settmaking.—In the Sheffield district flag and sett-makers have been busy. In the Clee Hill district and in North Wales employment has been good. In Aberdeenshire it is fair, in Midlothian improving, and in the Airdrie district good.

China Clay.—Employment has been steady in the St. Austell district (Cornwall).

### PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

REPORTS have been received from Employers, a Trade Union, and from Local Correspondents.

Employment in this industry shows, on the whole, no change as compared with a month ago; but as compared with a year ago there has been a decline, mainly in the Cumberland and Lancashire district.

## EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER-PIG IRON; IRON AND STEEL AND TIMPLATE WORKS.

year ago. The estimated number of workpeople employed at the 314 furnaces in blast at the end of November was about 21,800.

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The following Table shows by districts the furnaces in blast at the works included in the returns in the three

Districts.	Number	of Furnaces at end of	s in Blast	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in November, 1903, as compared with		
Districts.	November, 1903.	October, 1903	November,	A month ago.	A year ago.	
ENGLAND & WALES-			1 0000	THE CONTRACTOR	Sandard Street	
Cleveland	80	80	81		- I	
Cumberland & Lancs.	31	34	40	- 3	- 9	
S. and S.W. Yorks	15	15	16		- I	
Derby & Nottingham	39	38	39	+ 1		
Leicester, Lincoln and Northampton	25	26	26	1000000		
Stafford & Worcester	34	33	32	+ 1	+ 2	
S. Wales & Monmouth	13	13	13	17 mass 0		
Other districts	6	6	7	100	_ I	
Returned from England & Wales	244	243	234	- 1	-10	
RETURNED FROM SCOTLAND	70	69	70	+ 1		
Total furnaces	314	314	324		-10	

## IRON AND STEEL WORKS.\*

RETURNS furnished by employers respecting 199 works show that they employed 73,392 workpeople during the week ended November 28th, or 917 less than a month ago, and 799 less than a year ago.

#### Number Employed.

The following Table shows the changes in the numbers employed in England and Wales and in Scotland:—

District.		ers emplo week ende	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov. 1903, as compared with		
	Nov. 28th, 1903.	Oct. 31st, 1903.	Nov. 29th, 1902.	Amonth ago.	A year ago.
England and Wales Scotland	61,842 11,550	62,330 11,979	61,895 12,296	- 488 - 429	- 53 - 746
Total	73,392	74,309	74,191	- 917	- 799

## Weekly Number of Shifts Worked.

The Table below relates to the number of shifts worked at iron and steel works at which 90 per cent. of the work-people referred to in the preceding Table were employed. The average number of shifts worked per man in the week ended November 28th was 5.28, as compared with 5.36 in the week ended October 31st, and 5.36 in the week ended November 29th, 1902.

Name of Chifes	Number employed	Percentage	Corresponding percentage in		
Number of Shifts worked.	in Nov., 1903, so far as returned.	proportion to Total.	Oct., 1903.	Nov., 1902.	
Under 5 per week 55 per week 65 per week Over 6 per week	19.982 834 33.096	17'4 30'4 1'3 50'3 0'6	13'1 33'7 1'3 51'2 0'7	12'3 35 0 1'5 50'2 1'0	
Total	65,772	100.0	100.0	100.0	

Assuming that the workpeople not included in the above Table (10 per cent. of the total number returned as employed) worked the same average number of shifts as those who are included, the aggregate number of shifts worked by all the workpeople included in the first Table may be estimated to have been 387,761 compared

Returns relating to the works of 113 ironmasters show that 314 blast furnaces were in operation at the end of November, as compared with 314 in October, and 324 a with 398,074 in the week ended October 31st and 397,540 in November, 1902. On this basis the volume of employment at the works included in the returns shows and of 2.5 per cent. compared with November, 1902.

The following reports relating to the different branches of the iron and steel manufacturing industry have been furnished by Local Correspondents and others:-

Tyne and Wear District .- Employment with steel smelters has been fair. Plate mills generally have worked full time, and bar, cogging and sheet mills less than full time. At forges employment was moderate and at finished iron and steel works bad.

Cleveland and Hartlepools District.—With Hartlepool iron and steel workers employment has been good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. At rail mills and metal expansion works employment continues good. At plate and angle mills it is moderate.

South Yorkshire.-With Siemen's steel smelters employment is moderate, and with steelworkers at Parkgate fairly good, but the steel trade on the whole is slack. With ironworkers employment is bad at Parkgate and moderate at Rotherham and Masboro'. Employment with steel workers at Leeds is worse than a month ago, rolling mills and finishing departments being on short At Bolton (Lancs.) employment with steel smelters is slack.

Midlands.—In certain works in Derbyshire nearly full time is being worked in the iron department, and less than half time in rolling mills. Steel smelters in South Staffordshire are working full time, but employment at ironworks has declined in some branches. In Shropshire employment with iron and steel workers was fairly good, and moderate in the West Bromwich and Smethwick

North and South Wales.—Employment with steel workers in North Wales has been fully maintained. In South Wales employment has been fairly good except at works stopped for the renewal of plant.

Scotland.—Employment with steel smelters and iron and steel workers has been fair generally, but slack at most of the malleable iron works.

#### TINPLATE WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT in the tinplate industry shows little change compared with October, and continues worse than

At the end of November 360 mills were working, as compared with 359 at the end of October, and 398 a year ago. Of the 70 works open, 54 had all their mills (273) in operation, while the remaining 16 works had 87 mills going out of a total of 119. About 18,000 workpeople were employed at the 360 mills in operation.

In the South Wales, Monmouth and Gloucestershire districts 348 mills were in operation at the end of November, as compared with 347 a month ago, and

386 a year ago. The following Table shows the number of mills at the works which were giving employment, full or partial,\*

Man and ay and bad	No. of	No. of Mills in such Works.					
them is to the second American American American American Company (American American	Works open.	Working.	Not Working.	Total.			
Works giving full employment	54 16	273 87	32	273 119			
Total at end of Nov., 1903*	70	360	32	392			
Corresponding Total for Oct., 1903*	70	359	35	394			
Corresponding Total for Nov., 1902++	78	598	28	426			

<sup>\*</sup> It will be understood that, in addition to the works returned as giving full or partial employment, a certain number of tinplate works were wholly idle at each of the dates to which the returns relate, but the figures quoted are believed to give approximately the total number of works and mills actually in operation.

#### EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER-SHIPBUILDING; ENGINEERING.

The Exports of tinplates and blackplates from the United Kingdom in the months covered by the above Table are summarised below:—

than a month ago, but short time is still reported and employment remains bad and worse than a year ago.

At the Bristol Channel Ports employment generally is

AND SECURITION OF SECURITION O		lates and (Iron or S			lates for T	
1884 THE R. P. S.	Nov. 1903.	Oct. 1903.	Nov. 1902.	Nov. 1903.	Oct. 1903.	Nov. 1902.
To United States ,, Other Countries	Tons. 3.981 19,507	Tons. 5.672 21,957	Tons. 3,995 20,618	Tons. - 4,931	Tons. 11 5,458	Tons. 5,062
Total	23,483	27,629	24,613	4,931	5,469	5,052

#### SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from 6 Employers' Associations, 2 large Companies, 6 Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents.

The information thus obtained shows that employment is bad, worse than a month ago and considerably worse than a year ago.

Branches of Trade Unions with 58,250 members had 9,941 (or 17.1 per cent.) unemployed at the end of November, compared with 150 per cent. at the end of October, and 13.0 per cent. in November, 1902.

The state of employment in the various districts, as indicated by the proportions of members of certain Trade Unions returned as unemployed at the end of the month, is shown in the following Table:—

District.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Nov. 1903, included	end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage for Nov., 1903, as compared with a		
Communication of the Communica	in the returns.	Nov., 1903.	Oct., 1903.	Nov., 1902.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Tyne and Blyth	9,179 4,670 4,973 2,630 4,410 3,610 2,647 4,070 12,795 2,264 3,001 3,293	17.8 30.0 15.1 19.5 14.2 6.7 21.8 18.5 16.0 33.7 6.6 9.4	17'9 25'2 15'4 12'5 9'0 8'3 19'4 17'6 13'2 30'0 5'3 8 5	14'1 20'4 25'5 12'2 11'5 5'0 29'1 14'6 8'4 7'6 2'8 4'9	- 01 + 4.8 - 0.3 + 7.0 + 5.2 - 1.6 + 2.4 + 0.9 + 2.8 + 3.7 + 1.3 + 0.9	+ 3.7 + 9.6 - 10.4 + 7.3 + 2.7 + 1.7 - 7.3 + 3.9 + 7.6 + 26.1 + 3.8 + 4.5	
United Kingdom (Including certain Unions for which district figures are not available)	88,250	17.1	15.0	13.0	+ 2.1	+ 4:1	

Compared with a month ago most districts show a decline, but some improvement is indicated on the South Coast. As compared with a year ago a still greater decline is shown in most districts, but there has been considerable improvement in the Tees and Bristol Channel districts.

On the Tyne employment is bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. At several firms three-quarter time is being worked. Shipwrights report employment as fair at Byker and Blyth, and sailmakers on the north side of the Tyne are fairly employed.

On the Wear employment is very bad, and worse than a month and a year ago. Drillers and hole cutters, however, report it as good on old work.

In the Tees and Hartlepool district employment with boilermakers, though bad, is slightly better than a month

ago, and much better than a year ago. Shipwrights report it as fair.

On the *Humber* employment is very slack, and much worse than a month and a year ago. Some short time is reported. Bad weather has interfered with outside work.

On the Thames there has been a considerable decline as compared with the previous month, and employment is also worse than a year ago. Generally it is bad, but it is reported as fair at Sheerness, good at Chatham.

South Coast.-At Portsmouth and Devonport employment is good with shipwrights; with iron shipbuilders it is reported as slack at the former, as moderate at the latter place. Employment is dull at Plymouth. At Southampton fewer men are unemployed

At the Bristol Channel Ports employment generally is bad, rather worse than a month ago, but not so bad as a year ago. Shipwrights at Pembroke Dock report it as good. At Bristol it was fair until the last week of the month, when it became bad.

On the Mersey employment shows little change as compared with the previous month.

On the Clyde employment on the whole is bad, worse than a month ago and much worse than a year ago. A few branches, however, report it as fair. Some short time is reported.

On the East Coast of Scotland employment generally is very bad, worse than a month ago, and very much worse than a year ago, especially at Dundee where much short time is reported.

At Belfast employment is quieter than a month ago and not so good as a year ago.

Other Districts.—At Barrow employment shows little change as compared with the previous month, but is worse than a year ago. At Yarmouth and Lowestoft employment is fair; at Cowes it is dull. At Dublin it is fair with shipwrights.

ENGINEERING TRADES. RETURNS have been received from 7 Employers' Associations, 2 large Companies, 26 Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents.

The information thus obtained shows that the general state of employment is bad and worse than a month and

Returns relating to branches of Trade Unions with

142,210 members show that 8,523 (or 6.0 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 5.2 per cent. in October, and 5.3 per cent. in November, 1902.

The state of employment in the various districts, as indicated by the proportions of members of certain Trade Unions returned as unemployed at the end of the month, is shown in the following Table

,Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Nov., 1903, in-	turne	entage d as U ed at e	nem-	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unem- ployed for Nov., 1903, as compared with a			
	cluded in the returns.*	Nov., 1903.	Oct., 1903.	Nov. 1902.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
North-East Coast Manchester and Liverpool District	13,378 18,195	7.5 6.1	7°2	8.7	+ 1.0	- 1'2 + 1'2		
Oldham, Bolton and Black- burn District	11,146	7.8	5'9	7.0	+ 1.0	+ 0.8		
West Riding Towns Hull and Lincolnshire District Birmingham, Wolverhamp-	11,797 3.350 6,107	7'2 8'2 4'I	6.7 5.8 3.5	5.2 5.3 2.6	+ 0.5 + 2.4 + 0.6	+ 1.7 + 29 + 1.5		
ton and Coventry District Notts, Derby and Leicester District	3,917	5'9	4.8	3.8	+ 1.1	+ 2.1		
London and Neighbouring District	12,325	4.9	4.1	5'2	+ 0.8	- 0.3		
South Coast South Wales and Bristol Dis- trict	3.765 6,220	2.6	2'3 3'5	2.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.6		
Glasgow and District East of Scotland Belfast and Dublin	13,957 2,973 3,444	7'9 8'8 6'4	5°2 7 5 7°7	6·5 9·9 4·4	+ 2.7 + 1.3 - 1.3	+ 1'4		
Other Districts	5,569	2.5	4.0	4.0	+ 1.3	+ 1.3		
United Kingdom (Including certain Unions for which district figures are not available)	142,210	6.0	5.2	53	+ 0.8	+ 0-7		

Nearly all the districts show more or less decline as compared with a month and a year ago, with some short time in places. The figures, however, indicate some improvement in the Belfast and Dublin district as compared with a month ago, and in the North East Coast, London, and South Wales and Bristol districts as compared with a year ago.

North-East Coast.—Employment generally is bad, and rather worse than a month ago, and some shops are working short time. It is, however, moderate with some sections in the Newcastle district, and at Gateshead pattern makers report it as improving. At Hartlepool and Stockton pattern makers report employment as

<sup>\*</sup> Including iron puddling and rolling and steel making and rolling.

## EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER-Engineering; Hardware, Cutlery, &c., Trades.

moderate. At Middlesbrough it is good with ironfounders, moderate with engineers. At Stockton it is moderate with ironfounders; with engineers, though dull, it is much better than a year ago. Machine workers at Sunderland report employment as fair. With boilermakers at Darlington it is moderate. In the Tees district bridge builders report employment as good and better than a year ago. On the Tyne and Wear enginemen and firemen report employment as fair.

Manchester and Liverpool District .- Employment generally is dull, and worse than a month and a year ago. At Manchester nearly all branches are slack, and core makers report employment as declining; with machine workers it is stated to be fair. At Crewe short time is being worked. In the Liverpool district brassfounders and hammermen report employment as good; with most other branches it is quiet.

Oldham, Bolton, Blackburn and District.-Employment shows a considerable decline, and is worse than a year ago. Generally it is bad. With pattern makers it is good at Preston, moderate at Blackburn, bad elsewhere. Engineers report employment as moderate at Bolton, Bury, Preston, and Rochdale. At Blackburn ironfounders report it as declining; with engineers it is good at textile machine shops, declining at engine shops. At Oldham employment is bad in all branches, and worse than a month ago. Boilermakers are slack throughout the

West Riding .- Employment generally is dull, rather worse than a month ago, and worse than a year ago. At Leeds it is reported as fair generally, but bad with pattern makers, declining with ironfounders. At Sheffield nearly all branches are slack, and a good deal of short time is being worked; employment is, however, reported as fair with pattern makers, moderate with electrical workers. At Barnsley ironfounders and engineers are fairly well employed. At Huddersfield, Keighley and Rotherham engineers report employment as moderate. At Bradford it is bad generally.

Hull and Lincolnshire District.—Employment is bad, and shows considerable decline as compared with both a month and a year ago. At Doncaster some short time is being worked. At Lincoln and Peterborough employment is moderate, at Grantham it is good.

East Midlands .- The general state of employment is dull, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In general engineering work it is bad, and at Derby boilermakers report short time. With lace and hosiery machine builders at Nottingham employment is reported as fairly good, with lace machine builders at Long Eaton as moderate, and with boot and shoe machinery makers at

Leicester as fairly good.

West Midlands.—Employment shows a slight decline as compared with the previous month and is not as good as a year ago. Generally it is moderate. At Coventry it is fair with pattern makers and tool makers, good with ironfounders, bad with engineers. With boilermakers it is slack at Birmingham, moderate elsewhere. With ironfounders it is bad at Wolverhampton and Dudley. With electrical engineers it is fairly good. Employment at Birmingham is quiet with military gun makers, fair with sporting gun makers. In the cycle industry it is moderate at Coventry, quiet at Redditch; in the motor industry very fair.

London and Neighbouring District.—Employment on the whole shows some decline as compared with the previous month, but is rather better than a year ago. Generally it is quiet. With engineers at Chatham it is good. Scientific instrument makers report employment as fair, mathematical instrument makers as slack

South Coast .- Employment generally is moderate, but not quite as good as a month or a year ago. At Southampton it is reported as fair. At Devonport it is bad with ironfounders, fair with pattern makers, moderate with engineers. At Plymouth engineers report employ-

is rather worse than a month ago, but better than a year ago. At Swindon it is moderate. At Bristol it is dull with iron and brass founders, moderate with engineers and boilermakers. At Swansea and Newport engineers report employment as bad.

Glasgow and District.—Employment is considerably worse than a month ago, and worse than a year ago. Generally it is quiet. With brass finishers and ironmoulders it is reported as fair, with coppersmiths, boiler and pipe coverers and iron grinders as good. Iron, steel, and brass dressers report short time.

East of Scotland.—Employment is bad and worse than a month ago. At Dundee it is affected by a dispute. At Falkirk moulders and pattern makers are working short time. Employment is reported as fair with blacksmiths at Edinburgh and Aberdeen, and with brassfounders at

Belfast and Dublin.—Employment generally is dull and worse than a year ago, but a considerable improvement took place in Belfast in the last week of the month. Pattern makers and brassfounders report employment as good at Belfast, ironfounders as bad. At Dublin employment is bad with engineers, dull with brassfounders, moderate with ironfounders, and fair with blacksmiths.

Other Districts.—At Barrow employment continues bad and worse than a year ago, with some short time, but pattern makers and ironfounders report it as good. In the Eastern Counties employment is moderate. At Cork it is dull. Employment is moderate with engineers and boilermakers at Stoke. With engineers it is bad at Hanley and Stafford, moderate at Worcester and York.

## HARDWARE, CUTLERY, AND MISCEL-LANEOUS TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from 3 Employers' Associations, 22 Trade Unions, and from Local Cor-

Brasswork, Bedstead Making, etc.—Employment among brassworkers is much the same on the whole as a month ago, though rather worse than a year ago. At Birmingham it remains fair in the various branches of the trade. At Rotherham it is quiet; at Doncaster, Manchester and Nottingham slack; in London fair on the whole. In Birmingham employment is bad in the bedstead trade, and moderate with fender makers.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, etc .- In Birmingham and at Smethwick employment is reported as quiet with nut and bolt makers, and with makers of cut and wire nails and machine-made rivets. At Dudley it is reported as fair with nut and bolt makers. At Halesowen and Blackheath employment is fair with makers of spikes, wrought nails and rivets. At Leeds employment with nail makers is improving.

Tubes.—Employment has somewhat improved during the month, but is worse than a year ago, and there is some short time worked. In Birmingham the cased tube section is reported as improved.

Chains, Anvils, Vices, Anchors, etc. - Employment is reported as fair with block chain makers at Cradley, but as quiet with makers of dollied chains and cables. In the anvil and vice making trades employment generally is slack, but anvil makers at Dudley report it as fair. Anchor smiths at Cradley report employment as quiet. In the spring trade at West Bromwich employment is good. With makers of bits, stirrups, case hames, etc., at Walsall it is slack. At Wednesbury employment is reported as fair on iron and steel forgings, but as slack with workers on railway axles, springs and coach ironwork. In the axle trade at Birmingham employment is reported as good.

Locks, Keys and General Hardware. - Employment in the lock, key and latch trade is reported as fair in some branches and bad in others; it is worse than a year ago. In the wrought iron and steel hinge trade at Birmingham employment is reported as very good, overtime being worked. In the hollow-ware trade employ-South Wales and Bristol District.—Employment generally ment is moderate at Birmingham, but at West Bromwich

EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER-HARDWARE, CUTLERY, &c., TRADES; COTTON TRADE.

it is slack and short time still continues. At Wolverhampton light enamelled hollow-ware makers, makers of plantation hoes, and vermin-trap makers report employment as good. Employment is good with electrical and malleable casters at Oakengates. Spade finishers and fork drawers, galvanisers, hurdle and fence makers and spectacle frame makers report employment as fair.

Files, Edge Tools, etc .- In the file trade at Sheffield employment generally is very quiet. At Birmingham file cutters report it as very fair. In the edge tool trade employment is fair at Birmingham, good at Wolverhampton, slack at Sheffield.

Stoves, Grates, etc.—Employment generally is reported as very quiet in the principal centres of these trades.

Sheet Metal .- In the London district employment is reported as fair and better than a month ago with sheet metal and gas meter workers, bad with canister makers, good with zinc workers. At Birmingham employment is fair, but it is bad in Wolverhampton, Bilston, and the Lye district. It is slack in Manchester and Dublin, but fairly good at Sheffield, Leeds, Hull, Nottingham, Bristol, Exeter, Edinburgh and Aberdeen.

Cutlery, etc.—At Sheffield employment generally in these trades is reported as slack, except in the pen and pocket blade branch. The needle and fish hook trades at Redditch report employment as very fair and very good respectively.

Gold, Silver, Britannia Metal, etc.-In London these trades generally report employment as fair, except small silver workers, with whom it is dull. At Sheffield employment is slack, silver platers and gilders being the only exception, and reporting employment as good. In Birmingham employment is improving in the jewellery trade, fair in Britannia metal work, but quiet with electro-platers. Employment is bad in the watch trade

Wirework.—Wire drawers report employment as fairly good generally, but slack at Sheffield; wire weavers as very good in London, but dull in Glasgow; wire workers as quiet in London and Manchester.

Farriers.—Employment generally is reported as quiet, about the same as a month ago; slightly better than a year ago. It is, however, reported as good at Newcastle and Dublin, and fair at Nottingham, Dundee and Aberdeen.

### COTTON TRADE.

INFORMATION as to the state of employment in the different branches of the cotton trade has been received from the Trade Correspondent of the Department, the estimated total number of operatives covered by the returns being 225,000. Reports have also been furnished by the Local Correspondents of the Department and by Trade Unions.

Returns relating specially to the employment of women in the cotton trade have also been received from women correspondents with regard to 562 spinning and weaving factories, usually employing about 98,900 women and girls.

The general result of the information thus obtained from various sources shows that employment is better than a month ago, though still worse than a year ago.

It will be remembered that towards the end of October many of the Cotton Spinning mills resumed full hours of working after several months of short time. At the end of November, full employment was pretty general in both the finer and coarser counts of yarn. Of the 27,100 women and girls included in the returns from women correspondents, 75 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment throughout the month, compared with 42 per cent. in October, and 85 per cent. in November, 1902.

The Weaving sheds were slow in getting to full hours in November, but at the close of the month most of the looms that had been empty of warps for some time were regaited. Of the 71,800 women and girls included in the returns | factory but improving.

from women correspondents 44 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment throughout the month, compared with 25 per cent. in October, and 82

per cent. in November, 1902.

The following Table summarises the returns from women correspondents as to the employment of women and girls, and also gives, for comparison, the corresponding figures for the previous month and for a year ago :-

			Percentage ordinarily employed in Mills which were								
Trade and Mont		full Time nout the onth.	Working Short Time	Closed during some part of the							
		With Full Partial Employment. With Employment. With Employment.				Month for repairs, bad trade, disputes, or other causes.					
Cotton Trade-Spinning	-		1003 /000								
November, 1903			75	18	6	1					
October, 1903			42	14	37	7					
November, 1902	***	•••	85	9	I	5					
Cotton Trade-Weaving	_		Section 1								
November, 1903		***	44	34	18	4					
October, 1903	***		25	29	35	II					
November, 1902		•••	82	13	2	3					

COTTON SPINNING.

Ashton District.—Employment in Ashton, Stalybridge Mossley, Dukinfield and Droylsden has improved. The mills are reported as all running full time, and employment is fairly good.

Stockport and Manchester District.—In the Stockport, Reddish, Romiley and Compstall districts employment, although not good, has improved, with all the mills running full time; it is, however, rather worse than a year ago. In the Manchester, Pendlebury and Patricroft districts employment is reported as good, as better than

a month ago, and almost the same as a year ago.

Glossop, Hadfield and Hyde District.—Employment has improved, although it is hardly so good as a year ago. The mills are all running full time. Card-room operatives report employment as fair at Hadfield, good at Glossop.

Oldham District (including Middleton, Shaw, Royton, Lees and Chadderton).—Employment has improved and is reported as good and about the same as a year ago. Practically all the mills are running full time.

Bolton District (including Farnworth, Leigh and Wigan) .-Employment is reported as fair, although rather worse than a year ago. The mills are working full time but some slackness is reported.

Bury, Heywood and Rochdale District.-Employment in Bury is reported as unsatisfactory. Three mills are stopped, and employment is worse than a year ago. In Heywood it is fairly good; the mills are running full time but some slackness is reported. In Rochdale and Milnrow employment shows a further improvement and s fairly good.

Preston District.—Employment has much improved, although it is not so good as a year ago.

#### COTTON WEAVING.

Preston District. - Employment has improved, most sheds working full time, but some slackness is still

Blackburn, Darwen and Accrington District.—Employment in Blackburn has improved, full time being the rule, but there are still some looms standing. In Darwen, although employment has improved, three sheds, representing 1,127 looms, are still closed and some looms are standing idle. In Accrington most sheds are now working full time, but there is still slackness

Burnley, Nelson and Colne District.—In Burnley the sheds are now working full time, but some looms are standing. In Nelson employment is good, few looms standing empty. In Colne employment has improved

and is not unsatisfactory.

Other Districts.—In Bury employment has improved, but is not good. In Bolton it has improved slightly, but much slackness is reported. In Chorley it is unsatis-

#### EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER-COTTON, WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

#### PRICES OF RAW COTTON.

American Cotton.-During the month of November the average price of raw cotton (middling American) was 6.03d. per lb., being 1d. per lb. more than the average for October, and 33 per cent. in advance of November, 1902, when the price was 4.52d. per lb. For the period from 1st to 12th December the average price of middling American was 6.61d. per lb.

Egyptian Cotton.—The price of "good fair Egyptian" during November averaged 8.37d. per lb. compared with 8.08d. in October, and 7.13d. in November, 1902, a rise of 17 per cent. on the price a year ago. For the period from 1st to 12th December the average price of "good fair Egyptian" was 8.41d. per lb.

#### IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF COTTON.

The following Table shows the number of bales of cotton imported, forwarded from ports to inland towns, and exported during the month of November, and also during the eleven completed months of 1903, with comparative figures for 1902 and 1901:—

<u> </u>		Month of Novembe		Eleven months ended November,			
	1903.	1902.	1901.	1503.	1902.	1901.	
Imported	 Bale v. 574,685	Bales. 501,470	Bales. 738,791	Bales.	Bales. 3,125,965	Bales.	
Forwarded from Ports	330,730	309,833	310,484		2,903,756		
Exported	 38,977	29,761	32,966	468,987	418,741	300,00	

Particulars of the various descriptions of cotton forwarded from ports to inland towns during November in each of the years 1903, 1902 and 1901 respectively are

Description of Ports	of Cott	on fo	rward	led fro	m	November, 1903.	November, 1902.	November,
American Brazilian East Indian Egyptian						Bales. 272,115 8,363 5,001 40,385	Bales. 243,503 14,370 1,009 46,581	Bales. 261,185 8,593 2,144 31,812
Miscellaneous	Total					4,856	309,833	310,484

At the end of November there was no scarcity of raw cotton in either American or Egyptian descriptions The visible supply of American cotton for the United Kingdom on 11th December was estimated by the Liverpool Cotton Association to be about 648,370 bales compared with 724,170 bales at the corresponding date a

## WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from the Trade Correspondent of the Department based on information supplied by 298 firms employing 91,323 workpeople; from women correspondents, with regard to factories in Yorkshire usually employing about 31,500 women and girls, and from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions,

and the Local Correspondents. The returns again show great slackness in the worsted trade. In the woollen trade it is quieter than a month ago, but is still fairly good on the whole. The number employed by the firms making returns at the end of November was 91,323, compared with 91,922 at the end of October, and 92,997 a year ago, a decrease of 0.7 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 18 per cent. compared with a year ago. Of the total number of operatives, 12 per cent. were employed in firms working some overtime and 29 per cent. in firms reporting short time or machinery standing in one or more departments, while slackness is reported by many other firms. Of the 31,500 women and girls in the Yorkshire factories reported on by women correspondents, 61 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment throughout the month, 28 per cent. in factories running full time but giving only partial employment, and 10 per cent. in factories running short time, while firms employing I per cent. were closed for part of the month.

The following Table enables a comparison to be made of the number employed in the various branches in the districts reported on at the end of November with a month ago and with a year ago, so far as covered by the

	District and Br	anch	of Tra	de.		-	employed	of worky l by firm arns at e	s mak-
	modularies in dan Isolanda edi	in the					Nov., 1903.	Oct., 1903.	Nov., 1902.
	Bradford District—								THE PARTY
	Woolcombing Worsted Spinning						4,948	5,283	5,604
	" " and Ma	anufac	ture				3,519	3,598	3,543
	,, Manufacture						8,324	8,322	8,702
	Woollen ,,					***	566	461	568
							31,389	31,702	32,619
	Keighley District-							110000	
	Worsted Spinning						4,671	4,694	4,586
	,, Manufacture	***					2,019	1,950	1,919
						1	6,690	6,644	6,505
	Halifax District—						9.000		1999
1	Worsted Spinning						5,137	5,192	5,186
		lanufa					8.2	902 602	985
l	,, Manufacture Woollen Manufacture	***					560 1,025	1,027	1,051
ı	Carpet ,,						1,308	1,317	1,292
							8,922	9,040	9,167
1	Huddersfield District-						10000000	Same of the same o	Charles .
1	Worsted Spinning						1,389	1,399	1,187
١	Woollen ,,				***	•••	2,509	2,443	2,460
	,, and Worsted Ma	nufact	ure	***			3,794	3,819	3,631
-							8,470	8,512	8,544
ı	Leeds District								
1	Worsted Spinning & Ma	nufact	ture				1,561	1,542	1,771
١	Woollen & Worsted Mar	nufact	ure		•••		745	753	859
١	" Manufacture			***			3,459	3,482	3,492
1							5,765	5,777	6,122
1	Cleckheaton, Liversedge, a	nd He	ckmon				2,110	2,114	2,066
ı	Wakefield District Dewsbury, Batley, Ossett,	Sec			***		953 3.864	958	954 3,801
1						•••			
١	TOTAL WEST RIDIN	NG OF	ORKS				68,163	63,697	69.778
ı	West of England and Mid			•••			4,998	5,011	4,929
١	Lancashire	•••		•••		•••	1,942	1,951	1,944
1	South of Scotland -							1	
1	Woollen Manufacture and Worsted I	Manuf	···					8,078	8,398
1	Carpet Manufacture	Manuia 	Similar	***				2,658	2,635 2,526
	Other parts of Scotland							2,021	2,020
	TOTAL SCOTLAND						15,395	15,444	15,579
	Ireland-								
-	Woollen Manufacture		,				825	819	767
	Total No. returned	d					91,323	91,922	92,997

The following is a summary of the reports received from all sources as regards the principal districts:-

Bradford District (including Bingley, Otley, etc.).—In the woolcombing branch employment is bad both with day workers and night workers; several firms are not working at all at night. In worsted spinning employment is not so good as a month ago and is worse than a year ago. In worsted weaving short time and machinery standing is reported in several cases, and some factories are only running four days a week. Of the 11,800 women and girls usually employed in the Bradford spinning and weaving factories reported on by women correspondents only 37 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment throughout the month, 46 per cent. being in factories running full time, but giving only partial employment, and 17 per cent. in factories running short time.

Keighley District.—Employment continues fairly good, and is better than a year ago. The short time reported is in the woolcombing and woolsorting branches. Some slackness is reported among weavers.

Halifax District (including Sowerby Bridge, Elland, Brighouse, etc.).—The majority of worsted spinning firms report short time in one or more departments. Several weaving factories are only running 4½ to 5 days a week.

Huddersfield District.—In worsted spinning several firms report short time. In worsted weaving a little overtime is reported. In woollen manufacture emEMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER-Textile Trades; Boot and Shoe Trade.

ployment is a little quieter, some firms reporting short time; but a number of firms are still working overtime and a few are working night and day.

December, 1903.

Leeds District (including Yeadon, Guiseley, Pudsey, etc.) .-In worsted spinning and manufacture employment is not quite so good and some short time is reported. In woollen manufacture short time is reported in several

The Heavy Woollen District (Dewsbury, Batley, Ossett, etc.).—Employment generally in the district is reported as bad. The majority of firms making returns report short time and slackness in the weaving branch, but two firms report overtime in several departments.

West of England and Midlands .- Employment is good in the woollen manufacture, although little overtime is reported. In worsted spinning some short time is reported.

Lancashire. - Most firms report short time, several only

working 4½ days a week.

Scotland.—Employment is not so good, some short time being reported. In Hawick and Galashiels the mills generally are running full time, but slackness is reported among spinners and weavers.

#### OTHER TEXTILE TRADES. Jute and Flax Trades.

According to information received from Employers' Associations and from Local Correspondents, employment in the jute and flax trade in Scotland is fairly In the flax trade in Ulster it is fair.

In Dundee employment is fair. Information has been received with regard to jute and flax factories, employing about 8,700 men and boys and 20,300 women and girls. From this it appears that all spinning mills and weaving factories were running full time throughout the month: in 7 out of 38 spinning mills, and in 9 out of 32 weaving factories, slackness is reported. In Forfar employment is reported as fair; in Brechin as dull, with two mills on short time; in Kirkcaldy some works are on short time; in Arbroath most firms are fairly busy. In Aberdeen employment is good.

Employment in Ulster is reported as fair. In Belfast the flax dressers report employment as dull; the flax roughers and yarn dressers as good; the power loom tenters as dull; the women workers' Trade Union, the hackle and gill makers, and the linen lappers as fair; the beetling enginemen as bad.

At Barnsley employment continues bad.

#### Hosiery Trade.

According to information received from Employers through the Trade Correspondent of the Department, from one Employers' Association, from one Trade Union and from Local Correspondents, employment in the hosiery trade continues bad, and is worse than a month or a year ago.

Leicester District.—Returns received from hosiery manufacturers employing 11,555 workpeople in their factories at the end of November show a decrease of 3.2 per cent, on the number employed at the end of October, and of 2.1 per cent. on the number employed a year ago. Of the total number of operatives, 86 per cent. were employed in firms reporting short time or general slackness in some departments during the month, compared with 83 per cent. of those for whom returns were received for October. In Leicester, Loughborough, and Hinckley

employment is bad; in many firms half-time is reported.

Nottingham and Derby District.—Employment generally is bad in every branch throughout the district.

Scotland.—Employment in Hawick and Selkirk is reported as good, showing no change compared with a month or a year ago.

#### Lace Trade.

According to information from the lace makers' Trade Union and the Local Correspondent, employment in the Nottingham lace trade is worse than a month or a

curtain sections, and as fair in the plain net branch. It is reported as improved at Beeston, as moderate at Stapleford, Kimberley and Bulwell. At Ilkeston and Long Eaton employment is reported as bad.

#### Printing, Dyeing, Bleaching, and Finishing.

Information has been received from one Employers' Association, from Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents.

Employment with dyers in the West Riding is reported as bad, short time being general at Bradford. One large Trade Union reports it as worse than a month or a year ago. Another reports it as slightly better than a month ago; as bad during November in Huddersfield, Bury and Barnsley; as good at Burnley, Colne and Holmfirth. At Manchester employment is slack; at Bolton it continues bad.

Employment with dyers and trimmers continues slack at Leicester; it is not quite so bad at Loughborough as n October, about three-quarter time being worked. With dyers and bleachers at Nottingham and Basford employment is very irregular; it is bad with hosiery trimmers at Nottingham, Bulwell and Basford, many working short time. With calico printers at Manchester employment is reported as fair; at New Mills as bad; with calico engravers at Dinting as good. In the Glasgow district calico printers report employment as fair, block printers as moderate, calenderers as fair. In the Dundee district the calender workers report it as slack; the bleachfield workers as slightly improved.

#### BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

(For Leather Trades see p. 344.)

RETURNS have been received from the Trade Correspondents of the Department based on information supplied by 619 firms employing 72,812 workpeople. Reports have also been furnished by Trade Unions and by Local Correspondents.

The reports show that employment has slightly improved but is still quiet. The number employed by firms making returns at the end of November was 72,812, compared with 72,459 at the end of October, and 72,414 a year ago, an increase of 0.5 per cent. compared with both a month and a year ago. Of the total number of operatives, 58 per cent. were employed by firms working at least full time throughout November, the same percentage as in the returns received for October.

The following Table enables a comparison to be made of the numbers employed in the various districts at the end of November, with a month ago and with a year ago, so far as covered by the returns:

District,	No. of firms making returns		employ firms at		Percenta Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on		
alker oger of object or beautiful or color of		Nov., 1903.	Oct., 1903.	Nov., 1902.	Oct., 1903.	Nov., 1902.	
ENGLAND AND WALES. London	8t 82 35 67 37 98 16 38 21 25 42 16 13 25 596 22	6,027 14,246 3,278 7,877 4,328 10,144 2,510 5,076 2,626 2,526 2,540 3,733 2,575 1,258 2,167 68,385	6,055 13,808 3,216 7,744 4,398 10,255 2,487 5,125 2,642 2,543 3,763 2,572 1,267 2,154 68,029	5,915 13,960 3,005 7,802 4,407 10,286 2,574 5,188 2,468 3,850 2,401 1,281 2,187 67,947	- 0.5 + 3.2 + 1.9 + 1.7 - 1.6 - 1.1 + 0.9 - 1.0 - 0.6 + 0.1 - 0.8 + 0.1 - 0.9 + 0.6 - 0.5 - 0.2 + 1.4	+ 1'9 + 2'0 + 9'1 + 1'8 - 1'4 - 2'5 - 2'2 - 2'1 + 5'5 - 3'0 + 7'2 - 1'8 - 0'9 + 0'6 - 2'4 + 286	
Total	619	72,812	72,459	72,414	+ 0.2	+ 0.2	

The following is a summary of the reports received from all sources as regards the principal districts:-

London. - Returns covering 6,027 workpeople show that 66 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, the same percentage as in October. Employment amongst the Trade Union boot year ago. It is reported as very slack with the levers and and shoe operatives is again reported as dull. The hand-

## EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER-CLOTHING TRADES.

sewn boot makers report it as still quiet, and as rather worse than a year ago. With slipper makers it is fair.

Leicester and District .- Returns covering 14,246 workpeople in Leicester show that 26 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 22 per cent. in October. Employment is reported as slowly improving. Of the 3,278 workpeople employed by firms in the Leicester country districts, covered by the returns, 79 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 85 per cent. in October. Employment is reported as moderate at Hinckley.

Northampton, Kettering and District.—Returns covering 7,877 workpeople in Northampton show that 36 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 29 per cent. in October. Employment generally is quiet. The clickers and pressmen's Trade Union report it as bad. Returns covering 4,328 workpeople in Kettering show that 31 per cent were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 58 per cent. in October. The Trade Union lasters, finishers, clickers, and pressmen report employment as bad. Of the 10,144 workpeople employed by firms in the Northampton country districts covered by the returns, 70 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 78 per cent. in October. Employment in the villages is very slack with army bootmakers.

Stafford, Stone and Nantwich.—Returns covering 2,510 workpeople show that 63 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 44 per cent, in October. Employment at Stafford is reported as moderately good. At Stone it is reported as very slack and worse than last month.

Eastern Counties .- Returns covering 5,076 workpeople show that 61 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 55 per cent. in October. The lasters and finishers' Trade Union reports employment at Norwich as quieter in most

Bristol and Kingswood .- Returns covering 2,626 workpeople in Bristol show that 55 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 42 per cent. in October. A slight improve ment is reported. Of the 2,540 workpeople in Kingswood covered by the returns, all were employed by firms working full time throughout the month as in October; in the majority of cases overtime was worked.

Leeds and District .- Returns covering 3,733 workpeople show that 77 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 72 per cent. in October. Employment at Leeds is reported as fairly regular in most branches; some overtime is reported.

Other Districts in England .- Of the number covered by the returns 47 per cent. were employed in firms working full time in the Birmingham district and 98 per cent. in the Manchester district. The lasters and finishers' Trade Union reports employment as moderate at Nottingham, bad at Birmingham and Manchester, good at Kendal.

Scotland .- Of the 4,144 workpeople covered by the returns all were employed by firms working full time throughout the month. Employment with hand-sewn workers is reported as good at Aberdeen, fair at Glasgow and dull at Edinburgh. The lasters and finishers' Trade Union reports it as very slack at Glasgow and as good at Maybole, the majority working overtime.

#### TAILORING TRADE.

INFORMATION has been received from Employers, Local Correspondents and Trade Unions.

Bespoke Branch.—Employment is only moderate, and is worse than a month and a year ago. Returns have been received from London West End firms employing

7.35 workpeople on the premises and 1,161 outworkers,\* According to these returns employment with inworkers was good in firms employing 5 per cent. of the total number, moderate in firms employing 73 per cent., and bad in firms employing 22 per cent. With outworkers\* it was good with firms employing 9 per cent. of the total number, moderate with firms employing 75 per cent., and bad with firms employing 16 per cent. In Liverpool employment is reported as fair; in Manchester as slack; in Birmingham as moderate; in Edinburgh as bad; in Glasgow as very quiet; in Dublin as fair; in Belfast

Ready-made Branch.—In London employment is reported as worse on the whole than a month ago, and decidedly worse than a year ago; with factory operatives it has been bad in some firms, good in others; with outworkers employment generally has been bad. The clothiers' cutters' Trade Union reports employment as very bad, as slightly better than a month ago, but much worse than

In Leeds employment continues bad and is worse than a month or a year ago. According to returns received from ready-made tailoring manufacturers, employing about 9,200 workpeople in their factories, in addition to persons employed on work for them in workshops, employment during November was good or fair in firms employing 16 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns, moderate in firms employing 8 per cent., and poor or bad in firms employing 76 per cent. As compared with October, firms employing 10 per cent. report employment as improved, firms employing 5 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 85 per cent. as worse. As compared with a year ago, no firms report employment as improved, firms employing 19 per cent. report it as unchanged, and firms employing 81 per cent. as worse. The clothiers' operatives' Trade Union reports employment as bad.

In Manchester employment is reported as quiet with tailoring operatives; the Jewish tailors' Trade Union reports it as fair.

In Bristol employment shows a further decline, and is worse than a year ago.

In Norwich employment is reported as fair; at Ipswich as moderate; at Colchester as slack.

In Glasgow employment is reported as quiet, short time being worked.

### HAT TRADE.

REPORTS have been received from two Employers' Associations, from two Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents. Employment with both silk and felt hatters has been very quiet. Trade Unions with 5,365 members have 243 (or 4.5 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 2.6 per cent. at the end of October, and 3.6 per cent. a

With silk hatters, employment in London has been better than in October, but is still slack and worse than a year ago. In Denton employment is reported as quiet, and about the same as a month and a year ago, some short time being worked. In other districts employment during November has been very quiet.

With felt hatters, employment at Denton has been bad, and worse than during October. At Hyde it is reported as slack, and at Stockport as quiet. Employment in Warwickshire has been fair, but not so good as a month and a year ago.

## OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

INFORMATION has been received from Employers, Local Correspondents, and Trade Unions, and from three Employment Bureaux in London.

Dress, Millinery and Mantle Trades .- In London returns from retail firms, chiefly in the West-end district, employing 1,552 dressmakers at the end of November,

\* The numbers may include the same outworker more than once, and do not noting persons employed by outworkers.

EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER-CLOTHING TRADES; PRINTING, BOOKBINDING AND PAPER TRADES; FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

the number employed a year ago; employment generally is quiet. Employment in the wholesale mantle and costume trades has been very slack, and worse than a month and a year ago. With mantle makers in retail firms some short time and some overtime during the month is reported, and employment generally is reported as fairly good. Manufacturers of blouses, aprons and underclothing, employing 1,459 people in their factories at the end of November, report employment as unsatisfactory, and worse than a year ago. In the wholesale millinery trade employment is reported as quiet; in retail firms it is reported as fairly good.

Returns from three Employment Bureaux show a decreased demand for dressmakers and milliners compared with a month ago, but an increased demand ompared with a year ago.

In Manchester employment in the mantle trade shows a decline. In the costume and skirt trade short time has been worked and employment is reported as quiet; returns from manufacturers employing 2,399 workpeople n their factories at the end of November show an increase of 2.0 per cent. on the number employed at the end of October; firms making returns for a year ago show an increase of 2.5 per cent.

In Glasgow employment with mantle makers is unsatisfactory and worse than a month ago.

Shirt and Collar Trade.—Returns received from shirt and collar manufacturers in England, Scotland and Ireland. employing 8,476 workpeople in their factories at the end of November, show a decrease of 1.8 per cent. on the number employed at the end of October, and of 4.5 per cent. on the number employed at the end of November, 1902. Employment generally is reported as bad.

Corset Trade.—Returns received from corset manufacturers employing 4,190 workpeople in their factories at the end of November, show a decrease of 1.4 per cent. on the number employed at the end of October, and of 11.4 per cent. on the number employed a year ago. Of the total number of operatives, 69 per cent. were employed by firms reporting short time.

#### PRINTING, BOOKBINDING, AND PAPER TRADES.

RETURNS have been supplied by 18 Employers' Associations, by 29 Employers, by Trade Unions with 54,500 members, and by Local Correspondents. These returns show that employment in the Letterpress Printing Trade, particularly in London, has considerably improved and is rather better on the whole than a year ago. Other branches show little change as compared with October, and are worse than a year ago.

Employment in the Paper Trade in England remains fairly good. In Scotland it continues good, and better than a year ago.

The following Table shows the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed as compared with a month and a year ago :-

	Un	ited Ki	ngdom	.01111	London.				
v middlets	No. of Members of Unions at end of Nov.,	Members f Unions tt end of Nov.,				Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			
	included in the Returns.	Nov., 1903.	Oct., 1903.	Nov., 1902.		Nov., 1903.	Oct., 1903.	Nov.,	
Letterpress	38,858	2.7	4'3	2.8	17,062	1.8	41	2.8	
Printing* Lithographic Printing	6,366	4'3	4'3	3.5	1.989	6.3	6.1	4'3	
Bookbinding	6,954	3'4	3'7	2.2	3,851	3.8 .	3.1	1.6	
Total Printing and Bookbinding®	52,178	3.0	4'3	2.8	22,902	2.2	4'3	217	
Paper Manufacture	2,361	2.4	2'5	2'3					

The percentages unemployed in certain Trade Unions

The figures for October, 1903, and November, 1902, are revised.

show a decrease of 6.3 per cent. on the number employed at the end of October, and a similar decrease in districts were as follow:—

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Nov. 1903, included	Percent	age retu ployed at	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in pe centage unemploye for Nov., 1903, as compared with a		
11949	in the Returns.	Nov., 1903.	Oct., 1903.	Nov., 1902.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	22,902	2'5	4.1	2'7	- 1.8	- 0'2
Northern Counties	1,464	2.3	3'4	2'2	- 1.1	+ 0.1
Lancs. and Cheshire Yorkshire	6,752	5'7	7.0	4.6	- 1.3	+ 1.1
East Midlands	2,026	5.0	3.6	2.3	- 0.6	- 0.1
West Midlands	2,453	3.3	4.1	3'2	- 0.8	+ 0.6
Eastern Counties	376	2'4	2.1	1.3	+ 0.3	+ 1.1
S. & S. W. Counties	2,556	1'5	1.7	1.7	- 0.3	- 0.2
Wales and Mon	795	14	2'1	0.0	- 0.7	+ 0'5
Scotland	6,122	1.0	2.1	1'4	- 0.3	+ 05
Ireland	2,590	6.2	8.3	5.6	- 2'0	+ 0.0
United Kingdom*	52,178	3.0	4'3	2.8	- 1'3	+ 0.2

Percentages unemployed for London are shown in the first Table for the Letterpress and Lithographic Printing and Bookbinding Trades respectively. Employment has greatly improved with letterpress printers, as is usual at this season, and is better than a year ago. Other branches show little change on the whole as compared with October, and are worse than a year ago.

Northern Counties .- Employment remains fairly good on the whole, but at Newcastle a number of letterpress printers are unemployed.

Lancashire and Cheshire.—Employment at Manchester remains dull with printers, but it is fairly good with bookbinders. At Liverpool it is reported as good with letterpress printers, and fair with other branches. Employment good at Bolton, Blackburn, Burnley, Bury, Accrington, Preston, Newton-le-Willows, Southport, Lancaster, and Chester; moderate at Oldham, Stockport, Ashton-under-Lyne, and Rochdale

Yorkshire.—Employment is fairly good generally.

East Midland Counties .- Employment is fairly good, except with lithographic printers at Nottingham, who are slack.

West Midland Counties.—Employment is fairly good, except with letterpress printers at Birmingham, who report it as moderate.

Eastern Counties .- Employment is good at Ipswich. At Norwich it is slack.

Southern and South-Western Counties, Wales and Monmouth-

shire.—Employment is fairly good generally.

Scotland. — Employment with letterpress printers is fairly good at Edinburgh and Dundee; quiet at Glasgow and Aberdeen. Lithographic printers and bookbinders are fairly well employed.

Ireland.—At Belfast employment is fair with letterpress printers; quiet with lithographic printers and bookbinders. At Dublin it is improving; at Cork fair; at Londonderry good.

## FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

Information has been received from 5 Employers' Associations, from 35 Trade Unions with 34,295 members, and from Local Correspondents. Employment generally is dull and worse than a month ago and a year ago.

The percentage of unemployed Trade Unionists in the furnishing and woodworking trades at the end of November was 5.9, as compared with 5.2 in October, and 4.6 in November, 1902.

#### Millsawyers and Woodworking Machinists.

Employment with millsawyers generally continues quiet. It is reported as dull or slack in London, Nottingnam, Gloucester, Glasgow, Edinburgh and Dublin; quiet in Liverpool, Birmingham and Sheffield; and fair at Hartlepool, Hull, Dundee, Aberdeen, Belfast and Cork.

Furnishing Trades. Employment in the furnishing trades is dull, and is vorse than a month ago and a year ago. Of the 13,311 members of 15 Trade Unions making returns, 916 (or 6.9 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of November, compared with 5.8 per cent. at the end of October, and 4.2 per cent, at the end of November, 1902.

EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER-FURNISHING, &c., TRADES; GLASS, POTTERY, &c., TRADES; LEATHER TRADES; AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

Coopers.

Employment with coopers shows a slight improvement. At Dublin it is good, and at Manchester, Bristol and Hull fair; at Burton-on-Trent, however, it remains bad, with much short time. It is also bad at Birmingham. At Liverpool, Edinburgh, and Glasgow it is dull. Trade Unions with a membership of 5,198 report 232 (or 4.5 per cent.) unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 4.7 per cent. at the end of October, and 4.0 per cent. at the end of November, 1902.

Coachbuilding.
Employment in the coachbuilding industry continues dull, and is slightly worse than a month ago. Trade Unions of coachmakers, wheelwrights, smiths, etc., with a membership of 7,715 report 510 (or 6.6 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 5.4 per cent. at the end of October, and 6.1 per cent. at the end of November, 1902.

In London employment is bad. At Manchester it is slack, at Nottingham bad, at Liverpool and Leeds dull, at Sheffield quiet, and at Birmingham moderate. At Glasgow it is moderate. It is bad at Dublin, slack at Belfast, and dull at Cork.

Miscellaneous.

Brushmakers.—Employment continues dull and is worse than a year ago; at Leeds it is improving, but at Glasgow it is bad. Trade Unions with a membership of 1,761 report 110 (or 6.2 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 5.8 in October, and 2.3 in November, 1902.

Other Trades.-Employment in London continues good with stick makers and mounters, bad with basket makers, short time still being worked, slack with lathrenders, and dull with packing case makers. At Leicester employment with basket makers is slack; at Glasgow it is good. At Edinburgh and Glasgow lathrenders report employment as good. With packing case makers at Glasgow it is dull, and at Belfast moderate.

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

INFORMATION has been received from 12 Employers' Associations, 11 Trade Unions with 4,204 members, Local Correspondents, and Employers.

Employment in the Glass trades remains bad in the bottle-making branch, and is rather worse than a year ago. In the flint-glass trade it is fair on the whole. In the Pottery trades it continues fair, but short time is still general. In the Brick and Tile trades employment

is moderate on the whole. Glass Trades.—Employment with glass bottle makers remains bad generally, with much short time, and is rather worse than a year ago. Flint-glass makers report employment in the Stourbridge and Wordsley district as good; at Manchester and Edinburgh as improving. Flint-glass cutters report it as improving in the Stourbridge and Wordsley district, and at Edinburgh; as quiet at Birmingham. Employment remains good with sheet-glass makers and flatteners at St. Helens, and bad with glass blowers in London. With pressed glass makers at Gateshead short time is still being worked.

Pottery Trades .- In the Staffordshire Potteries employment is reported as fair in some branches, but bad in the china trade; employment is rather better on the whole than a year ago, though few factories are working full time. In the Longton and Fenton district it is reported as fair, but not so good as a year ago, and short time is being worked. In Scotland employment

Brick and Tile Trades.-Employment at Birmingham is reported as still bad, with short time. At West Bromwich and Oldbury it is quiet; at Stourbridge slack; at Nottingham fairly good; at Plymouth and Glasgow fair.

#### LEATHER TRADES.

(For Boot and Shoe Trades see p. 341.)

employment remains slack, and is worse than both a month and a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members hown as unemployed at the end of November was 8.3, as compared with 6.3 at the end of October, and 7.3 at the end of November, 1902.

Skinners, Tanners, Curriers, Dressers, etc.—These branches report employment as being dull generally. There is little overtime worked, but a large amount of short time. The only exceptions are the curriers at Birmingham, Bolton, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Dundee, and in Essex and Suffolk, who report employment as fair, and at Bristol as fair on sole leather.

Saddle and Harness Makers, etc.—In these branches great dulness prevails. In the London trade employment is bad, with an increase in the amount of short time worked. In the Walsall and Birmingham district all branches report employment as slack, and worse than a month or a year ago, with an increase both in the numbers of unemployed and in the amount of short time worked. Glasgow, Dundee and Aberdeen, however, report employment as fair for saddlers. In the horse-collar branch employment is also dull.

Miscellaneous Leather Workers .- Fancy leather workers in London report employment as bad, with much short time, except in the pocket-book branch. Portmanteau and leather bag makers in London are slack, threequarter time being general; in Manchester employment is reported as fair for the season.

#### AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

INFORMATION as to the state of employment in Agriculture in November was received from 204 correspondents in various parts of England. The reports show that agricultural work was interrupted to some extent by wet weather, and in certain districts by the sodden condition of the land after the excessive rainfall in previous months. On fine days, however, fair progress was made with ploughing, lifting and storing roots, seeding and other work, but at the end of the month work in the fields was generally in arrear. Casual labourers were not in much demand.

Northern Counties. - Correspondents in Durham, Westmorland and Cumberland state that the supply of labour was, as a rule, sufficient. Some irregularity of employment was caused by wet days, but lifting potatoes and pulling mangolds and swedes afforded plenty of work in most districts. In Lancashire work was interfered with by wet weather, and men employed in digging potatoes on piecework, pulling turnips, and attending on threshing machines lost a good deal of time, as did women and children engaged in potato-picking. The late harvest in Yorkshire caused other work to be in arrear, and casual labourers were kept on in some cases till the end of November. The supply of such labour was generally sufficient, although there was much work to be done, such as threshing and securing the potato and root crops. At the Martinmas hirings the demand for men is said to have been in excess of the supply, and rates of wages showed an upward tendency. A scarcity of plough lads is mentioned.

Midland Counties .- Reports from Cheshire and Derbyshire show that turnip-pulling and potato-lifting were interfered with by unfavourable weather, and ploughing, manuring and wheat-sowing were much in arrear at the end of the month. Employment in the fields was irregular, and the supply of casual labour in several districts has been somewhat in excess of the demand. Agricultural labourers in Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire were fairly well employed when the weather permitted. The supply of casual labour was sufficient. In Staffordshire and Shropshire outdoor employment was irregular owing to rain, and work in connection with root-crops is in arrear. The supply of casual labourers has been generally sufficient, but good Returns have been received from 3 Employers' men for permanent situations are scarce. Farm work Associations, 24 Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents. These show that the general state of not been possible to employ much extra labour, and the EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER-AGRICULTURAL LABOUR; SEAMEN; DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

farm labourers in Warwickshire is said to have been interrupted by rain. The supply of casual labour has been insufficient in some parts of the county. In Northamptonshire fair progress was made with field work during November, but sowing is still in arrear. The supply of casual labourers has been sufficient, but waggoners and milkers are not easy to obtain. Agricultural employment in Oxfordshire was somewhat interrupted, especially in districts where the land was too wet to work on. A correspondent in the Witney Union writes on November 30th: "Harvest only just completed; men occupied in trenching, letting water off, hedging, ditching, etc. Very little wheat planted on heavy land. Ploughing, and all farm work much in arrear-quite a month behindhand." In Buckinghamshire threshing and root-lifting were hindered at times by rain. Farm labourers have usually had other work found for them when they could not work on the land; the supply of extra men has been as a rule sufficient. In Hertford hire and Bedfordshire there was little demand for casual labour, and the supply has been in excess in most districts. A correspondent in the Hitchin Union writes "Farmers having lost so heavily this season, are cutting down their labour bills, and are only doing what work is absolutely necessary.

Eastern Counties.—Correspondents in Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire report that field work was delayed by rain and by the difficulty of working on the wet land. The supply of casual labourers is sufficient in most listricts. There is, however, a continued difficulty in getting good men for permanent situations, on account of the dislike to Sunday work. In Lincolnshire farm work is said to be backward. The supply of casual labourers has been sufficient in some parts, but in certain districts extra men have been in some demand for potato-lifting. A correspondent in the Brigg Union mentions a scarcity of women for potato-sorting. Employment for farm labourers in Norfolk is reported to have been somewhat interrupted by wet weather, but there has been a good deal of work in pulling and storing roots, ploughing, wheat drilling and threshing. The supply of casual labour has been generally sufficient. In Suffolk and Essex the wet weather caused delay in sowing, threshing and root-carting. The supply of casual labourers was generally in excess of the demand. Certain correspondents report an improved supply of men to permanent situations on farms.

Southern and South-Western Counties .- Employment in Kent was fair with agricultural labourers generally, but some casual men lost time, and the supply of this class of labour is stated to have been rather in excess of the demand in many districts. In Surrey and Sussex employment is said to have been fairly regular on the whole, as such work as chaff-cutting and cleaning out lodges and yards was generally found for the men on rainy days. There was a plentiful supply of casual labourers, but cowmen and carters are said to be rather difficult to get. Wet weather caused some time to be lost by casual labourers in Hampshire and Berkshire, but there was a good deal of work to be done in threshing, lifting potatoes, pulling and storing mangolds, and sowing wheat. According to reports from Wiltshire, there has been little demand in most districts for casual labourers, and the supply was generally sufficient. The permanent labourers were well employed at rootpulling, wheat-sowing, threshing, etc. Similar reports come from Dorsetshire. Outdoor work in Somersetshire was interrupted by rain. A correspondent in the Langport Union states that as a consequence "the cleaning of land, usually completed by the end of the autumn will have to be left till next spring." When the weather permitted, there was full employment in wheat-sowing, potato and mangold lifting and carting. In Herefordshire and Gloucestershire outdoor work was hindered in the early part of the month, and some casual labourers lost time, but the weather afterwards improved and progress

supply has been sufficient. Outdoor employment for was made with pulling and storing roots, ploughing and sowing. The supply of casual labourers was generally sufficient, the demand being small, but correspondents mention a difficulty in obtaining suitable men for permanent situations. According to reports from Devon and Cornwall farm labourers were for the most part regularly employed. The supply of casual labour was generally just sufficient, although a scarcity is reported in certain districts.

#### SEAMEN SHIPPED IN NOVEMBER.

(Data supplied by the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.) RETURNS received from certain selected ports (at which about 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the Foreign Trade is entered and cleared) show that, during November, 36,256 seamen were shipped on foreign-going vessels, an

The supply of seamen is stated to have been either equal to or in excess of the demand at the ports included in the returns.

increase of 3,547 on the number shipped during November,

During the eleven completed months of the year, 399,097\* seamen were shipped, of whom 61,690 (or 15.5 per cent.) were foreigners. During the corresponding period of last year 388,231\* seamen were shipped, of whom 3,000 (or 16.2 per cent.) were foreigners.

Lascars who are engaged in Asia are not included in

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 November, 1903 and 1902, respectively, together with the number\* shipped in the eleven

	Numb			Total in		
Principal Ports.	In	In	Total in	Nov., 1902.*	Nove	mber,
Es 1	Sailing Vessels.	Steam Vessels.	Nov 1)03.		1903.	1902.
ENGLAND AND WALES		1			S. 10-13	1
East Coast.	1 -11 -11					
Tyne Ports	115	2,505	2,620	2,020	31,595	32,329
Sunderland		466	466	891	4,386	4.450
Middlesbrough		157	157	273	2,127	2,9.6
Hull	•••	1.019	1,019	977	12,199	11,396
Grimsby		26	26	46	1,110	904
Bristol Channel.						111111111111111111111111111111111111111
D=!-+-11		611	£41	479	7,935	6,100
Name and Man		t81	683	816	8,746	8,713
C1:04	-0	4,096	4.112	4.837	49,502	50,946
Swansea	323	592	602	687	5,994	5,923
Owalisca	10	394	002	001	3,994	21943
Other Ports.						
Liverpool	107	14,521	14,628	11,285	142,783	129,594
London	100	5,803	5,966	6.002	69,215	20,598
Southampton		2,140	2,140	2,157	21,063	27,417
Parties and the second			MINTE !		E C	
SCOTLAND.		and the				
Leith, Kirkcaldy, Methil, &		420	420	395	5,992	5,927
Grangemouth			The state of			
Glasgow	50	2,258	2,318	2,114	31,107	27,702
IRELAND.						
D 111			407	00	2122	928
D 16		134	124	86	1,435	
Belfast		334	324	214	2,908	2,319
Total, November, 1903	463	35,793	36,256		399,097	
Ditto, November, 1902	445	32,264		32,709		388,231
21110, 1100111001, 2004	220	20,002		04,100	***	300,751

## DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

RETURNS as to the employment of this class of labour in the Port of London have been received from the dock companies, the owners of the principal wharves, the Shipping Federation and Trade Unions. Information regarding other principal ports has been supplied by Superintendents of Mercantile Marine, Local Correspondents of the Department, and Trade Unions.

Employment during November was fair generally, and was rather better than in October, but on the whole showed little change as compared with a year ago.

#### LONDON.

The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves during the four weeks ended November 28th was 15,134, an increase of 7.1 per

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

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## EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER-Dock and Riverside Labour; Fishing.

cent. on the average for October, and an increase of 0'4 per cent. on the average for November, 1902. The average number employed in November during the six years, 1897-1902, was 16,388.

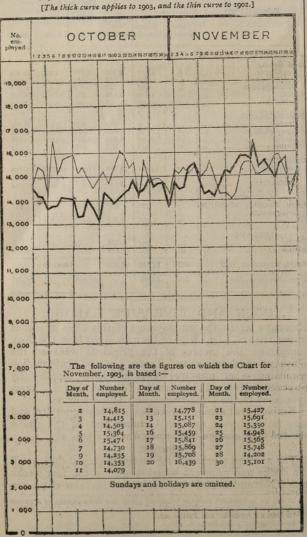
(1) Weekly Averages.—The following Table shows the estimated average number of dock and wharf labourers employed daily in each of the four weeks ended

ONE SERVICE AND ADDRESS OF THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NAMED I	Labourers	employed in	Docks	Labourers	Total Dock	
Period.	By Dock Companies or through Contractors.	By Ship- owners, &c.	Total.	employed at 115 Wharves making Returns.		
Week ended Nov. 7th " " 14th " " 21st " " 28th	5,939 5,985 6,910 6,551	2,651 2,163 2,264 2,226	8,590 8,148 9,174 8,777	6,292 6,467 6,617 6,470	14,882 14,615 15,791 15,247	
Average for 4 weeks ended Nov. 28th	} 6,346	2,326	8,672	6,462	15,134	
Average for Oct., 1903	5,741	2,031	7,772	6,357	14,129	
Average for Nov. 1902		2,093	8,766	6,314	15,080	

(2) Daily Fluctuation.—The daily fluctuation in the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed by all the docks and principal wharves is shown on the chart below. The numbers in November ranged from 14,079 on the 11th to 16,439 on the 20th.

During November, 1902, the total number of dock and wharf labourers employed ranged from 14,004 on the 15th to 15,918 on the 27th.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 115 of the principal Wharves for each day during the month of October and November, 1903. The corresponding curve for October and November, 1902, is also given for comparison.



Employment was fair with workers in mid-stream, coal porters, winchmen, deal porters, lumpers, stevedores and lightermen. With corn porters it was moderate. With fruit porters in Thames-street it was fair, the average daily number employed being 298, as compared

with 315 in October, and 307 a year ago.
Of the 3,414 "free labourers" on the register of the Shipping Federation in the Port of London, during November, 64 per cent. were, on the average, employed by the shipowners to whom the office supplies labour, as compared with 55 per cent. in October, and 63 per cent. a year ago.

#### OTHER PORTS.

North-East Coast.-In the Tyne, Blyth and Wear district employment with coal porters and shippers was good. With trimmers and teemers it was moderate, and worse than a month ago, while with dock and quay side labourers it was fair, and better than a month ago. With pit prop carriers it has been fairly good. On the Tyne, watermen report employment as bad. Employment on the Wear was quiet with steam packet men, and moderate with dock labourers. With dockers at Middlesbrough it was good; at Hartlepool moderate; with riverside labour on the Tees it was slack

Hull and Grimsby.-With Hull timber and grain dischargers employment was good; with coal porters slack; with dock labourers moderate, and with lighter-men bad. At Goole and Grimsby with dock labourers it was good. With coal workers at Grimsby employment was slack.

Norfolk and Suffolk.—Dock labourers at Yarmouth and Lowestoft were steadily employed. Employment was fair at Ipswich and Parkeston, and slack at Harwich.

Southampton.—Employment with dock labourers was moderate, and about the same as in October, but it was worse than a year ago.

Plymouth and District.—General dock labour has been quiet, but coal and grain lumpers have been moderately employed.

Bristol Channel Ports .- At Bristol, Avonmouth, Portishead and Sharpness, employment was good; at Gloucester fair. Dock labourers generally at Newport were well employed, but at Cardiff, Barry, and Swansea employment was not so good.

Liverpool and Manchester.—At Liverpool employment with dock labourers has been fairly good on the whole; with quay and railway carters it has improved; with the flatmen it has been fair. With the dockers at Manchester it has been slack.

The Clyde. - Employment with dock labourers at Glasgow was fair, at Greenock it was reported as dull. East of Scotland Ports.—Employment with dock labourers at Leith is reported as better than a month ago. At Aberdeen it was bad, at Dundee good.

Irish Ports.—Employment was bad at Dublin, good at Belfast, fair at Cork.

## FISHING INDUSTRY.

REPORTS have been received from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries and from Collectors of Fishery Statistics for England; from the Fishery Board for Scotland; and also from Local Correspondents.

The fish landed in Great Britain\* during November shows a decrease both in quantity and in value as compared with a year ago. The following Table gives the quantity and value for November, 1903, and November, 1902, respectively:-

to Viscon C al 3	Qua	ntity.	Landing Value.			
Spanistry (198)	Nov., 1903.	Nov., 1902.	Nov., 1903.	Nov., 1902.		
Fish (other than Shell): England and Wales Scotland	 Cwts. 1,621,634 241,120	Cwts. 1,707,041 227,015	£ 680,626 105,284	£ 700,533 102,448		
Shell Fish		1,934,056	795,910 27,129	802,981 32,216		
Total Value	 10,000	DA AMO	813,039	835,197		

<sup>\*</sup> The figures for Ireland were not available at the time of going to press

From the Tyne and Wear it is reported that trawl and line fishing were interrupted during the month by stormy weather, but that fair supplies of white fish were landed.

At Hull, Grimsby, and Yarmouth employment has been good on the whole. Employment at Lowestoft was fair among fishermen and persons employed in fish curing, and moderate with fish dock labourers.

Off Plymouth and the South-western coast fishing improved during the first two weeks of the month, but subsequently was much interfered with by bad weather. A slight improvement was shown towards the end of the month. Employment among fish packers and carters was slack; with pilchard curers it was moderate.

Employment in all branches was good at Aberdeen, moderate at Macduff, fair at Peterhead, and bad at Fraserburgh, and at all four ports showed little change as compared with a month ago. At Arbroath and Montrose employment was fair.

## DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Table showing the Number of Cases of Lead, Mercurial, Phosphorus, and Arsenic Poisoning and of Anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Work-SHOP ACT, DURING THE UNDERMENTIONED PERIODS

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

			CASES	THE REAL PROPERTY.	1	DEATH	s.	
Disease and Industry.		Nov. 1903.	II mo	ded	Nov. 1903.	end	ri months ended November	
The second second			1903.	1902.	COM	1903.	1902.	
Lead Poisoning-			2		1000	10.13		
Smelting of Metals Brass Works	***	6	32	27	1	2.1	-	
	***	I	13	12		I		
Plumbing and Soldering		3	22	23		_	I	
Printing		-	13	14	35000	I	16	
File Cutting		4	24	24	H.	2	I	
	ron	2	13	10	-	100 V	-	
White Lead Works		9	102	137	-	2	I	
Oline and Parahamana		4	94	76		3	4	
Litho-transfer Works		-	3	2	-	-	4	
Glass Cutting and Polishing		-	4	8	-	-	2	
Enamelling of Iron Plates		-	3	2	- 3	-	I	
Electrical Accumulator Works		4	26	15	-		I	
Paint and Colour Works		4	32 68	41		I	-	
Coach Making Shipbuilding	***	7 4	23	58		5	I	
Paint used in other Industries	***		43	41		I	I	
Other Industries		6	37	61	_	-		
					_	-	-	
Total Lead Poisoningt		58	568	580		18	14	
Mercurial Poisoning -								
Barometer and Thermometer making	19	_	3	I	_	-	-	
Furriers' processes		-	I	2	-	-	-	
Other Industries		-	4	2	-	-	-	
Total Mercurial Poisoning			8	5	_		0-0	
A PARTY OF THE PAR					- 6	-		
Phosphorus Poisoning—			1		2.12.00			
Lucifer Match Works		-	- 1	I	-	-	2	
Other Industries		_	-	-	armin.		-	
Total Phosphorus Poisoning	\$	-	-	1	-	-	2	
	31	***			Con.	97		
rsenic Poisoning— Paints, Colours and Extraction	of	_	3	5		-	-	
Arsenic			9		and a			
Other Industries			2		_	_		
Total Arsenic Polsoning		-	5	5	-	-	-	
						1000		
nthrax—	1			-	1			
Wool Sorting	***	-	4	3 6	-	-	I	
Wool Combing	***	2 1	15		2	4	I	
Handling of Horsehair Handling and Sorting of Hides a Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.)	ha	T	10	9	_	2	5	
Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.)	1		10		Vand	37 200	1	
Other Industries		-	8	5	Line	4	2-0	

## FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN NOVEMBER.

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

THE total number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during November, 1903, was 368, as compared with 370 in the corresponding month of 1902, 424 in 1901, 367 in 1900, and 427 in 1899. The average number of fatal accidents in the month of November in these five years was thus 391, so that the total for the past month was below the average.

In the classes of industries in which the number of persons employed is approximately known, viz.: Railway Service (exclusive of contractors' servants), Mines, Quarries, Shipping, and Factories, the number of workpeople reported as killed was 333, compared with 343 in November, 1902. The approximate number of workpeople employed in these industries according to the latest returns was about 5,700,000. The number of persons in this group of industries reported as killed during the eleven months ended November last was 3,407, as compared with 3,581 in the corresponding period of 1902.

In the following Table the accidents are classified by the trades in which they occurred, and a comparison is made between November, 1903, and a month and a vear ago.

Editors The Late Lines	AND THE	All the Control			
CHARA CERCOS CARDOCES	Numb	er of Worl	kpeople	Decreas	se (+) or se (-) in 1903, as
Trade.	20000			compai	ed with
	Nov.,	Oct.,	Nov.,	Month	Year
A. Maria and the state of the s	1903.	1903.	1902.	ago.	ago.
		1	1	1	1
Railway Service— Brakesmen and Goods Guards	2	I	2	+ 1	Jan
Engine Drivers		3	2	- 3	- 2
		I	2	- I	- 2
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	10	5	8	+ 5	+ 2
Porters Shunters	5 2	5 5	6		- I
Miscellaneous	19	20	8	- 3 - I	+ 11
Contractors' Servants	5	I	I	+ 4	+ 4
Total Railway Service	43	41	32	+ 2	+ 11
Mines-		The second	0-	- Golfen	FRE
Underground Surface	77	77	82	- 3	- 5 - 2
Total Mines	88	91	95	- 3	- 7
Quarries over 20 feet deep	7	8	11	- 1	- 4
Factories - Textile -		The same of			
Cotton	5	4	II	+ 1	- 6
Wool and Worsted Other Textiles		3	I	- 3	- I
Non Textile - Extraction of Metals	I	7	3	- 6	- 2
Founding and Conversion of Merals	3	4.	13	- I	- 10
Marine and Locomotive Engineering			2		- 2
Ship and Boat Building Wood	2 2	3	16	- I - 2	- 14 - I
Chemicals, &c	2	4 4	3 5	- 2	- 3
Other Non-Textile Indus- tries	30	42	45	- 12	- 15
Total Factories	45	71	99	- 26	- 54
Workshops-		1		- 1	
Coomen					
Seamen— On Trading Vessels—		92			
Sailing	65	56	46	+ 9	+ 19
On Fishing Vessels -	80	44	46	+ 36	+ 34
Sailing Steam	5 5	. 4	11 4	+ I - 3	- 6 + 1
Total Seamen	155	112	107	+ 43	+ 48
Accidents reported under					
Factory Act, Ss. 103-6— Docks, Wharves and Quays	10	23	16	- 13	- 6
Warehouses	I	3	2	- 2	- I
Buildings to which Act applies Laundries	9	14	6	- 5 + I	+ 3 + 1
	-				-
Total under Factory Act, Ss. 103-6	21	40	24	- 19	- 3
Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894	9		2	+ 9	+ 7
Grand Total	368	364	370	+ 4	- 2
THE RESERVE AND PROPERTY OF THE PERSON OF TH	THE REAL PROPERTY.	(30x (K3) 31) 13			

Of the 4 cases in the china and earthenware industry in November, 1903, affected females.

House Painters and Plumbers.—In addition to the cases included in the Table, 4 cases of lead poisoning (including 2 deaths) were reported during November among house painters and plumbers. The number of such cases reported for the leven months ended November, 1903, was 185 (including 36 deaths), and for the corresponding period of 1902, 155 (including 30 deaths).

## TRADE DISPUTES IN NOVEMBER.\*

number of workpeople affected by old disputes which began before November, and were still in progress at the beginning of that month, give a total of 13.763 workpeople involved in trade disputes during November, 1903, compared with 10,747 in October, 1903, and 19,797 in November, 1902.

New Disputes in November, 1903.—In the following Table the new disputes in November are summarised by trades affected:—

Personal Property like					No. of Workpeople affected.			
Trades.			No. of Disputes.	Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
Mining and Quarrying			11	3,753	2,585	6,338		
Metal, Engineering and Sh Textile		-	9 3	1,247	632	1,879		
Other			7	1,258	140	1,398		
Total, November, 1903			30	6,845	3,370	10,215		
Ditto, October, 1903			20	5,728	1,214	6,972		
Ditto, November, 1902			24	4,987	1,449	6,456		

Causes.—Of the thirty new disputes, seven arose on demands for advance in wages, four on objections to reductions, and five on other wages questions, three on questions of hours of labour, four on questions of employment of particular classes or persons, four on details of working arrangements, and three on questions of trade unionism.

Number and Magnitude.—Thirty new disputes began in November, 1903, compared with 20 in October, and 24 in the corresponding month of last year. By the 30 disputes 6,845 workpeople were directly and 3,370 indirectly affected, and these figures, when added to the problem of the state of fourteen new disputes, affecting 7,005 workpeople, and eight old disputes, affecting 4,076 workpeople. Of these twenty-two new and old disputes, two, involving 1,700 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; ten, involving 6,651 persons, were decided in favour of the employers; and ten, involving 2,730 persons, were compromised. In the case of two other disputes, involving 274 persons, which terminated in November, certain points are still under consideration.

Aggregate Duration.—The aggregate duration in November of disputes that started or were settled in that month was 66,650 working days. In addition, 41,750 working days were lost in November owing to disputes that began before that month and at the end of the month were still unsettled. Thus the total duration in November of all disputes, new and old, was 108,400 working days, which compares with 113,000 in the previous month, and 308,000 in the corresponding month of last year.

Summary for the Eleven Months of 1903.+-For the eleven completed months of 1903 the aggregate number of workpeople involved in the 339 disputes which commenced in these months was 110,594, as compared with 249,172 in the 406 disputes reported in the corresponding period of 1902.

The aggregate duration in working days of all disputes was about 2,157,000 as compared with 3,182,000 in the corresponding period of last year.

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

## Principal Trade Disputes.

		1		1			
Occupation ;	Locality.	Work	ber of people cted.	Date when Dispute	Dura- tion of Dispute in Work-	Alleged Cause or Object.;	Result.;
		Di- rectly.	Indi- rectly.;	began.	ing Days.		
Plasterers, and Other Workpeople	Bradford	190	13	1903. 1 Jan.	278	Against proposed reduction in wages from 9½d. to 8½d. per hour, and other alterations of working	Matter referred to arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade (see p. 329).
Colliers,  Byeworkmen,  Hauliers, and Surface  Workers.	Pontefract	969	1,386	20 Nov.	7	For reinstatement of certain men	Work resumed unconditionally.
Driver Boys, Rope Lads, Miners, &c.	Mansfield	150	970	10 Nov.	3	For reinstatement of a certain boy	Boy reinstated.
Miners,	Blantyre	748	187	23 Nov		For advance of wages	No settlement reported.
Labourers, &c. Quarrymen,	Bethesda	2,500		1900. 22 Nov-	912	Dispute as to method of representation of men in submitting grievances to the manag ment and employer, reinstatement of certain dismissed men, using the dinner hour, minimum wage,	Some men rep'aced, others resumed work on employer's terms.
Shipwrights, Joiners,	Port Glasgow	429	285	1903. 20 Nov.	4	contract system, attitude of contractors and officials towards the men, rules of discipline, annual holiday, control of sick club, and fort- nightly payment of wages Against proposed reversion to winter working	Compromise effected.
Helpers, Hammermen, Engineers, Smiths, Labourers, &c.						hours	Compromise exected
Lasters, Finishers, Clickers, Pressmen, and Female Ma- chinists.	Leicester	64	92	7 Nov.	8	Because of dismissal of certain workpeople	Work resumed unconditionally.
Labourers, Paviors, Flaggers, Masons and Brick- layers. (Local Authority)	Bradford	535	48	6 Nov.	3	Against proposed reduction in winter working hours from 9 to 7½ per day	Hours reduced to 8 per day for four weeks before and after Christmas.

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

## CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES.\*

#### Changes Reported in November.

The net effect of all the changes in wages reported in November was a decrease of £6,803 per week, as compared with a decrease of £206 per week in October, and an increase of £7,882 per week in November 1902. The number of workpeople affected was 153,585, of whom 1,119 received advances amounting to £98 per week, and 152,466 sustained decreases amounting to £6,901 per week. The total number affected in October was 12,023, and in November, 1902, 247,385.

The only change of importance was a decrease affecting 150,000 coal miners in South Wales and Monmouthshire, whose wages were reduced 5 per cent.

Two changes (one being that of the South Wales coal miners mentioned above) affecting 150,550 workpeople were arranged by Conciliation Boards, and one change, affecting 1,053 workpeople, took effect under a sliding scale. Two changes were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work, one of which, affecting 190 workpeople, was subsequently settled by arbitration, and the other, affecting 50 workpeople, by negotiation between employers and workpeople or their representatives. The remaining changes, affecting 1,742 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople or their representatives without stoppage of

## Summary for the Eleven Months of 1903.+

For the eleven months, January to November, 1903, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) known to have had their wages changed was 548,601 as compared with 875,178 in the corresponding period of 1902. Of these, 17,148 obtained a net increase amounting to about £1,275 per week, and 525,013 sustained a net decrease of £22,561 per week, whilst the remaining 6,440 had upward and downward changes which left their wages at the same level as at the beginning of the year. The net effect of all the changes reported was a decrease of £21,286 per week, compared with a decrease of £72,773. per week in the corresponding period of 1902.

Summarised by trades, the number of workpeople affected and the net results of the changes in the principal groups were as follows :-

			No.		£
Building Trades			4,430	 +	290
Coal Mining			413,300	 -	15,512
Other Mining and	Quarr	ying	12,321		
Iron and Steel Tra			22,493	 -	950
Engineering and Sl	hipbuil	ding	74,650	 -	4,271
Clothing Trades			3,306	 -	77
Glass Trades			6,191	 -	484
Employees of Local	Autho	rities	4,028	 +	234
All other trades†			7,882	 +	115
					and the second s

## DETAILS OF CHANGES REPORTED IN NOVEMBER, 1903.

Locality		Occupation.	Date from which Change takes effect in 1903.	Num	ber of people ted by  Decrease.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in Italics.)
		2 Increases—162 Workpeople.	BUI	LDIN	GTRA	DES. 1 Decrease-190 Workpeople.
Bradford		71	30 Nov.		190	Decrease of id. per hour (9\d. to 8\d.).
Barry		Bricklayers;	9 Nov.	112		Advance of 1d. per hour (81d. to 9d.).
Neath		Carpenters and Joiners	9 Nov.	50		Advance of ½d per hour (8d. to 8½d.).
		1 Increase-550 Workpeople.	COL	AL M	INING.	1 Decrease -150,000 Workpeople.
Durham		Surface Firemen at Coal Mines	9 and 16 Nov.	550		Advance in bisis wage. Wages after change 3s. 3d. per day for me working under 11 hours, and 3s. 6d. per day for those working 11 hours and over; previous rate 3s. 3d. per day of 12 hours.
South Wales at Monmouth		Coal Miners	ı Dec.		150,000	Decrease of 5 per cent., leaving wages 43\frac{3}{2} per cent. above the standard of December, 1879.
		1 Increase—69 Workpeople.	METAL	TRAD	ES.	1 Decrease -1,053 Workpeople,
Eston		Steel Workers	I Nov.		1,053	Decrease of 1 per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 17 per cent. above the standard.
Exeter	•••	Tinplate Workers	15 Oct.	69		Advance of rd. per hour (7d. to 8d.)
Yorkshire Scotland		Flint Glass Bottle Makers and Blowers Glass Bottle Makers, Blowers, and Gatherers (Pale and Dark Metal)	2 Nov. 23 Nov.		880	Decrease of from 6 to 7 per cent. in piece rates.  Decrease of 2s. per week off standard weekly rates and of 7½ per cent. of "overwork" rates. Standard weekly wages after change: Maker 33s. 6d.; Blowers, 3ts. 6d. (Pale Metal); 30s. 6d. (Dark Metal) Gatherers, 23s. 6d.
		4 Increases -115 Workpeople.	ВА	KING	TRAD	DE. Decreases—Nil.
irdrie			23 Nov.	56		Advance of is. per week. Minimum weekly rate after change 34s.
arrhead	•••	Bakers	2 Nov.	19		Advance of 1s. per week (3cs. to 31s.).
Vishaw		Bakers	26 Oct. 16 Nov.	28		Advance of is. per week (30s. to 31s.).  Advance of is. per week. Rates after change: Table Hands, 33s.  Doughmen and Second Hands, 35s. per week.
		3 Increases—133 Workpeople.	отн	ER T	RADES	3. 1 Decrease - 130 Workpeople.
eicester		Garment Pressers	17 Nov.	25	[	Advance of from 5 to 10 per cent. in piece rates.
lasgow		Lace Weavers	1 Oct.	28		Advance of $\chi_0^1$ d. per 1ack, stated to be equal to an average increase of about $2\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. in earnings.
undee		Jobbing Printers	4 Jan.	80		Advance of 1s. 6d. per week in minimum weekly wage (30s. to 31s. 6d
		Tailors	1903. 2 Nov.		130	Decrease of \d. per hour in "log" rates (5\d. and 6d. to 5d. and 5\d.).
		2 June 200 Washington CAR	LOYEES	OF	LOCA	L AUTHORITIES. Decreases - Nil.
		3 Increases—90 Workpeople. EMP	LUILL		100000000000000000000000000000000000000	
aisley			Oct.	16	***   1	Advance of 2s. per week (36s. to 38s.).
aisley		Automatic Meter Inspectors		16 33		Advance of 2s. per week (36s. to 38s.). Advance of 1s. per week. Wages after change—Refuse removers, per week: Stavengers—minimum, 15s., maximum, 22s. per week.

November were slightly lower than those in October, but they were sun considerably higher than those in October, but they were sun considerably higher than those in October, but they were sun considerably higher than the Employers, Trade Unions, and other parties concerned. 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 the changes in pay of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c. † Exclusive of agricultural labourers, seamen and fishermen and railway servants. In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information.

‡ See also under Changes in Hours of Labour, p. 350.

duration exceeded 100 working days.

In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information, making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information, the occupations printed in italies are those of workpeople "indirectly affected," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the dispute occurred, but not themselves on strike or locked-out. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.

## CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN NOVEMBER, 1903.

ONLY two changes in hours of labour were reported in November. At Bradford 935 mechanics and labourers in the employ of the Corporation had their working hours for eight weeks in winter reduced from 49½ to 44 on November 27th, and the average hours of 112 bricklayers\* at Barry were reduced 2 per week (54½ to 52½) on November 2nd.

# FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM. THE following statement has been communicated to the LABOUR GAZETTE by the Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

The trade returns for November, 1903, show an increase in the value as compared with the corresponding month of 1902 of the Imports into the United Kingdom, but a decrease in the value of Exports of British produce, and also of Exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

The value of the Imports in November, 1903, was £48,723,591, an increase of £3,605,535 or 8.0 per cent., as compared with those in November, 1902, whilst the total Exports amounted to £27,843,072, showing a decrease of £2,135,889. The Exports of British produce alone show a decrease of £1,610,445, or 6.5 per cent., as compared with November, 1902, and those of foreign and Colonial merchandise a decrease of £525,444, or 9.8 per cent.

Imports.†—The following Table shows the value of the Imports for November, 1903, as compared with the corresponding months of 1902 and 1901, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

	Mont	h of Nove	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-)	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-)	
	1901.	1902.	1903.	in 1903 as compared with 1902.	
I Food, Drink and	£	£	£	£	£
I Food, Drink and	19,647,310	19,194,644	21,211,538	+2,010,094	+1,504,220
Tobacco II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanu-	16,480,324	15,064,518	16,789,168	+1,724,650	+ 308,844
factured. III.—Articles wholly or					
mainly Manufactured.  IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)	180,023	179,265	202,097	+ 22,832	+ 22,074
Total value of Imports	46.810,553	45,118,056	48,723,591	+3,605,535	+1,913,038

Exports.;—The following Table shows the value of the Exports of British produce for the month of November, 1903, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1902 and 1901, and the increase or decrease in each single enterprise.

	Mont	h of Nove	ember.	or Dec. (-) in 1903 as	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1903 as		
	1901.	1902.	1903.	compared with 1902.	compared with 1901.		
The state of the s	1	£	£	£	£		
IFood, Drink, and	1,645,939	1,848,615	1,660,548	- 188,067	+ 14,609		
II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Un-	2,750,648	3,179,491	2,886,383	- 293,108	+ 135,735		
III Articles wholly or							
mainly Manufactured IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)	507,014	406,674	399,809	- 6,865	- 107,205		
Total value of Ex- ports of British	22,842,436	24,648,238	23,037,793	-1,610,445	+ 195,357		

Tonnage of Ships entered and cleared with Cargoes.

—The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the month ended November, 1903, amounted to 3,467,771 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,944,370 tons, as against 3,079,042 tons entered and 3,814,271 tons cleared in the month of November, 1902.

\* See also under Changes in Rates of Wages.

† The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance and freight; or, when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

† The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during November, 1903, amounted to 2,622,999 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,562,180 tons, as against 2,570,153 tons entered, and 2,521,850 tons cleared in November, 1902.

#### EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The number of passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during November was 25,588, as compared with 29,541 in November, 1902. Comparing the eleven completed months of 1903 with the corresponding period of 1902, there is an increase of 64,992 passengers, viz., from 367,124 in 1902 to 432,116 in 1903.

British and Irish.—Of the 25,588 passengers in November, 14,477 were of British or Irish origin, a decrease of 1,154 as compared with a year ago. For the eleven completed months of 1903 the total number was 252,402, as compared with 196,727 in the corresponding period of last year, an increase of 55,675, which is more than accounted for by an increase of 34,653 passengers to British North America, of 14,809 to the United States, and of 7,468 to British South Africa.

The following Table gives the number of British and Irish passengers in the different periods:—

Destination. (Country in which passengers	Nov.,	Nov.,		or eleven s ended
contracted to land.)	1903.	1902.	Nov., 1903.	Nov., 1902.
British Empire: British North America	1,630 1,377 3,633 678 495	980 (1,604 5,384 768 454	60,058 11,511 48,055 4,089 3,854	25,405 13,369 40,587 3,966 3,743
Total, British Empire	7,813	9,190	127,567	87,070
Foreign Countries: United States Other Foreign Countries	6,124 540	6,026 415	119,907	105,098
Total, Foreign Countries	6,664	6,441	124,835	109,657
Grand Total	14,477	15,631	252,402	196,72

Foreign.—The remainder of the 25,588 passengers in November, viz., 11,111, were foreigners or other persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being 2,799 less than in November, 1902. For the eleven completed months of 1903, the number of such passengers was 179,714, of whom 123,584 were bound for the United States, 36,823 forBritish North America, and 11,717 for British South Africa. In the corresponding period of 1902 the number was 170,397, of whom 118.448 were bound for the United States, 38,214 for British North America, and 6,810 for British South Africa.

Alien Immigration.—During November, 13,432 aliens arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent. Of these, 6,449 were stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to places out of the United Kingdom, a decrease of 1,118 as compared with November, 1902. Those not stated to be on their way to places out of the United Kingdom numbered 5,851 (exclusive of seamen), a decrease of 426, as compared with a year ago. The figures for November, 1903 and 1902, and also for the eleven months ended November in each year, are as follows;—

A COLOR OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	Nov., 1903.	Nov., 1902.	Total for eleven months ended		
			Nov., 1903.	Nov., 1902.	
Aliens not stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to other countries	1,132 5,851	1,056 6,277	12,505 64,275	14,232 61,776	
Aliens stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to other countries	6,449	7,567	121,418	112,879	
Total	13,432	14,900	198,198	188,887	

#### MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 20 of the principal railway companies of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended December 5th amounted to £6,777,827, a decrease of £75,911 (or 1'1 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1902. The receipts from passenger traffic were £2,615,609, a decrease of £17,966 as compared with a year ago, and those from goods and mineral traffic £4,162,218, a decrease of £57,945.

Bankruptcies.—The bankruptcies gazetted during November numbered 337, being 8 less than in November, 1902, 85 less than in November, 1901, and 74 less than in November, 1900.

## WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACTS—APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE.

December, 1903.

A DEPARTMENTAL Committee has been appointed by the Home Secretary to inquire and report what amendments in the law relating to compensation for injuries to workmen are necessary or desirable; and to what classes of employments not now included in the Workmen's Compensation Acts, those Acts can properly be extended with or without modification.

The Committee consists of Sir Kenelm Digby, K.C.B.

The Committee consists of Sir Kenelm Digby, K.C.B. (chairman), His Honour Judge Lumley Smith, Sir Benjamin Browne, Captain A. J. G. Chalmers (Board of Trade), and Mr. George N. Barnes (Secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers). Mr. R. R. Bannatyne, of the Home Office, is Secretary.

REGULATIONS FOR DOCKS, WHARVES, QUAYS, &c. The Secretary of State for the Home Department, in pursuance of Section 81 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, has appointed Mr. Chester Jones, Barrister at Law, of 1, Paper Buildings, Temple, to hold an inquiry with regard to the draft regulations for docks, wharves, quays, &c., published in pursuance of Section 80 of that Act. The inquiry, which is a public one, will be opened at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, London, on Tuesday, January 26th, 1904, at 11 a.m., and any person who has objected to the draft regulations and any other person who, in the opinion of the person holding the inquiry, is affected by the draft regulations may appear either in person or by counsel, solicitor or agent.

## WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN NOVEMBER.

During November 779 fresh applications for work were registered by seven Bureaux furnishing returns, and 599 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 205 persons, of whom 97 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps).

Compared with the previous month the number of fresh applications for domestic servants fell from 604 to 420, and the number of servants applying fell from 459 to 398; the number permanently engaged fell from 94 to 77. The demand for dressmakers, milliners, etc., fell from 69 to 53, and the number requiring such situations fell from 107 to 92; the number engaged through the Bureaux was 49, compared with 53 in October.

The Returns for the Manchester, Liverpool and Edinburgh Bureaux are for the present grouped together in the following Table, which shows the work done by the seven Bureaux during November compared with a month and a year ago:—

### WORK DONE IN NOVEMBER.

No. of

The state of the s	Fresh Situations offered by	plications of Work- people	Workpeople engaged by Employers.				
	Employers.	seeking Situations.	Permanently.	Tem- porarily			
Committee on the County	Summary by Bureaux.						
Central Bureau— g, Southampton-street, W.C Society for Promoting Training and Employment—	59	. 80	15	4			
22, Berners-street, W Y.W.C.A.—	29	40	5	21			
26, George-street (1) Hanover-square, W. (2)	405 62	453 150	72 24	16 27			
Other Bureaux	44	56	19	2			
Total of 7 Bureaux	599	779	135	70			
for a superior establishment	Sum	mary by Oc	cupation	15.			
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc	19	ит	4	_			
Shop Assistants	4	22	-	I			
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc	53	92	<sup>23</sup> 6	26			
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists	35	69		9			
Domestic Servants	17	398	7	I 20			
Miscellaneous	5I	146	77	3			
Total Number in Nov., 1903	599	779	135	60			
Total Number in Oct., 1903	801	911	168	84			
Total Number in Nov., 1902	602	744	158	69			

#### LABOUR BUREAUX IN NOVEMBER.

At the six Bureaux, which were in operation in 1902 and 1903, 1,785 fresh applications for work were registered during November, 1903, as compared with 2,131 during November, 1902. These Bureaux found work for 672 persons during November, 1903, of whom 565 were engaged by private employers. In November, 1902, private employers engaged 551 persons out of a total of 695 found work through the Bureaux. The number of workpeople remaining on the registers at the end of November, 1903, was 1,155, as compared with 1,164 a year ago.

Seven other Bureaux, which were not in operation a year ago, also furnished returns, including the Southampton Bureau, opened on 1st October, and the Kensington Borough Bureau, opened on 2nd November.

Altogether, at the thirteen Bureaux included in the Tables below, 3,211 fresh applications for work were registered during November, 1903, and work was found for 896 persons. The number of workpeople remaining on the registers at the end of the month was 3,262, including 2,577 men and boys, and 685 women and girls.

#### (I.) Work done in November.

	No. of Fresh Applica- tions by Workpeople during		No. of Situa- tions offered by Employers during		No. of Workpeople found Work by Bureau.			
Name of Labour Bureau.					Engaged by Private Employers.		Engaged by Local Authorities.	
70	Nov., 1903.	Nov., 1902.	Nov., 1903.	Nov., 1902.	Nov., 1903.	Nov.,	Nov., 1903.	Nov.,
London. Battersea (Lavender Hill,	187	168	23	15	23	15		
S.W.) Salvation Army (Whitechapel Rd,E.)	801	1,047	380	346	{277 103*	210 136*	}	
Provincial.								
Ipswich (Tower Street)	61	60	39	51	19	31		
Plymouth (Basket Street)	146	203	84	123	80	119		
Liverpool (Dale Street)	101	156	1	2		I	1	1
Glasgow (158, George Street)	489	497	598	510	166	175	3	7
Total of 6 Bureaux	1,785	2,131	1,125	1,047	{ 565 103*	551 136*	} 4	8
London.					89-			
St. Pancras (Crowndale Rd., N.W.)	225	+	41	†	39	+	28	t
Finsbury (Rosebery Av., E.C.)	116	+	58	†	52	+	1	†
Southwark (Borough Rd., S.E.)	156	†	8	+	4	†		†
Westminster	160	+	114	+	53	†		†
(Caxton Hall, S.W.) Hammersmith	55	+	8	+	7	+		†
(Gt. Church Lane, W) Kensington (Lancaster Rd., W.)	633	+	19	+	15	+	5	†
Provincial. Southampton (23, High Street)	81	†	29	+	5	†	15	†
Total of 13 Bureaux	3,211		1,402		{740 103*		} 53	

#### (II.) Employment found for Workpeople during November.

14 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	No. per- manently engaged.	No. tem- porarily engaged.	Total.
Engaged by Private Employers.			The state of
Men:-			
Building Trades	17 28	25	42
Carmen, Stablemen, Horsemen, &c			38
Porters and Messengers	32	22	54
Bill Distributors, &c	_	268	268
General Labourers	14	- 130	14
Other Occupations	28	7 28	35 87
Lads and Boys	59	28	87
Women and Girls:—		No. of the same	
Domestic Servants	80	18	98
Charwomen, daily work, &c	13	61	74
Other Occupations	21	9	30
Total engaged by Private Employers	292	448	740
			-
Engaged by Local Authorities.		The state of the	
Men, Lads and Boys	5	48	53
Women and Girls	The same	The state of the state of	-
Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities.		Alleria Control	
Men	-	103	103
	007		
Grand Total for 13 Bureaux	297	599	698

\*Engaged by Salvation Army. + Bureau was not in operation in November, 1902

## PAUPERISM IN NOVEMBER.

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

THE number of paupers relieved in 35 selected Urban Districts of the United Kingdom on one day in November was 359,289, corresponding to a rate of 212 per 10,000 of the estimated population of these districts in 1903.

Compared with October, there was an increase of 9,848 in the number relieved, and of 6 in the rate per 10,000 of the population. With the exception of Glasgow, where there is a small decrease, and Bolton, Oldham, &c., where no change is indicated, every district shows an increased rate. The greatest increases occur in Central London (16 per 10,000), and Galway (14).

Compared with November, 1902, the number of persons relieved, has increased by 10,995, and the rate per 10,000 by 4. Increases are shown in twenty-four districts, the rate of increase being greatest in Leicester (29 per 10,000), North Staffordshire (23), East London (16), Bolton, Oldham, &c., and Nottingham (15 each). Decreases are shown in nine districts, the most marked falling off being in Cork, Waterford and Limerick (19 per 10,000), Stockton and Tees (16), and Galway (13).

	Paupers on one day in second week of November, 1903.					Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000		
Selected Urban Districts.	In-	Out-	TOTAL.	Rate per 10,000 of	of Population as compared with			
	door.	door.	20110	Esti- mated Popula- tion.	A month ago.	A year ago.		
ENGLAND & WALES.*		P. T						
Metropolis.		47-		100	2			
West District	11,376	3,309	14,685	179 224	+ 7 + 5	+ 5 + 2		
C I District	7,016	2,885	9,901	489	+ 16	- 6		
East District	14,254	5,672	19,926	278	+ 10	+ 16		
South District	23,778	18,932	42,710	238	+ 10	- I		
Total Metropolis	71,821	39,260	111,081	242	+. 9	+ 3		
West Ham	3,201	9,655	12,856	206	+ 12	- I		
Other Districts.					1	No. of		
Newcastle District	1,937	4,680	6,617	159	+ 5	+ 13		
Stockton & Tees District	1,177	3,770	4,947	235	+ 4	- 16		
Bolton, Oldham, &c	4,067	8,633	12,700	169		+ 15		
Wigan District Manchester District	1.972	6,219 8,625	8,191	209 196	+ 1 + 9	+ 1		
wit I District	9,442	8,570	18,067	198	+ 9 + 6	+ 7 + 8		
Bradford District	1,595	2,771	4,366	121	+ 4	+ 4		
Halifax & Huddersfield	1,208	3.745	4,953	136	+ 2	+ 3		
Leeds District	2,178	6.116	8,294	179	+ 8	+ 6		
Barnsley District	666	2,853	3,519	151	+ 5			
Sheffield District	3,025	3,548	6,573	156	+ 3	+ 6		
Hull District	1,501	5,033	6,534	247	+ 6	- 7		
North Staffordshire	2,060	7,362	9,422	258	+ 6	+ 23		
Nottingham District	1,973	5,387	7.360	185	+ 7	+ 15		
Leicester District	1,285	3,582	4,867	223	+ 5	+ 29		
Wolverhampton District Birmingham District	3,465	12,610	16,076	255 142	+ 3 + 4	-		
Bristol District	4,791 2,773	3,282 6,701	9,474	251	+ 4 + 3	+ 3		
Cardiff & Swansea	1,799	7,620	9,419	261	+ 5	- 3		
Total "Other Districts"	58,198	111,107	169.305	194	+ 5	+ (		
SCOTLAND.*	1,30		111					
Glasgow District	4,406	16,924	21,330	227	- I	+		
Paisley & Greenock District Edinburgh & Leith District	715	2,465	3,180	185	+ 9	+ 1		
Dundee & Dunfermline	1,706	5,474 2,830	7,180	196	+ 2 + 2	+		
Aberdeen	583	2,832	3,415	214	+ 3	+		
Coatbridge & Airdrie	328	1,297	1,625	176	+ 8	·		
Total for the above Scottish Districts	8,763	31,822	40,585	208	+ 2	+		
IRELAND.	1	BEST AND	THE REAL PROPERTY.	1	1			
Dublin District	7,093	4.739	11,832	307	+ 11	+		
Belfast District	3,480	213	3,693	96	+ 3	+		
Cork, Waterford & Limerick	4,472	4.787	9,259	376	+ 5	- 1		
District } Galway District	380	298	678	183	+ 14	- 1		
Total for the above Irish Districts	15,425	10,037	25,462	242	+ 7	-		
	1000000	CARGO.	and the state of t	THE PERSON NAMED IN		2000		

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

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

INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN NOVEMBER. (Based on information supplied to the Department by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.)

(I) REGISTERED.

THE total number of Industrial Unions and Societies registered in November was as follows: Under the Trade Union Acts, 4; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 10; under the Friendly Societies Act, 55 (including 32 branches of existing societies); under the

Building Societies Acts, 5; in all 74.

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

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—4, viz., Bristol Cartowners and Warehouse Keepers' Association, 2, Queen Anne's Buildings, Baldwin-street, Bristol; Peterborough and District Brick Manufacturers' Association, Bentinck Buildings, Wheeler-gate, Nottingham; Leeds Wholesale Fruit Merchants' Association, 340, Kirkgate Market, Leeds; Long Eaton and District Amalgamated Society of Bobbin Carriage Comb Dropper Box and Steel Bar Makers, Railway Hotel, Station-street, Long Eaton, co. Derby. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—England and Wales.—
Co-operative Societies, mainly for Distribution.—I, viz., Honiton
Indus. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., High-street, Honiton. Co-operative Indus. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., High-street, Honiton. Co-operative Societies, mainly for Production.—I, viz., South Western Labour Journal Association, Ltd., 4, Princess-street, Ope, Plymouth. Miscellaneous Societies.—I. Scotland.—Miscellaneous Societies, 1. Ireland.—Co-operative Agricultural Societies.—6, viz., Mill. town Ballynacargy Co-op. Agric., Milltown, co. Westmeath; Clonduff Co-op. Agric. and Dairy, Hilltown, Newry, co. Down; Newcastle Co-op. Agric. and Dairy, Newcastle Clonmel, co. Tipperary; Berrings Co-op. Agric. and Dairy, Berrings, Inniscarra, co. Cork; Glen Co-op. Agric. and Dairy, Glangevlin, Carrick-on-Shannon, co. Leitrim; Donalong Co-op. Agric. and Dairy, Bready, Strabane, co. Tyrone.

Agric. and Dairy, Bready, Strabane, co. Tyrone.

Friendly Societies. — England and Wales. — 20, viz., Plymouth Working Men's Constitutional Club, Ope, Plymouth; Birchall Memorial Inst., Upton St. Leonards, Gloucester; Shaw District M.U. Oddfellows Social Inst., Shaw, Lancs.; Garment Workers' Working Men's Club, London, E.; Thorpe Working Men's Club and Inst., Thorpe, Wakefield; Crosland Moor Working Men's Club, Crosland Moor, Huddersfield; Kensit Protestant Benefit Soc., Liverpool; Gorton Humane Burial Soc., Gorton, Manchester; National Book Trade Provident Soc., Manchester; Official Temperance Advocates Friendly Soc., Liverpool; Lovers of Israel Sick Benefit and Friendly Soc., London, E.; Achei Tov Benefit Soc., London, E.C.; Beaumont Sick Benefit and Dividing Soc., London, W.; Beaumont Sick Benefit and Dividing Soc., London, W. Truth and Faith Benefit and Divisional Soc., London, E. Loyal Feeling Heart Lodge Juvenile Friendly Soc., Lodden Norwich; Yew Tree Brotherhood Friendly Soc., Lodden, Norwich; Yew Tree Brotherhood Friendly Sick and Dividend Soc., Witton, Birmingham; Gibb Heath Friendly Sick and Dividend Soc., Hockley, Birmingham; Alverthorpe Friendly Sick and Dividing Soc., Alverthorpe, Wakefield; Bowling Green Tontine Soc., Wrexham; Cadwgan Friendly Soc., Old Colwyn, Colwyn Bay. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—3, viz., Carrignavar Agric. Bank, Carrignavar, co. Cork; Drominted Agric. Bank, Dromintee, co. Armagh; Valentia Island Agric. Bank, Valentia Island, co. Kerry.

(2) DISSOLVED.

The total number of Industrial Unions and Societies reported as having commenced to "wind-up," or had registration cancelled in November was as follows:-Under the Trade Union Acts, 4; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 9; under the Friendly Societies Act, 53 (including 13 branches of Societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 21; in all 87.

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

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN ACT, 1903. HOME OFFICE

CIRCULAR. The Employment of Children Act 1903 (see LABOUR GAZETTE for October, p. 270) confers certain powers upon Local Authorities, and the Home Office has issued a Circular to County Councils, Councils of Urban Districts with population exceeding 20,000 and Town Councils where the population exceeds 10,000. The Circular calls attention to the Act and explains generally its object and scope. Accompanying the Circular is a copy of the Act and a copy of specimen bye-laws It is stated that the specimen bye-laws have lrawn up so as to indicate the kind of restrictions which may be imposed and the form which the bye-laws may take, without dealing with the question of the occupations to which they should apply, and that they are intended only for the assistance of the Local Authority and are not recommended for adoption in any or every case.

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