# LABOUR GAZETTE

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

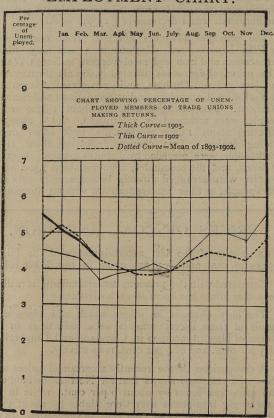
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## EMPLOYMENT CHART.



# STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN MARCH.

[Based on 3,268 returns, viz.: 2,046 from Employers, or the Associations, 1,157 from Workmen and Trade Unions, and 65 from other sources.]

EMPLOYMENT was on the whole better in March than in February, owing partly to seasonal improvements in certain industries, but it continues to be worse than a

In the 226 Trade Unions, with an aggregate membership of 559,129 making returns, 24,096 (or 4.3 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of March, as compared with 4.8 per cent. in February, and 3.7 per cent. in the 224 Trade Unions, with a membership of 551,270 from which returns were received for March, 1902. The mean percentage of unemployed returned at the end of March during the past decade was 4.3.

Employment in various Industries.—Coal Mining .-Employment in the four weeks ended March 21st showed a slight falling off both as compared with a month ago and a year ago. At collieries employing 500,701 work-people, the pits worked on an average 5:10 days per week, as compared with 5.28 a month ago and 5.35 a year ago. The number of workpeople employed at the pits for which returns have been received for both periods was 1.6 per cent. greater than a year ago.

Iron Mining.—Iron miners continue well employed.

In the 134 mines and open works covered by the

returns received, 15,882 workpeople were employed, the average number of days worked by the mines in the four weeks ended March 21st being 5.79, the same average as for a month and a year ago. The number of workpeople employed was greater by 3'I per cent. than in the corresponding period of last year.

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment in this industry shows little change compared with a month ago, and is better than a year ago. Returns relating to the works of 113 ironmasters show that 328 furnaces, employing about 22,600 workpeople, were in blast at the end of March, as compared with 329 in February, and 320 in March,

Iron and Steel Manufacture.—In this industry employment is about the same as in February, but is worse than a year ago. At 201 works covered by the employers' returns, 73,587 workpeople were employed in the week ended March 28th, and the total volume of employment (taking into account both the number of white worked) shows a employed and the number of shifts worked) shows a decrease of 0.4 per cent. compared with February, 1903, and of 2.1 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Tinplate Manufacture.—Employment in this industry continues good. At the end of March 389 mills were working, as compared with 395 at the end of February, and 397 a year ago. The number of workpeople employed at the mills in operation was about 19,400.

Engineering Trades.—Employment generally is moderate, and better than a month and a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of March was 4.6, as compared with 5.1 at the end of February, and 5.2 in March, 1902.

Shipbuilding Trades.— Employment has improved slightly, but is still bad and much worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of March was 9.8, as compared with 10.4 in February and 4.2 in March, 1902.

Building Trades.—Employment shows a slight improvement compared with a month ago, and is not much worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members among Carpenters and Joiners was 3'4 at the end of March, compared with 5'0 in the previous month, and 4'4 in March, 1902. The percentage for Plumbers was 7'5 at the end of March, as compared with 8.2 in February, and 5.2 in March of last year.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades. — Employment continues dull with millsawyers, coopers and coachmakers; in the furnishing trades it has improved. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of March was 4.1, compared with 5.6 in February, and 3.4 in March, 1902.

Employment in the Printing and Bookbinding trades has been quiet, and shows little change on the whole compared with a month ago. As compared with a year ago it is worse in all branches. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of March was 4.2, compared with 4.6 at the end of February, and 3.4 a year ago.

Employment in the Paper trade has been fairly good, the percentage of unemployed Trade Union members being 2.6, as against 2.0 a month ago and 1.8 in March, 1902.

Employment in the Spinning branch of the Cotton trade continues good, and is better than last month and a year ago. In the Weaving branch it is fair; it has slightly declined as compared with February, but is still better than a year ago. Information respecting cotton factories employing about 96,400 women and girls shows that 94 per cent. of those in spinning mills were working in mills giving full employment during the whole month, compared with 91 per cent. in February and 88 per cent. in March, 1902. The corresponding percentage of full time for those employed in weaving factories was 82 during March, compared with the same percentage in February and 77 per cent. a year ago.

Employment in the Woollen trade is fairly good, and about the same as a year ago, except in the heavy branch which is not so good. In the Worsted trade it has declined in the wool combing branch, but is fairly good in other branches. Information respecting woollen and worsted factories in Yorkshire employing about 28,000 women and girls shows that 85 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment, compared with 84 per cent. in February, and with 92 per cent. in March, 1902.

Employment in the *Hosiery* trade is fair, but shows a decline compared with a month and a year ago. Employment in the *Flax* trade continues good. It is fairly good in the *Jute* trade.

Leather Trades.—The general condition of employment remains dull and worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members was 6·3 at the end of March, as compared with 6·8 in February, and 2·5 in March, 1902.

Employment in the *Boot* and *Shoe* trade continues quiet, being much the same as in February, but better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing about 72,000 workpeople show an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed at the end of March, as compared with a month ago, and of 4.8 per cent. as compared with a year ago. Of the total number, 78 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 76 per cent. among those for whom returns were received for February.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the *Tailoring* trade has generally improved, and is fairly good. In the ready-made branch it has been fairly good during the month, but is beginning to show a decline.

Employment in the *Hat-making* trade continues dull. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of March was 2.9, compared with the same percentage in February, and 2.7 per cent. a year ago.

Enployment with Agricultural Labourers was not so good during March as in the previous month, work having been interrupted by bad weather, especially in the western counties of England, and many casual labourers are stated to have been in irregular work from

Dock and Riverside Labour.—Employment was generally dull in March, and in London it was bad. It was a little better than in the previous month, but worse than in the corresponding month of last year. During the four weeks ended March 28th the number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves in London averaged 12,703, compared with 12,373 in the preceding four weeks, and 14,182 in the corresponding period a year ago. The average number employed in March during the six years 1897-1902 was 14,477.

Trade Disputes.—The total number of workpeople involved in disputes which began or were in progress during March, 1903, was 19,665, compared with 13,186 in February, 1903, and 10,150 in March, 1902. The aggregate duration of all the disputes of the month, new and old, amounted to 233,700 working days, compared with 191,900 in the previous month, and 95,700 in the corresponding month of last year.

Thirty-one disputes began in March, involving 9,784 are taken into consideration by the Conditional determining the rate of wages of the miners

workpeople, compared with 3,658 in February, 1903, and 6,285 in March, 1902.

Definite results were reported during the month in the case of 25 disputes, new and old, affecting 10,421 workpeople. Of these 25 disputes, 3, involving 432 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 14, involving 7,110 persons, in favour of the employers, and 8, involving 2,879 persons, were compromised.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes in rates of wages reported during March affected about 39,200 workpeople, of whom about 21,400 received advances and 17,800 sustained decreases. The net effect of all the changes was a decrease of £15 per week. The changes of the previous month affected 146,300 workpeople, the net result being a decrease of £886 weekly. During March, 1902, the number affected was nearly 198,500, and the net result was a decrease of £13,590 weekly.

The principal advances affected 14,000 coal miners in Fife, Kinross, and Clackmannan, and 6,250 blast-furnacemen and iron and steel workers in South Wales. The principal decreases affected 5,500 blastfurnacemen in Cleveland and Durham, and 4,200 glass bottle makers in Yorkshire, Lancashire, and at Sunderland and Seaham Harbour. Two changes, affecting about 15,000 workpeople, were arranged by arbitration, and 9 changes, affecting about 15,200 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. Two changes, affecting about 1,500 workpeople, were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work, and the remainder, affecting about 7,500 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives, without stoppage.

### PRICES OF COAL AND IRON.

THE results of the last ascertainments of the selling prices of coal and iron are given in the Table below.

Compared with the previous ascertainments it will be seen that prices are lower in each district.

The only changes in wages which took place as a result of these ascertainments were reductions in the wages of blastfurnacemen in Cleveland and Cumberland of 3 per cent. and of ½ per cent. respectively.

A comparison of the recently ascertained prices with those of a year ago shows that for Northumberland coal the price was lower by about 6 per cent., while in the case of pig iron prices they were higher by about 3 per cent. in Cumberland and 7 per cent. in Cleveland. In the manufactured iron trades the variation shown is slight, prices being practically the same in both periods.

Product and	Period covered		ned average rice per tor		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) of last Audit as compared with		
District.	by last Audit.	Last Audit.*	Previous Audit.	A Year ago.	Previous Audit.	A Year ago.	
Coal. Northumberland:  (Average for all classes of coal at pit's mouth)	Dec Feb.	s. d. 7 3'06	s. d. 7 3'65	s. d. 7 8.19	s. d. -0 0'59	s d.	
Pig Iron. Cumberland Cleveland	Jan Mar.	{ 59 4.92 47 2.81		57 6·82	-o 6.40 -2 4.28	+1 10.10	
Manufact'r'd Iron North of England:- (Rails, plates, bars and angles)	1	124 3'33	125 1'54	125 2'23	-0 10.51	-o 10.0	
Midlands:— (Bars, angles, tees hoops, sheets, plates and strips, &c.)	Jan Feb.	137 11 '94	139 8:28	137 10.14	_I 8:34	+0 1.8	
West of Scotland:- (Rounds, squares flats, angles, tees hoops and rods)	11	125 5'50	127 3'29	125 0.18	-I 9'79	+0 5'3	

\* Under the various sliding scale agreements, changes in wages, if any, resulting from these audits take place in the pig iron industry immediately after the period to which the audit relates, while in the manufactured iron trades they follow one month later. In Northumberland there is no sliding scale, but the ascertainments are taken into consideration by the Coal Trade Conciliation Board when determining the rate of wages of the miners.

WAGES AGREEMENT IN THE SOUTH WALES COAL TRADE.

April, 1903.

On July 1st, 1902, six months' notice was given by the South Wales Miners' Federation to the Monmouthshire and South Wales Coal Owners' Association for the termination of the Sliding Scale Agreement of 1898. The workmen desired that a minimum and maximum wage should be fixed, and that a Conciliation Board should be established to determine the general rate of wages, in place of the sliding scale, under which wages followed automatically the selling price of coal.

A committee of representatives of employers and workmen was appointed to deal with the arrangements to regulate wages after December 31st, 1902, the first conference being held on November 4th. A temporary arrangement was arrived at on November 15th that the conditions prevailing during December, 1902, at the associated collieries should continue until an agreement was arrived at, or, failing that, until the expiration of one month from the first day of the calendar month following the breaking off of the negotiations.

After prolonged negotiations an agreement was drawn up and was signed on March 31st. The principal provisions made by this agreement (which is to remain in force until the end of 1905) are as follows:—

"I.—That a Board of Conciliation shall be established to determine the general rate of wages to be paid to the workmen and to deal with disputes at the various collieries of the owners, subject to the conditions hereinafter mentioned.

2.—The title of the Board shall be "The Board of Conciliation for the Coal Trade of Monmouthshire and South Wales," hereinafter called "The Board,"

3.—The Board shall consist of 24 duly authorised Owners' Representatives and 24 duly authorised Representatives of the Workmen employed at the Collieries of the Owners, and when dealing with questions relating to general advances or general reductions in the rate of wages also of a Chairman from outside who shall not be financially interested in any coal mine in the United Kingdom and who shall have a casting vote only.

4.—. . . . When and so often as the office of Chairman becomes vacant the Board shall endeavour to elect a chairman, and should they fail to agree, will ask the Lord Chief Justice of England for the time being, or in case of his refusal, the Speaker of the House of Commons, to nominate one.

5.—The parties to this Agreement pledge their respective constituents to make every effort possible to avoid difficulties or disputes at the collieries and in case of any unavoidable difference the owners or their officials together with their workmen or their agent or agents shall endeavour to settle all matters at the collieries and only in case of failing to effect a settlement shall a written appeal be made to the Board by either or both of the parties concerned in the dispute to consider the same and no notice to terminate contracts shall be given by either owners or their workmen before the particular question in dispute shall have been considered by the Board and it shall have failed to arrive at an agreement. Board shall have power to refer such questions to a committee con sisting of one or more owners' representatives and an equal number of workmen's representatives all of whom shall be members of the Board to consider and if so directed with power to settle and in all cases to report either a settlement or a failure to agree to the Board. within three calendar months from the date of the reference to such Committee, and should the Board then fail to arrive at an Agreement within one month, or any extended period that may be agreed upon by the Board, either party may give notice to terminate Contracts.

7.—The Mineral to be gotten is clean large coal only, as hereinafter described.

The cutting prices to be paid to the Collier shall be the several standard prices prevailing and paid at the Collieries of the Owners respectively.

Such standard cutting price shall be paid upon the weight of the large coal to be ascertained in manner hereinafter appearing and includes all services in respect of the small coal necessarily produced in filling the large coal in conveying it from the working places to the screen at the surface and in the process of screening that price being equal to the value of all the services involved in getting such large coal and small coal and being more than the value of the services rendered in respect of the large coal only."

The respective weights of such large coal and small coa

for the purpose of paying the collier are to be ascertained in the manner specified in detail in the Agreement.

ro.—The Board shall at the meetings held under Rule 6 of the said rules of procedure determine the general rate of wages to be paid for the three months commencing on the first day of the month following the dates of such meetings, but should neither party desire to vary the rate of wages, the then prevailing rate of wages shall continue until the same shall be varied in accordance with the said rules of procedure

(a) All standard rates and prices shall be the standards known as the Standards of December 1879 and 1877 respectively.

(b) The wages payable to the workmen shall as from the date of this Agreement and until the same shall be advanced or reduced by the Board, be 48<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> per cent. above the several rates actually paid at the respective Collieries under the Standard of December, 1879.

(c) During the continuance of this Agreement the rate of wages shall, subject to sub-section (d) hereof, not be less than 30 per cent, above nor more than 60 per cent above the December 1879 Standard of wages paid at the respective Collieries, and in considering any proposal for an alteration in the general rate of wages the said minimum of 30 per cent. shall for that purpose be considered as equivalent to such an average nett selling price per ton of large coal not being less than 11s. 3d. nor more than 12s. 3d. as shall be forthwith determined by an independent person to be agreed upon by the parties or failing an agreement to be nominated by the Lord Chief Justice of England, or in case of his refusal, by the Speaker of the House o Commons. Such average nett selling price shall be taken as for large colliery screened coal, delivered f.o.b. at Cardiff, Barry, Newport, Swansea, and Llanelly.

(d) At collieries where the standard or basis upon which wages are now regulated is the rate of wages paid in the year 1877 the percentage payable thereat shall be 15 per cent. less than at the collieries where the 1879 Standard prevails provided that in cases where workmen have hitherto been paid nett rates of wages or fixed or other percentages whether upon the 1877, 1879 Standards or any other existing standards they shall continue to be paid such nett rates, fixed or other percentages only.

12.—A question having been raised by the owners as to the prices to be charged to workmen entitled to house coal for their own domestic purposes, it is agreed that the coal field shall be divided into not more than 10 sections, to be settled by the two chairmen and secretaries of the committee negotiating this Agreement; or failing them by a third party to be nominated by them in advance, such division to be settled not later than April 30th, 1903.

The prices to be paid for house coal in the various sections shall be first considered by the Board, and in the event of their failing to agree by the 30th May, 1903, shall be fixed by the person to be appointed under Clause 10, sub-section c of this Agreement, who shall give his decision not later than June 30th, 1903,

In fixing the prices to be paid regard shall be had to the cost of production, the origin and conditions under which coal has been supplied to the workmen hitherto, also the quantity and quality of the same, and the period of supply in the different sections.

15.—Nothing in the Clauses of this Agreement or in the Rules of Procedure is to preclude either party bringing any matters before the Board or Independent Chairman, which they consider as factors bearing upon the General Wage Question, but any evidence brought forward as to the selling price of coal shall be confined to the three calendar months immediately preceding the first day of the month in which the meeting is held."

The Rules of Procedure of the Board, which form part of this Agreement, provide as follows:—

"5.—The Board shall meet once at least in each month for the purpose of dealing with difficulties or disputes arising at the several Collieries and referred to in Clauses 5 and 14 of the foregoing Agreement and the same shall be dealt with by the Board without reference to the Chairman. The Secretaries shall give to each Member of the Board five days' notice of the intention to hold any such meeting and of the business to be transacted thereat.

6.—Should there be a desire by either party to vary the rate of wages the Board shall meet to consider the same on the 14th day of the months of February, May, August and November in every year (except where the 14th day of any of the said months falls on a Sunday when the meeting shall be held on the following day) to determine the general rate of wages to be paid for the three months commencing on the first day of the month next following the date

of such meetings. Either party intending to propose at such meetings any alteration in the general rate of wages shall 10 days before the said 14th day of the months of February, May, August and November for holding such meetings give to the Secretary of the other party notice in writing of the proposition intended to be made and of the grounds thereof and the Secretaries shall enter such intended proposition and the grounds thereof on the Agenda to the notice convening the meeting. The Secretaries shall send to each member of the Board 7 days' notice of each such meeting and of the business to be transacted thereat.

At all such last-mentioned meetings the questions to be dealt with thereat shall in the first instance be considered by the Board, it being the desire and intention of the parties to settle any differences which may arise by friendly conference if possible. If the parties on the Board cannot agree then the meeting shall be adjourned for a period not exceeding seven days to which adjourned meeting the Chairman shall be summoned and shall attend and preside thereat, when the questions in difference shall be again discussed by the parties, and in the event of their failing to arrive at an agreement with regard thereto, the Chairman either at such meeting or within seven days thereafter shall give his casting vote on such questions, and the parties shall be bound thereby.''

# PRICE OF BREAD, WHEAT AND FLOUR. BREAD.

The returns as to the price of bread furnished by the Local Correspondents of the Department relate to London and 25 large Provincial Towns at the beginning of April and of each of the twelve preceding months. Though it is not possible to state that the quality of the 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 ordinary household bread of average quality.

As compared with a month ago the price per 4 lbs. has remained unchanged in all the towns given in the following Table, with the exception of Aberdeen, where an advance of ½d. per 4 lbs. has taken place. On the other hand, the price of the cheaper qualities of bread in London has shown a slightly downward tendency.

and the same			Pric	ce of 4 lb	s. of Bre	ead.		TOWN COLD	
Place.	enzas go.	v Felling	1902.	on the	THE PARTY		1903.	Sellini Selons	
The solid	ıst April.	5th May.	ıst July.*	ıst Sept.*	ıst Oct.	2nd Feb.*	2nd Mar.	2nd April.	
THE REAL PROPERTY.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d 41 & 5	d.	d.	
London	31 to 41	4 & 41	42 & 5	42 & 5	42 & 51				
Birmingham						5	5	5	
Bolton	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	
Bristol	42 42	5	5 5	5	5	5	5	5	
_		5	5	5	5	5	5	5	
Derby Hudders-	5 5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	
field	3	3	3	1	1		10.00	19696	
Hull	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5	
Ipswich	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	
Leicester	41/2	41/2	41/2	41/2	42	42	42	43	
Liverpool	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
Manchester	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
Middlesbro'	5	5	5	51/2	51	512	51	51	
Newcastle-	5	51/2	51	51	51/2	51	51	51	
on-Tyne	and the same			The second	1	-	Se ret	1	
Norwich	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	
Nottingham	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	
Oldham	41	41	41/2	41/2	4	4	4	4	
Plymouth	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	
Potteries	4	4	4	4	4	41/2	41/2	41	
District	10000	1 6 Bay 3	13 300	1000	1	100789	10000	1	
Wolver'pton	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	
Aberdeen	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	51	
Dundee		51	51/2	51	51	51	51/2	51/2	
Edinburgh	51	51	51/2	51	51/2	51	51	51	
Glasgow	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	
Belfast		5	5	5	5	5	5	5	
Dublin	51/2	51/2	51	51/2	51/2	51/2	51/2	51	

#### WHEAT AND FLOUR.

The imports of wheat from foreign countries and the colonies from 1st September, 1902, to 31st March, 1903, amounted to 47,583,650 cwts., compared with 36,830,720 cwts. in the corresponding seven months of 1901-2. The

\* No change was recorded in any of the towns at 2nd June, 5th August, 3rd November, 1st December, or at 1st January, 1903.

imports of wheat-meal and flour amounted to 11,330,956, cwts., compared with 11,553,854 cwts. from 1st September, 1901, to 31st March, 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 January, 1902, to March, 1903:—

				British Wheat.	Imp	ports.
				Mean London	Wheat.	Wheat-mea
	Month.			Gazette Price.	Average Declared Value.	Average Declared Value.
	1000	le dis		Per cwt.	Per cwt.	Per cwt
	1902.			s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
January				6 54	6 91 6 81	9 13
February				6 54 6 334 6 6 604 7 34 7 24	6 84	90
March				6 34	6 94 6 54	9 31/2
April*				6 63	6 54	90
May	W T. C.			7 34	6 114	9 2
June				7 24	6 9%	9 42
July				7 3 7 44 6 54	6 994 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 8	9 4 9 24 9 3000 9 12 9 2000 9 17
August			*	7 41 6 54	0 74	9 24
September					0 75	9 35 9 13
October				5 104	0 64	9 14
November				5 10	0 04	9 25 9 14
December				5 94	6 8	9 14
	1903.			THE RELL CO.	. 01	THE PERSON NAMED IN
January					6 8 2	9 31
February					6 11	9 25 9 24
March				5 10	6 114	9 24

#### LABOUR LEGISLATION IN HOLLAND.

According to information supplied, through the Foreign Office, in despatches from Mr. A. F. G. Leveson-Gower, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at the Hague, under date of March 9th, and from Sir H. Howard, H.M. Minister at that place, under date of April 1st, the three Bills intended specially to prevent the dislocation of railway traffic by strikes, brought forward by the Dutch Prime Minister, as stated in last month's Gazette (p. 68), were duly proceeded with. The Bills were passed on April 11th, and came into operation forthwith. Copies of the three Acts have been supplied to the Board of Trade by Sir H. Howard.

The first of these Acts amends the Penal Code by providing that any person who (1) unlawfully compels another by means of violence or any other forcible action, or by threats of violence or of any other forcible action, whether employed against that other person or against a third party, to do, to abstain from doing, or to suffer anything, or (2) compels another, by threats of insult or libel, to do, or abstain from doing, or to suffer anything, shall be punished with imprisonment for any period not exceeding nine months, or fine up to 300 florins (£25). Provided that with regard to (2) the offender shall be prosecuted only on the complaint of the person against whom the offence is committed.

This Law also enacts that any person, who on any public road unlawfully impedes the free movement of another person, or together with one or more others continues to obtrude himself upon another person against the expressly declared wish of that person, or continues to follow him in a troublesome manner, shall be punished by imprisonment up to one month, or fine up to 100 florins (£8 6s. 8d.).

With respect to railway service, this Act contains the following provisions:—

I. Any official, or any person permanently or temporarily employed in connection with the public railway traffic, not belonging to the staff of a railway on which the traffic is conducted exclusively at limited speeds, who, with the object of creating or causing to continue a stoppage of a public service or of the public railway traffic, neglects, or, having been lawfully charged therewith, refuses to perform duties to the performance of which he has bound himself either expressly or by virtue of his engagement, shall be punished with imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or by fine not exceeding 300 florins (£25).

II. If two or more persons as a result of conspiracy commit the offence described in the foregoing Section, the guilty parties, and also the leaders or instigators of the conspiracy, shall be punished with imprisonment for not more than two years.

III. If the object described above under (I.) shall be attained, a penalty of imprisonment shall be inflicted, in the case of the offences described under (I.) not exceeding one year, and in the case of the offences described under (II.) not exceeding four years.

IV. When any person is convicted under (I.), (II.) or (III.), the sentence may include deprivation of the right of the offender (i.) to hold any office or any specified office or offices, (ii.) to serve in the armed forces of the Realm, and (iii.) to vote at any public election held in pursuance of any provision of the law, or to be elected at any such election.

April, 1903.

The second of the three new Acts makes provision for extending and reorganising the railway company attached to the Corps of Engineers of the Dutch Army. The object of this enactment (as explained in the official Memorandum attached to the Bill) is to make it possible for this Railway Brigade to assist, if need be, in maintaining the service on some of the principal Dutch lines.

The third Act provides for the appointment of a Royal Commission, consisting of five members, to inquire into the legal position, and the conditions under which the staff is employed in the service of the railways, and into the complaints in relation to the same which exist among the staff, also to consider whether any, and if so, what changes are desirable, and if needful to submit proposals as to the method to be adopted in making such changes and in ensuring their efficacy in the future. This Law is to remain in force until January 1st, 1904.

# ALIEN IMMIGRATION INTO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: NEW ACT.

THE Board of Trade have received through the Foreign Office a copy of an Act codifying and amending the existing legislation with respect to the immigration of aliens into the United States, which was approved on March 3rd.

The new Act raises the head tax on passengers not citizens of the United States from one dollar (4s. 2d.) to two dollars (8s. 4d.), and extends the liability for payment of this tax, previously only incurred in respect of passengers arriving by steam or sailing vessels, to those brought to the United States by railway or other mode of transportation. But this tax is not to be levied upon aliens in transit through the United States, nor upon aliens, who have once been admitted into the United States and have paid the tax, who later shall go in transit from one part of the United States to another through foreign contiguous territory. Citizens of Cuba, Mexico, and Canada are also exempt from the payment of head-tax.

The classes of aliens, whose entry into the United States was prohibited by the laws previously in force, included (in addition to Chinese labourers) persons under contract or agreement, express or implied, to perform labour or service in the United States and "al idiots, insane persons, paupers, or persons likely to become a public charge, persons suffering from a loath some or a dangerous contagious disease, persons who have been convicted of a felony or other infamous crime or misdemeanour involving mora turpitude, polygamists, and also any person whose ticket or passage is paid for with the money of another or who is assisted by others to come, unless it is affirmatively and satisfactorily shown on special inquiry that such person does not belong to one of the foregoing excluded classes or to the class of contract labourer , but this Section shall not be held to exclude persons living in the United States from sending for relative or a friend who is not of the excluded classes under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe: Provided that nothing in this Act shall be construed to apply to or exclude persons convicted of a political offence, notwithstanding said political offence may be designated as a 'felony, crime, infamous crime, or misdemeanour, involving moral turpitude,' by the laws o the land whence he came or by the court convicting."

To these classes of excluded persons the present law adds certain additional categories, including "epileptics and persons who have been insane within five years previous; persons who have had two or more attacks of insanity at any time previously; professional beggars; anarchists, or persons who believe in or advocate the overthrow by force or violence of the Government of the United States or of all government, or of all forms of law, or the

assassination of public officials"; and "those who have been, within one year from the date of the application for admission to the United States, deported as being under offers, solicitations, promises, or agreements to perform labour or service of some kind therein."

The laws previously in force provided "that any alien who shall come into the United States in violation of law may be returned as by law provided, at any time within one year thereafter, at the expense of the person or persons, vessel, transportation company, or corporation bringing such aliens to the United States, and if that cannot be done, then at the expense of the United States; and any alien who becomes a public charge within one year after his arrival in the United States from causes existing prior to his landing therein shall be deemed to have come in violation of law and shall be returned as aforesaid." The new law extends the period, within which persons landed in violation of the law, or who shall be found a public charge, are to be deported to two years after arrival, and further provides "that in case the Secretary of the Treasury shall be satisfied that an alien has been found in the United States in violation of this Act he shall cause such alien, within the period of three years after landing or entry therein, to be taken into custody, and returned to the country whence he

#### NEW INDUSTRIAL ORGANISAȚIONS REGISTERED IN 1902.

The following Table showing the number and nature of the New Industrial Organisations registered in the United Kingdom during 1902 is based upon monthly returns furnished to the Labour Department by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, and shows the number of each of the various classes of organisations registered in England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland, respectively.

The total number of new organisations registered in 1902 was 1,113, an increase of 152 when compared with 1901, and of 282 compared with 1900.

Trade Societies show a decrease of 11 compared with 1901, Industrial and Provident Societies an increase of 80, Friendly Societies, including branches, an increase of 94, and Building Societies a decrease of 11.

England and Wales shows an increase of 104 new organisations compared with 1901, Scotland a decrease of 7, and Ireland an increase of 55:—

Table showing the number and nature of New Industrial Organisations registered in 1902 in England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland, respectively, together with the totals for the United Kingdom, and the corresponding totals for the year 1901.

Description of Organisation.	England and Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland.	Total Number registered in United Kingdom during 1902.	Corre spondir Total for 1901.
Trade Societies:-				The Late	
Federations	22	I	4	27	41
Employers' Associations	6			6	3
Totals	28	I	4	33	44
Industrial and Provident	M. Sopul	E. C. Carlo		in and	O. Indian
For Distribution	71	+	40	112	61
" Production	16		48	64	41
,, Miscellaneous purposes	47	7	2	56	50
Totals	134	8	90	232	152
Friendly Societies:-	NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	San		
Ordinary Friendly	59	4	5	68	76
Dividing	69	-	- 1	69	47
Female	2	-	- 1	2	I
Juvenile	10	I	-	II	8
Medical	4	-	-	4	4
Benevolent New Orders	3		-	3	I
C-11	4			4	96
Cattle Insurance	4		1	5	0
Specially Authorised	36	2	29	67	69
Workmen's Clubs	178	2	-	180	97
New Branches of existing Friendly Societies	347	44	16	407	408
Totals	716	53	51	820	726
Building Societies:-	25	I I	2	28	39
rotal Industrial Organisa- tions Registered in 1902	903	63	147	1,113	
Corresponding Totals for 1901	799	70	92		961

<sup>\*</sup> Import Duty commenced in this month.

# REPORT OF THE AMERICAN ANTHRACITE COAL-STRIKE COMMISSION.\*

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In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated March 25th, 1903, Sir M. Herbert, H.M. Ambassador at Washington, has forwarded copies of the Report of the Commission appointed by the President of the United States on October 16th, 1902, at the request of both the mine owners and the miners, "to inquire into, consider and pass upon the questions in controversy in connection with the strike in the anthracite region" of Pennsylvania, "and the causes out of which the controversy arose" (see Gazette for June, October and November, 1902, pp. 161, 275 and 204 respectively)

275 and 304 respectively).

The following is a recapitulation of the awards of the Commission, whose Report is dated March 18th, 1903:—

I. Demand for Higher Wages for Contract Miners.—The Award provides that "an increase of 10 per cent. over and above the rates paid in the month of April, 1902, be paid to all contract miners for cutting coal, yardage and other work for which standard rates or allowances existed at that time, from and after November 1st, 1902, and during the life of this Award. . . . The amount of increase under the Award due for work done between November 1st, 1902, and April 1st, 1903, to be paid on or before June 1st, 1903."

2. Demand for Reduction in Hours of Labour.—On this point the Commission awards that "engineers who are employed in hoisting water shall have an increase of 10 per cent. on their earnings between November 1st, 1902, and April 1st, 1903, to be paid on or before June 1st, 1903 . . . .; and from and after April 1st, 1903, and during the life of the Award, they shall have 8-hour shifts, with the same pay which was effective in April, 1902; and where they are now working 8-hour shifts the 8-hour shifts shall be continued, and these engineers shall have an increase of 10 per cent. on the wages which were effective in the several positions in April, 1902."

In the case of engineers and pumpmen, other than those engaged in hoisting water, who are employed in positions which are manned continuously, the award is that, besides the increase of 10 per cent. on their earnings between November 1st, 1902, and April 1st, 1903, they shall, from and after April 1st, 1903, and during the life of the award, "have an increase of 5 per cent. on the rates of wages which were effective in the several positions in April, 1902; and in addition they shall be relieved from duty on Sundays without loss of pay, by a man provided by the employer to relieve them during the hours of the day shift."

Firemen are awarded an increase of 10 per cent. on their earnings between November 1st, 1902, and April 1st, 1903; and "from and after April 1st, 1903, and during the life of the award, they shal have 8-hour shifts, with the same wages per day, week, or month, as were paid in each position in April, 1902."

The Commission further awards that all employees or company men, other than those for whom the Commission makes special awards, "be paid an increase of 10 per cent. on their earnings between November 1st, 1902, and April 1st, 1903.... and that from and after April 1st, 1903, and during the life of this award, they shall be paid on the basis of a 9-hour day, receiving therefor the same wages as were paid in April, 1902, for a 10-hour day. Overtime in excess of 9 hours in any day to be paid at a proportional

3. Demand for Payment by Weight.—The award of the Commission is "that during the life of this award the present methods of payment for coal mined shall be adhered to, unless changed by mutual agreement."

4. Demand for Agreement with United Mine Workers of America. The finding of the Commission under this head is "that any difficulty or disagreement arising under this award, either as to its interpretation or application, or in any way growing out of the relations of the employers and employed, which cannot be settled or adjusted by consultation between the superintendent or manager of the mine or mines, and the miner or miners directly interested or is of a scope too large to be so settled, or adjusted, shall be referred to a permanent joint committee, to be called a board of conciliation, to consist of six persons, appointed as hereinafter provided. That is to say, if there shall be a division of the whole region into three districts, in each of which there shall exist an organisation representing a majority of the mine workers of such district, one of said board of conciliation shall be appointed by each of said organisations, and three other persons shall be appointed by the operators, the operators in each of said districts appointing one person.

"The board of conciliation thus constituted shall take up and

\*Report to the President on the Anthracite Coal Strike of May-October, 1902, by the Anthracite Coal Strike Commission. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1903, 58th Congress, Special Session, Senate Document No. 6.

consider any question referred to it as aforesaid, hearing both parties to the controversy; and such evidence as may be laid before it by either party; and any award made by a majority of such board of conciliation shall be final, and binding on all parties. If, however, the said board is unable to decide any question submitted, or point related thereto, that question or point shall be referred to an umpire, to be appointed, at the request of said board, by one of the circuit judges of the third judicial circuit of the United States, whose decision shall be final and binding in the premises.

"The membership of said board shall at all times be kept complete, either the operators' or miners' organisations having the right at any time when a controversy is not pending, to change their representation thereon.

"At all hearings before said board the parties may be represented by such person or persons as they may respectively select.

"No suspension of work shall take place, by lock-out or strike, pending the adjudication of any matter so taken up for adjustment."

5. Check Weighmen and Check Docking Bosses.—The Commission awards "that whenever requested by a majority of the contract miners of any colliery, check weighmen or check docking bosses, or both, shall be employed. The wages of said check weighmen and check docking bosses shall be fixed, collected, and paid by the miners in such manner as the said miners shall by a majority vote elect; and when requested by a majority of said miners, the operators shall pay the wages fixed for check weighmen and check docking bosses, out of deductions made proportionately from the earnings of the said miners, on such basis as the majority of said miners shall determine."

6. Distribution of Mine Cars.—On this point the Award is "that mine cars shall be distributed among miners, who are at work, as uniformly and as equitably as possible, and that there shall be no concerted effort on the part of the miners or mine workers of any colliery or collieries, to limit the output of the mines or to detract from the quality of the work performed, unless such limitation of output be in conformity to an agreement between an operator or operators, and an organisation representing a majority of said miners in his or their employ."

7. Mine Cars.—The Commission awards "that in all cases where miners are paid by the car, the increase awarded to the contract miners is based upon the cars in use, the topping required, and the rates paid per car which were in force on April 1st, 1902. Any increase in the size of car, or in the topping required, shall be accompanied by a proportionate increase in the rate paid per car."

8. Sliding Scale.—The finding of the Commission upon this point is, "that the following sliding scale of wages shall become effective April 1st, 1903, and shall affect all miners and mine workers included in the awards of the Commission:—

"The wages fixed in the awards shall be the basis of, and the minimum under, the sliding scale.

"For each increase of 5 cents (2½d.) in the average price of whiteash coal of sizes above pea coal, sold at or near New York, between Perth Amboy and Edgewater, and reported to the Bureau of Anthracite Coal Statistics, above 4.50 dollars (18s. 9d.) per ton f.o.b., the employees shall have an increase of 1 per cent. in their compensation, which shall continue until a change in the average price of said coal works a reduction or an increase in said additional compensation hereunder; but the rate of compensation shall in no case be less than that fixed in the award. That is, when the price of said coal reaches 4.55 dollars (18s. 11½d.) per ton, the compensation will be increased 1 per cent., to continue until the price falls below 4.55 dollars per ton, when the 1 per cent. increase will cease, or until the price reaches 4.60 dollars (19s. 2d.) per ton, when an additional 1 per cent. will be added, and so on.

"These average prices shall be computed monthly by an accountant or commissioner named by one of the circuit judges of the third judicial circuit of the United States, and paid by the coal operators, such compensation as the appointing judge may fix, which compensation shall be distributed among the operators in proportion to the tonnage of each mine.

"In order that the basis may be laid for the successful working of the sliding scale provided herein, it is also adjudged and awarded that all coal-operating companies file at once with the United States Commissioner of Labour a certified statement of the rates of compensation paid in each occupation known in their companies as they existed April 1st, 1902."

9. Discrimination, Lawlessness, Boycotting and Blacklisting.—The Commission awards "that no person shall be refused employment, or in any way discriminated against, on account of membership or non-membership in any labour organisation; and that there shall be no discrimination against, or interference with, any employee who is not a member of any labour organisation by members of such organisation"

10. Direct Payment to Labourers .- On this point the award is

"that all contract miners be required to furnish within a reasonable time before each pay day, a statement of the amount of money due from them to their labourers, and such sums shall be deducted from the amount due the contract miner, and paid directly to each labourer by the company. All employees when paid shall be furnished with an itemised statement of account."

April, 1903.

II. Life and Conditions of the Award.—With regard to this the Commission adjudges "that the Awards herein made shall continue in force until March 31st, 1906; and that any employee, or group of employees, violating any of the provisions thereof, shall be subject to reasonable discipline by the employer; and, further, that the violation of any provision of these Awards, either by employer or employees, shall not invalidate any of the provisions thereof."

# RECENT CONCILIATION & ARBITRATION CASES & COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS.\*

CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

#### Bookbinders in London.

MR. C. J. STEWART, the arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade in this case (see GAZETTE for December, p. 332), issued his Award on March 20th.

The London Societies of Journeymen Bookbinders had asked that the minimum wage should be raised from 32s. to 36s. a week, and that all time beyond 48 hours should be paid as overtime at the rate of time and a quarter up to 57 hours, and thereafter at the rate of time and a half. They also put forward claims in regard to the training of apprentices and piece-work rates. The employers made counter-claims in regard to the extension of the right to work piece or time or both, the employment of female labour, and other matters.

The operative clauses of the Award are as follows:—

- That the minimum wage be raised to 35s. per week of 48 hours.
   That all time, whether time work or piece work, after 52½ hours in a week or after ten hours on a single day shall be counted as overtime and shall be paid at the rate of time and a quarter.
- 3. That the limit of the number of apprentices shall remain as it is at present, namely, one apprentice to every three men, and the test as to proportion shall be the number of apprentices the employer is entitled to according to the average number of men employed in the year preceding the apprentice's appointment, it being further agreed by the employers that only a reasonable proportion of apprentices shall be grouped in one department, and that the apprentices shall be trained, not merely in a sub-section, but in a branch. Evidence was given me as to the technical training of apprentices at technical classes, and as to the desire of the employers to co-operate with the Societies in encouraging and improving the apprentices' training.
- 4. That the present basis on which the scale of prices for piecework, so far as at present fixed, namely, that a man of average skill and ability should be able to earn at least is. per hour, appears fair and reasonable, and beyond what I award as regards the claim of the masters under claim No. 5 no adjustment is required.
- 5. That the right now existing in certain shops to work piece or time, or both simultaneously at option, in case-making, blocking and forwarding shall in future apply throughout the trade, and that a Board, consisting of three employers and three employed, shall be formed in order to draw up a scale of prices for such piecework blocking and forwarding, and making such re-arrangements of the present piecework case-making scale as may be agreed to be desirable, due regard being paid to the rate of wages paid for time work. That the said Board be empowered to sit permanently and amend and adjust any differences that may from time to time arise on the scale of prices as fixed. That in the event of a dispute the Board should have power to appoint an arbitrator, or in the event of disagreement in choice of arbitrator, should be empowered to apply to the Board of Trade to appoint an arbitrator.
- 6. That the right or practice existing with regard to female labour employed on wrappering and for laying on gold in case work cloth, or leather or other material in certain workshops in the trade, shall be made to apply to all workshops in the trade, it being agreed by the employers that no man exclusively employed in gold laying on shall lose his employment by reason of the employment of women on such work.

That inasmuch as claim No. 7 was withdrawn by the employers, no award is required.

That as regards No. 8 it has been agreed by both parties that the following clause shall apply to "honourable leave." In the event of a dispute arising between the employers and the employed, the Society will not interfere with a foreman provided he has held the position for not less than twelve months.

And I further declare that this my award so far as the claims Nos. 1 and 2 and 5 shall not come into effect until the 29th day of June 1903, except so far as No. 5 relating to the appointment of a Board for the purpose of fixing a piece-work scale, which provisions shall come into effect with the remainder of my award as from this date

And I further award and declare that any question relating to the construction of this my award is to be referred to me for decision.

It is estimated that about 2,500 bookbinders are affected by this Award, of whom about 1,000 will have their wages raised to the minimum.

#### Carpenters and Joiners at Walsall.

The Board of Trade have received applications from the Walsall Master Builders' Association, and the local branch of the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, for the appointment of an arbitrator to deal with certain matters in dispute between the parties.

The Board of Trade, on April 4th, appointed Mr. A. A. Hudson, barrister-at-law, to act as arbitrator.

#### Pottery Trade at Hanley.

The Board of Trade have received a joint application for the appointment of an arbitrator to settle the making prices for certain articles at the Cliffe Vale Works, Hanley. The Board on April 14th appointed Sir W. Markby, K.C.I.E., to act as arbitrator.

# OTHER CASES.

#### Cardroom Operatives' Agreement.

At a joint meeting of representatives of the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Associations, Limited, and of the Amalgamated Association of Card and Blowing Room Operatives, held in Manchester on March 13th, a universal list of prices relating to single revolving flat cards was agreed to. This is the first recognised uniform list for the regulation of the wages of card room operatives, and the negotiations which attended its drawing up extended over a period of four years.

The list came into operation on March 21st, and it is eatimated that about 4,000 workpeople will be affected by its provisions.

Clause (1) of the agreement relates to the price to be paid per card, which varies according to the weight carded, a minimum and maximum price, however, being fixed. Clause (2) determines the method by which the weight carded is to be obtained.

The full text of the two clauses is as follows:

(1) 550 lbs. to 750 lbs. per card, 2s. per card. Below 550 lbs, \( \frac{1}{2} \)d. per card for every 50 lbs. to be deducted down to 300 lbs., \( \frac{1}{2} \)d. per card for every 50 lbs. to be added up to 1,000 lbs., \( \frac{1}{2} \)d. per card for every 50 lbs. to be added up to 1,000 lbs., beyond which no further addition shall be made.

In arriving at the weights and prices no alteration in price shall be made unless the difference in weight is above half the difference between one scale and the other.

(2) Weight carded to be based on hanks produced by slubbers. Four weeks to be taken in case a test is required, full weeks preferred. When cards have worked full weeks, if the material is put through the slubbers, such to be taken as full weeks, irrespective of time worked by slubbers.

Of the other clauses, (3) relates to the employment and payment of lap carriers, (4) to strippers' work, (5) grinding, (6) extras to be paid in mills having no lap bogeys and for the carrying of laps, (7) extras to be paid to grinders assisting to do under-carder's work where no under-carder is employed, (8) and (9), duties, &c., of grinders. In clause (10), the last in the agreement, it is provided that "Should any case arise with which the foregoing clauses do not deal, the same shall be a case for adjudication, as per the Brooklands agreement."

<sup>\*</sup> For "Wages Agreement in the South Wales Coal Trade," see p. 91.

# LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

# (1) Workmen's Compensation Acts.

ACTION FOR DAMAGES AGAINST STRANGER BARRED BY CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION AGAINST EMPLOYER,

Section 6 of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, is as follows:—"Where the injury for which compensation is payable under this Act was caused under circumstances creating a legal under this Act was caused under circumstances creating a legal liability in some person other than the employer to pay damages in respect thereof, the workman may, at his option, proceed either at law against that person to recover damages, or against his employer for compensation under this Act, but not against both, and if compensation be paid under this Act the employer shall be entitled to be indemnified by the said other person."

A man was acting as foreman over a gang of labourers, who were about to commence loading a steamer belonging to a firm by whom he was employed, when he was injured in consequence, as

whom he was employed, when he was injured, in consequence, as he alleged, of the defective condition of a hydraulic crane supplied by the owners of the docks and worked by their supplied by the owners of the docks and worked by their servants. He brought an action for damages against the dockowners, who pleaded that this man, having elected to take compensation from his employers under the Compensation Act, was barred by the provision of that Act cited above from insisting in the present action. This plea was sustained by the Sheriff-Substitute, who dismissed the action, with expenses. On appeal, the Court of Appeal affirmed this interlocutor, with additional expenses—James Masson v. The Trustees of the Clyde Navigation, Court of Session March 14th expenses — James Masson v. Court of Session, March 14th.

NEGLECT TO HAVE INJURY TREATED: REVIEW OF COMPENSATION.

Neglect to have Injury Treated: Review of Compensation. A workman, whose thumb had been amputated as the result of an injury received in the course of his employment, refused to undergo a surgical operation which would, in all probability, have removed the sensitiveness of the injured part and have enabled him to earn the same wage as before the accident, or at least to earn more wages than he was able to do before the operation. The operation was a simple one, not attended with serious risk, and was such as a reasonable man not claiming compensation or damages would, for his own advantage and comfort, have elected to undergo. The Court of Session found that the workman's refusal to submit to the operation disentitled him to a continuance of substantial compensation, but allowed him 1d, weekly until the of substantial compensation, but allowed him id. weekly until the further order of the Court.—Anderson v. Baird & Co., Court of Session,

#### (2) Merchant Shipping Acts.

INJURIES TO CREW: SHIPOWNER'S LIABILITY FOR MEDICAL

By Sect. 207, sub-sect. 1, of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, it is provided that " if the master of, or a seaman or apprentice belonging to, a ship receives any hurt or injury in the service of the ship, the expense of providing the necessary surgical and medical ship, the expense of providing the necessary surgical and medical advice and attendance and medicine, and also the expenses of the maintenance of the master, seaman, or apprentice, until he is cured, or dies, or is brought back, if shipped in the United Kingdom, to a port of the United Kingdom, or, if shipped in a British possession, to a port of that possession, and of his conveyance to the port, and in case of death the expense (if any) of his burial, shall be defrayed by the owner of the ship, without any deduction on that account from his wages." A man was engaged at Liverpool as master of a ship on the two-thirds system—i.e., he collected the freights and out of two thirds of them he disbursed the ship, rendering periodical accounts to the owners and remitting the balance. In the service of the ship on a voyage from Liverpool he broke his leg. He was taken back to Liverpool, where he remained for four months before he was able to return to the ship, remained for four months before he was able to return to the ship, and during that period he provided and paid a substitute. He then brought an action against the owners of the ship to recover the expenses of medical attendance and maintenance incurred in con expenses of medical attendance and maintenance incurred in consequence of his accident. The action was tried before a Judge without a jury. The Judge held that the defendants were liable to pay all the expenses incurred by the plaintiff for necessary surgical and medical advice and attendance and medicine, but were not liable to pay for his maintenance after the date of his being brough back to Liverpool (see GAZETTE, April, 1902, p. 103). The defendants appealed; and the Court of Appeal held that upon the true construction of Sect. 207, sub-sect. 1, the defendants were not liable to pay the expenses incurred by the plaintiff for necessary surgical and medical advice and attendance and medicine after the date of his being brought back to Liverpool, and allowed the appeal.—Anderson v. Rayner, Court of Appeal, March 4th.

#### (3) Trade Union Acts.

Paying Strike Pay against Rules of Union: Action by Member.

In the case noticed in the GAZETTE of February, 1903 (p. 38), in which a member of a Trade Union obtained an injunction restraining the Union, its general treasurer, and the treasurers of its branches, from misapplying the funds of the Union by paying strike pay to certain of its members in violation of its rules, and on appeal, this decision was upheld by the Court of Appeal, the defendants are appealing to the House of Lords; and the plaintiff, desiring to have the direction of the Court as to the form in which the injunction should be drawn up, applied to the Court, which,

the defendants assenting, directed that the following words should be added to the injunction:—"This injunction not to prejudice or affect such right, if any, as may be vested in the defendant association to alter its rules," the costs of the application to be included in the costs of the appeal to the House of Lords.—Howden v. The Yorkshire Miners' Association and Others, Court of Appeal, February 26th and March 2nd.

#### (4) Friendly Societies Acts.

ARBITRATION: IRREGULARITY: INJUNCTION.

The Friendly Societies Act, 1896, provides that every dispute between a member of a registered Friendly Society and the Society or an officer of the Society shall be decided in manner directed by the rules of the Society, "and the decision so given shall be binding and conclusive on all parties without appeal, and shall not be removable into any Court of Law or restrainable by injunction." be removable into any Court of Law or restrainable by injunction

The rules of a Friendly Society directed that disputes between embers and the Society should be referred to arbitration. A dispute, which had arisen between 6 committeemen of the Society and its which had arisen between 6 committeemen of the Society and its trustees, was accordingly referred to 5 arbitrators, but one refused to act. The other 4 were equally divided; but the chairman of the committee, who by the rules was not competent to act as arbitrator, gave his casting vote against the 6 committeemen, the result being that they were ordered to pay a certain sum or have their names taken off the books. They brought an action against the trustees, claiming an injunction restraining the trustees from expelling them. On behalf of the trustees it was contended that the Court could not interfere, there being a dispute directed by the rules to be decided by arbitration. But the Judge held that, as the arbitration had been irregular, the Court had power to interfere the arbitration had been irregular, the Court had power to interfere, and granted the injunction with costs. Counsel on behalf of the plaintiffs asked that the injunction might be dated from the time of their expulsion, as otherwise they might be prejudiced in any claims that might have arisen in the interval; but the Judge said that he could not make the injunction retrospective.—Rind and Others v Silverman, King's Bench Division, March 23rd.

#### (5) Miscellaneous

SHOP CLUB: RIGHTS OF MEMBERS LEAVING EMPLOYMENT.

By the Shops Clubs Act, 1902, which was passed in August, 1902, and came into operation on January 1st, 1903, it is made an offence under the Act, if an employer shall make it a condition of employment that any workman shall join a shop club or thrift fund, unless the club or fund is registered and certified as in the Act specified, and it is enacted that this party core with the club of the club of the club or fund is registered and certified as in the Act specified, and it is enacted that the core with the club of the club or fund is registered. and it is enacted that "in any case where a workman, by the conditions of his employment, is a member of a shop club, he shall upon his dismissal 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 club, to be ascertained by actuarial calculation."

By one of the rules of a company it was provided that all employees should contribute rateably to the company's provident fund, except in cases where express agreement was made to the contrary. In consequence of the passing of the Shop Clubs Act, the trustees of this fund proposed to make new rules, to come into force on December 1st, 1902, whereby it was no longer made a condition of employment that an employee should join the provident fund, and every member in the company's employment was given the opportunity of subscribing to the fund with its new rules or of giving up his membership and joining some other provident institution,

An employee of the company, who left its service of his own accord on January 3rd, 1903, claimed to have his subscriptions to the fund returned to him. This being refused by the company, he brought an action, suing on behalf of himself and all other the members of the fund, against the trustees of the fund and the company, asking (amongst other things) for a declaration that the old provident fund had become illegal by reason of the Shop Clubs Act, and that its affairs ought to be wound up. He moved the Chancery Division for an injunction to restrain the trustees of the fund from dealing with the funds as if the same belonged to the new provident fund, and asked, alternatively, that an actuarize calculation might be made of the amount of his share of the fund.

On entering the service of the amount of his share of the find.

On entering the service of the company the plaintiff signed an agreement giving his adhesion to the rules of the provident fund, which were endorsed upon the back of his agreement. Rule I provided that the provident fund should be maintained (I) by the which were endorsed upon the back of his agreement. Rule 1 provided that the provident fund should be maintained (1) by the deduction from the wages or salary which each employee was for the time being entitled to receive from the company at certain rates therein specified; (2) by contributions, if necessary, from the funds of the company; and (3) by voluntary donations from members of the company and others and by such other funds as might from time to time become available for the purpose. The sums so realised were to be invested by the directors and held upon the trusts of a deed of trust dated February 2nd, 1887, and subject to the rules. Rule 6 provided that no person dismissed from the company's employment, or leaving it of his or her own accord, should have any claim upon the provident fund; but in the case of those who had been in the company's employment for 5 years, the trustees should have absolute discretion to return to him or her the whole sum which he or she had subscribed, with or without a bonus not to exceed the whole sum subscribed by the recipient, Rule 12 gave the trustees power from time to time to alter or revoke the rules, and make new rules. It appeared that the fund was supported by staff subscriptions amounting to £900 a year, and an annual donation from the company of £2,000.

On October 18th, 1902, the trustees of the fund sent out a circular, with an accompanying form for those to sign who desired to remain members of the fund on a reluntary feeting.

circular, with an accompanying form for those to sign who desired to remain members of the fund on a voluntary footing. The

plaintiff did not sign the new agreement, but returned the form and gave particulars of a new society to which he proposed to belong. On December 30th the plaintiff wrote saying that, as he was leaving the company's employment, he made a formal application for the moneys paid by him to the provident fund. Out of 727 possible contributors only about seven had not come in under the new rules, which had been acted upon by the trustees of the fund as from December 1st, 1902. The total amount contributed by the plaintiff was 27s., but during his absence as an Army Reservist at the late war the company had kept up his contributions for him, thus bringing the total amount contributed by him or on his behalf to about £5.

April, 1903.

The Judge held that on the balance of convenience and inconvenience in this case there ought to be no order upon the motion except that costs be costs in the action; he did not then deal with the alternative relief asked by the motion.—Balchin v. Lord Ebury & Others, Chancery Divison, March 11th.

### 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

THERE is now a general demand throughout Canada for farm labourers, female servants, and mechanics, and the present is the best time of year in which to arrive. A report from Fredericton in New Brunswick states that there is no demand for miners or mechanics, but that general labourers are in demand, and that farm labourers and female servants are badly wanted. Reports from Manitoba and the North-West state that there is a good demand for farm labourers and female servants, and in some cases for carpenters and bricklayers. A report from Vancouver Island, British Columbia, states that farm labourers, who can milk, are much wanted. The manufacturers of Ontario-especially those connected with the iron trade-complain of the great scarcity of skilled mechanics owing to the large increase in the industries of the Province. A strike of freight handlers on the Canadian Pacific Railway has commenced at Vancouver and Winnipeg, and involves a great many employees on the Railway. Throughout Canada there is great activity in the metal, engineering, ship-building and building trades, and there is good demand in them for competent mechanics; the clothing and leather trades are not so brisk. Miners are busy in Nova Scotia, and to a less extent in Ontario; but in British Columbia the strike of coal miners at the Crow's Nest Pass has not only thrown hundreds of coal miners out of work, but seriously affects gold, silver and other mines at Rossland and other places which depend upon these collieries for their coal and coke A report from Nova Scotia states that lumbermen and miners are well employed; coal miners are specially in demand, owing to the large increase of the coal industry.

#### Australia.

New South Wales .- The coal mines at Lithgow have been very depressed and the number of miners has been reduced. In other parts of the State the supply of labour seems fully equal to the demand, and for the present no one is recommended to go to New South Wales in search of work unless he has some money, or unless there are special circumstances justifying his emigration.

Victoria.—There is no general demand for more labour, but at busy seasons of the year competent farm hands are wanted in country districts. The supply of mechanics at Melbourne and other large towns is sufficient. Shearing rates have been reduced from 16s. per hundred sheep to 15s. The strike of miners at the Outtrim Collieries is still unsettled. The Royal Commission appointed to report on the working of the Factories and ops Act recommends, amongst other things, that the Wages Boards fixing the minimum rates of wages in certain trades should be abolished, and that Courts of Conciliation and Arbitration should be substituted

South Australia.—Emigrants are not recommended to go to South Australia at the present time in search of

work. Fresh discoveries of gold have been made at Arltunga, in the Macdonell Ranges of the Northern Territory, which it is hoped may lead to great develop-Arltunga is situated in a very dry and ments: difficult district.

Queensland.—Queensland has not yet recovered from the drought, and the demand for labour, other than farm hands in the South, is small,

Western Australia.—There is a good demand for farm labourers, but none for miners. There are stated to be a good many unemployed persons on the Kalgoorlie gold fields, but other accounts say that those who wish it can obtain work.

#### New Zealand.

There is a good demand in New Zealand for farm labourers, and for men and boys able to milk cows, look after horses and stock. Mechanics are well employed, and, though the demand for more hands is not so general as that for farm labourers, there are good openings for skilled men. The timber industry both in the forest and in the saw mills, the mining, dairy, fruit, fishing, and frozen meat industries are considerable, and provide work for competent men. There is the usual demand for female servants.

#### South Africa.

Cape Colony.—The Government Labour Bureau at Cape Town reports that female servants are badly needed, and that any skilled artisan, especially carpenters and bricklayers, can obtain work, but that no miners are wanted. Employers domiciled in Cape Colony can obtain cheap passages at  $\pounds_3$  a head for male or female servants engaged by them in England. The cost of living is high.

Natal.—There is a very fair demand for competent mechanics and general labourers, and the number of English miners employed in the Northern Collieries is increasing as the coal industry expands. The bricklayers' strike at Durban is over, and men are resuming work at 17s. a day instead of 16s., but this increase of 1s. is to be subject to arbitration. Carpenters are asking to have their wages raised to 16s. a day. There is a good opening for female servants if they go under proper care, out not for dressmakers, shop assistants, waitresses, typists or clerks.

Transvaal.—Permits are still required by those going to the Transvaal or Orange River Colony. There is a good demand for printers; the strike in the trade at Pretoria has been settled, and the men have resumed work at the slightly advanced wages of £5 15s. a week. There is a good deal of work going on, but, while skilled men can often get work, there is no opening for incompetent men, for men without a trade, or for general labourers, and even many skilled men are unemployed. The cost of living remains two or three times as high as in England, especially for men with families. Female domestic servants may obtain assisted passages, provided they undertake to repay £12 of the expenses out of their wages; they must apply to the South African Expansion Committee, 47, Victoria-street, London, S.W. Crown land is now open for purchase or lease on reasonable terms, but some capital is necessary.

Orange River Colony.—There is some demand for carpenters, masons, and others in the building trades; but the cost of living is very high. There is a demand for female servants; they should apply to the South African Expansion Committee mentioned above. Government land is open for selection, but some capital is necessary. British subjects residing in the Colony can now obtain Assisted Passages for their wives and families, or near relations, by applying to the Resident Magistrate of their district; the applicant must undertake to repay by 12 equal monthly instalments the whole amount advanced: the reduced fare from London to Bloemfontein will be about £11 is. 3d. for a closed berth in the third class, and £9 iis. 3d. for an open berth (men only); and £23 8s. od. for adults in the second class, and £15 11s. od. for children under 11 years.

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

# LABOUR ABROAD.

#### FRANCE.

Employment in February.\*—The comparatively mild weather during February favoured agricultural labour, and enabled the building trades to resume work. Employment in timber felling was still retarded in some districts by differences between employers and workpeople; in several districts the season for work of this nature was already over. In the textile trades a normal degree of activity was reported for the Nord, Vosges, Loire and Maine-et-Loire departments, but there was a considerable lack of employment in Normandy and at Rheims. In silk manufacture, the machine weaving branch alone was well employed. Ribbon makers continued very busy. Garment and hat-making were in their slack season. In the metal trades employment continued to improve for moulders and smelters, but for engineering establishments it was less plentiful than before. Tin box makers continued practically without any employment. The slack season set in for the furniture trades. In boot and shoe making and coachbuilding there was a revival of activity. Printers and bookbinders were fairly well employed in the provinces, but were slack in Paris.

Of 986 Trade Unions (not including the miners' Unions in the Nord and Pas-de-Calais), having a total membership of 143,306, which made returns as to the state of employment during February, 16,394, or 11 per cent., were stated to be out of work. The percentage for the previous month was the same, and for February, 1902, 15.

Coal Mining in February.\*—The average number of days worked per week by coal miners employed underground in February was 5.87, as compared with 5.96 in the preceding month, and 5.78 in February, 1902. Taking all workpeople together (surface and underground), 67 per cent. worked full time (6 days per week or over) and 32 per cent. from 5 to 6 days in February, as compared with 94 and 6 respectively in January.

Labour Disputes in February.\*—Thirty-two disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in February, the number of workpeople who took part in 31 of these being 3,489. In the previous month 31 disputes occurred, in 29 of which 4,700 workpeople took part; while in February, 1902, there were again 31 disputes, in 29 of which 3,902 workpeople took part. Two of the new disputes occurred in the building trades, 2 in mining, 4 in the metal trades, 12 in the textile trades, 3 in the pottery trades, 2 in woodworking trades, 4 in the printing trades, and 3 in trades not included within the foregoing groups. Twenty-five disputes came to an end in February, 3 terminating in favour of the workpeople, 10 in favour of the employers, and 12 being compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in February.\*—Three cases of recourse to the Conciliation and Arbitration Law were reported to the French Labour Department as having taken place in February, the initiative being taken in each case by the Justice of the Peace. In the first case a Committee of Conciliation was formed, which brought about a settlement save as regards two of the eight points in dispute which were made the subject of arbitration, the men having agreed to resume work whatever the award. In one of the two remaining cases the workpeople on strike were replaced by others before a Committee of Conciliation had time to meet, and in the remaining case no Committee of Conciliation had been

formed at the time of reporting.

Dockers at Marseilles: Movement for 9 hours' day.—In a report to the Board of Trade dated April 3rd, 1903, Mr. M. C. Gurney, H.M. Consul-Ceneral at Marseilles, stated that the dockers of Marseilles were agitating for a nine hours' working day.

Recently, the leaders of the movement, the Committee of the Dockers' Union, informed the wharfingers that they intended to demand an alteration in the agreement of August, 1900, in the matter of the number of working days during the summer months, the agreement binding the men to a ten hours' day from April 1st to September 30th. They expressed the hope that the wharfingers would be willing to discuss the matter with

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

the representatives of the dockers. The Wharfingers' Association replied that they were willing to discuss the matter with the duly elected representatives of the men, but that they would not consider themselves bound in any way. They insisted that each branch should be represented by one of their number and not by any of the Committee. This was considered by the Union leaders as tantamount to a refusal to consider their request; and they persuaded the Union men to knock off work after nine hours, whereupon the wharfingers declared that if the men left the docks at 6 p.m. instead of at 7 p.m., as settled by the 1900 Convention, they would not pay the men their second half-day, as by the terms of the agreement the wages were due by half-day only. In reply to this the Union men decided at a public meeting to work during the morning hours only, and not to return to work in the afternoon.

At a meeting held on April 3rd they again passed a resolution to adhere to this plan, and declared they had no intention to "go out on strike." At the date of reporting some of the wharfingers had given way; others had been able to engage a sufficient number of non-Union hands, while others were employing morning shifts only.

#### GERMANY.

Employment in March.—According to Der Arbeitsmarkt, the state of employment in March, as shown by reports from public labour registries, was better than either a month ago or a year ago, the number of applications for work per 100 situations offered being 124.6, as compared with 175.9 in the preceding month and 148.6 in March,

Labour Disputes in March.—The same journal reports 66 disputes as having begun in March, as compared with 40 in February. Nineteen of these took place in the building trades, 19 in the metal and engineering trades, 4 in the textile trades, 8 in the clothing trades, 2 in the pottery, &c., trades, 6 in the woodworking trades, and 8 in trades not included within any of these groups.

#### BELGIUM.\*

Employment: November, 1902—January, 1903.—The proportion of the total membership reported to the Belgian Labour Department as unemployed by the Trade Unions making returns on this subject for January, 1903, was 6·2 per cent., as compared with 7·6 per cent. in December and 5·1 per cent. in November, 1902. The Unions reporting for January, 1903, numbered 117, with 31,204 members, as compared with 115 Unions having a membership of 29,920, reporting for December, and 109 Unions with 25,010 members reporting for November, 1902. With regard to the percentage of unemployed in January, 1903, it is stated that the returns, on which the figure is based, covered only a comparatively small number of workmen in the building trades, where the seasonal scarcity of employment was greatest.

Labour Disputes: November, 1902—January, 1903.—Fourteen disputes (13 strikes and 1 lock-out) were reported to the Belgian Labour Department as having begun in the three months November, 1902, to January, 1903, the number of workpeople affected by 13 of these being 2,680 (viz., 2,203 directly and 477 indirectly). Three of the disputes occurred in the building trades, 5 in mining and quarrying, 2 in the textile trades, and 4 in trades not included within any of these groups. Of 12 new and old disputes, which came to an end within this period, 3 (with 479 participants) were decided in favour of the workpeople, 7 (with 1,204 participants) in favour of the employers, and 2 (with 103 participants) were compromised.

#### HOLLAND.

AMSTERDAM AND ROTTERDAM CONSULAR DISTRICTS:
OUARTERLY REPORTS.

In a despatch, dated April 5th, Sir H. Howard, H.M. Minister at the Hague, transmits the reports from H.M. Consuls at Amsterdam and Rotterdam on labour in their respective districts during the quarter ended March 31st. The strikes of railway and other transport workers,

already described in the GAZETTE (February, pp. 40-41), are dealt with in both reports as constituting the most important labour movements during the quarter under review. H.M. Consul at Amsterdam further states that, at the date of reporting (March 31st), the earth workers were out on strike for an advance in their wages to 5d. per hour, which in some instances had been partially accorded to them; and that the working smiths had presented a similar ultimatum and had gone out on strike.

April, 1903.

#### GENERAL STRIKE.

Reporting to the Foreign Office under date of April 4th, Mr. W. C. Robinson, H.M. Consul at Amsterdam, stated that, since April 3rd the entire water transport of Amsterdam, and practically nearly the whole of the shipping trade of the city, were at a standstill in consequence of a strike of the lightermen, and that some of the largest industrial works of the city were also laid idle, owing to all their men having struck at a moment's notice.

From information supplied to the Foreign Office in despatches dated April 6th and 7th, by Sir H. Howard and by H.M. Consuls at Amsterdam and Rotterdam, it appears that on April 6th a strike of workmen employed in the transportation trades was declared throughout the whole of Holland both for railway and dockworkers.

It is stated that the railway strike was the result of a manifesto issued by a committee of railway and other labourers, who opposed the passing by the States-General of certain laws directed towards guarding against intimidation in cases of strikes, and safeguarding regular railway communication throughout the country. (See above, p. 92.)

above, p. 92.)

At Amsterdam the whole movement among the shipping and in the docks was at a standstill on April 6th, but some of the express trains were kept running by the companies. On the following day nearly the whole of the passenger trains were again running regularly, but the companies had announced that no goods traffic would be accepted for the time.

At Rotterdam on April 7th traffic on the railways was partially suspended, but the necessary steps had been taken by the Post Office authorities to ensure the conveyance of foreign mails.

Work on board the vessels in the harbour was also partially at a standstill, but the steamers of the regular lines plying between Rotterdam and the United Kingdom were loading and discharging as usual.

#### NORWAY.

Strike and Lock-out in Shipbuilding Yards at Christiania.— Telegraphing to the Board of Trade on March 30th, the Hon. C. S. Dundas, H.M. Consul at Christiania, reported that in consequence of a strike, a lock-out had been declared at the three shipbuilding yards at Christiania, to commence on April 1st. Reporting under date of April 6th, H.M. Consul stated that the number of men thus out of work was 1,750.

#### ITALY.

General Strike at Rome.—Referring to a strike of printers, which had taken place at Rome, Sir F. L. Bertie, H.M. Ambassador at that city, telegraphing to the Board of Trade on April 8th, stated that the strike had, on the day of reporting, extended to all trades in Rome. A telegram from the same source, dated April 10th, however, reported the general strike as over.

From accounts which have been published in the newspapers it appears that the printers struck for higher wages and an 8-hours' day.

#### SPAIN.

Strike of Carpenters, Builders and Shoemakers at Malaga.

—Telegraphing to the Board of Trade on March 31st,
H.M. Consul at Malaga stated that a strike of all
journeymen carpenters and builders at that place had
broken out. In a further despatch, dated April 8th, H.M.
Consul reported the shoemakers also as having struck.

Strike of Ship Labourers at Carthagena.—Telegrams from the same source, dated April 6th and 8th, reported the commencement and termination respectively of a strike of ship labourers at Carthagena.

#### PORTUGAL.

Strike at Coimbra.—Reporting to the Foreign Office under date of March 16th, Sir M. Gosselin, H.M. Minister at Lisbon, stated that during the last few days Coimbra had been the scene of a serious agitation against an increase of the licence tax imposed on all retail traders before they are able to sell goods; and that this measure had led to a strike.

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Strike in New York Shipyards.—In despatches to the Foreign Office dated March 17th and 20th,Sir Percy Sanderson, H.M. Consul-General at New York, reported concerning a strike which has affected several of the shipyards in New York, but more especially that of Messrs. Townsend and Downey on Shooter's Island.

It appears that on January 16th the Iron Shipbuilders and Boilermakers' Union demanded from Messrs. Townsend and Downey the discharge of two non-Union workmen; that none but Union workmen should be employed in erecting iron plates on ships under construction; and that piece-work should be abolished. Messrs. Townsend and Downey referred the matter to the New York Metal Trades Association, of which they are members

The New York Metal Trades Association asked the Union to delay ordering any strike till a conference could be held. This request was disregarded, and about 350 men were called out on strike. Endeavours were made by the Marine Trades Council to obtain an opportunity for a committee of workmen to confer with the employers, but in the meantime a sympathetic strike had been ordered of all workmen engaged in the shipyards, and under such conditions the conference was refused. strike involved between 4,000 and 5,000 men, but Messrs. Townsend and Downey stated that they had a fair number of applications from non-Union men. The matter was now taken up by the New York Civic Federation, a branch lately formed of the National Civic Federation (see GAZETTE, April, 1902, p. 106), whose efforts resulted in an agreement that the sympathetic strike should be called off, leaving the original strike which began in January in order to force the discharge of two non-Union men from the shipyards of Messrs. Townsend and Downey and the discontinuance of the system of piece-work. At the date of Sir P. Sanderson's last report (March 20th) arrangements were being made for a conference between committees of the Metal Trades Association (representing employers) and of the Marine Trades Council (representing the workmen), the chief difficulty being apparently that of the employment of non-Union men, with a view to ending this strike.

Strike of Street Car Men at Waterbury: Attachment of Trade Union Funds .- In a series of despatches to the Foreign Office, commencing February 3rd and ending March 20th, Sir P. Sanderson reports concerning a strike, begun on January 11th, by 80 men employed by the Connecticut Railway and Lighting Company at Waterbury (Conn.), owing to the employment of non-Union men. A boycott has been instituted by the strikers and their sympathisers against all persons using the Company's trolley cars. On March 13th, the Company obtained a temporary injunction restraining the trolley men's Trade Union and all other Trade Unions and persons from acts calculated to interfere with the Company's business, or its employees. The injunction was obtained in the Supreme Court, in a civil suit for 20,000 dollars (about £4,000), in respect of which an attachment has been obtained of all the money held in the banks of Waterbury for the different Labour Organisations. On March 20th the strike was still in progress, and endeavours were being made to maintain the boycott against all persons using the cars of the Company in Waterbury.

<sup>\*</sup> Revue du Travail (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department).

# REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

BUILDING TRADES.

Returns supplied by 78 Employers' Associations whose members are estimated to employ about 84,000 building operatives of all classes, and by Trade Unions with an aggregate membership of about 200,000, show that employment in the building trades generally was moderate during March. On the whole it was, however, better than in the previous month, and not much worse than a year ago. The returns from Employers' Associations covering 58 per cent. of the workpeople referred to in the returns show employment to have been dull or bad, 27 per cent. fair or moderate, and 15 per cent. good.

With bricklayers employment is reported as dull; it is rather better than last month, but about the same as in the corresponding month of last year. Employment with masons is fair in England; dull in Scotland and

With carpenters and joiners employment is fair, showing an improvement as compared with a month ago and a year ago, the principal change being on the North East Coast, where the labour market has been opened by the termination of the dispute in the shipbuilding trade. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union carpenters and joiners was 3'4 at the end of March, compared with 5'0 in February and 4'4 in March, 1902.

Employment with painters is fair, and better than in the previous month, but not so good as a year ago. With plasterers it is dull in England, good in Scotland, and moderate in Ireland. The plumbers report employment as fair. The percentage of unemployed members among Trade Union plumbers was 7.5 at the end of March, compared with 8.2 in February, and 5.2 in March, 1902. The slaters and tilers report employment as good.

The Table given below shows the proportion of unemployed carpenters and joiners and plumbers in the principal districts.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Mar.	of Men	ercentag abers of l as Une at end of	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage for Mar., 1903, as compared with a		
	1903.*	Mar., 1903.	Feb., 1903.	Mar 1902.	Month ago.	Year ago.
A Table of the same of the sam	(	CARPEN	TERS A	AND JO	INERS.	1-500
ENGLAND AND WALES.	47747	1	Male Hale	I has a	( and a second	ST JOSE
London	7,298	4'3	5'1	2.4	- 0.8	+ 1.0
Northern Counties and Middlesbro'	6,109	1.3	7'9	3.5	- 6.6	- 1.0
Lancashire and Cheshire	10,281	3.8	5'0	6.7	- I'2	- 2.9
Yorkshire	5,230	4.7	7.0	5°I	-2.3	-0.4
East Midlands	2,746	1.6	4'3	5.7	- 2.7	- 4.I
West Midlands	4,753	4'2 2'8	5'9	3.7	- I.1 - I.2	+ 0.2
Eastern Counties S. and S.W. Counties	1,194 5,868	3.0	3.9	3,I	F 0.8	- 0.I
Wales and Monmouth	1,610	7.3	5'2	3.4	+ 2'1	+ 3'9
SCOTLAND	5,166	1.2	2.8	2.2	- 1.6	- 1.3
IRELAND	4,758	4'3	7.2	7.4	- 2.9	- 3.1
			PLUM	BERS.		200
ENGLAND AND WALES.	The season	1	· Course	10 4	1000	( Contract
London	1,222	12.8	14'5	5.6	+ 0.3	+ 7.2
Northern Counties and Middlesbro'	1,553	9'2	9.0	2.9	T 0 2	703
Lancashire and Cheshire	2,596	6.0	8.7	5'4	-2'7	+ 0.6
Yorkshire	1,248	5'0	7.0	6.9	- 2'0	- 1.9
East Midlands	650	6.8	9.I	4.4	- 2'3	+ 2.4
West Midlands	518	8.5	7.5	4.3	+ 1.0	+ 4.2
Eastern Counties S. and S.W. Counties	130	3.8	7.7	6.5	+ 2.2 - 3.0	+ 2.3
Wales and Monmouth	505	9.2	5.9	5.8	+ 3'3	+ 3'4
SCOTLAND	1,653	5.7	5.0	5.5	+ 0.4	+ 0'2
IRELAND	6	9.8	7.2	6.0	+ 2.6	+ 3.8

London.—Employment in the building trades in London is still rather dull, but shows an improvement as compared with a month ago. It is, however, not so good as in March, 1902. The returns received by the Trade Correspondent from 84 employers show that in the last week of March they paid wages to 17,414 men, as compared with 15,852 in February, and 19,237 in the corresponding week of March, 1902.

Branches of carpenters and joiners with 7,298 members had 4'3 per cent. unemployed at the end of March, as compared with 5'1 per cent. in February, and 2'4 per cent. in March, 1902. Branches of plumbers with 1,222 members had 12'8 per cent. unemployed, as compared with 14'5 per cent. in February, and 5'6 per cent. in March, 1902. With plasterers employment is bad, with painters and bricklayers moderate but improving.

Northern Counties.—Employment in the Tyne and Wear district has somewhat improved during the month, and is fairly good especially with carpenters and joiners; with plumbers it is moderate; bad with plasterers. On the Tyne employment for bricklayers is reported as dull. On the Wear fairly good for bricklayers and good with slaters and tilers. At Hartlepool bricklayers and joiners report employment as moderate. At Stockton employment is good with slaters, moderate with bricklayers, joiners, plumbers, and painters. At Middlesbrough employment is fair.

Lancashire and Cheshire.—Employment has slightly improved during the month. At Liverpool bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, and plasterers report employment as better, masons and painters as fair, plumbers as quiet. At Manchester employment for bricklayers is dull, masons slack, carpenters and joiners moderate. At Oldham employment generally is dull. In Bolton employment is better. At Warrington with bricklayers it is improving, with carpenters it is bad.

Yorkshire.—Employment is reported as being rather better than a month ago in some towns, but is still moderate on the whole. At Sheffield the bricklayers report employment as dull, the masons and slaters and tilers as moderate, the carpenters and joiners and plumbers as slack. At Leeds employment with bricklayers, masons, joiners and painters is reported as fair. At Hull a slight improvement is reported. Employment is quiet at Bradford, Huddersfield and Harrogate; slack at Bornelow bed at Dopperster.

at Barnsley: bad at Doncaster.

East Midland Counties.—A slight improvement in employment is reported. At Derby the joiners report employment as quiet, the plumbers and painters as moderate. It is slack with bricklayers and carpenters at Leicester, bad with plumbers. At Nottingham employment is rather better than last month, but not so good as a year ago.

West Midland Counties.—Employment generally continues dull. It is also rather worse than a year ago. At Birmingham employment with bricklayers and plumbers is reported as bad. At Wolverhampton it is improving with bricklayers, bad with carpenters and joiners, fair with painters. At Tamworth and Stourbridge employment is fair; at West Bromwich, Redditch and Coventry it is quiet. In the Potteries it is slack.

Eastern Counties.—Employment generally continues

Eastern Counties.— Employment generally continues quiet, though a slight improvement is shown in some branches. At Norwich the bricklayers and painters are reported as slack; masons as busy. At Ipswich, Felixstowe, and Bury St. Edmunds, employment with plasterers is reported as bad. At Cambridge, Yarmouth, and Cromer employment generally is fairly good; at Lynn and Wisbech it is dull.

Southern and South Western Counties.—Employment, on the whole, shows very little change as compared either with a month ago or a year ago. At Bristol and Gloucester it is reported as slightly improved; at Swindon it is fair. In Plymouth and Devonport employment is fair with joiners and bricklayers, dull with masons, moderate with plumbers and painters, bad with plasterers. At Exeter employment is moderate with bricklayers and quiet with joiners.

Wales and Monmouth.—Employment in the seaport towns of South Wales remains quiet, and about the same as a month ago, but is rather better in the inland towns; the painters are fairly well employed. In North Wales employment is fair with bricklayers and painters, moderate with other branches. With joiners generally it is slack.

#### EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH—Building Trades; Coal; Other Mining and Quarrying.

Scotland.—Employment is fairly good, and is better generally than a month ago, but with masons it is reported as dull. At Glasgow employment is dull with bricklayers. At Edinburgh it is quiet on the whole, but is better than a year ago; at Dundee it is dull with plumbers. At Aberdeen the plumbers and plasterers report employment as bad.

Ireland.—The returns show a slight improvement in the state of employment. At Belfast the bricklayers and plasterers report employment as dull, the carpenters and joiners as quiet, the painters as fair, the plumbers as bad. At Dublin the bricklayers and painters report it as moderate, the labourers as good. At Cork, Limerick and Waterford employment with masons is reported as

#### COAL MINING.

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

EMPLOYMENT in this industry during March showed a slight falling off, both as compared with a month and a year ago, but the number of workpeople employed at collieries for which returns have been received for both periods was 1.6 per cent. greater than a year ago.

Returns received relating to 1,324 pits employing 500,701 workpeople, show that the average number of days worked by the collieries included in the returns during the four weeks ended March 21st was 510 per week, as compared with 528 a month ago, and 535 a year ago.

In the following Table detailed particulars are given for the different mining districts:—

Comparison of the Average Number of Days Worked by Collieries in March, 1903 and 1902, and in February, 1903.

. District.	No. employed in Mar., 1903, at the	worked Colli	ge No. of per week eries in fe eks ende	by the	ase (+) crease n Mar., as com-	
grand database at the	Collieries included in the Table.	21st Mar., 1903.	21st Feb., 1903.	Feb., Mar.,		A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland	40,136	4'94	5'22	5'08	- '28	- '14
Durham	98,064	5'40	5'46	5'41	- '06	- '01
Cumberland	7,389	5'07	5'44	5'48	- '37	- '41
Yorkshire	72,640	4'93	4.99	5'42	- '06	- '49
Lancashire and Cheshire	50,963	5.01	5'30	5.23	- '29	- '22
Derbyshire	38,827	4.84	4.01	5.26	- '07	- '42
Nottingham and Leicester	28,604	4'37	4.26	4.88	19	21
Staffordshire	30,268	4.90	5.13	5'29	- '23	- '39
Salop, Worcester and	British Commission	A DE LA	No eliza		0.00	
Warwick	9,883	5.00	4'94	5'24	+ .00	- '24
Gloucester and Somerset	8,748	5'02	5.06	5'20	- '04	18
North Wales	13,033	5'34	5.41	5'28	- '37	+ .06
South Wales and Mon	60,578	5.44	5'79	5.87	- '35	- '43
ENGLAND & WALES	459,133	5.08	5•26	5.36	- '18	28
SCOTLAND.		No. 12 18 25				and the latest
West Scotland	20,412	5'40	5'41	5'30	- '01	+ '10
The Lothians	4,583	5.63	5'70	5.61	- '07	+ '02
Fife	15,948	5'19	5.21	5'05	- '32	+ '14
SCOTLAND	40,943	5.34	5.48	5.24	- 14	+.10
IRELAND	625	4.76	5.26	2.11	- '50	- '35
United Kingdom	500,701	5•10	5.28	5•35	- •18	<b>— ·25</b>

It will be seen that as compared with February, the decline in the average number of days worked was, with one exception, common to all districts in the United Kingdom. The falling off exceeded a quarter of a day per week in Northumberland, Cumberland, Lancashire and Cheshire, North and South Wales, Fife and Ireland. The falling off in Ireland was to some extent caused by the holiday on St. Patrick's day.

Compared with a year ago the only districts which show an increase in the number of days worked by the collieries were North Wales and the three Scottish districts, a decrease being shown in all the other districts, amounting in the case of the Cumberland, Yorkshire,

Scotland.—Employment is fairly good, and is better Derbyshire, Nottingham and Leicestershire and South Wales districts to about half a day per week.

In the next Table the workpeople are grouped according to the number of days worked at the pits at which they were employed. Of the total number 67.3 per cent. were employed at pits working 5 or more days per week in the four weeks ended March 21st, as compared with 76.0 per cent. in February and 78.3 per cent. a year ago.

Classification of the Workpeople according to the number of Days Worked in four weeks by the Collieries,

Number of days on	Marc	h, 1903.	Corresponding percentages in		
which Coal was kewn and wound in four weeks.	No. of Workpeople employed.	Percentage proportion to total.	February, 1903.	March, 1902.*	
24 days (full time)	86,443	17.3	24.6	30.5	
20 and under 24 days	250,270	50'0	51.4	47.8	
16 ,, ,, 20 ,,	120,233	24'0	18.1	17.6	
8 ,, ,, 16 ,,	32,246	6'4	4.4	3.5	
8 ,, ,, 12 ,,	9,715	1.0	0.9	0.5	
Under 8 days	1,794	0'4	0.6	0.4	
Total	500,701	100-0	100.0	100.0	

Reports received from Local Correspondents and others show that in Northumberland steam coal pits worked on an average 4.7 days per week and house coal pits 5.3 days. Employment in Durham is stated to have been fair, but not so good as in February last or a year ago; in the Whitehaven district it has been slack, but at other Cumberland pits full time has been worked. In the Leeds district employment generally was good, but at certain house coal pits only four days per week were worked. In the Dewsbury district only two or three days per week have been worked and a large number of workpeople are unemployed. At Castleford, Hemsworth and South Kirby employment has been fairly good. In the Sheffield district 4.56 days per week were worked, a falling off of 0.17 days per week compared with a month ago; in South Lancashire employment though still fairly good has declined, owing partly to seasonal causes. In Staffordshire employment has, on the whole, declined. In Leicester employment is stated to have fallen off; in North Wales it has been good in the Ruabon district and quiet in the Wrexham and Buckley district. In Bristol and Radstock the miners have worked 41 days and 4 days per week respectively. In the Forest of Dean employment has been fair.

In Lanarkshire a number of miners are reported to be on short time; in the West Lothian district employment has not improved; in Mid and East Lothians it has been steady, full time generally being worked.

The **Exports** of coal, coke, and patent fuel during March amounted to 3,678,416 tons, as compared with 3,302,174 tons in February, and 3,419,251 tons in March, 1902.

### OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING.

Information has been received from 75 firms employing 18,519 workpeople, from 6 Employers' Associations and from Local Correspondents.

In iron and shale mines employment has been good; in tin and copper mines quiet; at slate and limestone quarries it was good generally; with granite quarrymen and sett makers it was fairly good in England and Wales and fair in Scotland.

#### Mining

Iron Mining.—Employment in this industry continues good. During the four weeks ended March 21st, the average number of days worked by the 134 mines and openworks covered by the returns received from employers was 5.79 per week, the same average as for a month ago and for the corresponding period of last year.

It will be seen that while the general average number of days worked by the mines was the same in all three periods, some fluctuation is shown in certain districts.

<sup>\*</sup> Exclusive of Superannuated Members.

District.	No. employed in Mar., 1903,	worked	number per wee n 4 week	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in March, 1903, as compared with		
	at the Mines included in the Table.	21st March, 1903.	21st Feb. 1903.	22nd March, 1902.	A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND-	1117.61	11:411	100	1000	111/120	
Cumberland and		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Lancashire	4,821	5'92	5.83	5'93	+ '09	- '01
Cleveland	6,957	5.85	5.82	5.80	+ '03	+ '05
Lincolnshire and		113119-1		199		
Leicestershire	883	5.76	5'93	5'31	- '17	+ '45
Northamptonshire Staffordshire and	631	5'73	5.72	5'90	+ '01	- '17
Shropshire	1,139	4.84	5'14	5'35	- '30	- '51
Other places in				1 314	STATE OF THE PARTY OF	
England	130	5'76	5'33	5.67	+ '43	+ '09
Total, England	14,561	5.78	5.78	5.78		
SCOTLAND	1,219	5'95	5.91	5'92	+ '04	+ *03
IRELAND	102	5'93	6.00	5'90	07	+ .03
Total and Averages	15,882	<b>5.79</b>	5.79	5.79		

The number of workpeople employed at the mines included in the returns was 15,882, or 3.1 per cent. more than a year ago, and of these, 91.2 per cent. were employed at mines working 22 or more days during the four weeks ended March 21st, as compared with 88.9 per cent. in

February and 88°0 per cent. a year ago.

Shale Mining.—Employment with shale miners in the Lothians continues good. At the 27 mines covered by the returns received, the average number of days worked during the four weeks ended March 21st was 5°63 per week, being the same as in February, while in March, 1902, the average was 5°51. The number of workpeople employed at the mines reported on was 2,637 in March, 1903, compared with 2,676 a month ago, and 2,716 a year ago.

Lead, Tin and Copper Mining.—In Durham employment with lead miners in slightly better than a month ago; with tin and copper miners in Cornwall it shows little change as compared with a month ago, being quiet in the Calstock district and fair in the Camborne district.

#### Quarrying.

Slate.—Apart from the dispute affecting the Bethesda district, employment with slate quarrymen in North Wales continues good. In Devon and Cornwall it is fair.

Limestone.—In Weardale employment with limestone quarrymen continues good; in the Gateshead district it is not so good. In Cumberland and Derbyshire employment was interfered with by bad weather; in North Wales it was good; in Devon and Cornwall moderate.

Granite.—Quarrymen in Leicestershire remain fairly well employed; in Shropshire and North Wales employment continues good; in the Penryn district (Cornwall) it is fair and in the Dartmoor and Gunnislake districts good. In Forfar, Aberdeen, and Kincardine employment was fair, but worse than either a month ago or a year ago. In the Peterhead district however, there was a slight improvement as compared with February, while in the Kemnay district employment has been good.

Other Stone.—In the Barnsley district employment with quarrymen is moderate; at Normanton full time has been worked. It is stated to have been bad with stone-cutters and labourers in Rowsley and district (Derbyshire) and worse than either a month or a year ago, short time being worked. In North Wales it continues good.

Settmaking. — In Leicestershire settmakers continue fairly well employed; in the Clee Hill district (Shropshire) employment is stated to have been good; in North Wales they are fully employed. In the Aberdeen and Edinburgh districts employment is fair, in the West of Scotland quiet.

Clay Works.—In the St. Austell district (Cornwall) china clay workers are well employed.

#### PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry shows little change as compared with a month ago, but at the works for which returns have been received the number of furnaces in blast is greater than a year ago. Returns received relating to the works of 113 ironmasters show that 328 furnaces were in blast at the end of March, as compared with 329 in February, and 320 at the end of March 1902. The estimated number of workpeople employed at the 328 furnaces in blast at the end of March was about 22,600.

The following Table shows by districts the number of furnaces in blast at the works included in the returns at the three periods specified:—

			e compared onth ago.	Present time compared with a year ago.			
Districts.	Mar.,	Feb., 1903.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Mar., 1903.	Mar., 1903.	Mar.,	Increase or Decreas in Mar., 1	e (-)
ENGLAND & WALES-	171.73	9999		1999	100.30	137 30 00	E PAGE
Cleveland	83	83		83	78	+	5
Cumberland & Lancs.	43	42*	+ 1	43	42	+	I
S. and S.W. Yorks	15	15		15	16	-	I
Derby & Nottingham	37	39	- 2	37	36	+	I
Leicester, Lincoln and Northampton	25	26	- I	25	26	-	1
Stafford & Worcester	32	33	- I	32	34	-	2
S. Wales & Monmouth	15	14	+ 1	15	14	+	I
Other districts	7	7		7	6	+	I
Returned from England & Wales	257	259*	- 2	257	252	+	5
RETURNED FROM SCOTLAND	71	70	+ 1	71	68	+	3
Total furnaces included in returns	328	329*	- 1	328	320	+	8

In addition to the returns summarised above the Department has received reports from its Local Correspondents which show that in Durham employment has been fairly good and regular. In Cleveland employment has been good; in North Staffordshire it was regular; in Leicestershire and Northamptonshire it is stated to have dealined.

#### IRON AND STEEL WORKS.+

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works shows little change compared with a month ago, but is rather worse than a year ago.

At 201 works covered by the returns received from employers, 73,587 workpeople were employed during the week ended March 28th, a decrease of 200 compared with a month ago, and of 2,414 compared with the corresponding period of last year.

### Number Employed.

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

District.			Numb	pers emplo week ende	yed in	Increase Decrea in Mar., compare	ise (-) 1903, as
			Mar. 28th,	Feb. 21st 1903.	Mar. 29th, 1902.	A month ago.	A year ago.
England and Wales Scotland		-	61,744 11,843	61,828 11,959	63,420 12,581	- 84 - 116	-1,676 - 738
Total		2 10	73,587	73,787	76,001	- 200	-2,414

#### Weekly Number of Shifts Worked.

Information as to the number of shifts worked has also been received with regard to works at which 91 per cent. of the workpeople included in the above Table were employed, and the particulars are summarised in the Table below.

The average number of shifts worked per man was 5.43 in the week ended March 28th, compared with 5.44

\* Revised figure. † Including iron puddl and rolling and steel making and rolling.

#### EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH-IRON AND STEEL AND TINPLATE WORKS; SHIPBUILDING.

in the week ended February 21st, and with 5.37 in March, 1902.

April, 1903.

Number of Shifts	Number employed in Mar., 1903, so	Percentage proportion to	Corresponding percentage in		
worked.	far as returned.	Total.	Feb., 1903.	Mar.,	
	6,327	9'5	11.1	13'1	
	23,952	36.0		33'9	
	707	I.I	Contract Con	I,I	
	35,133	52'7	53'4	51.5	
Over 6 per week .	478	0.7	1'4	0'7	
Total	66,597	100,0	100,0	100.0	

Assuming that the workpeople not included in the above Table (9 per cent. of the total number returned as employed) worked the same average number of shifts as those who are included, the total number of shifts worked by all the workpeople given in the first Table may be estimated to have been 399,700 in the week ended March 28th, compared with 401,410 in the week ended February 21st, and with 408,210 in March, 1902. On this basis, therefore, the volume of employment at the works included in the returns shows a decrease o'4 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 2'1 per cent. compared with a year ago. The following reports on the different branches of the iron and steel manufacturing industry in certain districts have been furnished by the Local Correspondents and others:—

Tyne and Wear District.—Employment at the steel plate and bar mills at Consett and Newburn has improved, practically full time being worked; at sheet angle and cogging mills in the Jarrow district it is much the same as a month ago.

Cleveland and Hartlepools District.—Employment at steel works and rail mills has been good, and in other departments moderate. In metal expansion works employment has been fair.

South Yorkshire.—In the Sheffield district employment has been quiet, the steel smelters being on short time at some works. In the Rotherham district at one works ironworkers are slack and steelworkers busy; at Masbro' and Iccles employment with both iron and steel workers is fair.

Midlands.—In Derbyshire the puddlers continue working short time, but malleable iron workers are busy. In North Staffordshire employment with iron and steel workers has improved, steel smelters are busy and rollers are well employed. In South Staffordshire steel smelters and sheet millmen report an improvement. In Shropshire the iron mills are working short time.

South Wales.—Iron and steel workers generally have been working regularly.

Scotland.—Employment with steel smelters has in most districts been good; with iron and steel workers it has been fairly good.

# TINPLATE WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry continues good.

At the end of March 389 mills were in operation (the majority of them running full time), as compared with 395 at the end of February, and with 397 a year ago. The total number of works open was 76, and at 51 of these all the mills (261) were in operation, whilst at the remaining 25 works, 128 mills, out of a total of 169, were

Of the 389 mills in operation, and employing about 19,400 workpeople, 377 were situated in the South Wales, Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire districts, compared with 383 in February, and 385 a year ago.

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

\* 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.

SHE SHANDS THE EST.	No. of	No. of M	fills in such Works		
the charge and it made to	Works open.	Working.	Not Working.	Total.	
Works giving full employment Works giving partial employment	51 25	261 128	 4I	261 169	
Total at end of March, 1903*	76	389	41	430	
Corresponding Total for Feb., 1903*	77	395	43	438	
Corresponding Total for Mar., 1902 *+	79	+397	155	452	

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

		Tinplates.		В	lackplates.	and a
	Mar., 1903.	Feb., 1903.	Mar.,	Mar.,	Feb., 1903.	Mar.,
To United States ,, Other Countries	Tons. 5,896 22,834	Tons. 4,342 19,495	Tons. 5,949 20,677	Tons.  6,012	Tons 3,932	Tons.
Total	28,730	23,837	26,626	6,012	3,932	3,548

#### SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from 8 Employers' Associations, from two large Shipbuilding Companies, from 5 Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents.

The information thus obtained shows that the general state of employment, though rather better than a month ago, is still bad, and much worse than a year ago.

Branches of Trade Unions with 56,776 members had 5,657 (or 9.8 per cent.) unemployed at the end of March, as compared with 10.4 per cent. in February and 4.2 per cent. in March, 1902.

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

in the following rabi	٠.						
Districts.		No. of Members of Unions at end of Mar.,1903,	re	ercenta turned mploye end of	as ed at	Increase Decrease Percent Mar., 1 compare	e(-) in tage for 903, as
		included in the returns.	Mar.,	Feb.,	Mar.,	Month ago.	Year ago.
							- In Version
Tyne and Blyth			11.8	13.5	4.8	- 1.4	+ 7'0
Wear		5,292	19'2	22.7	5.5	- 3'5	+ 14.0
Tees and Hartlepool		4,217	20'I	23'5	5.3	- 3'4	+ 14.9
Humber		2,387	8.1	7.7	7.8	+ 0.4	+ 0.3
Thames and Medway		4,379	7.8	4'4	2.6	+ 3'4	+ 5'2
Portsmouth, Devonport, ar	nd	3,189	3'2	3.9	I.I	- 0.7	+ 2.1
Southampton		Sala land	1 7 7 7			The Parks	
Bristol Channel Ports		2,481	6.7	15'7	10.0	- 9.0	- 4'2
Mersey		3,865	2'2	3.1	5'9	- 0.0	- 3.7
Barrow		1,524	0.2	1.3	0.8	- 0.8	- 0.3
Clyde		12,706	10'2	8.7	2.9	+ 1.2	+ 7'3
Dundee, Leith, and Aberdeen		2,222	6.5	4'3	2.7	+ 2'2	+ 3.8
Belfast		3,099	1.7	2'I	2'4	- 0'4	- 0.7

As will be seen from the Table the percentage of unemployed was greatest on the North East Coast and the Clyde, while it was least in the Barrow, Belfast, Mersey and South Coast districts. As compared with a month ago a great improvement is shown at the repairing ports of the Bristol Channel, and considerable improvement on the North East Coast, while the figures for the Thames district indicate a considerable falling off. As compared with a year ago, the decline has been greatest on the North-east Coast, the Clyde and the Thames, while considerable improvement is shown in the British Channel and Mersey districts.

Employment generally on the North East Coast has improved, but is still much worse than a year ago. In the Tyne and Tees and Hartlepool districts the termination of the joiners' dispute has led to some improvement. In ship repairing employment has been moderate. On

\* See (\*) in previous column. + Revised figures

good, but has improved on new work. With shipwrights it is moderate; with smiths and strikers it has improved. On the Wear employment is bad with rivetters and caulkers, and drillers and hole cutters, moderate and improving with shipwrights. In the Tees and Hartlepool district employment generally is reported as moderate.

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On the Humber shipwrights, drillers and hole cutters report employment as fair, iron shipbuilders as slack. At Grimsby employment continues bad. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members shows little change in this district as compared with a month and a year ago.

On the Thames employment generally is slack on both new and repair work and considerably worse than a month and a year ago. At Chatham shipwrights report employment as good, iron shipbuilders as moderate. At Sheerness it is fair.

On the South Coast employment is rather better than a month ago, but not so good as a year ago. At Southampton employment is only moderate generally, and bad with iron shipbuilders. At Portsmouth it is very good with shipwrights, slack with iron shipbuilders. At Devonport employment is very good in the Government yards with some acceptance. ment yards, with some overtime.

At the Bristol Channel Ports employment in ship repairing is much better than in February and better than a year ago. At Bristol, although improved, it is still dull. At Cardiff and Barry it is reported as good, with much overtime. At Swansea it is bad, with short time. At Pembroke Dock it is good.

On the Mersey employment is fairly good. It shows further improvement, and is better than a year ago.

At Barrow the state of employment, as indicated by the proportion of unemployed Trade Union members, is very good, rather better than in February and about the same as a year ago. Bad weather has interfered with outside work.

On the Clyde employment is rather worse than in February and much worse than a year ago. Bad weather has seriously interfered with outside work during the month. With shipwrights employment is fair generally, very good at Govan. Iron shipbuilders report it as slack, especially at Greenock, Dumbarton and Port Glasgow, but moderate at Renfrew and Govan, good at Clydebank. Employment is fair with ship joiners, riggers and sail makers, moderate with smiths and strikers.

On the East Coast of Scotland employment generally is shown by Trade Union returns to be quiet and worse than a month and a year ago, but with shipwrights it is fairly good, some overtime being worked at Leith. With iron shipbuilders it is slack.

At Belfast employment is good, and better than a month and a year ago.

#### ENGINEERING TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from 11 Employers' Associations, 2 large Employers, 25 Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents.

The majority of the returns received from Employers' Associations describe employment as fair, much the same as a month ago, and rather worse than a year ago. On the North-East Coast a slight improvement is reported as compared with a month ago.

Returns relating to branches of Trade Unions with 141,169 members show that 6,550 (or 4.6 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of March, as compared with 5.1 per cent. in February, and 5.2 per cent. in March, 1902. Generally, employment is moderate. With pattern-makers it is very good. With ironfounders there has been considerable improvement. Smiths report employment as dull.

The state of employment in the various districts as

the Tyne employment with rivetters and caulkers is not | Unions returned as unemployed at the end of the month is shown in the following Table:-

	+) or -) in unem- Mar., apared
	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES.	
	- 0.9
Darrow and Lancaster   2,310   32   27   30	- 2'0
Manchester and Liverpool 16,900 3.7 4.3 5.7 - 0.6 -	20
Oldham, Bolton and Black- 10,823 6'4 7'8 6'9 - 1'4 -	- 0.2
West Riding Towns 11,823   6'4   6'0   8'0   + 0'4   -	- 1.6
Hulland Linconstitie 3,1/1 43 43 39	- 1.6
ton and Coventry District	- 0.8
Notts., Derby and Leicester 4,022 3'4 3'0 5'5 + 0'4 -	- 2'I
London and Neighbouring 12,794 3.9 4.0 3.8 - 0.1	+ 0.1
South Coast 3,401   1'7   1'9   2'0   - 0'2	- 0.3
South Wales and Bristol District SCOTLAND.	- 0.6
East of Scotland 3,691 7.7 9.5 8.6 - 1.8	- 0.0
Belfast and Dublin 3,446 3'2 4'9 4'8 - 1'7	- 1.6

Nearly all the districts show an improvement as compared with a month and a year ago. Such declines as are indicated are of small extent.

North-East Coast.—Employment generally is fair. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members is less than a month ago, and is only slightly greater than a year ago. Pattern makers report employment as fair at Newcastle and Gateshead, as good elsewhere. With ironfounders it is good generally, but bad at Sunderland and South Shields. With engineers on the Tyne and Tees employment is moderate. On the Wear employment in the engine shops continues to improve slowly. In boilermaking it has improved on the Tyne, is slack on the Wear, moderate at Hartlepool and Middlesbrough, good at Darlington. Employment is good in railway engine and wagon works, and in bridge building in the Tees district. An improvement is reported with brassfinishers and whitesmiths on the Tyne and

Barrow and Lancaster.—Employment generally is fair, but ironfounders report it as declining at Barrow, good at Lancaster. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members shows no marked change as compared with a month or a year ago.

Manchester and Liverpool District. — Employment generally is fair, and better than a month and a year ago. With pattern makers it is good generally. With iron founders it is bad at Liverpool, good elsewhere. At Liverpool brass founders report employment as good. Engineers report employment as bad at Stockport and Northwich. At Crewe employment continues good.

Oldham, Bolton, Blackburn and District.-Employment generally is rather dull, but the proportion of unemployed nembers of Trade Unions is less than a month and a year ago. At Oldham employment is reported as bad, with some short time in general engineering, as fair in textile machine making. At Bolton employment generally is only moderate, but pattern makers report it as improving and roller makers are very busy. Boilermakers are slack generally.

West Riding .- Employment generally is moderate. It shows little change as compared with a month ago, but the percentage of unemployed Trade Union members is less than a year ago. Pattern makers report employment as good at Sheffield and Bradford, as moderate at Leeds. At Sheffield employment generally is fair, but is slack on heavy work. Employment is bad at Halifax, good at Huddersfield. With boilermakers it is slack generally, but improving at Stanningley.

Hull and Lincolnshire District.—Employment generally indicated by the proportions of members of certain Trade | is fair. It shows little change as compared with a month EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH-Engineering; Hardware, Cutlery, &c., Trades; Textile Trades.

ago, but is rather better than a year ago. At Doncaster and Grimsby engineers report employment as bad, other branches as moderate. With ironfounders it is good generally, but moderate at Lincoln. At Grantham employment is good, though not brisk.

West Midlands.—Employment generally continues fairly good, and the proportion of unemployed Trade Union members is less than a year ago. With ironfounders employment is good generally. With general engineers t is quiet at Wolverhampton, moderate elsewhere. With electrical engineers and in railway wagon works it is fairly good. Military gun makers at Birmingham report it as quiet. In the cycle and motor making industries employment is very good, and overtime is being worked, especially in the latter trade.

East Midlands.—Employment generally is moderate, not quite so good as a month ago, but better than a year Engineers report employment as good at Chesterbad at Loughborough; ironfounders as good at Chesterfield, bad elsewhere; boilermakers as moderate at Derby, slack at Nottingham. With lace, hosiery and shoe machine builders employment is fairly good. Railway carriage and wagon builders at Derby are slack. In the cycle and motor trade at Nottingham employment has improved.

London and Neighbouring District. — Employment generally is moderate, and the same as a month and a year ago. With pattern makers and brassfounders it ontinues fairly good. Smiths and hammermen report it as bad, coppersmiths as slack.

South Coast.—The proportion of unemployed Trade Union members shows little change as compared with a month and a year ago. At Southampton employment continues fair, but not so good as a year ago. Engineers report it as moderate at Portsmouth, good at Cowes, bad at Weymouth. At Devonport ironfounders report employment as good, engineers as moderate in the Government yards. In the private yards at Devonport

and Plymouth it is quiet. South Wales and Bristol District.- Employment generally is moderate. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members is the same as in March, and rather less than a year ago. At Swindon employment is fairly good; at Newport and Swansea it is bad. At Cardiff and Barry an improvement is reported.

Glasgow and District. — Employment generally is moderate. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members is practically the same as a month and a year ago. With pattern makers employment is fair generally. With general engineers, iron and brass moulders, and ron, steel and brass dressers it is moderate; with coppermiths it is fair. In locomotive building employment continues good. At Greenock and Port Glasgow employment continues bad.

East of Scotland.—Employment has improved and is rather better than a year ago. With engineers it is moderate at Dundee and Aberdeen, bad at Edinburgh and Leith. With iron moulders it is very fair at Falkirk, bad, but improving, elsewhere.

Ireland.—Employment is better than a month and a year ago. At Belfast it is reported as very fair generally, with good prospects. At Dublin engineers and smiths report employment as moderate, iron and brass founders

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

Information has been received from two Employers' Associations, 15 Trade Unions, and from Local Corres-

With brassworkers employment is reported as good at Manchester but dull at Rotherham. In the Birmingnam district employment is fair, but in the firebrass and fender section it is quiet. Copper and brass tube sections are fairly employed, with overtime in some ases, but in the bedstead trade employment is bad.

moderately employed in the Birmingham district, but at West Bromwich, nut, bolt and general hardware makers are fairly employed.

Among the South Staffordshire branches of the miscellaneous metal trades employment is reported as generally slack, but good for builders' lock and key makers. It is also reported as good for anvil makers at Dudley and for anchor smiths at Cradley.

In the tube trade employment is fair, but worse than a month ago and a year ago.

For hollow-ware workers employment is fair at Wolverhampton, but only moderate at Birmingham.

At Cradley and at Dudley work is slack with cable, block, and dollied chain makers.

At Walsall malleable ironworkers report employment as bad, with some short time.

With file makers employment generally is reported as fair, but in Sheffield it is quiet, while at Warrington it is reported busy, and at Glasgow good.

With stove, grate and kitchen range makers employment has been slack at Leeds; it is quiet at Sheffield and Nottingham, bad at Leicester, and at Falkirk where 200 workpeople are on short time. Derby and Glasgow, however, report employment as fair.

With iron plate, tin and other sheet metal workers employment has slightly improved in some branches in London, but is worse generally than a month and a year ago, with some short time. Zinc workers report employment as fair. At Hull, Bilston and the Lye employment is reported as good, at Aberdeen fair, in the Manchester and Oldham districts moderate, at Birmingham, Nottingham, Edinburgh, and at Dublin quiet.

In the cutlery trade employment has been good at Sheffield with pen and pocket knife cutlers, and fair with workers in the saw trade, but other branches mostly report employment as bad or slack. Needle and fish hook makers report employment as good at Redditch, but needle makers at Nottingham as slack.

Britannia metal workers report employment as quiet in Sheffield, but as fair in Birmingham. Platers and gilders report employment as fair in Sheffield.

With silversmiths, electro-platers and jewellers em-

ployment is reported as quiet at Birmingham and at London, but good in the latter place with silver fork and spoon makers. Goldsmiths and jewellers in London report employment as bad.

In wire working and weaving employment is reported as quiet in London and Glasgow, and moderate at

Farriers report employment generally as slack, except at Derby, where it is moderate; at Aberdeen fair, and at Dublin good.

#### COTTON TRADE.

INFORMATION as to the state of employment in the different branches of the cotton trade has been received through the Trade Correspondent of the Department from 24 Employers' Associations, whose members are estimated to employ 232,000 operatives. 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 561 spinning and weaving factories, employing about 96,400 women and girls.

The general result of the information thus obtained from various sources is as follows. Employment in the Spinning branch continues good, and is better on the whole than a month ago; it is also better than a year ago. Practically no short time has been reported. Of the 25,400 women included in the returns from women correspondents, 94 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment throughout the month, compared with 91 per cent. in February and 88 per cent. in March,

Nut, bolt, machine-made rivet makers, axle makers, edge tool makers and general hardware workers are is reported as unsatisfactory and worse than a month ago,

#### EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH-Textile Trades.

but it has been fair on the whole and better than a year ago, when there was considerable slackness in the Bolton district. Very little short time is reported, but an increasing number of looms are standing for beams. Of the 71,000 women included in the returns from women correspondents, 82 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment throughout the month, compared with the same percentage during February and with 77

per cent. in March, 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

		Percen	tage ordir	narily emp	loyed i	in Mills
Trade and Month.		through	full Time out the nth.	Working Short Time	Close	ed during
		With Full Employ- ment.	With Partial Employ- ment.	during some part of the Month.	repa trade,	onth for hirs, bad disputes, er causes
Cotton Trade—Spinning—	4			123.716		**************************************
March, 1903		94	5	100000	Part Wall	
February, 1903	***	91 88	5 3	8	1000	3
March, 1902	***	00	3	0	131305	TO MAN H
Cotton Trade—Weaving—		16 0 70	1 100		MAG	
March, 1903		82	15	1	-	2
February, 1903		82	13	I	160 10	4
March, 1902		77	17	5	1 100	ī

Stockport, Manchester and Ashton District.—Employment in the Stockport, Reddish, Romiley and Compstall district is good, and better than a year ago. In the Manchester district it is fairly good. In the Ashton, Stalybridge, Mossley, Dukinfield and Droylsden district it is

good, and better than a year ago.

Oldham District (including Middleton, Shaw, Royton,
Lees and Chadderton).—Employment continues good, and

is better than a year ago.

Bolton District (including Farnworth, Leigh and Wigan).— Employment continues good generally, and is about the

same as a month and a year ago.

Bury and Rochdale District.—In Bury and Elton employment is reported as only moderate, and worse than a year ago, several mills being on short time. In Rochdale and Milnrow it is fairly good, but rather worse than in February, although better than a year ago. In Heywood employment is fairly good, but worse than a year ago.

Other Districts.—In the Glossop, Hadfield and Hyde district employment continues good, and is slightly better than a year ago. In Blackburn, Burnley and Preston employment is again reported as good.

WEAVING.

Preston District.—Employment is fair and is slightly better than a month ago; it is also better than a year ago; work has been resumed in one of the weaving sheds reported as closed; all the sheds have been running full time, but slackness is reported in a few.

Blackburn, Darwen, and Chorley District.—In Blackburn employment is reported as unsatisfactory, and worse than a month and a year ago, several hundred looms standing for warps. In Darwen employment is not good, and is worse than in February, looms waiting for warps. In Chorley also a decline is reported, and looms are standing.

Burnley, Accrington and Colne District.—In Burnley and Padiham employment is reported as unsatisfactory, and worse than a month and a year ago, many looms standing for warps. In Nelson it continues good. In Accrington, Church, and Oswaldtwistle employment is not so good as a month ago and is worse than a year ago. In Colne employment is reported as fairly good generally, but in the coloured goods branch some of the looms are standing, and employment is worse than a month and a year ago.

Other Districts.—In Bury and Elton employment is reported as bad on India and China goods and on in Barnsley.

fustians, and some sheds are on short time. In Rochdale employment is again reported as unsatisfactory with looms standing. In Radcliffe employment is good, and a scarcity of weavers is reported. In Bolton employment continues fairly good, and is better than a year ago.

### WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

Information has been received from two Employers' Associations, from one Trade Union, from Local Correspondents, and also from women correspondents with regard to 165 factories in Yorkshire employing about 28,000 women and girls.

Employment in the Woollen trade continues good in most branches, but again shows a decline in the heavy branch. In the Worsted trade it has declined with woolcombers, but is fairly good in other branches. Of the women and girls usually employed in the Yorkshire woollen and worsted factories reported on 85 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment throughout the month, to be compared with 84 per cent. in February, and with 92 per cent. in March, 1902.

Bradford District.—Employment in the worsted trade is reported as good and slightly better than last month. With woolcombers it has declined, being reported as only fair with women and bad with men, night work being much reduced. Spinners in the Worth Valley are fully employed. In Halifax no further decline has taken

Huddersfield District.—Although there is a slight re-covery in the worsted trade in Huddersfield, worsted weavers have still to wait for warps, and generally speaking employment in the worsted trade is worse than a year ago. In the woollen trade in Huddersfield and the Colne Valley there is a slight decline, but overtime and night work continue to be worked at some firms. In the heavy woollen trade in Batley and Dewsbury employment is not so good, firms running full time but

several giving only partial employment.

Other Districts.—Employment is reported as fair in the Leeds cloth mills, full time being generally worked; at Wakefield employment is only moderate; at Yeadon and Guiseley it is good. Woollen workers in Rochdale, Milnrow and Stockport continue well employed. Employment at Trowbridge is good on heavy woollens, fair on coverts and worsteds; at Tiverton it is bad, short time being worked. It is good in Montgomeryshire. In Hawick, Selkirk and Galashiels employment continues good in all branches of the woollen industry. Tweed operatives in Blarney and Douglas are well employed.

## OTHER TEXTILE TRADES.

Jute and Flax Trades.

Information has been received from two Employers' Associations, from one Trade Union, and from Local Correspondents.

Employment in Dundee is fairly good. Information has been received with regard to 53 jute and flax factories, employing about 8,000 men and boys and factories, employing about 0,900 men and boys and 21,000 women and girls. From this it appears that of the 19,000 persons employed in spinning mills 81 per cent. were employed in mills running full time, and giving full employment throughout the month, and 17 per cent. in mills running full time but affected by slackness. Of the 10,900 employed in weaving works, 66 per cent. were employed in factories running full time and giving full employment throughout the month, and 34 per cent. in factories running full time but giving only partial employment. Practically, therefore, all the works were running full time. The weavers in Forfar report employment as fairly good, and as much the same as a month and a year ago.

In Ulster employment in the flax trade continues good generally. In Belfast the women workers' Trade Union report employment as fair; the power loom tenters as good; the beetlers, the flax dressers and the flax roughers as moderate; the hackle and gill makers as dull.

Employment is reported as fair in Leeds, moderate

### EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH -- TEXTILE TRADES; BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

April, 1903.

Hosiery Trade.
According to reports from one Employers' Association and from Local Correspondents, employment is fair on the whole, but not so good as in February or a year ago.

Leicester District.—Employment at Leicester is reported as fair. On fashioned and seamless hose it is not so good as last month at Leicester, Hinckley and Loughborough; in the cotton underwear branch also it is slacker. It is fair with those engaged on shirts, pants, cashmere underwear, cardigan jackets and gloves. Employment with hosiery dyers and trimmers is moderate at Leicester, slack at Loughborough, bad at Hinckley.

Nottingham District.—Employment is better than a month

ago but worse than a year ago. It is reported as bad with power frame work knitters, as fair with circular hosiery and rib top workers and with female operatives in the finishing and making up branch; as good at Calverton, Carlton and Woodborough, quiet at Arnold and Hucknall Torkard; as moderate with hosiery trimmers at Basford

Scotland .- In the Selkirk and Hawick district hosiery workers continue to be fully employed as in February and a year ago.

Lace Trade.

According to information from the Employers' Association, the Lace Makers' Trade Union and the Local Correspondent, employment in the Nottingham Lace Trade is fair in the levers section, but is slightly worse than a month and a year ago; it is fair in the curtain branch, showing no change compared with the previous month and a year ago. It is good in the plain net section, although slightly worse than in February, and is about the same as a year ago. Employment is quiet at Beeston and Stapleford, moderate at Kimberley and

Printing, Dyeing, Bleaching, and Finishing. Information has been received from four Employers' Associations, two Trade Unions with about members, and Local Correspondents. One Trade Union in the West Riding with 5,200 members reports employment as quiet for dyers during March, and states that three-fifths of its members worked short time. In this district employment generally is worse than a year ago. In Leeds, however, dyers are fairly well employed with the exception of indigo dyers. Employment in the Manchester district is fair with calico printers, moderate with dyers. It is reported as slack at Huddersfield. Barnsley and Bury; as moderate at Bradford and Middleton; good at Burnley. The cotton and wool dyers' Employers' Association, covering Lancashire, Yorkshire, and the South of Scotland, reports employment as fair,

The dyers and trimmers in Leicester are fairly well employed. Employment is reported as improved with dyers in Nottingham and Basford; as fair with bleachers in Basford and Bulwell, and with calico printers at New Mills. It is reported as good with calico printers in Glasgow; as fairly good with dyers and finishers in Dundee, being better than a month ago but worse than a year ago. Bleachers in the Dundee district report an improvement.

as about the same as in February, and as worse than a

#### BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

(For Leather Trades see p. 110.)

RETURNS have been received from the Trade Correspondent of the Department based on information supplied by 574 firms employing 71,936 workpeople. Reports have also been furnished by Trade Unions and by Local Correspondents.

The reports show that employment continues quiet, being much the same as in February, but better than a year ago. The number employed by the firms making returns at the end of March was 71,936, compared with 71,641 at the end of February, and with 68,645 a year ago, an increase of 0.4 per cent. during the month and of 4.8 per cent. during the year. Of the total number of operatives, 78 per cent. were employed by firms working at least throughout the month compared with 61 full time throughout March (to be compared with 76 per February. Employment is reported as bad.

cent. among those for whom returns were received for

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

District.	No. of firms	No. e	employe irms at	d by end of	Percei Increase Decrease	
	making returns.	Mar. 1903.	Feb. 1903.	Mar. 1902.	Feb. 1903.	Mar. 1902.
ENGLAND AND WALES. London	73 103 147 27 18 36 16 25 43 17 10 31	6,011 16,648 18,556 3,485 2,763 5,106 2,410 2,343 3,531 2,484 1,276 2,493	5,972 16,647 18,253 3,490 2,714 5,073 2,453 2,322 3,541 2,492 1,270 2,522	5,320 16,518 17,220 3,354 2,761 4,867 2,163 2,353 3,278 2,176 1,260 2,382	+ 0'7 + 0'0 + 1'7 - 0'1 + 1'8 + 0'7 - 1'8 + 0'9 - 0'3 - 0'3 + 0'5 - 1'1	+ 1'3 + 0'8 + 7'8 + 3'9 + 0'1 + 4.9 + 11'4 - 0'4 + 77 + 14'2 + 1'3 + 4'7
Total, England and Wales	546	67,106	66,749	63,652	+ 0.2	+ 5'4
SCOTLAND IRELAND	25 3	4,368 462	4,438 454	4,580 413		+ 11.6 - 4.6
Total	574	71,936	71,641	68,645	+ 0.4	+ 4.8

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

London.—Returns covering 6,000 workpeople show that 90 per cent. were in firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 89 per cent. in February. Employment amongst the Trade Union boot and shoe operatives is reported as quiet; with handsewn boot-makers it is dull, but shows a slight improvement

compared with February.

Leicester District.— Returns covering 13,560 workpeople in Leicester and 3,088 in country districts show that 681 per cent. of the former and 84 per cent. of the latter were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 78 and 86 per cent. respectively in February. Employment generally was rather slacker.

Northampton District.—Returns covering 9,642 workpeople in Northampton and 8,914 in country districts show that  $85\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of the former and 78 per cent. of the latter were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 76 and 78 per cent. respectively in February. Employment is fairly good with army bootmakers and with boot upper cutters and closers. It remains moderate at Higham and Rushden, and is quiet at Wellingborough. In Kettering employment has slightly improved in the men's department. Of the 3,485 workpeople covered by the returns, 96 per cent. were in firms working full time during the month, compared with 87 per cent. in February.

Stafford, Stone, and Nantwich.—Returns covering 2,763 workpeople show that 92 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 76 per cent. in February. At Stafford and Stone operatives are very busy and a large proportion are working overtime.

Eastern Counties.—Returns covering 5,106 workpeople in Norwich, Ipswich, Colchester, and Braintree show that 75 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 68 per cent. in February. Employment is reported as dull.

Bristol and Kingswood.—Returns covering 2,410 workpeople in Bristol show that 63 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 66 per cent. in February. Of the 2,343 covered by the returns in Kingswood, 46 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 42 per cent. in Febuary. In Bristol employment is reported as worse than in February. In Kingswood it continues dull.

Leeds.—Returns covering 3,531 workpeople show that 58 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month compared with 61 per cent. in

EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH-BOOT AND SHOE, TAILORING, HAT AND OTHER CLOTHING TRADES; PRINTING, BOOKBINDING AND PAPER TRADES.

Scotland.—Returns covering 4,368 workpeople show that 82 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 72 per cent. in February. Employment is reported as slack in Glasgow and Maybole, and fair in Kilmarnock; as fair in

Edinburgh; as moderate in Aberdeen.

Ireland.—Employment is reported as bad in Dublin; moderate in Belfast and Cork.

#### TAILORING TRADE.

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

Bespoke Branch. — Employment shows a general improvement and is fairly good.

Ready-made Branch.—Employment in London is reported as fairly good on the whole during March but as showing a decline at the end of the month.

In Leeds employment is reported as fairly good during March. Returns have been received from ready-made tailoring manufacturers employing about 12,000 work-people in their factories in addition to persons employed on work for them in workshops. Firms employing 43 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns report employment as not so good compared with February, and firms employing 31 per cent. as better. As compared with a year ago firms employing 40 per cent. report it as better, and firms employing 38 per cent. as worse. Employment showed a decline towards the end of the month.

In Manchester employment is reported as fairly good during March and better than in February, but as worse than a year ago. It showed an improvement towards the end of the month.

In Bristol employment continued good and was better than a year ago. Towards the end of the month it showed a slight decline.

In Norwich, Ipswich and Colchester employment is reported as good.

In Glasgow employment has been fair.

#### HAT TRADE.

Reports have been received from three Employers' Associations, from two Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents.

Employment generally continues dull. Trade Unions with 5,442 members have 158 (or 2.9 per cent.) unemployed, compared with the same percentage at the

end of February and 2.7 per cent. a year ago.

Employment with silk hatters in London is reported as quiet for the time of year, as worse than a month ago, but better than a year ago. During March most firms worked an hour a day less than full time, and the remainder two hours a day less. In Denton the silk hatters' Trade Union reports that the majority of their members worked short time during March.

With felt hatters, employment in Denton is reported as better than in February and about the same as a year ago; about half the Trade Union telt hatters worked short time during the greater part of March; a little overtime was worked in some firms in the planking branch. In Stockport employment is reported as moderate, and worse than a month and a year ago; in Bury as bad, with much short time in March; in Bredbury as very quiet throughout the month. Employment in Warwickshire is reported as bad, and as worse than 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.

In London employment with mantle-makers has been good with several firms during March, but is reported as quiet at the end of the month. Returns from three Employment Bureaux for women show an increaseu | printers report employment as moderate at Oldham;

Other Districts in England.—Employment in Mansfield | demand for dressmakers and milliners compared with a is reported as fair; in Manchester, Birmingham and Nottingham as bad.

month ago, but a decline as compared with a year ago, the number of fresh situations offered during the month being 134, compared with 87 in February and 152 in March, 1902; the number requiring situations was 70

compared with 78 in February and 39 in March, 1902. In Manchester employment with martle-makers is reported as fair, and as much the same as a month ago. Employment in the costume and skirt trade, although good generally, was not so good as in February, and was only fair at the end of the month; returns from manufacturers employing 2,556 workpeople in their factories at the end of March show an increase of 1.8 per cent. on the number employed at the end of February, and ot 8.6 per cent. on the corresponding period a year ago.

Employment with shirtmakers is quiet.

In Glasgow mantle-makers in factories have been fairly well employed, working about full time; some firms report employment as quiet at the end of the month. In the shirt and slop factories employment has been fairly good.

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

Returns have been supplied by 23 Employers' Associations, by Trade Unions with 56,000 members, and by Local Correspondents. The information thus obtained shows that at the end of March employment in the Printing and kindred Trades was quiet, there being little change as compared with a month ago. As compared with March, 1902, employment was worse in all branches. The following Table shows the percentage of Trade Union Members unemployed as compared with a month and a year ago:

	Uni	ngdom.		London.				
	No. of Members of Unions at end of March,	re	ercenta turned mploye end of	as ed at	No of Members of Unions at end of March,	re Une	ercenta turned mploye end of	as ed at
	included in the Returns.	Mar., 1903.	Feb., 1903.	Mar.,	included in the Returns.	Mar.,	Feb., 1903.	Mar. 1902.
Letterpress	40,142	4'0	4.6	3.2	19,488	3.6	4.7	3.6
Printing Lithographic	6,303	4.7	4.8	3.3	1,928	7.1	6.3	4'3
Printing Bookbinding	6,999	4.7	4.4	3'3	3,933	5.4	4.7	3.2
Total Printing and Bookbinding	53,444	4.5	4.6	3'4	25,349	4.5	4'9	3.7
Paper Manufacture	2,219	2.6	2'0	1.8				

The percentages unemployed in the *Printing and Booking Trades* in the principal districts were as follows:

Ovictions I record II	P		COLUMN TO SERVICE			the supplication is
Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Mar. 1903,		age retu ployed at		Decrease centage un for Mar	
	in the Returns.	Mar., 1903.	Feb., 1903.	Mar., 1902.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London Northern Counties Lancs. and Cheshire Yorkshire East Midlands West Midlands Eastern Counties S. & S. W. Counties Wales and Mon	25,349 1,347 6,143 3,889 1,948 2,231 370 1,568 798 5,967	4'2 5'3 6'9 3'0 3'1 4'3 2'2 3'8 4'0 1'6	4'9 3'5 6'1 3'7 2'5 5'5 3'0 2'4 2'5 2'7	3.7 1.7 4.7 2.6 2.1 3.9 1.7 2.7 2.3 1.8	- 0.7 + 1.8 + 0.8 - 0.7 + 0.6 - 1.2 - 0.8 + 1.4 + 1.5 - 1.1	+ 0'5 + 3'6 + 2'2 + 0'4 + 1'0 + 0'4 + 1'1 + 1'7 - 0'2
Scotland Ireland	2,510	7.5	8.8	4.7	- 1.3	+ 2.8

Percentages for London are shown in the first Table for each branch of the printing and bookbinding trades. Reports from other districts are summarised below :-

Northern Counties.—Employment is reported as rather quiet at Newcastle, Sunderland, Hartlepools, and Carlisle; as good at Middlesbrough, Stockton, and Darlington.

Lancashire and Cheshire.—Employment in Manchester is bad in most branches; in Liverpool it is quiet on the whole; in Bolton it is good with letterpress printers, bad with lithographic printers and bookbinders. Letterpress EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH-PRINTING, BOOKBINDING AND PAPER TRADES; FURNISHING AND Woodworking Trades; Glass, Pottery, &c., Trades.

Willows, and Barrow.

April, 1903.

Yorkshire.—Employment is fairly good generally, except with letterpress printers at Hull and lithographic printers at Leeds, who report it as bad.

East Midland Counties.—Employment is generally good, except at Nottingham, where it is reported as fair with letterpress printers, moderate with lithographic artists, bad with lithographic printers, quiet with bookbinders.

West Midland Counties.—At Birmingham letterpress

printers report employment as moderate, bookbinders as fair, stereotypers and lithographic printers as good. In the Potteries employment is reported as moderate generally. Letterpress printers report it as good at Coventry, Leek, Stafford, Warwick and Leamington; fair at Burton, Shrewsbury, and West Bromwich; indifferent at Walsall and Wolverhampton.

Eastern Counties .- Letterpress printers report employment as good at Norwich, moderate at Ipswich, fair at Bungay, quiet at Beccles.

Southern and South-Western Counties. - Employment is fairly good generally, but moderate with letterpress printers at Plymouth and bad at Portsmouth.

Wales and Monmouth.—Employment is reported as quiet at Cardiff and Newport; fair at Swansea; good at Pontypridd, Carnaryon, and Wrexham.

Scotland.—Employment is generally good with letter-press printers, and moderate with other branches. Typefounders at Edinburgh are working short time.

Ireland.—Letterpress printers at Dublin report employment as fair; stereotypers, lithographic printers and bookbinders as dull. At Belfast 7.8 per cent. of Trade Union members were unemployed at the end of the month. Employment is dull at Cork.

FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES. INFORMATION has been received from nine Employers' Associations, from 35 Trade Unions with 36,343 members, and from Local Correspondents. Employment continues rather dull except in the furnishing trades, where an improvement is shown. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members in the furnishing and woodworking trades at the end of March was 4.1, compared with 5.6 in February and 3.4 per cent. in March, 1902.

Millsawyers and Woodworking Machinists. Employment with millsawyers continues dull, and is slightly worse than a year ago; three Unions, with a membership of 3,579, show 159 (or 4.4 per cent.) unemployed at end of March as compared with 4.4 per cent. in February, and 3.4 per cent. a year ago.

In London employment generally is quiet, and some short time is being worked. On the Wear it is dull; on the Tyne it is improving. At Sheffield employment is slack; at Hull fairly good; at Liverpool dull. Employment at Birmingham, Leicester, and Nottingham is still quiet, but shows signs of improvement. At Bristol short time is being worked in many mills. At Cardiff and Swansea employment generally is moderate.

In Edinburgh employment is fair and improving; in Glasgow it is fair, but the continuance of the wet weather has caused considerable inconvenience; at Dundee employment is reported as quiet; at Aberdeen as good. At Dublin it is dull; at Cork moderate.

Employment in the furnishing trades generally continues to show an improvement, and is better than a

month ago and a year ago. With upholsterers, however, employment is still dull, but improving. Of the 15,155 members of 15 Trade Unions making returns, 550 (or 3.6 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of March, compared with 6.3 per cent. at the end of

February, and 3.2 per cent. at the end of March, 1902. In London employment has been good on the whole, being better than a month ago or a year ago. Short

time, however, was worked by upholsterers in a few shops.

Northern Counties and Yorkshire.—With cabinet makers

improving at Stockport; fair at Blackburn, Burnley, and Ashton - under - Lyne; good at Preston, Newton-le- makers, fair with french polishers and upholsterers. At Sheffield employment is improving; with cabinet makers at Hull it is moderate, at Huddersfield bad.

Lancashire.—Employment is good with cabinet makers at Liverpool, Oldham and Burnley, moderate at Manchester. With frence good at Manchester. With french polishers it is dull at Liverpool,

Midlands.—At Leicester employment generally is slack, at Birmingham and at Nottingham it is improving.

S. W. Counties and S. Wales.—Employment at Bristol is better than a month ago, but some short time is being worked. At Plymouth it is fair, in South Wales generally it is slack.

Scotland.—In Edinburgh and Glasgow employment is good generally, but upholsterers are working short time in Edinburgh. At Dundee and Aberdeen employment

Ireland.—Employment is fair at Dublin, good at Belfast, moderate at Cork.

#### Coopers.

Employment with coopers is still bad, and is also worse than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 5,234 report 336 (or 6.4 per cent.) unemployed compared with 6.6 per cent. in February and 5.4 in March, 1902. In London and Burton-on-Trent employment continues bad, with much short time in both places. On the Tyne it is fair; at Liverpool dull; at Manchester bad. Widnes coopers in chemical works are fairly well employed; at St. Austell those at clay works are busy. At Glasgow and Edinburgh employment is bad; but in the fish-curing industry at Aberdeen, Fraserburgh, and Peterhead coopers are well employed. At Dublin employment is good; at Belfast bad.

Coachbuilding.
Employment in the coachbuilding industry continues quiet; it is, however, slightly better than a month ago. Employment in London has improved, but some short time is being worked. At Swindon the coachmakers in the railway carriage works are busy. In Sheffield and district they are slack; in Cardiff fairly busy. At Manchester and Liverpool employment generally is moderate but improving; with smiths and wheelwrights at Manchester employment is bad. At Leeds it is slack. At Birmingham and Glasgow it is good. At Edinburgh it is improving, but still moderate. At Belfast and

#### Dublin no improvement has taken place. Miscellaneous.

Packing Case Makers.—Employment is slack generally; it is bad in London, with short time averaging one day per week. It is dull at Glasgow; moderate at Belfast.

Brushmakers.—Employment is good generally. Four Unions with a membership of 1,776 report 16 (or 0.9 per cent.) unemployed as compared with 3.6 per cent. in February and 1.5 per cent. in March, 1902. In London employment is very good, only 2 out of a total Trade Union membership of 778 being unemployed.

Other Trades. — With lathrenders employment is

moderate generally: it is, however, good on the Tyne. Basketmakers and stickmakers in London are badly employed. In Manchester, however, skip and basket-makers are very busy, and at Nottingham employment in this industry is also good.

# GLASS, POTTERY, AND BRICK AND TILE TRADES.

Information has been received from fourteen Employers' Associations, nine Trade Unions with 5,302 members, and Local Correspondents.

Employment in the Glass Trades continues bad in the bottle making branch; it shows a slight improvement in some other branches, but is still dull generally. In the Pottery trades it has improved, but short time is still general. In the Brick and Tile trades an improvement is reported, and employment generally is fair.

Glass Trades.—Employment with glass bottle makers in the North of England is reported as bad, as unon the Tyne and Wear employment is fair, with changed compared with February, and worse than a

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

year ago. In the St. Helens and Newton-le-Willows district it is bad, and is worse than a year ago, but shows a slight improvement compared with February. In Yorkshire generally it continues bad, and worse than a year ago; at Leeds and Castleford it shows an improvement; at Wakefield it is good; in the Mexborough and Barnsley districts it has improved, although it is still bad; at Rotherham it is fairly brisk; in London it is reported as bad. In the Glasgow, Alloa and Portobello district it is bad generally, being worse than last month or a year ago; in Glasgow, however, it is reported as fair. In Dublin employment is reported as fair.

In London glass blowers report employment as remaining fairly good, and as better than a year ago. In Bristol, glass cutters, bevellers and silverers report it as good. In Birmingham flint-glass makers report it as bad; flint-glass cutters as quiet; plate-glass bevellers and silverers as fair. At West Bromwich glass workers report it as moderate. All branches of the flint-glass trades at Wordsley, Brettle Lane and Stourbridge are quiet. Flint-glass makers at Leeds report an improvement. At St. Helens glass flatteners report employment as fair; sheet glass makers as good. With pressed glass makers at Gateshead it is worse than a month ago; with flint-glass makers at Newcastle it is fair, and better than a month ago. At Glasgow employment with flint-glass makers is moderate; with pressed glass makers it has improved. At Edinburgh glass makers and glass cutters report employment as slack.

Pottery Trades.—In the Staffordshire Potteries employment shows a slight improvement in most branches; a few factories have been fully employed, but short time has been the rule; the hollow-ware pressers report that their members have averaged fully 43 days per week; the sanitary pressers are also more regularly employed; the printers and transferrers report employment as fair, the former being hindered owing to a scarcity of transferrers; flat pressers, jolliers, turners, handlers, mould makers, designers, modellers, and artists are all better employed; the Trade Union ovenmen, firemen and saggarmakers are averaging 5 days a week.

In the South Yorkshire and Aire districts employment continues fair, and is about the same as a month and a year ago. In the Glasgow and Portobello district employment is reported as fair, showing little change compared with a month ago, and a slight decline compared with a year ago; generally full time was worked with little overtime or short time.

Brick and Tile Trades.—Employment with brickmakers in Leicestershire has improved slightly. In Nottinghamshire it is not quite so good as a month or a year ago. In the Birmingham district it has slightly improved, and is also a little better than a year ago, time being lost mainly through wet weather. In West Bromwich and Oldbury employment is fair, a little better than a month ago, but worse than a year ago. In the Oldham district it is reported as bad, and as worse than a year ago. In the Bradford district it is good, and better than a month or a year ago. At Normanton brickmakers are on full time. Brick and terra cotta workers in North Wales continue fully employed. In the Glasgow district employment is fair, being about the same as a month ago, but hardly so good as a year ago.

#### LEATHER TRADES.

(For Boot and Shoe Trade see page 107).

RETURNS have been received from 5 Employers' Associations, and 12 Trade Unions. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members was 6·3 at the end of March as compared with 6·8 in February and 2·5 in March, 1902. The general condition of employment remains dull and much short time is reported, especially in the preparatory and dressing stages of the trade. Skinners generally have been poorly-employed. With tanners employment is reported as bad, but with belt makers and lace cutters fair. Curriers generally report employment as slack, except in London, Leicester, Edinburgh and

year ago. In the St. Helens and Newton-le-Willows district it is bad, and is worse than a year ago, but shows a slight improvement compared with February. In

With saddlers employment is reported as slightly improving in London, and as fair at Walsall, though not so good as a year ago. In Birmingham employment is bad, except with cycle saddlers who are well employed. In most other centres saddlers have not been well employed. With harness makers employment generally has been dull, but with female stitchers of harness at Walsall it has improved from dull to fair. "North American harness" makers at Walsall report employment as fair. Horse collar makers in London report a slight improvement, while at Walsall employment is fair.

In London fancy leather workers report employment as quiet, pocket-book and leather case makers as bad, with short time general. Portmanteau makers report employment as fair generally and slightly better, although some short time is still being worked.

#### AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

Information as to the condition of employment in Agriculture has been received from 219 correspondents in various parts of England. The reports show that work on the land was interrupted in March by unfavourable weather, particularly in the western counties, and many casual labourers suffered loss of time in consequence. In some of the eastern counties, however, the weather has been more favourable, and farm work there is reported to be in a forward state. The supply of labour was in most counties sufficient, although a scarcity is reported in certain districts. A continued difficulty is said to be experienced in many parts in finding capable men for permanent situations.

Northern Counties .- Reports from Durham, Cumberland, and Westmorland show that work was much interrupted in certain districts by wet weather, and ploughing and sowing were consequently in a backward condition. In Lancashire, owing to the wet and boisterous weather, outdoor employment has been much interfered with. Many casual labourers have not had full employment, and the supply is said to have been equal to the demand. A correspondent in the Prescot Union states that a few Irish labourers have arrived in the district seeking employment at potato planting. The permanent men have been busy attending to stock, the lambing season having commenced. Agricultural labourers in Yorkshire have been fairly well employed, and in a few districts a scarcity of labour is reported. The weather has been favourable on the whole, and in certain

districts the spring sowings are now well forward. Midland Counties.—Reports from Cheshire and Derbyshire show that casual farm labourers have been regularly employed on the whole, although sowing has been somewhat delayed by stormy weather. In Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire hardly any agricultural labourers are said to be out of employment, and skilled men for permanent situations are scarce. Threshing and field work have been hindered by unfavourable weather. Correspondents in Staffordshire state that employment has been regular on the whole, the supply of labour being scarcely equal to the demand, and similar reports come from Shropshire. Wet and windy weather has somewhat interfered with sowing and threshing operations in these counties. Some irregularity of employment among casual labourers is reported from Worcestershire, and work on the land, especially in sowing, has been much hindered by wet weather. The supply of extra men is said to have been sufficient. In Warwickshire agricultural labourers are stated to have been mostly in regular employment, although work on the land has been interrupted by wet weather. The difficulty in obtaining good men for permanent situations is stated to have somewhat diminished.

generally have been poorly-employed. With tanners employment is reported as bad, but with belt makers and lace cutters fair. Curriers generally report employment as slack, except in London, Leicester, Edinburgh and

EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH-AGRICULTURAL LABOUR; FISHING; DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

especially in sowing, hedging and ditching. In Northamptonshire the supply of casual labourers is said to have been equal to the demand, and some men of this class lost a few days through wet and boisterous weather. Employment has been, generally speaking, regular in Buckinghamshire. The supply of casual labour is reported to have been rather more plentiful than a year ago. A correspondent in the Henley Union states that good men for permanent situations are difficult to find, and can command good wages. Employment for farm labourers in Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire is reported to have been a good deal interrupted by wet weather; hoeing and spring sowings have been much delayed. The supply of casual labour is considered to have been rather better than a year ago.

April, 1903.

Eastern Counties. - Reports from Huntingdonshire state that there was some irregularity of employment, the weather not having been very favourable for farming operations. There was consequently less demand for casual labourers, and the supply was quite sufficient in most districts. In parts of *Cambridgeshire* some casual labourers are said to have been in irregular work in consequence of stormy weather. There is a demand for good ablebodied men for permanent situations. According to a correspondent in the Peterborough Union, difficulty is experienced in getting good men to stay in situations which are a long way from a village or town. Employment in Lincolnshire is reported to have been fairly regular on the whole. The heavy root-crop provided work during wet weather, but threshing was a good deal interfered with by the high winds. A scarcity of labour is reported in several parts. In Norfolk employment has been fairly regular in most districts. The weather has been favourable on the whole, and work is well forward; the demand for casual labourers has consequently not been great, and the supply of this class was sufficient. Reports from Suffolk state that employment was not affected to any great extent by the weather, except in regard to threshing, which was rendered difficult by strong winds. Owing to work having been got well forward, some casual labourers were not in full work. Agricultural employment was fairly regular in Essex, and good progress was made on most branches of work. There is generally a good supply of casual labour, but carters and stockmen continue to be scarce.

Southern and South Western Counties. - Correspondents in Kent report that employment has been somewhat interrupted by bad weather, and some casual labourers have been in irregular work. The supply of this class of labour is stated to have been sufficient. In Surrey and Sussex employment has been, generally speaking, but little interrupted by the weather. The supply of labour has been about equal to the demand. A correspondent in the Hailsham Union mentions an increasing difficulty in getting good men as carters and stockmen. Agricultural work in Hampshire and Berkshire has been delayed by wind and rain in some parts, and several casual labourers have lost time in consequence. Employment in Wiltshire is said to have been interrupted by wet weather, and sowing is rather backward. In Dorsetshire farm work has been considerably interrupted by wet weather, and much time has been lost by casual labourers and by men on piecework. There was a scarcity of skilled farm labourers. A report from the Wareham and Purbeck Union refers to "Thirty-four advertisements in the local paper for carters only." Work on the land is reported to have been retarded by rain in Somersetshire, and the Spring sowings have been much delayed. Farm labourers have, however, been fairly well employed on odd work, and the supply of labour in most districts is stated to have been insufficient, particularly in the case of carters. In Gloucestershire agricultural work is reported to have been hindered by rainy weather, and some casual men have been only partially

from Herefordshire. In Devon and Cornwall employment for casual labourers has been irregular, ploughing and spring sowing having been greatly hindered by wet and boisterous weather. Some men, however, found employment in road-making and woodcutting.

#### FISHING INDUSTRY.

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

The fishing industry during March was much affected by unfavourable weather, with the result that the quantity of fish landed was below the total for the corresponding month of last year. Employment was therefore only moderate.

The following Table shows the quantity and value of the fish landed:—

ino man minded i				
COUNTRY.	(Exclusiv	ntity e of Shell sh).	(Inclusive	y Value e of Shell sh).
	Mar., 1903.	Mar., 1902.	Mar., 1903.	Mar., 1902.
England and Wales Scotland Ireland	60-	Cwts. 581,440 276,696½ 13,334	£ 525,813 141,698 10,383	£ 543,635 140,059 12,183
United Kingdom	804,437	871,4701	677,894	695,877

From the Tyne and Wear it is reported that the unsettled state of the weather has interfered with the work of the boats, though good supplies of white fish were landed.

At Hull and Grimsby employment was also interfered with by bad weather. The Yarmouth and Lowestoft boats were mostly engaged in mackerel fishing off the Cornish coast, and employment at these ports with those engaged on shore in connection with the industry has consequently been only moderate. At Plymouth fishing operations were interrupted by bad weather throughout the month, and only very small catches were made. Employment was consequently slack with fish packers, carters and curers.

Reports supplied by the Fishery Board for Scotland show that at Aberdeen employment with fishermen was somewhat affected by stormy weather. With fish dock labourers and fish curers it was fair. For all classes it was much the same as a month ago, although not quite as good as a year ago. With fishermen and fish curers it was moderate at Macduff and Peterhead, and bad at Fraserburgh. At the two latter ports employment was worse than a year ago; at Macduff it was much the same. Compared with a month ago employment in these two branches was better at Macduff, the same at Fraserburgh, and worse at Peterhead. Among fish dock labourers employment was bad at Fraserburgh and moderate at Peterhead. At both ports it was worse than a year ago.

#### 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. As regards other principal ports, information has been supplied by Superintendents of Mercantile Marine, Local Correspondents of the Department, and Trade Unions.

Employment was generally dull in March, and in London it was bad. It was a little better than in the previous month, but worse than in the corresponding month of last year.

LONDON.

weather, and some casual men have been only partially employed. The supply of casual labour is said to have been rather in excess of the demand in many parts of the county. Similar reports come labourers employed daily at all the docks and wharves during March was slightly better than during February, but was much worse than a year ago. The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal

#### EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH-Dock and Riverside Labour; Seamen.

wharves during the four weeks ended March 28th was 12,703, as compared with an average of 12,373 in the preceding four weeks, and 14,182 in the corresponding period a year ago. The average number employed in

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March during the six years, 1897-1902 was 14,477.

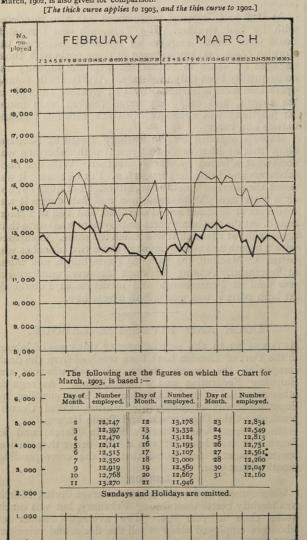
(1) Weekly Averages.—The following Table shows the estimated average number of dock and wharf labourers employed daily in each week of the month:—

and bound you	By Dock Companies or through Contractors  By Ship-owners, &c.  Tota		Docks.	Labourers	Total Dock
Period.			Total.	employed at 115 Wharves making Returns.	and Wharf
Week ended Mar. 7	4,826 5,642 5,337 4,812	2,063 1,961 1,920 2,167	6,889 7,603 7,257 6,979	5,448 5,496 5,490 5,649	12,337 13,099 12,747 12,628
Average for 4 weeks ended Mar. 28th	} 5,154	2,028	7,182	5,521	12,703
Average for Feb., 1903	5,039	1,789	6,828	5,545	12,373
Average for Mar., 1902	6,077	2,287	8,364	5,818	14,182

(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 March ranged from 13,332 on the 13th to 11,946 on the 21st.

During March, 1902, the total number of dock and wharf labourers employed varied from 12,109 on the 7th to 15,445 on the 11th.

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 months of February and March, 1903. The corresponding curve for February and March, 1902, is also given for comparison.



Employment in mid-stream, and with coal porters and winchmen has been fair; with stevedores, lumpers, and deal and corn porters it has been moderate. With fruit porters in Thames-street employment has been moderate, the average daily number employed being 289, compared with 292 in February and 318 a year ago.

Of the 3,414 "free labourers" on the register of the Shipping Federation in the Port of London, during March, 1903, 54 per cent. on the average were employed by the shipowners to whom the office supplies labour, compared with 50 per cent. in the previous month, and 55 per cent. in March, 1902.

#### OTHER PORTS.

North-East Coast.—At Newcastle-on-Tyne employment for dock labourers was fair, and at South Shields it was moderate. At both these ports it was about the same as a year ago. Employment for dock labourers at Sunderland and Middlesbrough was fair, and at Hartlepool very slack, but fair for riverside labour. Employment for coal porters and shippers on both Tyne and Wear is described as not so good. Tyne steam packet men report employment as steady, and Wear steam packet men as quiet, but steam tug boat men have been well

Hull, Grimsby, and Goole.—At Hull employment for dock labourers and coal porters was moderate, but bad for lightermen and timber trade workers. Employment for dock labourers at Goole was moderate. At Grimsby employment on fish docks was good, but on other docks it was bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. Timber trade workers report employment as bad.

Suffolk and Essex.—Riverside labour at Ipswich is reported as dull. At Parkeston it is reported as good.

Southampton and Plymouth. - Employment at Southampton is reported as moderate, and worse than a year At Plymouth it is reported as very quiet.

Bristol Channel Ports. At Cardiff employment for dock labourers is reported as bad, but slightly better than a year ago. At Penarth it was moderate, and better than a month ago. At Barry it was fair, but rather worse than a month ago, and at Newport it was good and better than a month ago. Employment at Swansea was fair. At Bristol it was moderate, and at Avonmouth and Portishead it was good and better than

Liverpool and Manchester .- At Liverpool employment for dock and riverside labour generally is reported as dull, and for Mersey flatmen as fair. Dockers at Manchester report employment as very slack.

The Clyde.—Employment in March is reported as fair and slightly better than a month and a year ago.

East of Scotland Ports.—At Leith employment was fair and better than a year ago. Employment for dock labourers at Aberdeen is reported as bad, and at Dundee

Irish Ports.—At Belfast employment is reported as moderate, a little better than a month ago, but much worse than a year ago. At Dublin it was bad, and no better than a month ago. Employment for quay labourers at Cork is reported as bad.

#### SEAMEN SHIPPED IN MARCH.

(Data supplied by the Marine Department of the Board of Trade). THE number of seamen shipped during March as the crews of foreign-going vessels from certain selected ports (at which about 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared) was 32,585, an increase of 2,841 over the number shipped in March, 1902. The supply of seamen is stated to have been equal to or in excess of the demand.

During the three completed months of 1903, 96,161\* seamen were shipped, as compared with 93,028\* in the corresponding period of 1902.

Of the total number of seamen shipped during the three months, 15,548 (or 16.2 per cent.) were foreigners, the percentage for the corresponding period of last year

\* See (\*) note on p. 113.

being 16.6. Lascars who are engaged in Asia are not included in these figures.

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 March, 1903 and 1902, respectively, together with the number\* shipped in the three months ended March in each of these years:—

3 64	m M. 19 19 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3	tal in ar., 903.  2,148 388 236 934 98 644 655	Mar., 1902.*  2,186 301 239 792 27	7,139 1,067 614 3,166 252	7,263 1,049 492 2,840 124
7 38 8 99 - 9 3 66 79 3,79	31 36 26 26 98	388 236 934 98 644 655	301 239 792 27 478	1,067 614 3,166 252	1,049 492 2,840 124
7 38 8 99 - 9 3 66 79 3,79	31 36 26 26 98	388 236 934 98 644 655	301 239 792 27 478	1,067 614 3,166 252	1,049 492 2,840 124
7 38 8 99 - 9 3 66 79 3,79	31 36 26 26 98	388 236 934 98 644 655	301 239 792 27 478	1,067 614 3,166 252	1,049 492 2,840 124
3 64 65 79 3,77	36 26 98 41 55 92 3	236 934 98 644 655	239 792 27 478	614 3,166 252 2,006	492 2,840 124
3 64 679 3,779	26 98 41 55 92 3	934 98 644 655	792 27 478	3,166 252 2,006	2,840
3 64 3 65 79 3,79	98 41 55 92 3	98 644 655	27 478	252	124
3 64 65 79 3,79	11 55 92 3	644 655	478	2,006	robali
65	3 3	655			1.337
65	3 3	655			1.337
65	3 3		553		
79 3,79	3	071		2.087	2,121
		.871	4.028	12,785	13,151
	13	343	305	1,286	1,196
4 11,8	11	,885	10.595	32,263	31,182
SI 5,5		734	5,262	17,933	16,753
- 2,53		.538	2,368	6,408	7,221
2,3.	,	,,,,,	~,500	0,400	1,241
		Prince or			
- 42	72	472	413	1,303	1,347
	37	12515		HOUSE !	150000
39 2,34	18 2	,387	1,900	6,765	6,021
	-0	100	750	-6-	
					323 608
	14	34	139	720	008
-				06 161	
	13 32	,585		90,101	***
		- 158 - 94	94 94	94 94 139	- 94 <b>94</b> 139 726

#### HOME OFFICE ORDERS.

#### Sanitary Accommodation in Factories and Workshops.

By Section 9 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, it is provided as follows:-

1. Every factory and workshop must be provided with sufficient and suitable accommodation in the way of sanitary conveniences, regard being had to the number of persons employed in or in attendance at the factory or workshop, and also where persons of both sexes are or are intended to be employed or in attendance. with proper separate accommodation for persons of each sex.

2. The Secretary of State shall, by Special Order, determine what is sufficient and suitable accommodation within the meaning of this Section.

3. A factory or workshop in which there is a contravention of this Section shall be deemed not to be kept in conformity with

4. This Section does not apply to the administrative county of London, or to any place where Section 22 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, is in force.

By an Order‡ dated February 4th, 1903, and coming into force on July 1st, 1903, the Home Secretary has determined that the accommodation in the way of sanitary conveniences provided in a factory or workshop shall be deemed to be suitable and sufficient within the meaning of the Section cited above if the following conditions are complied with and not otherwise:-

I. In factories or workshops where females are employed or in attendance there shall be one sanitary convenience for every 25

In factories or workshops where males are employed or in attendance there shall be one sanitary convenience for every 25 males provided that-

(a) in factories or workshops where the number of males employed or in attendance exceeds 100, and sufficient urinal accommodation is also provided, it shall be sufficient if there is one sanitary convenience for every 25 males up to the first 100, and one for every 40 after;

(b) in factories or workshops where the number of males employed or in attendance exceeds 500, and the District Inspector of Factories certifies in writing that by means of a check system, or otherwise, proper supervision and control in regard to the use of the conveniences are exercised by officers specially appointed for that purpose it shall be sufficient if one sanitary convenience is provided for every 60 males, in addition to sufficient urinal accommodation. Any certificate given by an Inspector

\* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate gagements, not of separate individuals.

† Including Avonmouth and Portishead.
† Including Barry and Penarth.
† Statutory Rules and Orders, 1903. No. 89 (Eyre & Spottiswoode). Price 1d.

shall be kept attached to the general register, and shall be liable at any time to be revoked by notice in writing from the Inspector.

In calculating the number of conveniences required by this order, any odd number of persons less than 25, 40, or 60, as the case may be, shall be reckoned as 25, 40, or 60.

2. Every sanitary convenience shall be kept in a cleanly state, shall be sufficiently ventilated and lighted, and shall not communicate with any work-room except through the open air or through an intervening ventilated space: provided that in workrooms in use prior to January 1st, 1903, and mechanically ventilated in such manner that air cannot be drawn into the workroom through the sanitary convenience, an intervening ventilated space shall not be required.

3. Every sanitary convenience shall be under cover and so partitioned off as to secure privacy, and if for the use of females shall have a proper door and fastenings.

4. The sanitary conveniences in a factory or workshop shall be so arranged and maintained as to be conveniently accessible to all persons employed therein at all times during their

5. Where persons of both sexes are employed, the conveniences for each sex shall be so placed or so screened that the interior shall not be visible, even when the door of any convenience is open, from any place where persons of the other sex have to work or pass; and, if the conveniences for one sex adjoin those for the other sex, the approaches shall be separate.

In a circular dated February 16th, 1903, it is pointed out by the Home Office that the new Order will apply in the whole of the United Kingdom, except London and those districts in England and Ireland where Section 22 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, is in force, "to all factories, to all workshops except men's workshops (i.e., workshops in which adult men only are employed), and to all laundries under the Factory Act, but it does not anywhere apply to docks, wharves, quays and warehouses. In factories, workshops and laundries in those districts of England, Wales and Ireland where the Order does not apply, the provision of sanitary accommodation is left to be dealt with under the powers of the Public Health Acts by the Local Authorities," many of whom have already adopted a standard of accommodation similar to, or more stringent than, that laid down in the Order

#### Meal Hours and Night Work: Electrical Stations.

The Home Secretary has made two Orders, dated March 11th, 1903, under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, the first\* of which directs that, subject to conditions specified in the Order, the following special exceptions shall extend to young persons above the age of 16 employed in electrical stations, viz.:-

(a) an exception permitting young persons employed in a factory or a workshop to have the times allowed for meals at different hours of the day; and (b) an exception permitting young persons during the times allowed for meals in the factory or workshop to be allowed to remain in a room in which a manufacturing process or handicraft is being carried on.

The second+ directs that the special exception by which a male young person may be employed during the night shall, subject to the conditions prescribed by Subsection (1) of Section 54 of the Act, and, in addition, to the conditions specified in the Order, extend to male young persons of the age of 16 and upwards employed in electrical stations.

The conditions specified in these Orders (which are identical in both) are as follows:-

(1) For the purpose of ensuring that a reasonable temperature shall be maintained as required by Section 6 of the Act, thermometers shall be provided, maintained and kept in working order in suitable positions in each room where such young persons are

(2) Sufficient and suitable sanitary accommodation complying with the requirements of any special order made by the Secretary of State under Section 9 of the Act shall be provided;

(3) The exception shall apply only to young persons employed as assistants to adults who are actually present with them during the whole time of their employment.

Both these Orders came into operation on April 1st.

\* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1903. No. 188 (Eyre & Spottiswoode). Price 1d. † Statutory Rules and Orders, 1903. No. 187 (Eyre & Spottiswoode). Price 1d.

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April, 1903.

# CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN MARCH, 1903.

(Based on information obtained from all available sources, verified and corrected by direct application to the Employers, Trade Unions, and other part

Summary.—The net effect of all the changes in rates of wages reported during March was a decrease of £15 per week. The total number whose wages were affected was 39,223. Of the total number, 21,394 received advances averaging 9d. per head per week, and 17,829 sustained decreases averaging 11d. per head per week. The changes of the previous month affected 146,301 workpeople, the net result being a decrease of £886 per week.

During March, 1902, the number affected was 198,499, and the net result of all the changes in wages was a decrease of £,13,590 per week.

The principal advances reported affected 14,000 coal miners in Fife, Kinross and Clackmannan, and 6,250 blastfurnacemen and iron and steel workers in South Wales. The principal decreases affected 5,500 blastfurnacemen in Cleveland and Durham, and 4,200 glass bottle makers in Yorkshire, Lancashire and at Sunderland and

Methods of Arrangement.—Two changes, affecting 15,000 workpeople, were arranged by Arbitration, and nine changes, affecting 15,229 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. Two changes, affecting 1,515 workpeople, were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work. The remaining changes, affecting 7,479 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives, without stoppage

Summary for First Three Months of 1903.—For the three months, January to March, 1903, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) known to have received advances or sustained decreases is 205,963, as compared with 290,462 for the corresponding period of 1902. Of these, 146,809 have obtained a net increase averaging 4d. weekly per head, and 59,154 have sustained a net decrease averaging 1s. 1d. weekly per head. The net effect of the changes in 1903, is a decrease of £822 per week, compared with a decrease of £18,315 per week in the corresponding period of 1902.

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

Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which Change takes effect in 1903.	Works affect	ximate ber of people ed by  De- crease.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in Italics.)
- Carrier	2 Increases—25 Workpeople.	BUIL	DING	TRAD	
Newton-le-Willows Nairn	Stollemasons	1 May 23 Mar.	10	1	Advance of \( \frac{1}{2} \)d. per hour (6\frac{1}{2} \)d. to 9\frac{1}{2} \)d.).  Advance of \( \frac{1}{2} \)d. per hour (6\frac{1}{2} \)d. to 7d.).
TOURISM DELVE THE	1 Increase-14,000 Workpeople.	MINING	AND	QUAR	RYING. 2 Decreases—88 Workpeople.
Fife, Kinross and Clackmannan	Coal Miners:— Underground Workers	23 Mar.	14,000		Advance of 2½ per cent., making wages 43½ per cent. above the standard of 1888.
Creetown Kilsyth	Settmakers	3 Feb. Feb.		13 75	Decrease of 4 per cent. on piece rates.  Decrease in piece rates, stated to have resulted in an average reduction of about 10 per cent. in weekly wages.
france in test	3 Increases - 6,262 Workpeople.	RON AN	D STE	EEL T	RADES. 6 Decreases - 8,979 Workpeople.
Cleveland and	Blastfurnacemen	4 Apl.		5,500	Decrease of 3 per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 19 per cent above the standard.
Durham Consett and Jarrow	column tenterna de la company de la	I Apl.	3000	1,100	Decrease of 2½ per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 2½ per cent
West Cumberland	Blastfurnacemen	ı Apl.		1,350	Decrease of \( \frac{1}{2} \) per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 21\( \frac{1}{2} \) per cent
Millom and Askam	Blastfurnacemen and other Workpeople	5 Apl.		257	Decrease of \( \frac{1}{2} \) per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages of jurnacement and of other workbeedle 10\( \frac{1}{2} \) per cent, above the standard.
Ulverston	Blastfurnacemen	5 Apl.		172	Decrease of \( \frac{1}{2} \) per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 19\( \frac{1}{2} \) per cent
North Staffordshire	Blastfurnacemen	Apl.		600	Decrease of 1½ per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 20¾ per cent above the standard.
-	Blastfurnacemen	1 Apl.	1,250	-1000	Advance of 3½ per cent. under sliding scale, making wages 16½ per cent above the standard.
South Wales	Iron and Steel Workers	ı Apl.	5,000		Advance of 3½ per cent. under sliding scale, making wages 16½ per cent above the standard.
Falkirk (near)	Steel Dressers	Mar.	12	1	Advance of \( \frac{1}{2} \)d. per hour (6d. to \( \frac{6}{2} \)d.).
O CONTRACTOR OF	Increases—Nil. ENGIN	HEERING	AND	SHIPE	BUILDING TRADES. 14 Decreases—4,562 Workpeople.
North East Coast	Painters (in Engineering Works, Boile	er-   4 Mar.		120	Decrease of is. per week (34s. to 33s.)
The Tyne, Tees	shops and Bridge yards) Joiners in Engineering Works (non-marin	e) 14 Mar.		180	Decrease of 1s. per week (37s. 6d. to 36s. 6d.)
and Hartlepool The Tyne, Tees and Hartlepool	Joiners in Shipyards and Marine Engineering Works	{ 27 Mar. I July	}	1,600	Decrease of 6d. per week.  Further decrease of 6d. per week. Wages after change 38s. 6d. per week of the Tyne and 38s. on the Tees and at Harilepool.
and Hartiepoor	TO SHELL WITH SHELL WITH STREET	2 Mar.		450	Decrease of 5 per cent. off piece rates and of 4a. per nour or of 1s. per week
The Clyde	Patternmakers	2 Mar.		1,150	Decrease of \( \frac{1}{2} d. \) per hour (8\frac{1}{2} d. to 8\frac{1}{2} d.) or of is. per week off time rates.  Decrease of \( \frac{1}{2} d. \) per cent. off piece rates and of \( \frac{1}{2} d. \) per hour (8\frac{1}{2} d. and 8\frac{1}{2} d. i)
13/11/2014	Brass Moditers	r6 Mar			84d. and 8d.), or of 1s. per week off time rates.
The corporate	Iron and Steer Shipsanders	16 Mar.	1	379	Decrease of 5 per cent, off piece rates and of ta. per nour, or of is. per wee
	Platers' Helpers	16 Mar.	)	-	Of time rates.  Decrease of 5 per cent. off piece rates and of \(\frac{1}{2}d\). per hour, or of 1s. per wee off time rates.  Decrease of 5 per cent. off piece rates, and of 1s. per week off time rates about 1s.
Dundee	Shipsmiths	17 April	-	34	30s. per week.
	Drillers and Hole Cutters Shipwrights	16 Mar.		38	Decrease of 5 per cent. off piece rates.  Decrease of \( \frac{1}{4} \text{. per hour (8\frac{1}{4} \text{. to 8d.) or of 1s. per week.} \)  Decrease of \( \frac{1}{4} \text{. per hour.} \)

# \* See also under Changes in Hours of Labour

# CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN MARCH (continued).

Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which Change takes effect	Work	kimate ber of people ed by	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in Italios.)
	The state of the s	in 1903.		crease.	the state of the s
	1 Increase—1,000 Workpeople.	MISCE	LLANI	Eous	TRADES. 4 Decreuses-4,200 Workpeople.
London	Bookbinders	29 June	1,000		Advance of 3s. in minimum weekly wage (32s. to 35s.).
Sunderland and Seaham	Pale Metal Workers	2 Feb.			Decrease of 1s. per week off standard weekly rates, and of 7½ per cent. off "overwork" rates. Standard weekly wages after change—Finishers,
Harbour	Dark Metal Workers	23 Feb.		500-	35s.; olowers, 33s.; gatherers, 28s.  Decrease of 1s. per week off standard weekly rates, and of 7th per cent. off  "overwork" rates. Standard weekly wages after change. Finishers
Yorkshire*	Glass Bottle Makers, Apprentices and Boys*	2 Feb.		3,000*	32s.; blowers, 28s.; gatherers, 25s.  Decrease of 1s. per week off standard weekly rates, and of 7½ per cent. off "overwork" rates. Standard weekly wages after change—Finishers.
Lancashire	Glass Bottle Makers	23 Feb.	-	700	35s.; blowers, 33s.; gatherers, 28s.  Decrease of 1s. per week off standard weekly rates, and of 7½ per cent. off "overwork" rates. Standard weekly wages after change—Finishers, 35s.; blowers, 33s.; gatherers, 28s.
3 It	ncreases—107 Workpeople. EMPLOY	EES OF	F LOC	AL AL	UTHORITIES, Decreases—Nil.
	Pipelayers and Ferrulers		II		Advance of 2s. per week. Wages after change—Pipelayers, 27s. and 30s.; ferrulers, 27s. and 29s.
Leeds	Enginemen and Stokers Labourers	5 Mar.	111		Advance of 2s. per week. Wages after change—Enginemen, 32s.; stokers, 27s.
	Turncocks	i3 Mar. 20 Mar.	68 9 8		Advance of 2s. per week (23s. to 25s.). Advance of 1s. per week (27s. to 28s.).
Company of the same		20 Mar.			Advance of is. per week.

<sup>\*</sup> Including a few men at Blaydon, Newport (Mon.) and London who were also affected.

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

THE changes in hours of labour reported in March affected 75 workpeople, whose working hours in a full week were reduced on the average by about 21 hours per

Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which Change takes effect in 1903.	Approxi- mate number of Work- people affected.	Hours of in a Full Before change.	Extent of De- crease per week.	
Glasgow Dundee	Curriers, Belt Makers	Feb. 6 Mar.	14 46	56 56	54 54	Hours.
Nairn	and Labourers Painters and Decorators+	23 Mar.	15	56‡	51‡	5‡

#### EXAMINATIONS FOR MINING MANAGER'S CERTIFICATES.

East Scotland District.—An examination for First and Second Class Certificates of Competency as Manager and Under Manager will be held at Edinburgh, on the 22nd May. Candidates must, on or before May 12th, send their names to the Secretary to the Board of Examinations, Mr. R. Calder, Fintry Place, Broughty Ferry, N.B., from whom all particulars can be obtained.

Liverpool & North Wales District .- An examination for First and Second Class Certificates of Competency as Manager and Under Manager will be held at the Mining and Technical College, Wigan, on 23rd June, 1903. Candidates must, on or before 20th, June next, send their names to the Secretary to the Board of Examinations, Mr. Thomas Ratcliffe Ellis, 18, King Street, Wigan, from whom all particulars can be obtained.

Persons residing outside the District are eligible for these examinations

# REGISTERED TRADE UNIONS IN 1901.

THE Annual Report on Registered Trade Unions of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the year 1901§ has been issued, and shows that at the end of that year there were 759 registered Unions, of which 676 made returns. The total membership of these was returned at 1,598,809, the total income for the year as £2,416,932, and expenditure as £1,950,920. The total funds of the Unions on December 31st, 1901, were returned at £4,635,292, compared with £4,169,280 at the end of 1900. During 1901, 45 new Unions were registered, and 34 removed from the register for various reasons.

\* Exclusive of Overtime. † See also under Changes in Rates of Wages. ! Summer hours. § P.P. 109-II. of 1902 (Eyre & Spottiswoode).

## REPORT OF CANADIAN DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR.

THE Department of Labour of the Dominion of Canada has issued its Second Annual Report, which relates to the year ending June 30th, 1902. The Report states that during the year applications were made to the Department under the Conciliation Act for its intervention to aid the settlement of 11 existing strikes or lock-outs. The trades and industries affected embraced cotton and lumber mills, metalliferous and coal mines, piano-making, cigar and furniture manufacturing, stove mounting, dock building, railway and steamship transportation.

The total number of the workpeople directly involved in all the II disputes, in which the intervention of the Department was requested, was 4,118. In 6 of these disputes, with 2,130 workpeople involved, the Department was enabled to effect a settlement; while in 1 dispute, with 230 involved, the strikers were unwilling to accept the agreement, which their employers, in the course of the negotiations, were prepared to enter into, and continued the strike for a few days longer, accepting, however, at the conclusion of that time, the terms originally presented to them by the Conciliator. In the remaining 4 cases, with a total of 1,758 workpeople involved, "it appeared that the intervention of the Department had been requested at too late a date to admit of any settlement being secured through its good offices. In all of these latter cases the employers claimed either to have replaced the strikers with other hands, or to be no longer embarrassed by the strike.'

The Department is charged with various duties in regard to the "Fair Wages" resolution passed by the Canadian House of Commons in March, 1900, its work in connection with which, as carried on during the year, " is divisible into three parts :-

(1) The preparation of schedules of current rates of wages for insertion in contracts awarded by the several Departments of the Government, and of other conditions to be inserted in the same for protection of the employees of contractors on public contract work.

(2) The investigation of complaints concerning the non-payment by contractors of the rates of wages current in the localities where work is being performed, or a minimum wage equal to that fixed in the schedules inserted in their contracts, or the non-performance by them of other conditions in regard to sub-letting, hours of labour &c

(3) Correspondence in respect to all inquiries concerning the nature of the conditions under which work is being performed in different localities, inquiries as to current rates in these localities,

The work done by the Fair Wages Branch in the year under review is described in detail. This included the investigation of 17 complaints as to the non-payment of current rates of wages, or the non-performance by contractors of other conditions mentioned in their contracts.

# TRADE DISPUTES IN MARCH.\*

Number and Magnitude.—Thirty-one new disputes began in March, 1903, compared with fourteen in February, and twenty-one in the corresponding month of last year. By the thirty-one disputes 7,200 workpeople were directly and 2,584 indirectly affected, and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople affected by old disputes which began before March, and were still in progress at the beginning of that month, give a total of 19,665 workpeople involved in trade disputes during March, 1903, compared with 13,186 in February, and 10,150 in March, 1902.

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

	0 (77)			No. of	No. of Workpeople affected.				
Group of Trades.			Disputes.	Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.			
Building				2	50	MANUEL TO	50		
Coal Mining				15	5,204	1,904	7,108		
Metal, Engineeri		hipbuild		5	419		419		
Textile				5	522	550	1,072		
Clothing				2	800	130	930		
Other			•••	2	205	***	205		
Total, March	1, 1903			31	7,200	2,584	9,784		
Ditto, Februa	ary, 1903			14	3,314	344	3,658		
Ditto, March	, 1902			21	4,871	1,414	6,285		

Causes.—Of the thirty-one new disputes, twelve arose on demands for advances in wages, five on objections to reduction, five on other wages questions, two on questions of hours of labour, three on questions of working arrangements, two on questions of trade unionism, and two from other causes.

Results.—Twenty-one new disputes affecting 7,738 workpeople and ten old disputes, affecting 6,020 workpeople, were reported as having terminated in March. Of these thirty-one new and old disputes, three, involving 432 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople, fourteen, involving 7,110 persons, were decided in favour of the employers, and eight, involving 2,879 persons, were compromised. In the case of the remaining six disputes, involving 3,337 persons, certain points are still under consideration

Aggregate Duration.—The aggregate duration in March of disputes that started or were settled in that month was 142,500. In addition 91,200 working days were lost in March. were lost in March owing to disputes that began before that month and at the end of the month were still unsettled. Thus the total number of days lost in March owing to all disputes, new and old, was 233,700, which compares with 191,900 days in the previous month, and 95,700 days in the corresponding month of last year.

Summary for the First Three Months of 1903.+ For the three completed months of 1903 the aggregate number of workpeople involved in the 79 disputes which commenced in these months was 18,957, as compared with 41,901 in the 89 disputes reported in the corresponding period of 1902. The total aggregate duration in working days of all disputes was about 724,000, as compared with 322,000 in the corresponding period of last

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

#### Principal Trade Disputes.

Occupation.;	Locality.	Work	ber of people cted.	Date when Dispute began.	ing	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.;
			rectly.		Days.		
Coal Miners, Daywagemen, Boys	Rotherham	2,774	203	1902 30 June	187	Dispute as to payment for ripping roof down in roadways	Some of strikers replaced; work re sumed by others on old conditions.
and Surfacemen Coal Miners	Blaenavon	2,000	E . 11 19 11 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1	1903 5 Mar.	· I	Dispute as to hours of certain men engaged in wet work	Matter left in the hands of colliery managers and workmen's committee.  Work resumed on old conditions.
Coal Miners Colliers, other Underground Workers and	Cwmtillery Pontypool (near)	1,300	149	21 Mar. 17 Feb.	3 23	Dispute as to payment for timber Dispute as to allowances on introduction of a "Billy Fairplay"	Allowances arranged.
Surface Workers Colliers and other Workpeople	Pontypridd	427	348	9 Mar.	25 d	Dissatisfaction with price list arranged between representatives of the Owners' Association and Workmen's Federation	
Ship Joiners	North East Coast	1,250	7 115 CO	29 Oct.	126	Against proposed reduction in wages of 1s. 6d. per week	Immediate reduction of 6d. per wee with further reduction of 6d. after three months. Winter hours on exposed work conceded to men.
Linen Thread Spinners	Lisburn (Co.	50	550	1903 4 Mar. 1902	4	For advance of wages	Work resumed unconditionally.
Bodymakers, Finishers and Trimmers (Felt		165	100	30 Oct.	121	Refusal to work with non-unionists	Men to be left to their own discretion a to whether they join the Trade Union or not.
Hat Trade) Tailors Clickers, Lasters, Finishers, Machinists and Fitters	Edinburgh Glasgow	600 200	130	1903 23 Mar. 2 Mar.	20	For advance of ½d. per hour on log rates For minimum wage of £2 per week for operators on sewing, screwing, welting, and stitching machines	No settlement reported.  Matter to be referred to local Board of Arbitration.

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

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

THE German Legislature has passed five new laws, four of which are dated June 2nd, 1902, and one March 23rd, 1903, and all of which came into operation on April 1st. By these laws the previously existing legislation with respect to the employment of seamen is amended in the following (among other) important particulars. It is now provided that when the vessel is in harbour the hours of work for seamen shall not exceed 10, or in the tropics 8 per day, and that, if owing to unavoidable circumstances a seaman is kept at work for a longer

NEW GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPPING ACTS. | period, he shall receive overtime pay in respect of such employment. On trans-Atlantic voyages the engineroom staff is to be divided into 3 watches, with 8-hour spells. Work on Sundays and holidays must be restricted within the narrowest possible limits, and in home ports seamen must not be employed at all on Sundays or holidays in loading or discharging cargo.

The law dealing with seamen's registry offices has already been noticed in the GAZETTE, June, 1902, p. 160.

[See (i.) Archiv für Soziale Gesetzgebung und Statistik (Heransgegeben von Dr Heinrich Braun) xvii. Band, 5 und 6 Heft. Berlin; Carl Heymann Verlag, 1902 and (ii.) Deutscher Reichs-Anzeiger, March 25th, 1903.]

#### PAUPERISM IN MARCH.

April, 1903.

(Data supplied by the Local Government Boards in England, Scotland and Ireland.) THE number of paupers relieved in 35 Urban Districts of the United Kingdom on one day in March was 364,141, corresponding to a rate of 215 per 10,000 of the timated population of these districts in 1903.

Compared with February there was a decrease of 3,227 in the number relieved, and of 2 in the rate per 10,000 of the population. Twenty-four of the 35 districts show decreased rates, the greatest decreases being in the Stockton and Tees district (16 per 10,000), Central London (12), Cork, Waterford, and Limerick (9), and Galway (8). Slight increases are shown in four districts, while in seven districts there is no change.

Compared with March, 1902, the number of paupers relieved has increased by 14,087, and the rate per 10,000 by 5. Twenty-five of the 35 districts show increased rates, the largest increases being South London (21 per 10,000), West Ham (15), Sheffield (13), Central and East London (12 each), Newcastle and Leicester (11 each), and Stockton and Tees district (10). In nine districts decreases are shown, the greatest being Wigan (10 per 10,000) Hull (0) and Barnsley (8). In the Manchester 10,000), Hull (9), and Barnsley (8). In the Manchester district no change is shown.

TOTAL SECTION AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF TH	Pauper	rs on one k of Ma	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000			
Selected Urban Districts.	In- door.	Out-door.	Total.	Rate per 10,000 of Esti- mated Popula-	of Popul comp with	ation as ared
				tion.	ago.	ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.*						
Metropolis.				-		
West District	11,503	3,220	14,723	180	- 2	+ 6
North District	7,315	8,756	23,960	225 513	- 6 - 12	+ 5
East District	13,869	5,546	19,415	270	- 4	+ 12
South District	23,470	22,631	46,101	257	- 2	+ 21
Total Metropolis	71,361	43,223	114,584	249	- 3	+ 12
West Ham	2,906	10,470	13,376	215		+ 15
Other Districts.			0,0,			1 .3
Newcastle District	1,988	4,443	6,431	154	198	100000
Stockton & Tees District	1,258	4,279	5,537	263	- 16	+ 11
Bolton, Oldham, &c	3,901	8,054	11,955	159	- 2	+ 6
Wigan District	1,967	6,169	8,136	208	- 2	- 10
Manchester District	9,566	8,419	17,985	195	- 2	
Liverpool District	11,190	8,379	19,569	195	- I	+ 8
Bradford District	1,512	2,763	4,275	118	- 2	- 3
Halifax & Huddersfield Leeds District	1,221	3,660	4,881	134	- 2	+ 1
	2,163 658	6,217	8,380	181	+ 2	+ 8
Shoffield District	2,957	2,862	3,520	151 154		- 8
Hull District	1.459	3,551 5,255	6,508	254	- I - 4	+ 13
North Staffordshire	2,065	6,900	8,965	246	- 4	- 9 + 6
Nottingham District	1,931	4,968	6,899	174	+ 3	- I
Leicester District	1,281	3,234	4,515	206	- I	+ 11
Wolverhampton District	3,500	13,126	16,626	264	- I	+ 5
Birmingham District	4,822	3,459	8,281	146	- I	+ 8
Bristol District	2.759	6,841	9,600	254	- 4	- 5
Cardiff & Swansea	1,860	7,822	9,682	268		+ 3
Total "Other Districts"	58,058	110,401	168,459	193	- 2	+ 3
SCOTLAND.*					The second	
Glasgow District	4,459	16,969	21,428	228	Section 2	+ 5
Paisley & Greenock District	662	2,450	3,112	181	- 5	- I
Edinburgh & Leith District	1,738	5,585	7,323	187	-	+ 4
Dundee & Dunfermline Aberdeen	1,028	2,914	3,942	200		+ 5
Cootheider & Aindria	575	2,844	3,419	214	+ 2	+ 1
	365	1,349	1,714	186	+ 3	+ 4
Total for the above Scottish Districts	8,827	32,111	40,938	209	- I	+ 3
IRELAND.						
Dublin District	7,368	E 757	70 570	325	of the same	Secretary and
Belfast District	3,506	5,151	12,519	97	- 4 - I	+ 2
Cork, Waterford & Limerick )	Corner I	202		The same	Second .	Ballan .
District )	4,786	4,992	9,778	397	- 9	- 4
Galway District	376	375	751	209	- 8	+ 4
Total for the above Irish Districts	16,036	10,748	26,784	255	- 4	- 3
Total for above 35 Dis- triets in March, 1903	157,188	206,953	364,141	215	- 2	+ 5

LABOUR BUREAUX IN MARCH.
Five Bureaux furnishing returns for both March, 1903, and March, 1902, registered 1,896 fresh applications for work, as compared with 1,260 a year ago. Work was found by these Bureaux for 700 workpeople, of whom 554 were engaged by private employers. The number engaged by private employers in March, 1902, was 386. The number of workpeople remaining on the registers at the end of the month was 1,127 as against 533 a year ago.

Returns for March, 1903, were received from five other Bureaux, which were not in operation a year ago, and the figures relating to them are included in the following Tables.

	(I.)	Worl	k done	e in N	Iarch.			H SE
Name of	No. of App tions Works	lica- s by people	No. of tions of by Emp dur	offered	Engag	Work b	people i y Burea	u. ged by
Labour Bureau.					Emple	vate oyers.		cal crities.
2400	Mar., 1903.	Mar., 1902.	Mar., 1903.	Mar., 1902.	Mar.,	Mar., 1902.	Mar., 1903.	Mar.,
London.	1000	1	17 31 7					
Salvation Army (Whitechapel Road, E.)	716	364	344	177	{207 137*	65		WEY'
Provincial.	17. 53		10.50 (82)	100	100000			
Ipswich (Tower Street)	42	39	31	50	25	28		
Plymouth (East Street)	218	215	134	134	120	129		-
Liverpool	184	113	7	3	3	I	2	TICIES &
(Dale Street) Glasgow	736	529	573	512	199	163	7	II
(158, George Street)		10/13						
Total of 5 Bureaux	1,896	1,260	1,089	876	{ 554 137*	386	} 9	12
London. St. Pancras (Crowndale Road,	188	+	76	+	35	†		+
N.W.) Shorediteh	176	+	3	+		+	196	†
(Old Street, E.C.) Finsbury (Rosebery Avenue,	519	†	59	+	9	+	ı	t
E.C.) Southwark (Borough Road,	300	+	53	+	24	+		†
S.E.) Hammersmith (Gt. Church Lane, W.)	69	+	22	+	19	+	1	+
Total of 10 Bureaux	3,148		1,302		{ 641 137*		207	
(II.) Employs	ment	found	l for	Work	people	durir	g Ma	rch.
				444	No. pe manent engage	ly por	tem- arily aged.	Total.
Engaged by Private	Emp	loyers	•					
Men:— Building Trade	s T				81		52	133
Carmen, Stable Porters and Me	ssenger	rs			23 16		18	34
Bill Distributor General Labour	rers					10.000	57	157
Other Occupation Lads and Boys	•••				50 28		13	91 41
		Tot	al Males	3	198	2	96	494
Women and Girls:- Domestic Serva Charwomen, da Other Occupati	ily wo	 rk, &c.			63		14 61 3	77 63 7
Other Couplin		Total	al Fema		69		78	147
Total engag	ged by				267	= =	74	641
Engaged by Local Men, Lads and Boy Women and Girls	Autho				7	2	00	207
Total engag	red by	Local	Authori	ios	-			207
Engaged by Salvat					7		37	137
Grand	Total		Bureau		274		11	985
For the ten	1000			TOP STATE	1 30 A	urlingly	DELECT TO A STATE OF THE PARTY	

For the ten Bureaux included in the Tables, the total umber of fresh applications registered during March vas 3,148, the total number of workpeople for whom work was found was 985, and the number of workpeople remaining on the registers at the end of the month was 2,928. This number included 2,546 men, 142 lads, and 240 women and girls.

\* Engaged by Salvation Army † Bureau not in operation in March, 1902.

### TEMPORARY LABOUR REGISTRIES.

In addition to the Bureaux included in the Tables on p. 117 returns were received from labour registries of a more or less temporary character at Hackney, Stepney, Lambeth and Bradford. At Hackney 287 fresh applications were registered during March, 8 situations were offered by private employers, 10 men were temporarily engaged by the Guardians, and 2,036 days' work provided by the Borough Council. At Stepney 59 fresh applications were registered, and 6 situations offered by employers. At Lambeth 89 fresh applications were registered, but no situations were offered nor work found. At Bradford 127 fresh applications were registered, and employment found by the Corporation for 40 permanent and 157 temporary men. The number remaining on the registers of the four Bureaux at the end of March was 4,759, including 2,266 described as General Labourers.

# 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.

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

Disease and Industry.	Mar.			ave y	1	00000
	Mar. 1903.	3 months ended March		Mar. 1903.	3 months ended March	
		1903.	1902.	-	1903.	1902.
Lead Poisoning-			141	19.55	Service .	1999
Smelting of Metals	2	6	II	-	-	-
Brass Works	1 2	2	2			-
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping Plumbing and Soldering	I	4	6			I
Printing	-		8	_	-	-
File Cutting	5	3 8	2	-	-	-
Tinning and Enamelling of Iron	-	2	4	-	-	-
Hollow-ware White Lead Works	10	33	36	I	2	1
Pod and Vallow I and Works	-	33	2		_	-
China and Earthenware*	9	21	29	-	I	2
Litho-transfer Works	THE PARTY NAMED IN	I	I	-	-	-
Glass Cutting and Polishing	77	-	I	-	-	I
Enamelling of Iron Plates	2	8	7			
Paint and Colour Works	2	4	II		I	
Coach Making	5	17	II	_		-
Shipbuilding	I	I	4	-	-	
Paint used in other Industries	'3	13	14	-	I	I
Other Industries	3	10	15	-	-	-
Total Lead Poisoning	46	138	165	1	5	5
Table 1 12 1 th The Call						
Mercurial Poisoning—	1	R. A. D.	Gersto	1000	107/2	13 100
Barometer and Thermometer making	I	I	-	_	-	-
Furriers' processes	-	I	-	-	-	-
Other Industries	I	I	-	-	-	-
Total Mercurial Poisoning	2	3	3500	430	L CONTRACT	14
Total Mercurial Polsoning		•				
				7	19 30	6 30 5
hosphorus Poisoning—	1	2 2 19	-	1000-0	THAT!	I
Lucifer Match Works Other Industries		100	1	200		_
Other Industries					0/36.	
Total Phosphorus Poisoning	-	-	1	-	-	1
THE RESERVE TO SERVE THE PARTY OF THE PARTY	The real					
irsenic Poisoning—				1000	1	11/200
Paints, Colours and Extraction of	I	I	3	-	-	-
Arsenic.	CTA . I	usla Lit	Shen.	1000	11/3/	STORE
Other Industries		-	-	100	CONTRACTOR OF	Steel
Total Arsenic Poisoning	1	1	3		1-	-
Total Riselle Loiseling	-	The state of the s		-	-	-
The second second		1877		1	P. Carlot	1
inthrax—	16 13	1	1	2018	1000	A 100 TO
Wool Sorting	2	4 5	3	ī	2	1
Wool Combing Handling of Horsehair	_	2	3	-		-
Handling and Sorting of Hides and	1	2	2	I	2	I
Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.)			733	100		1000
Other Industries	2	4	3	2	3	-
	6	15	12	4	7	1

# FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN MARCH.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

(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 March, 1903, was 434, as compared with 398 in the corresponding month of 1902, 618 in 1901, 657 in 1900, and 303 in 1899. The average number of fatal accidents in the month of March in these five years was thus 482, so that the total for the past month continues well below the

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 killed was 393, compared with 370 in March, 1902. The approximate number employed in these industries at the date of the latest returns was about

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

Trade.		oer of Work killed durin		Increase Decrease March, compare	e (-) in
	March, 1903.	February,	March, 1902.	A month ago.	A year ago.
Railway Service—					
Brakesmen and Goods Guards	I	6	3	- 5	-
Engine Drivers	I	1 2	3	- I	+ I - 2
Firemen Guards (Passenger) Permanent Way Men (not	I	I			+ 1
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	8	4	7	+ 4	+ 1
Porters	8	3	3 6	+ 5	+ 5
Shunters	4 21	4	6	+ 10	- 2 + 7
Miscellaneous Contractors' Servants	4	I	I	+ 3	+ 3
Total Railway Service	49	33	37.	+ 16	+ 12
Mines-					77.02
Underground Surface	86 16	88	56 9	- 2 + 2	+ 30 + 7
Total Mines	102	102	65		+ 37
Quarries over 20 feet deep	13	4	10	+ 9	+ 3
Factories—				- Marie San	
Textiles—	3	3			+ 3
Wool and Worsted	2	I	I	+ 1	+ 1
Other Textiles Non Textiles—	2	3	2	- I	
Extraction of Metals Founding and Conversion of Metals	5 9	12	14	+ 3 - 3	+ 5 - 5
Marine and Locomotive	5	5	2		+ 3
Ship and Boat Building	7	II	IO I	- 4 + I	- 3 + I
Wood Chemicals, &c	2 4	4	4		т
Other Non-Textile Indus- tries	16	20	31	- 4	- 15
Total Factories	55	62	65	- 7	- 10
Workshops-	2	200	2	+ 2	
Seamen—			to in a		Carrier .
On Trading Vessels—		1000		1 1	+ 17
Steam	69 99	12 51	52 124	+ 57 + 48	+ 17
On Fishing Vessels—		2			100
Sailing Steam	3 7	14	3 15	+ I - 7	-"8
Total Seamen	178	79	194	+ 99	- 16
Accidents reported under				- F & -	1 1000
Factory Act, Ss. 103-6— Docks, Wharves, and Quays	15	6	9	+ 9	+ 6
Warehouses	3	I	6	+ 2	- 3
Buildings to which Act applies Laundries	9	10	7	- I + I	+ 2 + 1
		•••			
Total under Factory Act, Ss. 103-6	28	17	22	+ 11	+ 6
Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894	7	1	3	+ 6	+ 4
Grand Total	434	298	398	+ 136	+ 36

INFORMATION FOR INTENDING EMIGRANTS. INFORMATION FOR INTENDING EMIGRANTS.

The free quarterly circulars of the Emigrants' Information Office were issued on April 1st, and contain information for intending emigrants as to the demand for labour, rates of wages, and cost of living. Particulars are also given as to the cost of reaching the various colonies, the arrangements at each for receiving emigrants, and as to various other matters of interest to emigrants. Copies of the circulars can be obtained free, on application to the Chief Clerk, Emigrants' Information Office, 31, Broadway, Westminster, S.W.

## FOREIGN TRADE OF UNITED KINGDOM.

April, 1903.

THE following statement has been communicated to the LABOUR GAZETTE by the Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

#### Summary for March.

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

The value of the Imports in March, 1903, was £46,916,524, an increase of £6,018,663, or 14.7 per cent., as compared with those in March, 1902, whilst the total Exports amounted to £30,566,547, showing a total increase of £4,034,838. The Exports of British produce alone show an increase of £2,890,956, or 13.0 per cent. as compared with March, 1902, whilst there is an increase of £1,143,882, or 26.5 per cent., in the Exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

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

11,333,39(3)	Mo	onth of Ma	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-)	or		
	1901.	1902.	1903.	in 1903 as compared with 1902.	compared	
A STATE OF THE PARTY OF	£	£	£	£	£	
Tobacco				+2,162,225		
II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured.	14,434,185	13,176,507	15,665,952	+2,489,445	+1,231,767	
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured.	11,679,953	11,089,471	12,530,178	+1,440,707	+ 850,225	
IV Miscellaneous and Un- classified (including Parcel Post)	302,551	216,515	142,801	- 73,714	- 159,750	
Total value of Imports	46,426,056	40,897,861	46,916,524	+6,018,663	+ 490,468	

Exports.+—The following Table shows the value of the Exports of British produce for the month of March, 1903, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1902 and 1901, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:-

	Мо	nth of Ma	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1903 as	compared with 1901.  + £ 4,732 + 38,905 + 20,360	
	1901.	1902.	1903.	compared with 1902.	compared with 1901.
IFood, Drink, and Tobacco	£ 1,074,389	£ 1,126,919	£ 1,079,121	- £	+ £
II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Un- manufactured	2,872,336	2,655,527	2,911,241	+ 255,714	
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured	20,776,457	18,077,469	20,796,817	+2,719,348	+ 20,360
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)	298,111	357,323	321,015	- 36,308	+ 22,904
Total value of Exports of British produce	25,021,293	22,217,238	25,108,194	+2,890,956	+ 86,901

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 March, 1903, amounted to 3,038,625 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,725,269 tons, as against 2,678,411 tons entered and 3,447,628 tons cleared in the month of March, 1902. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during March, 1903, amounted to 2,524,977 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,496,957 tons, as against 2,538,182 tons entered, and 2,460,338 tons cleared in March, 1002.

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

# EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The number of passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during March was 38,132, as compared with 28,569 in March, 1902. Comparing the three completed months of 1903 with the corresponding period of 1902, there is an increase of 22,411, viz., from 56,286 in 1902 to

British and Irish.—Of the 38,132 passengers in March, 20,179 were of British or Irish origin, an increase of 6,941 as compared with a year ago. This increase was almost entirely due to emigration to Canada. For the three months of 1903 the total number was 43,532, as compared with 29,416 in the corresponding period of last year, an increase of 14,116, chiefly accounted for by the great increase in numbers bound for British North America and British

The following Table gives the numbers of British and Irish passengers in the different periods

Destination. (Country in which passengers		Mar.,	Mar.,	Total for three months ended		
contracted to land).		OT STATE	1000	Mar.,1903.	Mar.,1902	
ritish Empire:				1		
British North America		8,027	2,264	11,880	3,459	
Australia and New Zealand		656	768	2,543	3,050	
British South Africa		3,411	3,074	11,616	6,582	
Other British Colonies and		191	179	982	814	
Possession Possession	ons	227	280	1,122	1,293	
Total, British Empire		13,412	6,565	28,143	15,198	
oreign Countries:		or publication	ALCOS.	0930201	orași.	
United States		6,369	6,240	13,986	12,814	
Other Foreign Countries	•••	398	433	1,403	1,404	
Total, Foreign Countries		6,767	6,673	15,389	14,218	
Grand Total		20,179	13,238	43,532	29,416	

Foreign.—The remainder of the 38,132 passengers in March, viz., 17,953, were foreigners or other persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being 2,622 more than in March, 1902. For the three months ended March, 1903, their number was 35,165 as against 26,870 in the corresponding period of 1902, the difference being mainly due to increases in the numbers proceeding to British North America, British South Africa and the United States.

Alien Immigration.—During March 23,557 aliens arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent. Of these 16,468 were stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to places out of the United Kingdom, an increase of 3,892 as compared with March, 1902. Those not stated to be on their way to places out of the United Kingdom numbered 5,764 (exclusive of seamen), or 1,059 more than a year ago. The figures for March, 1903 and 1902, and also for the three months ended March in each year, are as follows:-

Carlotte of the state of the st	Mar.,	Mar.,	Total for months		
The second secon	1903.	1902.	Mar., 1903.	Mar.,	
Aliens not stated in the Alien lists to be en routs to other countries  Aliens stated in the Alien lists to be en	1,325 5,764	1,334 4,705	3,251 14,191	3,624 10,944	
routs to other countries	16,468	12,576	26,351	20,376	
Gross Total	23,557	18,615	43,793	34,944	

# MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

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

		Month o March,		Three	Three months ended March,			
Mary Mary Street, Service St.	1903.	1902.	1901.	1903.	1902.	1901.		
Imported Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns Exported	Bales. 429,625 319,928 34,099	Bales. 362,103 270,750 36,409	Bales. 261,535 265,338 21,490	Bales. 1,303,015 999,787 120,389		Bales. 1,015,749 823,584 71,231		

Particulars of the various descriptions of cotton forwarded from

<sup>\*</sup>Of the 9 cases in the china and earthenware industry in March, 1903, 8 affected females.

† House Painters and Plumbers.—In addition to the cases included in the Table, 11 cases of lead poisoning (including 2 deaths) were eported during March among house painters and plumbers. The number of such cases reported for the three months ended March, 1903, was 31 (including 2 deaths), and or the corresponding period of 1902, 27 (including 7 deaths).

<sup>\*</sup> 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.

ports to inland towns during March in the years 1903, 1902 and 1901 respectively, are given in the following Table:—

Description of Cotton forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns.						March, 1903.	March, 1902.	March, 1901.
American Brazilian East Indian Egyptian Miscellaneous						Bales. 270,274 12,811 3,502 27,877 5,464	Bales. 229,592 11,218 1,698 22,647 5,595	Bales. 228,699 4,990 2,724 22.876 6,049
ordina of col	Tota	al				319,928	270,750	265,338

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 20 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended April 4th amounted to £6,731,349, a decrease of £96,998 (or 14 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period a year ago. The receipts from passenger traffic were £2,713,708, a decrease of £342,865, and those from goods and mineral traffic £4,017,641, an increase of £245,867.

Bankruptcies.— The bankruptcies gazetted during March, numbered 415, being 57 more than in March, 1902, 15 less than in March, 1901, and 17 less than in March, 1900.

# INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES

REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN MARCH.

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

(1) REGISTERED.

The total number of Industrial Unions and Societies registered in March was as follows: Under the Trade Union Acts, 3; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 30; under the Friendly Societies Act, 69 (including 42 branches of existing societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 3; in all, 105.

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

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—3, viz., Federal Union of Wireworkers of Great Britain and Ireland, 44, King-street, Higher Broughton, Manchester; East London Bakers' Union, 20, Old Montague-street, Whitechapel, E.; United Garment Workers of Great Britain, 35, Varden-street, Stepney, E. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

20, Old Montague-street, Whitechapel, E.; United Garment Workers of Great Britain, 35, Varden-street, Stepney, E. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—England and Wales.—Workmen's Co-operative Societies mainly for Distribution, 3, viz., Kingswear and Dartmouth Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 2, College View, Kingswear, Dartmouth; Warsop Vale Indus. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 22, Commercial-street, Abercynon Indus. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 22, Commercial-street, Abercynon, Glam.; Workmen's Co-operative Societies mainly for Production, 2, viz., Midland Locksmiths, Ltd., Wood-street, Wilenhall, Wolverhampton; Martley Basket Makers, Ltd., Ivy Cottage, Martley, Worcester. Agricultural Societies, 9, viz., Gwernogle Agric. Soc. Ltd., Store, Gwernogle, Nantgaredig, Carm.; Carmarthen Agric. Soc., Ltd., The Store, Carmarthen; Llandybyther Agric. Soc., Ltd., The Store, Clandybyther, Cardigan; Fishguard and Goodwick Agric. Soc., Ltd., Park House, Fishguard, Pembroke; Leigh and District Agric. Soc., Ltd., 47, Oxford-street, Leigh, Lancs.; Melksham and District Poultry, Ltd., Melksham, Wilts.; Brock Agric. Co-op. Trading Soc., Ltd., Cannon-street, Chamber, Preston; Cross Inn Co-op. Agric. Trading Soc., Ltd., Cefingwrthhafan, Pennant Aberarth, Aberystwyth; Penbryn Cranog Agric. Soc., Ltd., The Store, Llangranog, Llandyssil. Misscellaneous: One Workmen's Club and one Land Society. Scotland.—Workmens' Co-operative Societies mainly for Distribution, 2, viz., Glasgow; Newburgh and Dist. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 9, Oxford-street, Glasgow; Newburgh and Dist. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Bally-dove, co. Kerry; Kilmeena Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Bally-dwye, co. Kerry; Kilmeena Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Bally-dwye, co. Kerry; Kilmeena Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Bally-dwye, co., Ltd., Loughduff, co. Cavan; Inishkeel Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Loughduff, co. Cavan; Inishkeel Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Leigh. Lerrettspass, co. Armagh; Meenbaniwan Co-op. Poultry Soc., Knocknagashel, co. Kerry; Glencany C

Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—19, viz., Manchester Cooks and Waiters' Friendly Soc., Manchester; Seaforth P.S.A. Tontine Soc., Liverpool; King Edward's Coronation Sick Benefit and Friendly Soc., London, E.; West End Friendly Sick and Dividend Soc., Birmingham; Junction Sick and Dividend Soc., Birmingham; Dudley and Dist. Sick and Dividend Soc., Dudley Port, Tipton, Staffs; Star Friendly Sick and Dividend Soc., Birmingham; Edgbaston Hotel Sick

and Dividend Soc., Birmingham; Priory Friendly Sick and Dividend Soc., Birmingham; Pershore Friendly Sick and Dividend Soc., Birmingham; City Bar Friendly Sick and Dividend Soc., Birmingham; Royal George Oddfellows' Friendly Soc., Huddersfield; Cleveland and South Durham Order of Shepherds Friendly Soc., Middlesbrough; Belvedere Mutual Aid Soc., Belvedere, Kent; Liverpool and Dist. Barmen's Assoc., Liverpool; St. George's Loan Soc., Battersea, S.W.; East Splott Ratepayers' Permanent Financial Assoc., Cardiff; Rowditch Working Men's Recreation, Cycling, and Fishing Club, Derby; Normanton Liberal Working Men's Club, Normanton. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—8, viz., Innismacsaint Agric. Bank, Ballyshannon, co. Donegal; Ballinode, Agric. Bank, Newport East, co. Mayo; Derrylohan Agric. Bank, Derrylohan, co. Mayo; Tully Keeran Agric. Bank, Maghera, co. Londonderry; Friendly Brothers of Ireland Loan Fund, Dublin; Brian Boree Thrift Soc., Dublin; Stillorgan Friendly Benefit Soc., Stillorgan, co. Dublin.

(2) DISSOLVED.

The total number of Industrial Unions and Societies reported as having commenced to "wind-up," or had registration cancelled in March, was as follows:—Under the Trade Union Acts, 6; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 7; under the Friendly Societies Act, 68 (including 19 branches of Societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 11; in all 92.

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.

# WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN MARCH.

During March, 690 fresh applications for work were registered by seven Bureaux furnishing returns, and 871 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 207 persons, of whom 105 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps).

Compared with the previous month the number of fresh applications for domestic servants rose from 500 to 594, and the number of servants applying fell from 393 to 380; the number permanently engaged rose from 77 to 92. The demand for dressmakers, milliners, etc., rose from 87 to 135, and the number requiring such situations fell from 79 to 70; the number engaged through the Bureaux was 46, compared with 47 in

February.

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 March compared with a month and a year ago:—

Work Done in March.

WORK L	ONE IN	VIARCH.				
Endroper beautiful con the control of the control o	No. of Fresh Situations offered by	No. of Fresh Applications of Work- people	No. of Workpeople engaged by Employers.			
	Employers.	seeking Situations.	Perma- nently.	Tem- porarily.		
The same of the sa	Summary by Bureaux.					
Central Bureau—		I DESCRIPTION OF	100 to 100	1 1 1 1		
g, Southampton-street, W.C Society for Promoting Training and Employment—	61	69	19	2		
22, Berners-street, W	25	23	4	21		
Y.W.C.A.— 26, George-street (1) Hanover-square, W. (2)	7-6	405	8 <sub>5</sub>	9 26		
Other Bureaux	1 6-	86	15	I		
Total of 7 Bureaux	871	690	148	59		
	Summary by Occupations.					
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc	26	37	5	1000		
Shop Assistants		8	-	22		
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc Secretaries, Clerks, Typists		70 59	24	18		
Apprentices and Learners	N	13	12	I		
Domestic Servants	594	380	92	13		
Miscellaneous	. 56	123	9	5		
Total Number in Mar., 1903	871	690	148	59		
Total Number in Feb., 1903	712	789	139	70		
Total Number in Mar., 1902	878	593	143	63		

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