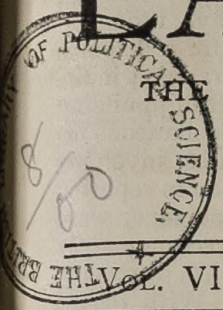


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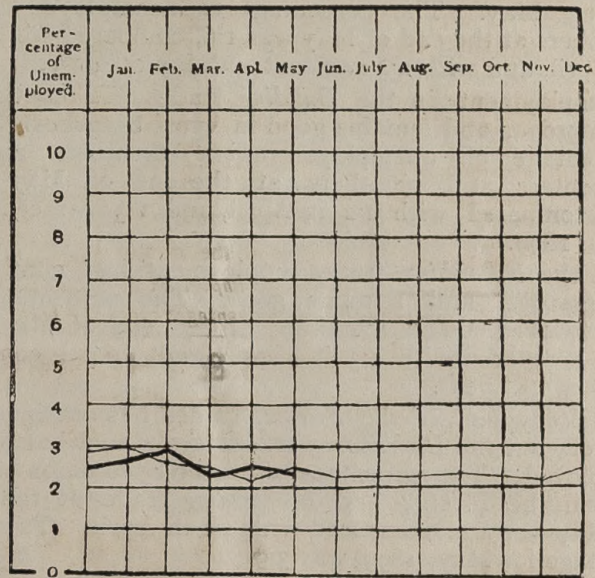
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## EMPLOYMENT CHART, 1899-1900.

Chart showing the percentage of unemployed members of the Trade Unions making returns at the close of each complete month of 1899 and 1900.

[The thick line applies to 1900, the thin line to 1899.]



## STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN MAY.

[Based on 2,514 returns, viz.: 1,750 from Employers, 615 from Trade Unions, and 149 from other sources.]

DURING May the general state of employment has remained good in most of the important industries, and increases of wages involving a large number of workpeople were reported during the month.

In the 138 Trade Unions making returns, with an aggregate membership of 531,608, 12,645 (or 2.4 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of May, compared with 2.5 per cent. in April, and with 2.5 per cent. in the 123 unions, with a membership of 498,836, from which returns were received for May, 1899.

**Employment in Various Industries.—Coal Mining.**—Employment in May has continued good. At collieries at which 451,117 workpeople were employed, the pits worked on an average 5.63 days per week in the four weeks ended May 26th, as compared with 5.64 days a year ago.

**Iron Mining.**—Employment continues good, although the number of days worked is slightly less than a year ago. The average number of days worked by iron mines and open works, at which 16,884 workpeople were employed, in the four weeks ended May 26th, was 5.79 per week, compared with 5.83 days in May, 1899.

**Pig Iron Industry.**—Employment continues good, but shows a slight decline. At the works of 116 ironmasters, 381 furnaces were in blast at the end of May, employing about 26,000 workpeople, as compared with 383 furnaces at the end of April, and 381 a year ago.

**Iron and Steel Manufacture.**—Employment continues good, showing little change as compared with April, and continuing decidedly better than a year ago.



those obtained by the members individually under the present law, and will amount to 2 francs (about 1s. 7d.) for each pass-book on which at least 3 francs (about 2s. 5d.) shall have been paid into the National Fund during the previous year. The amount necessary to cover these grants will be provided by a special vote.

### EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION IN 1899.

IN 1899 the passenger movement both to and from the United Kingdom was greater than in 1898. The net effect of the whole movement was a balance outwards of about 22,000 persons, as compared with one of 36,000 persons in 1898. This balance outwards has, in fact, during recent years shown a continuous decrease.

Reasons are given in the course of the recently issued report\* for regarding this total outcome of the whole passenger movement of 1899 as the result of a net efflux on balance of about 47,400 natives, and a net influx on balance of 25,400 foreigners. This latter figure includes 13,400 foreign sailors who come as passengers, but of whom no record is kept when they leave as the crews of outgoing ships. After deducting these, therefore, the total addition during the year to the foreign population of the United Kingdom resulting from the passenger movement may be estimated at about 12,000 persons.

As regards the movement to and from places out of Europe, there were in 1899, 240,696 emigrants, of whom 146,362 were stated to be British and Irish (as compared with 205,171 emigrants, including 140,644 British and Irish in 1898), and 162,111 immigrants, of whom 100,246 were stated to be British and Irish (as compared with 139,346 immigrants, including 91,248 British and Irish in 1898).

The report states that the chief features of the passenger movement between this country and countries out of Europe "were (1) a diminished emigration to the South African colonies—the troops sent thither not being counted among the emigrants—and a considerably enhanced immigration from those colonies, due, without doubt, to the outbreak of hostilities in that part of the world, and (2) a large increase, especially among foreigners, in the passenger movement to and from the United States, in part, no doubt, of the nature of a reaction from the low figures brought about in 1898 by the war between America and Spain. Attention may also be called to the increase amongst Irish, and decrease amongst English, emigrants, and to the large net movement of foreigners towards British North America."

The passenger movement between this country and the continent of Europe was larger in both directions in 1899 than in any year since 1890, when the first figures were obtained. The excess inwards amounted to 56,660, a figure nearly twice as great as that for 1898, and more than three times as great as in 1897. The information obtained does not include particulars as to the nationalities of the passengers; but it is on the assumption that the numbers of British passengers to and from the Continent roughly balance each other, so that the excess inwards represents foreigners who came from Europe and did not return within the year, that the estimated increase of the foreign population of the United Kingdom already given is based.

The information contained in the "Alien Lists" gives, with regard to the classes included in those lists, particulars of the nationalities of the immigrants from European ports. With respect to immigrants not noted in the lists as being *en route* for other countries, the most noticeable increases were those of over 30 per cent. in the number of Russians and Poles and of Italians. With regard to destitute aliens the report concludes "that, except, perhaps, in London, there has not been any increase among destitute aliens, and with regard to London, although the number of resident aliens is increasing, the report of the Jewish Board of Guardians . . . appears to indicate that the amount of destitution among the Jewish population was less in 1899 than in the previous year."

\*Statistical Tables relating to Emigration and Immigration in 1899, and report to the Board of Trade thereon. House of Commons Paper, No. 163. Price 6d.

### DISPUTE IN THE EARTHENWARE TRADE.

NOTICES for an advance in wages and certain other alterations in conditions having been given by the workpeople engaged in various branches of the pottery trades, a certain proportion of these, principally ovenmen, printers and transferrers, ceased work on March 25th. A large number of operatives continued at work, giving a further notice of one month. The Manufacturers' Association, however, decided on a general lock-out to enforce a settlement, and the majority of works in the earthenware trade were closed on April 28th, the number of operatives thrown idle being altogether about 20,000. The dispute did not affect the china trade, nor the sanitary branch of the earthenware trade. The chief towns involved were Tunstall, Burslem and Hanley, and to a less degree Stoke-on-Trent.

The advance asked for amounted to about 10 per cent., or, roughly, the equivalent of the reduction of one penny in the shilling made in 1879 by the arbitrator, Lord Hatherton. Since that date general wages have not been changed. In addition to this claim, the printers and transferrers asked for a re-arrangement or levelling-up of "counts," i.e., of the numbers of different classes of articles that are included in the nominal "dozen" paid for at a fixed rate.

A meeting took place on April 20th between representatives of the Pressers', Mould Makers', and Clay Potters' Society and the employers, the former modifying their demands to one for an advance of 5 per cent. at once, and a further advance of 5 per cent. on March 25th next.

In reply the Manufacturers' Association passed a resolution in which they declared that they would be "quite willing to consider an advance on the 25th March next, provided that the state of trade will then admit of it, and to meet the operatives to discuss the question in ample time before the close of the trade year." They subsequently by advertisement in the press announced that "any questions as to count or wages which are not in accordance with the general rates ruling in the district can be at once referred to the Board of Conciliation."

On May 3rd representatives of three trade societies, representing printers and transferrers, ovenmen, and pressers, clay potters, etc., held a joint meeting at which they agreed to act in concert. On May 14th the secretary for the united executive wrote to invite the employers to a conference.

This proposal was accepted by the employers and a conference was held on May 18th, between representatives of the manufacturers and operatives. The following proposal was submitted by the manufacturers:—

"That provided all operatives will agree to return to their work on Wednesday next, the 23rd inst., on the old terms, manufacturers are willing to meet those branches of operatives now asking for an advance early in September to discuss the question as to how far the then condition of trade will allow of any alteration in the rate of wages; and if at such meeting a satisfactory agreement cannot be arrived at, manufacturers will be prepared to submit whatever questions may be unsettled with any branch to the decision of some independent person to be agreed upon between manufacturers and operatives, and any alterations which may then be awarded shall date from the 1st day of October next."

The operatives submitted the following counter-proposal:—

"That this meeting of representatives of the operative potters are willing to agree to accept a 5 per cent. advance to date from the first Saturday in October, if by making such concession a peaceful settlement of the unfortunate dispute can be arrived at."

The meeting broke up without any agreement being arrived at.

On May 26th a further conference took place between employers and operatives' representatives, when the former made the following offer:—

"The manufacturers having met the operatives' executive, and further discussed the matters in difference, and in order to put an end to the unfortunate dispute, agree to give the advance asked for—5 per cent. from October 1st next. All works will be opened on Tuesday next. At the same time the manufacturers again

repeat their promise that all individual grievances shall be referred to the committee of conciliation at the earliest possible moment."

This proposal was accepted by a mass meeting of operatives on May 28th, and work was resumed on May 29th.

### THE ILLINOIS FREE EMPLOYMENT REGISTRIES.

IN a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated April 28th, 1900, Mr. W. Wyndham, H.M. Consul at Chicago, reports on the working of the Illinois Act for the establishment of free employment offices, and for the regulation of private employment agencies. This Act, which was passed on April 11th, 1899, and has been in operation since July 1st, 1899, provides that one free employment office shall be established in each city of not less than 50,000 inhabitants, and that three such offices shall be established in each city containing a population of one million or more. Each free registry is to have a superintendent, an assistant superintendent, and a clerk. Of the last two, either one or the other is to be a woman. The salaries of these officers and all necessary office expenses will be paid by the State. Each superintendent has to report once a week (on Thursday) to the State Bureau of Labour Statistics the number of applications for work and for workpeople received during the preceding week, and also the unfilled applications remaining on the books at the beginning of the week. These lists must show the number of situations desired and the number of persons wanted at each specified trade or occupation; also the number and character of the positions secured during the preceding week. Upon receipt of these lists, and not later than Saturday in each week, the State Bureau of Labour Statistics must cause a sheet to be printed, showing separately and in combination the lists received from each free employment office, and must post two copies of this sheet every Saturday to the superintendents of all such offices (one to be filed, and one to be posted conspicuously in each office), and must also send a copy to each factory inspector and mine inspector. These inspectors must notify the free employment offices of all vacancies or opportunities for employment which come to their notice, and must assist in other ways in securing situations for applicants for work.

One of the provisions of the Act specially prohibits superintendents from supplying workmen, or exhibiting any list of names or addresses of applicants for employment to any employer whose workmen are on strike or locked out. By another section of the Act all private agencies in any of the cities, in which free employment offices are to be opened by the State, are forbidden to carry on business without taking out a license, which will cost £40 per annum.

The superintendents are required to report annually on the work done by their offices. The first of these reports, just issued, relates to the three offices established in Chicago in accordance with the Act, and covers the period from August 2nd to October 1st, 1899. It shows that during the 9 weeks in question there were received at all the offices 9,825 applications for male and 3,272 for female employment, a total of 13,097. During the same time the number of applications for workpeople was, for males, 6,103, and for females 4,267, a total of 10,370. The number of situations obtained through the agencies was 6,497, viz., 3,752 for males and 2,745 for females. Of the entire number of male applications for employment, 38.2 per cent. secured positions, while in the case of females the corresponding percentage was 84. Sixty-two per cent. of all applications for male, and 64.3 per cent. of all applications for female, workpeople were filled.

Combining both male and female applications for employment, it is shown that 50 per cent. have been supplied with positions, and of all applications for workpeople, 62.7 per cent. have been successful. It is remarked that the superintendents of the offices report that a considerable percentage of the applicants for work were employed at the date of filing their applications, and hoped by so doing to secure better positions.

### ACCIDENTS TO RAILWAY SERVANTS IN 1899.\*

IN 1899 there were 531 servants of railway companies and of contractors killed and 4,633 injured by accidents to trains and other accidents connected with the running of trains or the movement of railway vehicles, whilst 53 were killed and 10,949 were injured by other accidents on the premises of the railway companies. These figures may be compared with 504 killed and 4,149 injured in 1898 by accidents of the first class, and 38 killed and 8,830 injured by accidents of the second class. All accidents are reported which prevent the servant injured from being employed for five hours on his ordinary work on any one of the three working days next after the accident.

Of the total 584 killed and 15,582 injured, 29 killed and 191 injured were contractors' servants, of whom the number employed is not known. The number of persons employed by the companies at the end of 1898 was 534,141, so that the mortality and accident rate among these amounted to about 1 in 662 killed and 1 in 35 injured. The liability to accident is, however, very different among the different grades as the following Table will show. In this Table are given the numbers of the principal grades of railway servants killed and injured by accidents of both classes in 1899, and the numbers of each grade employed at the end of 1898. The grades given include about 88 per cent. of the total number employed:—

Nature of Employment.	Number of persons in 1899 killed or injured.				Number of persons employed at 31st Dec., 1898.
	By accidents to trains, or other accidents connected with the running of trains or the movement of railway vehicles.		By other accidents on the companies' premises.		
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
Carmen and Van Guards	2	23	3	622	22,342
Carriage Cleaners	8	47	1	136	4,411
Checkers	3	12	—	166	7,015
Clerks	5	16	1	50	53,821
Engine Cleaners	12	137	2	587	20,793
Engine Drivers	10	459	5	546	22,237
Firemen	26	191	1	775	21,821
Goods Guards & Brakesmen	49	803	—	253	14,720
Passenger Guards	10	112	—	106	6,826
Inspectors	6	32	—	37	8,610
Labourers	34	185	10	1,774	52,900
Mechanics	13	46	6	453	77,270
Permanent-way Men	124	179	4	1,008	63,360
Porters	60	667	6	2,783	50,844
Shunters	29	669	—	137	9,244
Signalmen	12	41	2	167	25,543
Stationmasters	—	11	—	29	7,868

### ANNUAL CO-OPERATIVE CONGRESS.

THE 32nd Annual Congress of Delegates from Workmen's Co-operative Societies in the United Kingdom was held at Cardiff on Whit-Monday and two following days, under the presidency of Councillor W. H. Brown, of the Newport (Mon.) Co-operative Society. There were 1,029 delegates present, and among the more important subjects discussed was the Housing question, it being stated in a report upon the subject presented by the Central Board that upwards of £5,000,000 had been expended on house building by co-operative societies.

Considerable discussion took place upon a proposal that co-operators should endeavour to secure direct representation in Parliament, a resolution in favour being negatived by a large majority.

A scheme for providing old-age pensions for members of co-operative societies was submitted by the Central Board, and after discussion the question was adjourned until next Congress in order to permit of further consideration by the local district conferences.

It was decided by Congress to establish a library and hostel at Newtown as a permanent memorial of the late Robert Owen.

The next Congress will be held at Middlesbrough in 1901.

\* See Railway Accidents—Returns of Accidents and Casualties during the Year ending 31st December, 1899. (Cd. 169.) Price 3s. 3d.



misconduct, yet there was no evidence to show that it was serious and wilful. The Court of Appeal was clearly of opinion that there was evidence to support the finding of the judge, who might very well hold upon the evidence that the accident was attributable to the wilful misconduct of the workman, and dismissed the appeal with costs.—*Penny and Wife v. Vickers, Sons, & Maxim, Limited, Court of Appeal, May 26th.*

#### TIME FOR TAKING PROCEEDINGS.

The Act provides that, "Proceedings for the recovery under this Act of compensation for an injury shall not be maintainable unless the claim for compensation with respect to such accident has been made within six months from the occurrence of the accident causing the injury, or, in case of death, within six months from the time of death." Provided always that the want of or any defect or inaccuracy in such notice shall not be a bar to the maintenance of such proceedings, if it is found in the proceedings for settling the claim that the employer is not prejudiced in his defence by the want, defect, or inaccuracy, or that such want, defect, or inaccuracy was occasioned by mistake or other reasonable cause." A workman was, on December 19th, 1898, injured by accident arising out of and in the course of his employment. He did not make any claim on his employers until more than six months after the date of the accident, when he claimed compensation from them. In the meantime, from two weeks after the accident, weekly payments had been made to him by an insurance company with whom his employers had insured themselves against liability under the Act, such payments being equivalent to one-half of his previous wages, as stated by his employers in particulars sent by them to the company; and in respect of these payments he gave receipts "on account of compensation which might be, or become due to him under the Workmen's Compensation Act." The County Court judge held that the workman was not precluded from recovering compensation by lapse of time, and made an award in his favour. The employers appealed; and the Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, holding that the weekly payment made to the workman was no evidence of any agreement by the employers that they were liable to pay compensation, and that, therefore, there was no evidence of a waiver by them of the condition that proceedings must be commenced within six months.—*Rendall v. Hill's Dry Dock Company, Court of Appeal, May 5th.*

#### ON OR IN OR ABOUT A MINE.

The Act applies "only to employment by the undertakers as hereinafter defined on or in or about a railway, mine, quarry, or engineering work, and to employment by the undertakers as hereinafter defined on or about any building which exceeds 30 feet in height, and is either being constructed or repaired by means of a scaffolding, or being demolished, or on which machinery, driven by steam, water, or other mechanical power, is being used for the purpose of the construction, repair, or demolition thereof." In the Act, "Mine" in relation to a coal mine means a mine to which the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1887, applies; and in that Act "unless the context otherwise requires, 'mine' includes . . . all the shafts, levels, planes, works, tramways, and sidings, both below ground and above ground, in and adjacent to and belonging to the mine." A claim for compensation was made against a colliery company by the personal representative of a workman who was killed by accident arising out of and in the course of his employment by the company. The company own a private railway way many miles in length, connecting their various collieries with each other and with the lines of a railway company. The private railway is not a railway within the meaning of the Compensation Act. The deceased workman was an engine-driver on the private railway, and was killed by accident while driving the engine of a train carrying coal from one of the company's mines upon some sidings on the private railway about three-quarters of a mile away from that mine. The County Court judge held that the deceased was employed on or in or about a mine of the company, being employed on "works" of the company's which were a part of the mine in question, within the meaning of the Act, and made an award in favour of the applicant. The employers appealed; and the Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, holding that the words in the section of the Coal Mines Regulation Act quoted above "adjacent to and belonging to the mine," meant physically adjacent to and belonging to the mine itself, and not merely belonging to the mine owner, and that the deceased was not employed on or in or about a mine, within the meaning of the Act.—*Turnbull v. Lambton Collieries, Limited, Court of Appeal, May 5th and 7th.*

#### WHO ARE "THE UNDERTAKERS"?

In the Act "undertakers" in the case of a factory means "the occupier thereof within the meaning of the Factory and Workshop Acts, 1878 to 1895"; in the case of an engineering work (which expression includes all work for the construction, alteration, or repair of which machinery driven by steam, water, or other mechanical power is used) means "the person undertaking the construction, alteration, or repair"; and in the case of a building means "the persons undertaking the construction, repair, or demolition."

A firm of chemical manufacturers were having a building erected on their premises. The building, which was over 30 feet in height, and was being constructed by means of a scaffolding, was being erected under the supervision of this chemical firm, who supplied the materials for it, and who employed the architect. At the request of the firm, a certain man supplied the labourers for the brickwork of the building, this contractor paying these labourers and being remunerated by receiving from the firm an extra halfpenny an hour upon the men's time. The men so supplied acted under the orders of the firm's foreman, and the contractor had nothing to do with the work, nor was he

responsible for the way in which the work was done, nor had he any control over the men when at work. One of the labourers so supplied, while at work on the building, fell off a scaffolding, and was killed. His widow claimed compensation from the contractor. The County Court judge held that the contractor was the person undertaking the construction of the building, and was therefore an undertaker, within the meaning of the Act, and made an award in favour of the widow. The contractor appealed; and the Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, holding that the fact that the contractor merely undertook to supply the labour, did not make him an "undertaker" within the meaning of the Act, and that the persons undertaking the construction of the building (who were the persons against whom proceedings must be taken to recover compensation) were the chemical firm.—*Percival v. Garner, Court of Appeal, May 19th.*

In another case an engineering firm were carrying out a contract which they had made with a company for the supply of certain machinery. In carrying out this work they did not use any machinery driven by mechanical power. Two of the workmen employed by the firm were engaged in fixing a rail round the fly-wheel of one of the steam-engines which formed part of the plant erected on the premises by the firm, when one of them met with a fatal accident, being caught by the machinery in motion, during a preliminary run. The widow of this workman claimed compensation from his employers. The sheriff-substitute held that the premises were at the date of the accident a factory within the meaning of the Act, but that the employers of the deceased were not the occupiers of the factory or undertakers, within the meaning of the Act. He therefore dismissed the action, with expenses. On appeal, the Court of Session affirmed the decision of the sheriff, with additional expenses.—*Mrs. Annie Smail or Purves v. L. Sterne and Company, Limited, Court of Session, May 22nd.*

#### COMPENSATION IN CASE OF FATAL ACCIDENT: TO WHOM PAYABLE.

With respect to compensation payable where death results from the injury, the Act provides that: "(4) the payment shall, in case of death, be made to the legal personal representative of the workman, or, if he has no legal personal representative, to or for the benefit of his dependants, or, if he leaves no dependants, to the person to whom the expenses are due; and if made to the legal personal representative shall be paid by him to or for the benefit of the dependants or other persons entitled thereto under this Act. (5) Any question as to who is a dependant, or as to the amount payable to each dependant, shall, in default of agreement, be settled by arbitration under this Act. (6) The sum allotted as compensation to a dependant may be invested or otherwise applied for the benefit of the persons entitled thereto, as agreed, or as ordered by the committee or other arbitrator. (7) Any sum which is agreed or is ordered by the committee or arbitrator to be invested, may be invested in whole or in part in the Post Office Savings Bank by the registrar of the County Court in his name as registrar." The widow of a workman, who had been killed by accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, took out letters of administration, and made a claim against his employers for compensation, as his legal personal representative. The County Court judge, by his award, ordered the employers to pay £246 7s. to the dependants of the deceased, and declared that the persons entitled to share in such compensation as dependants were the widow and two infant sons of the deceased, and he ordered that sum to be apportioned as follows:—£146 7s. to be paid to the widow, and £100 for the benefit of the two sons equally, to be paid to the Registrar and invested in his name in the Post Office Savings Bank for their benefit. The widow appealed from this decision, contending that the whole amount ought to be paid to her as the legal personal representative of the deceased. The Court of Appeal held that the Act gave the County Court judge power to make the order which he had made, and dismissed the appeal, but, as the question raised on the appeal did not concern the employers, dismissed it without costs.—*Daniel v. The Ocean Coal Company, Limited, Court of Appeal, May 5th.*

#### REVIEW OF COMPENSATION.

The Act provides that "Any weekly payment may be reviewed at the request either of the employer or the workman, and on such review may be ended, diminished or increased, . . . and the amount of payment shall, in default of agreement, be settled by arbitration under this Act." A workman, a youth aged 18 years, had his left leg amputated as the result of an accident at a colliery on December 1st, 1898, and was awarded 8s. 8d. per week during partial or total disablement. His employers (the owners of the colliery) continued this payment until the beginning of the present year, when they learned that the workman was fit to do work. They offered him, accordingly, employment in the lamp-room of the colliery at 14s. a week. The workman, however, had been apprenticed to a bootmaker, and took no notice of this offer. Thereupon the employers applied to the County Court judge to have the award of 8s. 8d. a week reduced; but the judge refused this application, on the ground that, under all the circumstances of the case, the employment offered to the workman was unreasonable. The employers appealed; and the Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal, holding that the County Court judge had come to the conclusion that this employment was unreasonable for a crippled boy, and this was a question of fact for the judge to decide. His decision was supported by the evidence, and the Court of Appeal would not interfere with it.—*Buckley v. Locke & Company, Limited, Court of Appeal, May 19th.*

In another case a carpenter, who had met with an accident while at work, three of his fingers having been cut off in a circular saw, had been awarded 17s. 9d. a week as compensation. His employers

applied to the County Court judge to have the award reviewed and the payments reduced, on the ground that the carpenter was now earning wages as a caretaker. The judge refused to go into the question at all, expressing his opinion that the Act never intended that, whenever a workman obtained a job of a few shillings a week, his employers should apply to have the award of compensation reviewed. The employers appealed; and the Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, with costs, holding that the judge was bound to give the matter his consideration, and the case must accordingly be remitted to him.—*Hewitt v. Hepburn & Co., Court of Appeal, May 26th.*

#### (2) Employers' Liability Act. DEFECT IN CONDITION OF PLANT.

An engineer was employed to attend to a mortar mill, which consisted of two rollers revolving in a pan. The tyres of the rollers having become worn and loose, this workman was directed by his employer to remedy this defect by driving wedges between the tyre and the roller. While he was doing this, some lime, which, in the ordinary use of the mortar pan had found its way in between the tyre and the roller, was forced out and struck the workman in the eye, injuring his eyesight. He brought an action against his employer under the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, to recover compensation for the injury. By Section 1, sub-section 1 of the Act it is provided that, where personal injury is caused to a workman "by reason of any defect in the condition of the ways, works, machinery, or plant connected with or used in the business of the employer, the workman shall have the same right of compensation and remedies against the employer as if the workman had not been a workman of nor in the service of the employer, nor engaged in his work;" while it is provided by Section 2, sub-section 1 of the Act that a workman shall not be entitled under this Act to any right of compensation or remedy against the employer "under sub-section 1 of Section 1, unless the defect therein mentioned arose from, or had not been discovered or remedied owing to the negligence of the employer, or of some person entrusted by him with the duty of seeing that the ways, works, machinery or plant were in proper condition."

The County Court judge left three questions to the jury: (a) was there a defect in the plant? (b) was that defect due to the negligence of the defendant? (c) was the injury caused through the defect? The jury answered all three questions in the affirmative, and gave a verdict for the plaintiff for £45; but the judge nevertheless non-suited the plaintiff, holding that there was no evidence on which the jury could find that the accident was due to the defect in the plant. The workman appealed; and the Queen's Bench Division allowed the appeal, holding that the questions were properly left to the jury. The workman was engaged in remedying a defective machine when he was injured, and there was evidence on which the jury might find that the injury happened through the defect.—*Clarke v. Nichols, Queen's Bench Division, May 17th.*

#### AGRICULTURAL LABOUR BUREAUX IN HUNGARY.

The following account of the system of Labour Registries, to be established by the different public authorities throughout Hungary, which was instituted by the Government in February last, is based upon details kindly supplied to the Department by Mr. M. Szántó, of the Royal Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture. The general outlines of the system may thus be described. In each district and town there is to be a local registrar, whose duty it will be to give information to employers with respect to labour available, and to workpeople with regard to vacant situations. If required so to do, the local registrar will communicate with the registrar of another district or with a specified employer, the applicant paying the cost of the communication and a fee of about 2d.

So far as concerns those cases, in which the local registrar is unable to satisfy the demands of employers for workmen or of workmen for employment, this official will communicate the facts in a weekly report to the registrar in charge of the county registry having jurisdiction in respect of the county within which his district is situated, who will also receive reports from the registrars of the neighbouring counties. The information, which is thus conveyed to the county registrar, that officer will tabulate, sending a copy of his tabulation to each of the district registrars in his own county, and also to the registrars of the neighbouring counties. In addition, the local and the county registrars are to send weekly reports to the Board of Agriculture, which will supply information to any registrar, and to private persons making inquiries. Both the postal and the telegraph services will be utilised for the purpose of maintaining intercommunication between the different branches of the new organisation, and, together with the telephone, will be made use of by the local registries for supplying information to employers and workpeople seeking the

assistance of these bureaux. All office expenses in connection with this system will be defrayed out of public moneys.\*

#### LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.

(Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 31 Broad-way, Westminster, S.W., from official and other reports, newspapers, etc., mostly dated April and May last.)

**Canada.**—A report from New Brunswick states that there is no demand for miners, mechanics, or general labourers, but a good demand for farm labourers and female servants. A report from Montreal states that there is a good demand for good farm hands, both male and female, for the country, and for domestics for the city. A report from Calgary in the North-West lays stress on the great demand for female servants, and lady helps well trained in domestic matters. At Prince Albert (N.W.T.) there is a fair demand for all kinds of labour except miners. A report from Manitoba states that there is a good demand for farm labourers and female servants only. A report from British Columbia states that the demand for farm labourers is not permanent, but that female servants are always in great demand; the latter should know how to make bread, and do household work, or needlework. A report from Toronto states that there is a demand for farm labourers, general labourers, and female servants, and that outside the building trades good mechanics can get work.

**New South Wales.**—There is no special demand for more labour, but competent men can find work on fruit or dairy farms.

**Victoria.**—A report from Melbourne states: "Everything here is very quiet. There is practically no change in wages or time. The Factories Act is being more widely applied than hitherto, and is doubtless doing good." The Bread Baking Board, appointed under the Factories and Shops Acts, have fixed the minimum wage payable in the trade at 12½d. an hour, or 50s. per week of 48 hours. A few good plumbers are wanted for the Melbourne drainage works.

**South Australia.**—Copper miners are very busy in the north.

**Queensland.**—There is a good demand for farm labourers, ploughmen, and female servants, to whom free or assisted passages are now being given; there is also a moderate demand for mechanics.

**Western Australia.**—The supply of men in the building and other trades is sufficient; very few men are out of employment. The supply of miners is also sufficient except at Mingenew and Yilgarn. Agricultural labourers are wanted in the Blackwood, Fremantle, Northam, Perth, Newcastle, Dongarra and Katanning districts in the south-west division of the Colony. There is no demand for unskilled labour except at Fremantle (where over 900 hands, skilled and unskilled, are employed on the harbour works), Newcastle, Geraldton, and Dongarra. There is a demand for female servants in almost every district. Lumpers' wages have been raised, by agreement between masters and men, from 1s. 1½d. an hour for general cargo to 1s. 3d., and from 1s. 8d. an hour for overtime to 2s.

**New Zealand.**—Beside the building and engineering trades, which are almost everywhere busy, there is plenty of work to be had in the mines, saw and flax mills, clothing factories, woollen mills, flour mills, freezing works, brickyards, etc. Dairying and agricultural pursuits are generally prosperous, and occupy large numbers of persons, and unskilled labourers can, if they want to, nearly always obtain employment at rabbit-poisoning, scrub cutting, bridge-building, road repairing, fencing, or general farm work.

**South Africa.**—The following telegram has been received at the Colonial Office from Sir Alfred Milner:—

"7th June.—Reported by telegram that large numbers of miners and others are about to start for Transvaal from Southampton on Saturday. Cannot public notification be issued warning people against premature return? They will be delayed at Cape ports, and will

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

only increase numbers supported by charity. It must be a couple of months, at least, before the bulk of those now in Colony and Natal can be allowed to return, or work generally be resumed."

### LABOUR ABROAD.

#### FRANCE.

*Labour Disputes in April\*.*—Eighty-four fresh disputes (including three lock-outs) were reported to the French Labour Department in April, the number of workpeople known to have taken part in 78 of these disputes being 21,271. The corresponding number of disputes in March was 80, in 79 of which 11,723 workpeople were known to have taken part, while in April, 1899, there were 35 disputes, in which 6,025 workpeople took part. Of the eighty-four new disputes in April last, 27 occurred in the textile trades, 23 in the building trades, 11 in the metal and engineering trades, 5 in the transport trades, 3 in the clothing trades, 2 in chemical, glass, pottery, etc., trades, 2 in agriculture, one in the printing trade, and 10 in miscellaneous trades. The most important of the new disputes was a strike of 12,000 laundry workers at 400 establishments in the suburbs of Paris, which began on April 24th, and lasted until April 30th, ending in a compromise. This dispute was caused by the putting into operation of the new law of March 30th, 1900 (see GAZETTE, April, 1900, p. 101), which involves a reduction in the hours of labour of adult males from 12 to 11 per day whenever such persons are employed in the same factory or workshop with women, young persons and children whose hours are similarly limited. In consequence of this measure, many employers, who formerly worked 12 hours per day, reduced the wages of their workpeople by one-twelfth. Ten disputes (one being a lock-out) were attributable to this cause, in addition to the strike of laundry workers referred to above. Of the 58 new and old disputes, of which the termination is reported, 7 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 17 in favour of the employers, and 34 were compromised.

*Conciliation and Arbitration in April\*.*—Fourteen cases of recourse to the Conciliation and Arbitration Law were reported to the French Labour Department in April, the workpeople having taken the initiative in 7 cases, the justice of the peace in 5 cases, and the employers and workpeople jointly in one case. With reference to one case it is not stated by whom application for conciliation was made. Conciliation proceedings took place in 8 cases, and resulted in the termination of 5 strikes. (A sixth strike was settled by the Prefect, after unsuccessful intervention by the justice of the peace.) Offers of mediation made by the justice of the peace were rejected by the employers in 3 cases. In two cases, information was wanting as to whether the action of the justice of the peace had led to conciliation proceedings or not, while in the remaining case the dispute was settled before the formal proceedings took place. The number of workpeople involved in the 5 disputes settled by conciliation under the law was 12,415, of whom 12,000 were engaged in the strike of laundry workers referred to above.

*Regulation of Hours of Labour in Factories, etc.*—In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated May 18th, Sir E. Monson, H.M. Ambassador at Paris, transmits copy of a circular addressed by the Minister of Commerce to the Prefects, with regard to the interpretation of the law of March 30th, 1900, regulating the hours of labour in factories and workshops. (See GAZETTE, April, 1900, p. 101.) M. Millerand explains that the chief object of the law is to put an end to the system of "relays," by which the spirit of the law of November 2nd, 1892, was contravened, and he draws the attention of the Prefects particularly to the modification of Article 3 of that law, by which it is laid down that, except in factories working night and day and in mines, the hours of rest shall be the same for all; and to the modification of Article 11, by which, when the employment of successive shifts is necessary, the labour of each shift shall be continuous, excepting interruption for rest.

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

#### GERMANY.

*Employment in May.*—According to *Der Arbeitsmarkt*, the state of employment was rather more favourable than in May, 1899, the proportion which applications for work bore to every 100 offers of situations at public employment registries throughout the Empire being 101.2, as compared with 102.4 a year ago.

*Labour Disputes in May.*—The same journal reports 105 disputes as having begun in Germany in May, as compared with 84 in April. The group in which the greatest number of disputes took place, was that of the building trades, which had 33 disputes; the wood-working trades had 20 disputes; the metal and engineering trades 16; the textile trades, 9; the glass, pottery, etc., trades, 7; mining and quarrying, 3; clothing trades, 2; food preparation trades, 2 while 13 disputes occurred in trades not coming within any of the foregoing groups.

#### SWITZERLAND.

*Referendum on Sickness and Accident Insurance of Workpeople.*—In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated May 21st, Mr. F. R. St. John, H.M. Minister at Berne, reports that the popular voting on the *Referendum* regarding the proposed Swiss law on compulsory insurance against sickness and accidents, which took place on the previous day, resulted in the rejection of the measure, the adverse votes amounting to 341,754, as against 146,954 in favour of the law. (See GAZETTE, December, 1899, pp. 355-6.)

#### BELGIUM.\*

*Employment in April.*—The general situation in April is reported as having been marked by scarcity and dearth of labour. This was more especially the case in the coal mining industry, in quarrying, and in the various branches of the metal and engineering trades, all of which were being deprived of a part of their labourers through the commencement of the brick-making season, which has opened favourably and promised to be a very busy one. Seasonal activity continued in the building and garment-making trades except for painters and bespoke tailors, whose employment was affected by the state of the weather, and for masons and navvies, who were adversely affected by the high prices of building materials. In the textile trades employment continued active, but commercial transactions were hampered by alterations in the prices of cotton and wool. The table-glass trade did not improve commercially, but employment became regular; the plate-glass and glass-bottle branches were well employed. The condition of the Antwerp diamond-working trade and of the lace-making trade continued critical. In the bootmaking, printing, woodworking, chemical and tanning trades, and in the manufacture of arms employment generally was good.

*Labour Disputes in April.*—Sixteen new disputes were reported to the Belgian Labour Department in April, involving in all 954 workpeople. The corresponding number of fresh disputes in March was 22, involving 9,200 workpeople, and in April, 1899, 12, involving about 64,200 workpeople. Of the 16 fresh disputes in April, 1900, the most important was a strike of 176 nailmakers of Fontaine-l'Évêque (Hainaut) for increased wages, which lasted from April 17th to 26th. Of the remaining fresh disputes, 2 were in the quarrying group of trades, 4 in the textile trades, 2 in the bootmaking trade, 3 in the chemical trades, and 1 in each of the following trades: house-painting, looking-glass manufacture, metal-gilding, and dock labour.

Of 16 new and old disputes, involving 4,389 workpeople, of which the results are classified, 3, involving 1,370 workpeople, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 11, involving 2,569 workpeople, in favour of the employers; and 2, involving 450 workpeople, were compromised.

In addition, 2 disputes ended in the whole of the strikers transferring their services to other employers.

#### AUSTRIA.†

*Employment in March.*—For every 100 offers of situations at labour registries (public and private) furnishing returns of their operations to the Austrian

\* *Revue du Travail* (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department).

† *Soziale Rundschau* (Journal of the Austrian Labour Department).

Labour Department there were, on an average, 132 applications for work in March—the same proportion as in February. For males seeking employment the situation was, however, more favourable in March than in February, the average number of applications for each situation offered dropping from 2.3 in February to 2 in March. The improved proportion is attributable in a far greater measure to the returns of the urban (industrial) than to those of the rural (agricultural) registries.

The total number of registries furnishing returns for March was 719, of which 570 were attached to the relief stations for unemployed wayfarers existing throughout the country, chiefly in rural districts.

*Labour Disputes in March.*—Twenty-six disputes (of which one is described as a lock-out) were reported to the Austrian Labour Department in March, the number of workpeople involved being stated as exceeding 4,500. The principal disputes of the month were 2 strikes (for increased wages) in the coal mining industry, each involving 1,500 workpeople. One of these disputes began on March 1st and ended on the 3rd, the workmen obtaining a 10 per cent. increase of wages. The other began on March 22nd and ended on April 2nd, a 5 per cent. increase being granted. Of the other 24 disputes, 3 occurred in the building trades, 4 in the metal and engineering trades, 6 in the textile trades, 6 in the clothing trades, and 5 in miscellaneous trades.

#### SWEDEN.

*Employment of Women and Children in Factories, etc.: Proposed Legislation.*—The Hon. Sir F. Pakenham, H.M. Minister at Stockholm, in a report to the Foreign Office dated May 12th, states that the Committee on Legislation has presented to the Chambers a Bill relating to the work of minors in factories, etc. According to the provisions of this Bill, which differ from those of the law of 1881, legislation is confined to "large industries," including sawmills and timber yards. Women are protected in certain branches of industry; the minimum age for employment is 12 years, and 10 hours of work per day are allowed to children of 13 years, whereas the present law only permits 6 hours of work per day to children under 14.

*Invention of Non-poisonous Match.*—A report from the same source, under date of May 5th, states that a non-poisonous match has been invented, which can take the place of phosphorus matches and permit the prohibition of the latter. Like phosphorus matches, the new match can be lighted without a prepared surface, by simple friction on walls, floors, etc., and it is better than phosphorus matches, in not being so easily spoiled by humidity. It also resists high temperature better than phosphorus, or even safety matches.

#### SPAIN.

*Strikes at Bilbao.*—Mr. E. B. Maxse, H.M. Consul at Bilbao, reporting under date of May 29th, states that about the beginning of May the local masons struck work, nominally for higher wages, but really because they had been persuaded to refuse to work with non-union men. Shortly afterwards, the plumbers, painters, carpenters and bricklayers struck, and refused to work with non-union men. The employers thereupon declared that they, on their side, would not allow the men to resume work, except on the employers' terms. These terms have never been explicitly stated, but are supposed to be:—no increase of wages, no reduction of hours, and no acknowledgment of unions. The dock labourers commenced striking about May 15th at one or two wharves, and at the time of reporting the strike was pretty general. A certain number of dock labourers had been imported from Santander, and were engaged in discharging vessels.

On May 25th the miners of the Franco-Belge Mining Company came out on strike, asking for higher wages (5d. per day more). They were followed the next day by the men belonging to the Triano Railway Company. The mine owners and managers held a meeting on May 25th, at which they agreed, first, not to increase wages, and secondly, to

stop working all mines and lock out the miners on June 5th, should the men of all the mines not have returned to their work by that date.

*Strike of Rio Tinto Miners.*—According to newspaper reports, a strike has broken out within the last few days in the Rio Tinto mines in Andalusia, and on the 14th instant all work was reported at a stand still.

#### UNITED STATES.

##### NEW YORK CONSULAR DISTRICT.

*Strike of Italian Workmen.*—In a report to the Foreign Office, dated April 27th, Sir Percy Sanderson, H.M. Consul-General at New York, states that the strike of Italian workmen at the new Croton Dam was then considered to be over. (See May GAZETTE, p. 138.)

##### CHICAGO CONSULAR DISTRICT.

With reference to the strike in the building trades in Chicago, mentioned in the April GAZETTE (p. 107), Mr. W. Wyndham, H.M. Consul at Chicago, reporting to the Foreign Office under date of May 4th, states that on April 19th the Mayor of Chicago invited the representatives of the contractors, the manufacturers and dealers in building materials, and the trade unions, to meet him, with a view to arriving at a settlement. The suggestion was that the manufacturers and dealers in building materials (whose business was entirely stopped by the strike) should hear both sides, and then offer a suggestion for a basis of settlement. The union men attended the meeting, and stated their side of the case. The contractors refused to meet them, but issued a statement in which they said that they were not opposed to legitimate unionism, but would not recognise the Building Trades Council (a committee of all the unions). They would allow any member of the Contractors' Council to make an agreement with any individual union on terms which provided (1) that there shall be no limitation as to the amount of work a man shall perform during the working day; (2) that there shall be no restriction of the use of machinery or tools; (3) that there shall be no restriction of the use of any manufactured material, except prison-made; (4) that no person shall have the right to interfere with the workmen during working hours; (5) that the use of apprentices shall not be prohibited; (6) that the foreman shall be the agent of the employer; (7) that all workmen shall be at liberty to work for whomsoever they see fit; (8) that employers shall be at liberty to employ and discharge whomsoever they see fit; (9) that 8 hours shall constitute a day's work; (10) that the rate of daily wages shall be for bricklayers, plasterers, stonecutters, gasfitters, engineers, plumbers, steam-fitters and tile-setters, 16s.; for iron-setters, 14s. 6d.; for marble-setters, 14s.; for carpenters and sheet metal workers, 13s. 6d.; for house drainers, 13s.; for iron-workers, 12s. 9d.; for painters and gravel-roofers, 12s.; for plasterers' labourers, 9s. 6d.; and for other labourers, 8s.; (11) that time and one-half shall be paid for overtime, and double time for Sundays and holidays; (12) that the agreement shall cover a period of not less than three years; (13) that an arbitration clause, to provide for the adjustment of possible difficulties in the future, be made a part of the agreement; (14) that no by-law or rule conflicting with the agreement shall be enforced or passed by the association or union during the life of the agreement; and (15) that the agreement shall become operative only when the union withdraws permanently from the Building Trades Council and agrees not to be affiliated to any organisation of a like character during the life of the agreement.

On April 24th all the journeymen plumbers were ordered out on strike, as it was believed that the contractors were taking advantage of the job-shops to get work done. On the same day the brass moulders, who were to have commenced work, re-considered the step and continued the strike. The dispute had now continued for 11 weeks, during which 40,000 men had been idle, and up till May 4th (the date of the report) no settlement had taken place.

In the first week of April the engineers, who had been



EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

is ready. The labour market has been seriously affected by the call to arms abroad, and by the Reserves being called up. Many of the Reservists were the most skilled and best-conducted workmen, and the farmers have to put up with a poorer class of hands. Employment in Durham in the Unions of Chester-le-Street and Durham is described as regular, and it is stated that men are difficult to obtain. In Yorkshire agricultural labourers are said to be well employed in the Unions of Beverley, Easingwold, Guisborough, Howden, Malton, Ouseburn, Knaresborough, Pocklington, Ripon, and Thirsk. An employer in the Ripon Union writes as follows:—"The weather, though cold, has been good for agricultural operations, and swede sowing is almost, if not quite, completed under most favourable circumstances, and labourers have been kept in constant employment." Another employer in the Ripon Union writes that the supply of labour has been rather more plentiful in May, as some of the Irish migratory labourers have arrived. A number of employers state that men are difficult to get.

Midland Counties.—In Cheshire employment is reported as regular in the Unions of Macclesfield, Nantwich, and Tarvin, and in Derbyshire in the Unions of Ashbourne, Chesterfield, and Hayfield (Derby and Cheshire), and in the Derbyshire portions of the Worksop Union (Notts, Derby, and Yorks W.R.), of the Burton-on-Trent Union (Staffs and Derby) and of the Mansfield Union (Notts and Derby). Both in Cheshire and Derbyshire several reports state that labourers are very scarce. An employer in the Mansfield Union writes as follows:—"No extra labour to be had, and if any labourer leaves it is very difficult, almost impossible, to fill his place." Reports from Shropshire state that employment is quite regular in the Unions of Bridgnorth, Drayton (Salop and Staffs), Oswestry (Salop and Denbigh), Wellington, and Wem, and from Staffordshire in the Unions of Leek, Lichfield, Tamworth (Staffs and Warwick) and Uttoxeter. Most reports from Shropshire and Staffordshire refer to a scarcity of labour. A report from the Drayton Union says:—"Demand greater than the supply, mainly owing to briskness in trade and the calling up of the Reserves for South Africa." A large employer of labour in the Lichfield and Uttoxeter Unions writes that "labourers are very scarce, and it is almost impossible to secure any extra hands for threshing." In both Shropshire and Staffordshire farm work is said to be forward, though the crops are backward.

Agricultural labourers in Warwickshire are said to be well employed in the Unions of Alcester (Warwick and Worcester) Coventry, Meriden, and Stratford-on-Avon (Warwick and Gloucester) and in the Warwickshire portion of the Banbury Union (Oxon, Northants, and Warwick). Several employers state that agricultural labourers are very scarce. Regularity of employment is reported in Leicestershire in the Unions of Barrow-on-Soar, Loughborough (Leicester and Notts), Lutterworth (Leicester and Warwick), Market Harborough (Leicester and Northants), Melton Mowbray, and in Nottinghamshire in the Unions of Southwell and Retford, and in Rutland in the Uppingham Union. In Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, and Rutland several employers complain of a scarcity of labour. A large employer of labour in the Market Harborough Union, who also farms in Rutland and Northamptonshire, writes as follows:—"In most parishes it is nearly impossible to get a few extra hands for threshing, etc." An employer in the Lutterworth Union writes:—"Demand exceeds supply, but owing to some Irishmen coming into the neighbourhood, the situation is somewhat relieved. Owing to cold weather in May crops are backward. Consequently, extra hands are not so much needed for hoeing as would have been the case." Reports from Worcestershire state that employment is quite regular in the Unions of Evesham (Worcester and Gloucester), Martley, Tenbury (Worcester and Salop), and Upton-on-Severn. A report from the Evesham Union states that there is "abundance of employment for all classes of labour, and many more needed. Very dry month, and many crops not hoed through scarcity of hands."

In Oxfordshire employment is said to be quite regular in the Unions of Thame (Oxon and Bucks) and Witney, and in the Oxfordshire portion of the Wallingford Union (Oxon and Berks). A report from the Thame Union states, "Full employment, short supply of labour, especially milkers." Favourable reports as regards regularity of employment come from Northamptonshire from the Unions of Brixworth, Hardingstone, Kettering, Potterspury (Northants and Bucks) and Wellingborough, and from the Northamptonshire portion of the Banbury Union (Oxon, Northants, and Warwick). A large employer of labour in the Wellingborough Union writes as follows:—"The supply of labour is very short and no men are to be got. The weather on the whole has been very favourable for farm work

and men are wanted for hoeing, etc." Reports of a similar character come from Huntingdonshire from the Unions of Huntingdon, St. Ives, and St. Neots (Hunts and Beds.). A report from the Huntingdon Union states that there is "great scarcity of labour, and very little of the barley has been hoed, because men could not be got."

In Buckinghamshire agricultural labourers are said to be well employed in the Union of Aylesbury, Buckingham, Henley (Oxon and Bucks), Newport Pagnell, and in Hertfordshire in the Unions of Hatfield, Hemel Hempstead, Hertford, Hitchin (Herts. and Beds.) Royston (Herts. and Cambs) and Watford, and in Middlesex in the Barnet Union (Middlesex and Herts.). Several employers from all these districts state that there is a difficulty in getting men. Agricultural labourers are said to be in regular work in Bedfordshire in the Unions of Amptill, Bedford, Biggleswade, Leighton Buzzard, Luton (Beds. and Bucks). Most reports state that men are scarce.

Eastern Counties.—Reports from Essex state that employment is regular in the Unions of Billericay, Braintree, Colchester, Dunmow, Epping, Halstead, Maldon, Orsett, and Tendring. Some employers complain of a scarcity of labour, but others state that there was a sufficient supply during May, as farm work was well forward, and there was not much hoeing to do owing to the dry weather. Agricultural labourers in Suffolk are said to be generally well employed in the Unions of Blything, Bosmere and Claydon, Cosford, Hartismere, Hoxne, Mildenhall, Mutford and Lothingland, Plomesgate, Risbridge (Suffolk and Essex), Samford, Sudbury (Suffolk and Essex), and Thingoe. Reports as to the supply of labour vary somewhat. Reports from the Unions of Bosmere and Claydon, Blything, Hartismere, Mildenhall, Plomesgate, and Samford state that it is sufficient. One from the Thingoe Union says, "very short in some parishes." In the Hoxne Union, a report says, "rather short for good men, especially team men." In the Mutford and Lothingland Union, "very scarce, no extra hands to be had near town." One correspondent in one part of the Cosford Union says that the supply of labour is sufficient and another in another district says that there is a scarcity of men. A correspondent in the Risbridge Union writes as follows:—"The weather has been cold and dry, keeping corn crops backward. It has been favourable for hoeing and killing weeds. Generally there has been sufficient labour. In a few places, on smaller farms, a few extra hands are wanted for threshing work, and are not readily procured." A large employer of labour in the Bosmere and Claydon Union, near Ipswich, writes as follows:—"May and April were both of them dry months and very suitable for getting on with both manual labour and team work; consequently we have both well in hand. I see no reason why labour should be any difficulty: the scarcity has been exaggerated."

In Norfolk agricultural labourers are said to be well employed in the Unions of Aylsham, Blofield, Depwade, Docking, Downham, East and West Flegg, Erpingham, Forehoe, Freebridge Lynn, Guilt Cross, Loddon and Clavering, Mitford and Launditch, St. Faith's, Smallburgh, Swaffham, Thetford (Norfolk and Suffolk) and Walsingham. With reference to the supply of labour it is said to be "sufficient," "just sufficient," or "barely sufficient" in the following Unions:—Blofield, Forehoe, Depwade, Docking, Erpingham, East and West Flegg, Loddon and Clavering, St. Faith's, and Smallburgh. A report from the Freebridge Lynn Union says "scarce," and from the Guiltcross Union, "in some places scarce owing to the war."

Reports from Cambridgeshire state that employment was regular in the Unions of Chesterton, North Witchford, Whittlesea, and Wisbech (Cambs and Norfolk), and in the Cambridgeshire portion of the Peterborough Union (Northants, Cambs, Hunts, and Lincoln), and from Lincolnshire in the Unions of Boston, Brigg, Caistor, (Notts and Lincoln), Grimsby, Lincoln, Louth, Sleaford, and Spilsby, and in the Lincolnshire portion of the Newark Union (Notts and Lincoln). An employer in the Lincoln Union says that labourers have not been so scarce for many years.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—Agricultural labourers in Kent are reported as well employed in the Unions of Bridge, Blean, Eastry, Elham, Favershams, Hollingbourne, Hoo, Maidstone, Sevenoaks, and Tenterden, and in Surrey, in the Unions of Godstone, and Hambledon, and in the Surrey portion of the Farnham Union (Surrey and Hants). A number of employers in both Kent and Surrey state that labourers are difficult to obtain. Reports from Sussex state that employment is regular in the Unions of Battle, Chailley, Cuckfield, Hailsham, Horsham, Lewes, Newhaven, Petworth, Rye, and Uckfield. A report from the Hailsham

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR.

Union says that "all agricultural hands employed, and farmers experience much difficulty in getting extra hands when wanted." A report from the Lewes Union states that more job hands applied for work during the month than usual. In the Horsham, and Rye Unions the supply of labour is described as short. Regularity of work is reported from Hampshire in the Unions of Basingstoke, Christchurch, Droxford, Hartley Wintney, Havant, Kingsclere, Petersfield, and Stockbridge, and in the Hampshire portion of the Farnham Union (Hants and Surrey). A report from the Hartley Wintney Union states that "labour is very short. No extra hands for hoeing at any price." Reports from several other Unions refer to a scarcity of labour. A large employer of labour in the Stockbridge Union states that the supply of labour is adequate, and in the Kingsclere Union it is said to be sufficient. Reports from Berkshire state that employment is regular in the Unions of Bradfield (Berks and Oxon.) and Wantage. In these districts men are said to be scarce.

In Dorsetshire employment is reported as regular in the Unions of Blandford, Bridport, Dorchester, Wareham and Purbeck, and Wimborne and Cranborne. Several employers state that the supply of labour is very short. A report from the Dorchester Union says that "there is great difficulty in getting enough hands to do the ordinary farm work." Agricultural labourers are said to be well employed in Wiltshire in the Unions of Amesbury, Bradford-on-Avon, Chippenham, Cricklade and Wootton Bassett, Devizes, Marlborough, Mere, Pewsey, Warminster, and Westbury and Whorwellsdown. An employer in the Amesbury Union writes as follows on May 30th:—"Owing to the favourable condition of the weather, the spring sowing was completed without any additional employment of labour, and work is in a forward condition. The supply of labour is not equal to the demand, many employers not being able to get sufficient. The work which is in operation on Salisbury Plain, as well as the erection of several buildings in the neighbourhood, causes an unusual demand for labour in this immediate neighbourhood." A report from the Bradford-on-Avon Union states that "the weather has been generally favourable for outdoor work, and considerable arrears of work have been made good. We find labour, although still scarce, rather more plentiful since February." Labour is said to be scarce in the Unions of Amesbury, Cricklade and Wootton Bassett, Chippenham, Devizes, Pewsey, Warminster, and Westbury and Whorwellsdown. In the Mere Union there is said to be just sufficient labour, and a report from the Marlborough Union says that a few hands were offering themselves for work, which has not been the case for some time.

Agricultural labourers in Gloucestershire are said to be fully employed in the Unions of Barton Regis, Dursley, Gloucester, Northleach, Stow-on-the-Wold (Gloucester and Worcester), Thornbury, and Wheatonhurst. Men are said to be scarce in the Unions of Dursley, Gloucester, and Northleach. But reports from the Unions of Barton Regis, Stow-on-the-Wold, and Thornbury state that the supply is sufficient. A correspondent in the Stow-on-the-Wold Union writes:—"It is rather difficult to find work for ordinary labourers, as the root crops are hardly up, and all other work is well forward owing to the dry weather and cold winds." In Herefordshire employment is reported as regular and men scarce, in the Unions of Bromyard (Hereford and Worcester), Dore, and Ledbury. A report from the Dore Union says that "there have been complaints of difficulty in obtaining labour, but so far there has not been any actual scarcity. But the shortness is an increasing one." Regularity of work is reported in Somersetshire in the Unions of Clutton, Frome, Langport, Taunton, Wells, Wellington (Somerset and Devon), Wincanton, and Yeovil, and in Devonshire in the Unions of Axminster, Barnstaple, Crediton, Kingsbridge, South Molton, Tavistock (Devon and Cornwall), and Torrington. A number of employers in Somerset and Devon state that labour is scarce. In Cornwall employment is said to be regular in the Unions of Bodmin, Camelford, and Stratton. In these three Unions the supply of labour is said to be short.

(g) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN MAY.

EMPLOYMENT at the docks and wharves shows a slight decline as compared with both a month and a year ago.

The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves during the four weeks ended May 26th was 13,943, as compared with averages of 14,176 in the preceding four weeks, and 14,280 in the corresponding period of 1899.

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

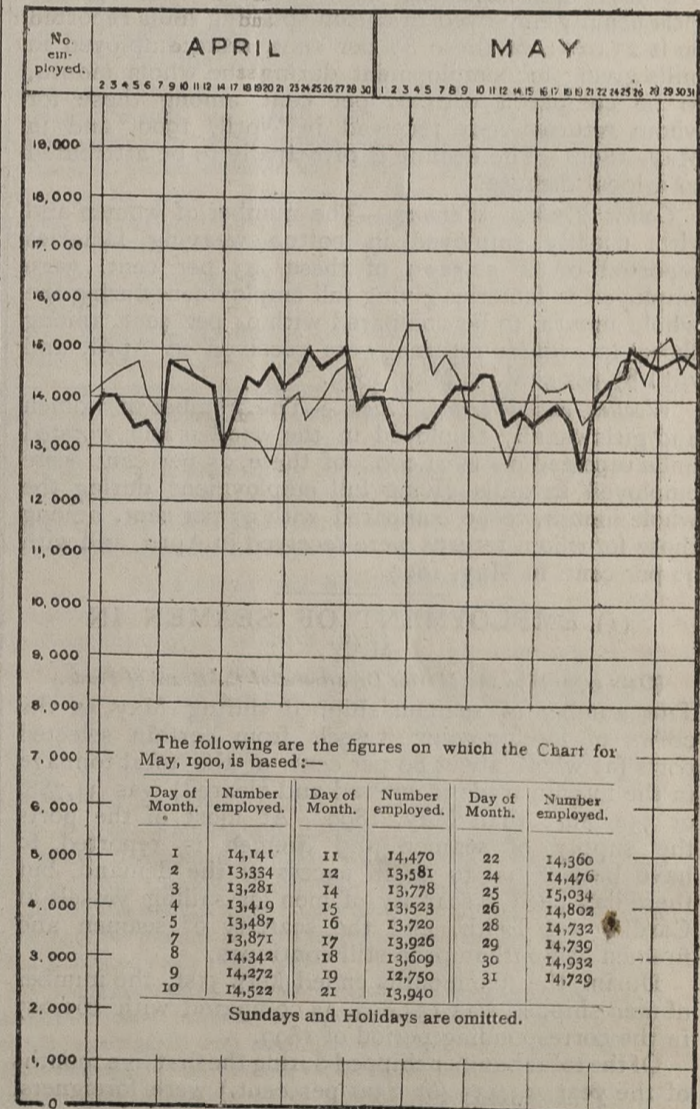
Table with 6 columns: Period, By Dock Companies or through Contractors, By Ship-owners, &c., Total, Labourers employed at 15 Wharves making Returns, Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns. Rows include weekly averages for May 1899 and 1900, and 4-week averages ending May 26th, 1900.

(2) Daily Fluctuation.—The daily fluctuation in the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed by all the docks and principal wharves during April and May is shown on the chart below. The numbers in May ranged from 12,750 on the 19th to 15,034 on the 25th.

During May, 1899, the total number of dock and wharf labourers employed varied from 15,510 on the 5th to 12,751 on the 13th.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks and 15 of the principal Wharves for each day during the months of April and May, 1900. The corresponding curve for April and May, 1899, is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1900, and the thin curve to 1899.]



The following are the figures on which the Chart for May, 1900, is based:—

Table with 6 columns: Day of Month, Number employed, Day of Month, Number employed, Day of Month, Number employed. Rows 1-10 of May 1900.

Sundays and Holidays are omitted.

Particulars respecting the employment of other classes of dock and riverside labourers will be found under "District Reports, London," on page 177.

\* Revised figures.





## EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—LANCASHIRE; YORKSHIRE.

Mossley, Ashton-under-Lyne, Stockport, Stalybridge, and Dukinfield. Card-room workers, ring frame spinners, and throstle frame tenters are fully employed. Twiners report employment as fairly good; reelers as slack. Winders and ball warpers are only moderately employed. *Weaving*.—In fustian weaving employment continues slack; on other work it is reported as moderately good. Sectional warpers, twisters and drawers report employment as good.

*Woolen and Silk Trades*.—A slight falling off of employment in the woolen trade is reported from Stockport district; in Rochdale and Milnrow districts it remains good. Employment with the silkworkers at Rochdale is reported as moderate.

*Engineering and Metal Trades*.—The engineers report employment as slack in the textile machine making trade, and as good in the engineering trade. Brassfounders, patternmakers and ironfounders are well employed. Short time is the rule with iron grinders and glazers. Plate and machine moulders, tinplate workers and toolmakers report employment as moderate. Boiler-makers and spindle and flyer makers are busy.

*Building Trades*.—Stonemasons, painters and bricklayers report employment as good, plasterers and plumbers as moderate, carpenters and joiners as fair.

*Coal Mining*.—Full time continues at the pits in the district. T. Ashton.

## Bolton and District.

*Cotton Trade—Spinning*.—In Bolton and neighbourhood employment with spinners continues active. At Bury and Ramsbottom spinners are fairly busy; at Chorley a decline is reported. Card-room operatives are fairly well employed in Bolton, Bury, Walkden and Farnworth; in Chorley and Wigan, some slackness is reported. *Weaving*.—Employment is good throughout the district.

*Engineering and Iron Trades*.—Employment is reported as moderate in Bolton; machine-making firms are less busy. In Wigan, Bury and Chorley iron workers are not quite so well employed.

*Building Trades*.—Employment generally has improved, but at Chorley some branches are reported as slack.

*Coal Trade*.—Employment at most collieries continues good.

*Miscellaneous*.—Printers, leather-workers, and tanners report employment as good; tailors as fair; cabinet makers and shoemakers as moderate.—R. Tootill.

## Blackburn, Burnley and District.

*Cotton Trade—Weaving*.—Employment in the ordinary grey weaving industry continues fairly good in the Blackburn, Burnley, Darwen, and Preston districts; in Colne and Nelson a slight decline is shown. On coloured goods it shows no improvement, some firms working short time. Hard waste weavers are moderately employed. Warp dressers are reported as slack at several firms; twisters and drawers are not so well employed; tape sizers, overlookers, winders and warpers are fairly well employed. *Spinning*.—Employment is reported as good at Blackburn, Darwen and Preston; as fair at Burnley. Ring spinners continue fully employed. Branches of spinners, twisters and drawers, and warp dressers, with 4,049 members, have 119 (or 2.9 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 73 (or 1.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

*Building Trades*.—Painters and decorators are fully employed. Carpenters and joiners, masons and bricklayers report employment as fairly good; plumbers as moderate.

*Engineering and Iron Trades*.—Employment with ironfounders is reported as good in the Blackburn district, slack at Todmorden. Engineers are moderately well employed at Colne, Todmorden and Blackburn. Employment continues fair in machine and tinplate works.

*Mining and Quarrying*.—Coal miners continue well employed throughout the district. Stone quarrymen are brisk.

*Miscellaneous*.—Tailors, woolen block printers and brickmakers report employment as good; letterpress printers, calico printers and bleachers as moderate; cabinet makers as fair.—W. H. Wilkinson.

## Manchester and District.

*General*.—Branches of societies with 22,603 members have 527 (or 2.3 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 554 (or 2.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

*Engineering and Metal Trades*.—In Manchester engineers and boiler-makers report employment as moderate; brassfounders and finishers and sheet metal braziers as fair. In Warrington, engineers, boiler-makers and wire weavers are fully employed; filesmiths and wire drawers moderately so. Ironfounders and machine workers are busy throughout the district. Employment is active in Northwich and Macclesfield, fair in Stockport.

*Textile Trades*.—Employment in the cotton trade is moderate throughout the district. In the silk trade at Macclesfield hand and power loom weavers are moderately employed; throwsters and dressers are in full work. Fustian cutters, and dressers, dyers and finishers are moderately well employed.

*Clothing Trades*.—Tailors in both bespoke and wholesale departments are busy. Felt hat makers and trimmers report employment as quiet; boot and shoe makers, mantle makers, shirt makers and cap makers are fairly well employed; umbrella and waterproof garment makers are rather quiet.

*Building Trades*.—Plasterers and decorative glass workers are slack; painters are busy; in other branches employment is moderate in Manchester, Macclesfield, Warrington and Northwich, improving at Stockport.

*Woodworking and Furnishing Trades*.—Coachmakers and cabinet makers are well employed; French polishers and upholsterers fairly well employed; coopers are slack; wheelwrights are fully employed.

*Printing and allied Trades*.—Letterpress printers and stereotypers report employment as not so good; lithographic printers, bookbinders, and pattern card makers as moderate; lithographic artists as fair.—G. D. Kelley.

## Liverpool and District.

*Engineering and Shipbuilding*.—The engineers, coppersmiths, and shipjoiners report employment as moderate; boiler-makers and iron-shipbuilders as good upon new work but dull upon repairs; white-smiths, brass and ironfounders and ship painters as good; shipwrights as fair.

*Transport Trades*.—Seamen and firemen and Mersey flatmen report employment as fair; dock labourers as fair at North Docks, but slack at South End; quay and railway carters as moderate.

*Furnishing and Woodworking Trades*.—Cabinet makers, French polishers and upholsterers, coachmakers, packing-case makers, dry coopers, mill-sawyers, and wood-working machinists report employment as good; coopers as moderate.

*Building Trades*.—The carpenters and joiners report employment as moderate; other branches are well employed.

*Clothing Trades*.—Employment is good in the bespoke and ready-made tailoring trades; fair with boot and shoe makers.

*Printing and allied Trades*.—Letterpress and lithographic printers and bookbinders report employment as moderate; stereotypers as unchanged.

*Mining and Quarrying*.—Coal miners report employment as good. Quarrymen are fully employed.

*Glass and Chemical Trades*.—Employment is good in the glass trades; dull in the chemical trades.—C. Rouse.

A report from Winsford states that employment in the salt trade has improved on the whole, but has declined in the block salt branch. With ironmoulders it is fair. At Middlewich chemical workers are well employed. In both towns employment is good with shipwrights, boiler-smiths and brassworkers, and fustian cutters, moderate in the building trade.

## YORKSHIRE.

## Hull and District.

*Shipbuilding, Engineering and Metal Trades*.—Employment in the shipbuilding yards is slack; in the engineering works and boiler shops, and on general repairs, moderate. The ironfounders report employment as good; the engineers, machine workers, brass founders and finishers, smiths, and strikers, iron and steel dressers, braziers and sheet metal workers, drillers and hole cutters, sailmakers and general labourers as moderate; the patternmakers as dull; the shipwrights as slack; the boiler-makers and iron and steel shipbuilders as bad. At Goole employment is reported as good; at Beverley, Doncaster and Selby as moderate; at Grimsby as good with engineers and smiths, moderate with shipwrights.

*Building Trades*.—The stonemasons, plasterers, slaters and tilers, painters and builders' labourers at Hull report employment as good; the bricklayers, carpenters and joiners as moderate; the plumbers as bad. At Goole, Grimsby and Selby employment is reported as good; at Beverley, Doncaster and Driffield as moderate.

*Transport Trades*.—The dock labourers, seamen and firemen, and railway workers at Hull, Goole, Grimsby, and Selby report employment as good.

*Fishing Industry*.—The steam fishing engineers and firemen at Hull and Grimsby report employment as fair; the trawl and line fishermen, curing house workers and general labourers as moderate. Prices are good.

*Seed-crushing, Oil Oake, Oil Refining, Paint and Colour Trades*.—Employment is good in all departments.

## EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—YORKSHIRE; MIDLAND COUNTIES.

*Printing and allied Trades*.—The letterpress and lithographic printers, bookbinders and machine rulers report employment as moderate.

*Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades*.—The coachbuilders and coopers report employment as good; the cabinetmakers and latherers as moderate; the millsawyers and woodworking machinists as bad.

*Miscellaneous*.—Employment is fair with tanners; good with tailors, brushmakers, bakers and confectioners.—W. G. Millington.

## Leeds and District.

*General*.—Branches of societies with 7,921 members have 183 (or 2.3 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 225 (or 2.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

*Engineering and Metal Trades*.—Engineers in Leeds continue well employed, all departments of textile machinery and toolmaking being busy. Ironfounders, spindle and flyer makers, machine-workers, tinplate-workers, stove-grate workers, boiler makers, steel workers and blast furnacemen are well employed; brassworkers and wool comb, hackle and gill makers moderately so. At Wakefield engineers and ironfounders are fully employed. At Staningley boiler makers are moderately so.

*Clothing Trades*.—In the Leeds tailoring factories employment has been fair; Jewish operatives report employment as moderate. Bespoke tailors are busy. Employment with boot and shoe operatives in Leeds has been only moderate; at Heckmondwike and Pudsey fair.

*Textile Trades*.—In the Leeds mills employment has been only moderate. Blanket raisers continue busy. Employment is fair with linen workers; moderate with warp dressers and twisters. At Bramley short time has been resorted to. At Wakefield and Yeadon employment has been fair.

*Building Trades*.—In Leeds employment with bricklayers, masons, painters and plasterers has been good; with joiners and plumbers quiet. At Harrogate employment is fair.

*Coal Mining*.—All pits are working full time.

*Leather Trades*.—The improvement in the leather trades continues. Tanners, belt makers, and carriers are fairly employed; saddlers and harness-makers are busy.

*Printing and allied Trades*.—Letterpress printers have been only moderately employed; lithographers are slack. Bookbinders are quiet; paper mill workers continue busy.

*Glass Trades*.—Glass bottle makers and flint glass makers are fairly employed; decorative glass workers moderately so.

*Woodworking Trades*.—Cabinet makers in the shop fitting branch are fairly employed, but in other departments employment is slack. Coachmakers are well employed.—O. Connellan.

## Bradford, Huddersfield and District.

*Worsted Trade*.—Employment in and around Bradford and in the Worth Valley district is not quite so good, and in Huddersfield there has been a further decline. In Halifax there has not been the same falling off.

*Woolen Trade*.—Employment in the Colne Valley and the Huddersfield district has improved at one or two firms; overtime continues at several firms, but others are quiet. In the heavy woolen district of Batley and Dewsbury employment continues fairly good.

*Other Textile Trades*.—Employment in the silk trade continues good at Manningham and at Brighouse; at Halifax it is fair. Employment with dyers at Huddersfield is bad, at Bradford good. In the cotton trade it is quieter at Brighouse, fairly good at Huddersfield.

*Metal Trades*.—The engineers and ironfounders report employment as good.

*Building Trades*.—Employment is good throughout the district.

*Miscellaneous*.—Employment in bespoke tailoring is good; in the ready-made branch it is moderate. With printers and bookbinders it is fair. Miners and glass workers are fairly well employed. A. Gee.

## Sheffield, Barnsley, and Rotherham District.

*General*.—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with 15,565 members have 109 (or 0.7 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 120 (or 0.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

*Iron and Steel Industries*.—All branches report employment as good. In many sections overtime is being made. Branches with 6,512 members have 36 (or 0.6 per cent.) unemployed, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of April.

*Cutlery and Tools*.—Workmen in the file and engineers', joiners' and edged tool trades, haft and scale pressers, and makers of miners' tools and horticultural implements are busy; pen and pocket knife blade forgers, grinders, and cutlers report employment as good; in the table and butcher knife, saw and razor trades employment is fairly good; saw handle makers are quiet.

*Other Metal Trades*.—Platers and gilders are fairly well employed, other branches of the silver, electroplate and Britannia metal trades are slack. Brass workers, both in Sheffield and Rotherham, are quiet.

*Coal Mining*.—Returns from 60 collieries employing upwards of 45,000 men show an average of 5.98 days per week worked during May.

*Building Trades*.—Bricklayers, plumbers, plasterers and painters are busy throughout the district; carpenters and joiners report employment as fairly good; masons are rather quieter in Sheffield, busy elsewhere.

*Printing and allied Trades*.—All sections continue well employed.

*Woodworking and Furnishing Trades*.—Coachmakers, cabinet makers, upholsterers, railway carriage and wagon builders, and box and bobbin makers, are well employed.

*Linen Trade*.—Employment continues moderate.

*Clothing Trades*.—Bespoke tailoring in Sheffield is fair, in Barnsley good; in the ready-made department busy. Boot and shoe makers are quiet.

*Glass Trade*.—Both flint glass workers and bottle makers are busy.

*Miscellaneous*.—Farriers, saddlers, harness makers, wheelwrights, blacksmiths, railway servants and general labourers report employment as good; down quilt makers as slack.—S. Utley.

## ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

## Derbyshire District.

*General*.—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners), with 7,706 members have 70 (or 0.9 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 45 (or 0.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

*Coal Mining*.—Returns from 70 collieries employing upwards of 27,500 men show an average of 5.4 days per week worked.

*Quarrying*.—Limestone quarrymen continue fairly well employed. Chert quarrymen are busy.

*Engineering and allied Trades*.—Employment in most branches of the engineering trades and in lace machine building is good. With cycle makers it is improving.

*Building Trades*.—Painters report employment as good; other branches as moderate or fair.

*Clothing Trades*.—Boot and shoe operatives at Derby report employment as good, at Chesterfield as quiet. Bespoke tailors are busy. Factory tailoring operatives, dress and mantle-makers and milliners are well employed.

*Textile Trades*.—Employment continues good with cotton weavers, surgical bandage makers, hard silk winders (with a scarcity of female workers), drawers and doublers. Elastic web weavers report employment as bad; lace and hosiery workers as not quite so good; calico printers and dyers and bleachers as moderate.

*Coachbuilding and Woodworking Trades*.—Employment continues good with carriage and wagon builders in Derby and Long Eaton. Most timber yards are fairly well employed.

*Printing and allied Trades*.—Letterpress and lithographic printers, machine rulers and bookbinders report employment as fair.

C. White-Deacon.

## Nottingham and District.

*Lace Trade*.—Employment generally has fallen off, especially in the levers and curtain branches; it continues good in the plain net branch; it is fair with warp lacemakers and with auxiliary lace-workers and warpers. Bleachers are well employed at Basford; dyers moderately so at Nottingham and Basford.

*Hosiery Trade*.—Employment is reported as improved and generally good throughout the district.

*Engineering and Metal Trades*.—Branches with 3,148 members have 48 (or 1.5 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 51 (or 1.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. Employment is reported as moderate with general mechanics, fitters, smiths and steam engine makers; good with ironfounders, boiler-makers, tool machinists, wheelwrights, blacksmiths, needle makers, bobbin and carriage makers, carriage straighteners, brassworkers and brassfounders; bad with electrical workers. Employment is moderate at Newark; good at Grantham and Mansfield. Blast-furnacemen at Bulwell are busy.

## EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—MIDLAND COUNTIES.

*Building Trades.*—Carpenters and joiners report employment as dull at Nottingham, good in outside districts; plumbers as slack; stonemasons and painters as good.

*Woodworking Trades.*—Employment is reported as moderate with packing-case makers; as good with cabinet makers, coachmakers, upholsterers, coopers, mill-sawyers and boxmakers.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—Employment is reported as moderate with bookbinders, lithographic artists and lithographic printers; as good with letterpress printers.

*Clothing Trades.*—Boot and shoe operatives report employment as fair at Nottingham, Mansfield, and Hucknall Torkard; bespoke tailors and ready-made tailoring operatives as good; mantle makers are well employed.

*Coal Mining.*—Returns from 27 collieries employing 15,760 men show an average of 5½ days per week. Employment is exceptionally good in all parts of the district.

*Miscellaneous.*—Gasworkers are not so busy; colliery enginemen, engine and cranimen, stationary engine drivers, bakers, confectioners, and female cigarmakers report employment as good; leather workers as fair.—W. L. Hardestaff.

## Leicester and Northampton District.

*Boot and Shoe Industry.*—Employment is slackening in most branches of the shoe trade. It is fairly good at Northampton, Desborough, Wellingborough and Rushden; moderate at Leicester, Hinckley and Kettering; and slack at Rothwell and Daventry. The operatives engaged on army work at Raunds, Kingstead and other centres are well employed.

*Other Clothing Trades.*—In most branches of the wholesale and bespoke tailoring trades, workpeople are fully employed. Cap-makers, dressmakers and corset-makers are busy; felt hatters fairly so; silk hatters are rather quiet.

*Hosiery and Woolspinning Trades.*—Employment in plain hosiery continues good at Leicester. It is rather slacker at Loughborough. Dyers, trimmers and scourers are busy. Woolspinners are fully employed.

*Elastic Web Trade.*—Employment has improved.

*Engineering and Metal Trades.*—General engineers, pattern-makers, turners, ironfounders, moulders, boiler-makers, and needle-makers are fully employed. Work is moderate with shoe machine makers and tool makers, and slacker with winders and electrical dynamo builders. All branches of the cycle industry are busy.

*Mining and Quarrying.*—Employment remains good with miners and quarrymen.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—With letterpress printers employment is moderate at Leicester, quiet at Northampton. It is fair with lithographic printers, and good with bookbinders.

*Building Trades.*—Employment is quiet at Northampton; fair elsewhere.

*Furnishing and Coachmaking Trades.*—Coachmakers and road car builders are busy. Work is fairly good with cabinet makers; slacker with upholsterers.

*Leather Trades.*—Tanners and curriers are fully employed at Northampton and Market Harborough; leather dressers moderately so at Wellingborough.

*Miscellaneous.*—Employment continues good with railway workers, except at Northampton and Rugby. It is good with basket-makers; fair with mill-sawyers; quieter with cigar-makers, bakers, and brick and tile makers.—T. Smith.

## Potteries District.

*Pottery Trades.*—The dispute in the general earthenware trade is now over, and work was resumed on May 29th. (See page 164.) In the china departments which were not affected by the dispute employment is good.

*Iron and Steel Trades.*—Employment is good in all departments.

*Engineering and Metal Trades.*—Employment continues good throughout North Staffordshire, except at Burslem, where short time prevails. At Crewe moulders are working overtime. Copper workers at Oakmoor and Froggall, and agricultural engineers at Uttoxeter and Rugeley are well employed.

*Mining and Quarrying.*—Coal and ironstone miners continue busy. Stone quarrymen at Alton and Hollington are working overtime.

*Textile Trades.*—At Leek employment in the silk trade continues good. At Congleton silk dressers continue busy; fustian cutters are fully employed. At Cheddle, Tean and Rochester silk and tape workers and cotton operatives are fairly busy.

*Clothing Trades.*—Tailors are busy throughout the district. Boot and shoe operatives at Stafford continue fairly busy, full time being general, with occasional overtime; the improvement at Stone is

well maintained. Corsetmakers at Uttoxeter and Ashbourne are busy on best goods.

*Building Trades.*—During the first part of the month employment was affected by the bricklayers' dispute; since its settlement all branches have been well employed.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—Letterpress printers in the Potteries have 10 per cent. unemployed; at Stafford employment is fair. Lithographic artists and printers continue moderately busy. The bookbinders and machine rulers are well employed.

*Miscellaneous.*—Railway servants are well employed; brush-makers and gasworkers report a decline.—I. S. Harvey.

## Wolverhampton and District.

*Iron and Steel Trades.*—In South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire employment in the steel smelting, iron bar, angle, hoop and sheet trades is good. In South Shropshire the wire mills and forges are running full time.

*Engineering and allied Trades.*—Engineers report employment as moderate; moulders and bridge, girder, tank and gasometer makers as busy; cycle makers as improving. At Walsall and Madeley employment is reported as good. At Coalbrookdale employment is brisk in the engineering department; slack in the foundry department.

*Hardware Trades.*—Employment is good with makers of tubes, nuts and bolts, iron fences, hurdles, edge tools, electrical and gas fittings, spring traps, horseshoes, black castings, builders' ironmongery, gun locks, malleable nails and protectors, and with japanners, stampers, piercers and galvanizers; moderate with makers of stamped and light hollow-ware, tacks, cut nails, and steel toys, and with filesmiths and tinplate-workers; quiet with makers of locks, keys and latches; slack with spectacle-frame-makers and brass-workers; moderate with iron plate-workers at Bilston and the Lye, and fair at Wolverhampton. The chain-makers and strikers at Old Hill, and the block chain-makers at Cradley Heath report employment as good; the cable and anchor makers at Cradley as improved; wrought nail-makers at Halesowen and spike and rivet makers at Blackheath as moderate. The anvil and vice makers at Dudley continue slack. At Wednesbury the railway axle and carriage-workers and steel forgers are busy.

*Coal Mining.*—Employment is good, full time being worked throughout the district.

*Building Trades.*—Employment is good with painters; moderate with carpenters and plasterers, dull with plumbers and bricklayers.

*Glass Trades.*—At Wordsley, Brettle Lane and Stourbridge, the glassmakers, cutters, engravers and etchers are quiet; the intaglio and bevelling departments are fairly well employed.

*Leather Trades.*—At Walsall employment in the leather trade is good in all branches.

*Textile Trades.*—At Kidderminster employment in the carpet trade is not so brisk. At Bridgnorth full time is worked, but overtime has been stopped. At Tamworth the tape mills are well employed.

*Clothing Trades.*—Employment in the ready-made and bespoke tailoring departments and in the boot and shoe trade is good.—C. Anthony.

## Birmingham and District.

*General.*—Branches of societies with 21,032 members have 52 (or 2.8 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 501 (or 2.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

*Engineering and allied Trades.*—Seven branches of engineers again return employment as moderate, four as good. Toolmakers report employment as moderate; smiths and strikers, patternmakers, and ironfounders as good. At Coventry and West Bromwich engineers and machine toolmakers report employment as good, at Redditch as moderate. At Coventry and Redditch cycle makers are busy. Employment in the motor industry continues good.

*Brass and Copper Trades.*—Employment in the brass trade continues quiet. Brass and copper wire drawers are moderately employed. Copper and brass tube makers (solid drawn) are fairly busy. Fender and fire brass makers are reported as quiet. At Dudley, employment in the fender trade is moderate.

*Jewellers, Silversmiths and Electroplaters.*—Jewellers, silversmiths, and electroplaters return employment as quiet; Britannia metal workers as moderate.

*Other Metal Trades.*—Edge tool makers, stove grate and kitchen range workers, tinplate workers, wrought iron and steel tube makers report employment as good; makers of heavy and light steel toys, machine-made rivets, wire nails, machine-made nuts and bolts, and ironplate workers as fairly good; file cutters as improving; nail and oddside casters as falling off.

## EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—MIDLANDS; E. AND S.W. COUNTIES; WALES.

In some shops scale beam and weighing machine makers are slack. Bedstead makers return employment as bad. At West Bromwich and Redditch employment continues good; in the Lye district in the ironplate trade it is fairly good.

*Building Trades.*—Employment throughout the district is reported as fair.

*Glass Trades.*—The flint glass makers report employment as bad; flint glass cutters as quiet; glass bevellers and silverers as fair.

*Clothing Trades.*—Bespoke tailors and Jewish tailors report employment as good; boot and shoe makers as quiet.

*Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.*—Coachmakers, mill-sawyers and woodworking machinists return employment as good; coopers, cabinet makers and wood carvers as quiet. In the railway and wagon shops employment is good, with night work in some cases.

*Miscellaneous.*—Gasworkers and general labourers return employment as good; harness-makers and bridle cutters as busy; gas-fitters as fairly good; letterpress printers, saddlers and brickmakers as moderate. Gunmakers report employment in the military section as good, in the sporting section as bad. At Coventry the watchmakers and weavers are fairly brisk. At Redditch the fancy case makers are quiet.—A. R. Jephcott.

## ENGLAND: EASTERN COUNTIES.

## Norfolk and neighbouring District.

*Clothing Trades.*—Boot and shoe operatives are fairly well employed. Bespoke tailors and ready-made tailoring operatives are busy. Corset-makers, dress and blouse workers are fully employed.

*Textile Trades.*—Crape, silk, mat and matting weavers are fairly well employed in Norwich, Yarmouth and Diss.

*Building Trades.*—In Norwich employment is disturbed by a bricklayers' dispute. Elsewhere employment continues good.

*Engineering and Shipbuilding.*—Electrical and general engineers are fairly busy; cycle makers and repairers, shipwrights and yacht and boat builders are fully employed.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—Letterpress and lithographic printers and bookbinders are fully employed.

*Miscellaneous.*—Employment continues good with flour mill and sawmill workers. Organ builders, agricultural implement, hurdle and ladder makers, navvies, riverside and dock labourers are fully employed. Mineral water makers, cocoa workers and confectioners are on full time. Brushmakers continue fairly busy.—G. Cleverley.

## Suffolk, Essex and District.

*Engineering, Shipbuilding, and Metal Trades.*—Engineers, boiler-makers and moulders report employment as good; shipwrights as fair.

*Clothing Trades.*—Employment is good with boot and shoe operatives at Colchester, dull at Ipswich. Wholesale tailoring operatives, bespoke tailors, dressmakers, and milliners continue busy. Corset-makers are fairly well employed.

*Textile Trades.*—The mat and matting operatives report employment as good; silk and crape workers at Halstead and Braintree as good; furniture silk weavers at Braintree as quiet; silk weavers at Sudbury as good with factory workers, moderate with handloom weavers.

*Building Trades.*—Bricklayers, carpenters, painters and plumbers report employment as good generally; plasterers and stonemasons as fair.

*Furnishing Trades.*—Cabinet makers and upholsterers are well employed.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—Letterpress printers report employment as moderate at Ipswich and Colchester, fairly good elsewhere. Employment is slack with bookbinders and lithographers.

*Miscellaneous.*—Shipping and dock labour has been good. Employment is good with general labourers, farriers, horticultural builders, organ builders and mineral water workers. Brickmakers are busy.—R. W. Mather.

## ENGLAND: SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES.

## Bristol and District.

*General.*—Branches of societies with 9,935 members have 153 (or 1.5 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 106 (or 1.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

*Mining and Quarrying.*—Coal miners describe employment as good throughout the district. Stone quarrymen are busy.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—Letterpress and lithographic printers in Bristol report employment as moderate; bookbinders as slack. Employment is reported as good at Hereford, Bath, and Weston-super-Mare, and fair at Gloucester.

*Engineering and allied Trades.*—Iron and brassfounders, boiler-makers, pattern-makers, fitters and smiths report employment as good; tinplate workers as fair; shipwrights as bad.

*Building Trades.*—Employment generally is reported as moderate with plumbers, plasterers, and carpenters and joiners; it remains good with bricklayers, stonemasons, labourers and painters.

*Clothing Trades.*—The boot and shoe operatives report a slight improvement at most factories. Employment remains busy in the bespoke and wholesale tailoring trade, and with gloves; it is reported as moderate in the silk hat trade, good in the general hat trade.

*Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.*—The cabinet-makers, woodcutting machinists and upholsterers report employment as fair; the polishers as good. Coopers and lathrenders are fairly well employed.

*Textile Trades.*—Employment continues good throughout the district.

*Glass and Pottery Trades.*—The glass bevellers and cutters describe employment as fair; the glass bottlemakers as good. Earthenware potters are busy.

*Miscellaneous.*—Employment is fair with bakers and confectioners, good with seagoing men, and steady with tobacco workers. Brushmakers are in demand. Dock work at Gloucester is reported as slack, in Bristol as moderate and improving.—J. Curie.

## Plymouth and South-Western District.

*Mining, Quarrying, and China Clay Industries.*—In tin and copper mines work continues good; in granite quarries it is fairly brisk; in limestone and slate quarries moderate. Among china clay workers employment is good.

*Engineering and Shipbuilding.*—Engineers report employment as moderate; boiler-makers, iron and steel shipbuilders and iron-founders as good; brassworkers and tinplate workers as dull; shipwrights as good in Devonport and Plymouth, moderate at Falmouth and Dartmouth. The Government yards are busy. Branches with 2,810 members have 13 unemployed, as compared with 26 at the end of April.

*Building Trades.*—Employment is moderate at Plymouth, good at Bideford, Barnstaple, Exeter, and Tavistock, quiet at Torquay. Branches with 3,391 members have 110 (or 3.2 per cent.) unemployed, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of April.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—Employment is moderate with letterpress printers; quiet with lithographers; fair with bookbinders and paper-rulers.

*Clothing Trades.*—Bespoke tailors are busy. Ready-made tailoring operatives are moderately employed. Boot and shoe operatives are fairly employed. Lace-workers are busy.

*Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.*—Millsawyers and woodworking machinists, cabinet and furniture factory operatives, French polishers and upholsterers are well employed.

*Dock and Quayside Work.*—Quayside work has been slack; lumping quiet. In the docks grain work is dull; the arrival of fruit boats has improved employment.

*Fishing Industry.*—Fishing has improved on the whole, but the trawlers' catches have been generally light. Hook and line boats have done fairly. At the Western stations there have been good catches of mackerel. Prices are good.

*Miscellaneous.*—Navvies, excavators, quarrymen and builders' labourers are fully employed; artificial manure workers fairly so. Brushmakers are quiet. Bakers report employment as fairly good. In market and fruit gardens workpeople are busy.—W. Hedge.

## WALES.

## North Wales District.

*Mining.*—Employment continues brisk at the lead and blende mines, and at most of the coal mines.

*Quarrying.*—Employment continues good at the slate, granite sett, freestone, limestone, and road-stone quarries.

*Building Trades.*—The bricklayers at Wrexham and Oswestry report employment as fair; the carpenters and joiners at Wrexham as moderate, at Rhyl, Colwyn Bay and Bangor, as fair; the plasterers at Llandudno as slack, at Bangor as fair.

*Engineering and Metal Trades.*—The engineers at Sandycroft and Cefn report employment as good, at Oswestry as moderate, at Ruabon as quiet; the ironfounders at Wrexham as declining. Employment is good with steel workers and wagon makers, good with coachmakers at Rhyl, moderate at Oswestry.

*Clothing and Textile Trades.*—Flannel and tweed workers and bespoke tailors have been fairly well occupied.

*Printing Trades.*—Letterpress printers report employment as good at Carnarvon, moderate at Oswestry.

## EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—WALES; SCOTLAND.

**Brick and Terra Cotta and Chemical Trades.**—Employment is reported as good.—G. Rowley.

**South Wales District.**

**Coal Mining.**—Collieries have been working fairly regularly; the demand for colliers has been greater than the supply. The Sliding Scale Audit awards another 5 per cent. advance upon the standard from the 1st of June.

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—Employment is brisk; some works are not running their full plant for want of men.

**Shipping and Dock Labour.**—Employment generally with dock labourers has been quiet. The shipment of crews has been dull.

**Ship Repairing and Engineering.**—Employment in ship repairing has been moderate, with a slight decline at the end of the month. The engineers and iron foundries in the inland districts report employment as brisk. Branches of the engineers and ironfounders with 3,108 members have 80 (or 2.6 per cent.) unemployed, as against 102 (or 3.3 per cent.) at the end of April.

**Building Trades.**—Employment generally is moderate. Branches of carpenters and joiners and plumbers with 1,737 members have 79 (or 4.5 per cent.) unemployed, as against 90 (or 5.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Miscellaneous.**—Patent fuel workers are not so brisk. Wagon builders and lifters are fully employed. Lithographic and letterpress printers and bookbinders report employment as moderate. Metallurgical and chemical workers as quiet.—T. Davies.

**Tinplate Trade in South Wales, Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire.**—Employment shows a slight improvement, as compared with April, and is much better than a year ago. At the end of May 403 mills were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of blackplates), compared with 398 at the end of April, and 367 at the end of May, 1899. The number of workpeople employed at the end of May, 1900, is estimated to be about 20,100.

## SCOTLAND.

**Edinburgh and District.**

**General.**—Branches of societies with 13,451 members have 293 (or 2.2 per cent.) unemployed, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of April.

**Coal Mining.**—Employment continues good.

**Shale miners and Oil workers.**—Returns from 28 mines employing 3,118 workpeople show that 2,999 were employed in mines working full time during the four weeks ended May 26th.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Branches with 2,212 members have 47 (or 2.1 per cent.) idle, as against 42 (or 1.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. Branches in Falkirk with 3,673 members have 40 (or 1.1 per cent.) idle, as against 54 (or 1.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Shipbuilding.**—Branches of boiler-makers and shipwrights with 638 members have 10 (or 1.6 per cent.) idle, as against none idle at the end of April.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment in the woollen industry is good in Selkirk with both spinners and weavers; in Hawick spinners are fairly busy, but weavers are slack; in Galashiels both spinners and weavers are quiet. Employment with hosiery workers is good in Selkirk and Hawick. The carpet weavers in Midlothian are not so well employed.

**Building Trades.**—The masons, bricklayers and plasterers report employment as quiet; the joiners as fair; the painters, glaziers and plumbers as good.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Branches with 1,177 members have 39 (or 3.3 per cent.) idle, as against 48 (or 4.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Shipping and Dock Labour.**—The seamen and firemen, coal porters and dock labourers report employment as fairly good.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Branches with 2,300 members have 97 (or 4.2 per cent.) idle, as against 70 (or 3.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Miscellaneous.**—The tailors, shoemakers, saddlers, and sett makers report employment as good; the bakers, curriers, glass makers and glass cutters as quiet.—J. Mallinson.

**Glasgow and West of Scotland.**

**Shipbuilding.**—Employment has been fairly good. Branches with 14,555 members return 356 (or 2.4 per cent.) as idle, as against 317 (or 2.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment has been fairly good. Branches with 30,105 members return 971 (or 3.2 per cent.) as idle,

as against 860 (or 2.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Building Trades.**—Employment has been rather quieter.

**Mining.**—Employment is very good in Stirlingshire, Dumbartonshire, Lanarkshire, Ayrshire and Renfrewshire.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment has been good in all branches.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment is good throughout the district, except with dyers and calendermen, who are rather quiet.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress and lithographic printers and bookbinders report employment as dull; lithographic artists as rather improved; electrotypers and stereotypers as fair.

**Glass Trades.**—Flint glass makers and cutters are still quiet. Employment with decorative glass workers is rather better; bottle makers continue busy.

**Transport Trades.**—Employment is still good with railway men and tramway men; dull with dock labourers; fair with tailors and firemen, carters and hackney carriage drivers.

**Miscellaneous.**—Brushmakers, spindle and flyer makers, tobacco pipe makers and finishers, paviers, scale beam makers, shop assistants, gilders, sett makers, curriers, potters, and saddlers report employment as good; bakers as fairly good; cigarette makers as improved.—A. J. Hunter.

**Dundee and District.**

**Textile Trades.**—Employment in the jute industry remains good on the whole, although a number are still unemployed. In the linen trades machinery is still in full operation.

**Coal Mining.**—Reports from collieries in Fifeshire employing 12,475 workpeople show an average of 5.5 days per week worked during the four weeks ending May 26th, the same average as for the two previous months.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—In the engineering trade employment is moderate; in the shipbuilding yards fairly good. Branches of societies with 2,246 members report 63 (or 2.8 per cent.) as unemployed, as compared with 46 (or 2.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Building and Furnishing Trades.**—The masons report employment as bad. In other branches of the building trades work has been fairly plentiful. In the cabinet and furnishing trades employment is good. Branches with 1,775 members report 117 (or 6.6 per cent.) as unemployed, as compared with 90 (or 5.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Dock Labour.**—Employment at the harbour has been only moderate.

**Fishing Industry.**—The white fishing has been prosecuted with regularity, but the takes have been poor. The summer salmon fishing shows improvement on the spring season.

**Miscellaneous.**—The printing and allied trades have been well employed; with tailors and boot and shoe makers employment continues good on the whole. Bleachers and floorcloth and linoleum makers are still busy.—P. Reid.

**Aberdeen and District.**

**General.**—Branches of societies with 6,130 members have 264 (or 4.3 per cent.) idle, as against 458 (or 7.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Quarrying.**—The quarrymen, settmakers and masons report employment as fair; granite polishers as dull.

**Building Trades.**—The carpenters and joiners, painters and slaters report employment as good; masons as bad; plumbers as moderate; plasterers as dull.

**Transport Trades.**—The railway servants and carters report employment as good; dock labourers as fair.

**Shipbuilding and Engineering.**—Branches of societies with 1,113 members have 29 (or 2.6 per cent.) idle, as against 39 (or 3.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The engineers, shipwrights and blacksmiths report employment as fair; ironmoulders as improving; tinplate workers, brassfinishers, patternmakers, horseshoers, drillers and hole cutters as good. The boiler-makers and iron and steel shipbuilders are affected by a dispute.

**Clothing and Textile Trades.**—The tailors, mill and factory workers, boot and shoe operatives, and boot and shoe makers report employment as good; carpet weavers as fair.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—The letterpress printers report employment as moderate; lithographic printers as fair; bookbinders and machine rulers as good.

## EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—IRELAND.

**Fishing.**—At the Port of Aberdeen in May, trawl and line boats landed 63,200 cwts., the aggregate value being £45,336, a decrease both in quantity and value as compared with April.

**Miscellaneous.**—The combmakers, sawmillers, saddlers, cabinet makers, gasworkers and general labourers report employment as good; bakers as bad; hackney carriage drivers as dull; upholsterers as fair.—W. Johnston.

## IRELAND.

**Dublin and District.**

**Building Trades.**—Employment generally is fair.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Employment is reported as good with the coachmakers, cart and wagon builders, carpet planners and upholsterers; fair with the cabinet makers; dull with the saw mill machinists, and bad with the lath splitters.

**Iron Trades.**—Work is returned as good by the engineers and boiler makers; as fair by the whitesmiths, and electrical workers; as dull by the gasfitters and brassfinishers.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment in the tailoring trade is unsettled by a dispute. The bootmakers report employment as good.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—The letterpress printers report employment as still quiet; the lithographic printers as good; the stereotypers, and bookbinders as fair. Branches with 1,427 members have 116 (or 8.1 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 95 (or 6.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is returned as good by the bottle-makers, labourers, dockers, paviers, stationary engine drivers, and tally clerks; as fair with the railway servants; as bad with the hair-dressers.—J. P. Nannetti.

**Belfast and District.**

**Shipbuilding and Engineering Trades.**—Branches of societies with 8,290 members have 110 (or 1.3 per cent.) unemployed, as against 156 (or 1.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The blacksmiths, blacksmiths' helpers and strikers, engineers and iron turners report employment as moderate; ironfounders as quiet; brassfounders, ship carpenters and joiners, furnishing trades machine-workers, enginemen and cranemen as fair; patternmakers as steady; drillers, hole cutters, boiler-makers, iron shipbuilders, shipwrights, sheet metalworkers, general labourers and platers' helpers as good.

**Linen Trades.**—Societies with 4,038 members have 87 (or 2.2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 94 (or 2.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The women workers report employment as dull; flax dressers, power loom tenters and yarn bundlers as fair; beetlers, yarn dressers, flax roughers, hackle and gill makers, and linen lappers as good.

**Building Trades.**—Branches of societies (excluding carpenters who are affected by a dispute) with 1,638 members have 77 (or 4.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 86 (or 5.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The painters and plasterers report employment as quiet; plumbers as bad; bricklayers and hodsmen as fair.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Societies with 859 members have 14 (or 1.6 per cent.) unemployed, as against 22 (or 2.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The cabinet makers, upholsterers and coopers report employment as fair; French polishers, coachbuilders and packing case makers as good; mill-sawyers as improving.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Societies with 899 members have 63 (or 7.0 per cent.) unemployed, as against 52 (or 5.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The lithographic printers report employment as bad; bookbinders as quiet; letterpress printers and designers and engravers as fair.

**Clothing Trades.**—The tailors are fairly well employed. The boot and shoe-makers are rather quiet.

**Miscellaneous.**—Societies with 2,016 members have 50 (or 2.5 per cent.) unemployed, as against 47 (or 2.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The carters report employment as dull bakers, butchers, and municipal employees as fair; locomotive engine drivers, railway servants and paviers as good.—R. Sheldon.

**Cork and District.**

**Shipbuilding and Engineering.**—Boiler-makers and shipbuilders report employment as busy in Haulbowline and Passage West; as fair in Cork and Limerick; fitters, turners, blacksmiths, and ironmoulders as good; coppersmiths, brass-moulders, shipwrights, and riggers as fair.

**Building Trades.**—The plumbers, painters, and stonecutters report employment as moderate; other branches as dull.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Millsawyers and wood-working machinists, cabinet makers, packing-case makers, coach-makers, coopers, and cork cutters report employment as quiet.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—All branches report employment as fair.

**Clothing Trades.**—Tailors, flax and tweed operatives and boot and shoe operatives report employment as fair in Cork, Limerick, Blarney, Millfield and Douglas.

**Fishing.**—Mackerel fishing has been good during the month.

**Miscellaneous.**—All branches of railway employees, stationary enginemen, tramway employees, and brewery workmen report employment as good; Corporation employees as fair; gas workers, dock and quay labourers, coal porters, and hackney car drivers as dull.—P. O'Shea.

## EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

**Total Emigration.**—The number of passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during May was 33,667, or 8,815 more than in May, 1899. Comparing the five completed months of 1900 with the corresponding period of last year, there is an increase of 17,973, viz., from 86,247 in 1899 to 104,220 in 1900, the increase being largely due to an increase in the number of foreigners bound for North America.

**British and Irish.**—Of the 33,667 passengers in May, 18,311 were of British or Irish origin, being an increase of 2,750 as compared with May, 1899. The increase is most marked in the case of those proceeding to the United States.

During the five months ended May, 1900, the number of passengers of British or Irish origin was 58,474, an increase of 2,760 as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

The following Table gives the figures for the different periods:—

Destination.	May, 1900.	May, 1899.	Total for five months ended—	
			May, 1900.	May, 1899.
United States ...	14,149	11,481	39,382	34,982
British North America ...	2,001	1,572	5,993	6,250
Australasia ...	616	680	4,006	3,684
South Africa ...	985	1,188	5,089	6,670
Other places ...	560	640	4,004	4,128
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>18,311</b>	<b>15,561</b>	<b>58,474</b>	<b>55,714</b>

**Foreign.**—The remainder of the 33,667 passengers in May, viz., 15,356, were foreigners, or persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being an increase of 6,065 as compared with a year ago. The increase is chiefly due to increased numbers bound for the United States and British North America.

The total number of foreigners, etc., who left the United Kingdom during the five completed months of the year was 45,746 in 1900, and 30,533 in 1899.

**Alien Immigration.**—The number of aliens that arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent during May was 19,396; of these 10,557 were stated to be on route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, compared with 5,861 so stated in May, 1899. Those not stated to be on their way to America or other places out of the United Kingdom numbered 8,839 (including 1,497 sailors), the corresponding figure for May, 1899, being 6,263 (including 1,183 sailors). The figures for May, 1900 and 1899, and also for the five months ended May in each year, are as follows:—

	May, 1900.	May, 1899.	Total for five months ended—	
			May, 1900.	May, 1899.
Aliens not stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom ...	8,839*	6,263*	28,653*	23,338*
Aliens en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom ...	10,557	5,861	31,974	19,144
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>19,396*</b>	<b>12,124*</b>	<b>60,627*</b>	<b>42,482*</b>

\* These figures are inclusive of sailors, to the number of 1,497 in May, 1900; 1,183 in May, 1899; and 6,543 and 5,864 respectively for the five months ended May in each year.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN MAY, 1900.

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

Summary.—The changes in wages reported during May affected about 181,200 workpeople, and the net effect of all the changes on the weekly wages of those affected was an increase of 1s. 0½d. per head. About 180,900 received advances averaging 1s. 0½d. weekly per head, and about 300 sustained decreases averaging 2s. 0½d. per head.

Increases.—The principal increases were those granted to 125,000 coal miners in South Wales and Monmouthshire; to 2,540 colliery workers in Northumberland; to 29,500 ironworkers in the Midlands and North of England and in the West of Scotland; to 1,000 blastfurnacemen in South Staffordshire; and to 8,000 earthenware workers in the Potteries district.

Decreases.—The decreases affected about 300 operatives in the building trades in Scotland.

Methods of Arrangement.—Changes affecting about 9,900 workpeople were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work. Changes affecting about 158,400 workpeople in the metal and mining trades took effect under sliding scales, and changes affecting about 800 workpeople were determined by Conciliation Boards. The remaining changes, affecting about 12,100 workpeople, were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or their representatives.

Summary for First Five Months of 1900.—For the five months, January-May, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) reported as having received advances or sustained decreases is about 950,500. Of these 944,900 obtained a net average increase of 2s. 2½d. weekly per head, and 5,600 sustained a net average decrease of 2s. 1½d. weekly per head. The general effect of all the changes was a rise of 2s. 2d. weekly per head in the wages of the 950,500 workpeople affected.

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.

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which change takes effect in 1900, Approximate Number of workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week. Includes sections for BUILDING TRADES and MINING AND QUARRYING.

\* Exclusive of overtime. † Where the winter and summer hours are known to differ in any trade, the weekly rate given in the table is, in the absence of exact figures, the result of averaging the wages for five summer and two winter weeks. When a change in wages is accompanied by a change in hours of labour, the weekly wages before and after change are computed on the basis of the old and new hours respectively. ‡ See also under Changes in Hours of Labour. § The advance was accompanied by a rearrangement of winter hours.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN MAY—(continued).

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which change takes effect in 1900, Approximate Number of workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week. Includes sections for MINING AND QUARRYING, IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE, ENGINEERING, SHIPBUILDING AND OTHER METAL TRADES, TEXTILE TRADES, CLOTHING TRADES, and EMPLOYEES OF PUBLIC AUTHORITIES.

\* Exclusive of overtime. † See also under Changes in Hours of Labour.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN MAY—(continued).

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which Change takes effect in 1900, Approximate Number of workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in full week.

\* Exclusive of overtime. † See also under Changes in Hours of Labour. Dock Labourers, Hull.—A change in the conditions of labour of dock labourers at Hull occurred during May, but statistical particulars thereof are not yet complete.

Table with columns: Port, Voyage, Occupation, No. shipped at new Rate during May, Particulars of Change, April, May, Increase, Decrease.

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN MAY, 1900.

The changes in hours of labour reported during May were all decreases and affected 3,390 workpeople, whose hours were reduced on the average by 3'34 per week.

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which change takes effect in 1900, Approximate number of workpeople directly affected, Hours of labour in a full week, Extent of Reduction per week.

\* Exclusive of overtime. † Where the winter and summer hours are known to differ in any trade the weekly hours given in the table are, in the absence of exact figures, the result of averaging the hours for five summer and two winter weeks. ‡ See also under Changes in Rates of Wages.

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 May, and also during the five completed months of 1900, with comparative figures for 1899:—

Table with columns: Month of May, Five months ended May, Bales, Bales.

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 21 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended June 2nd, amounted to £7,005,895, an increase of £132,790 (or 1'9 per cent.), as compared with the corresponding period of 1899. The receipts from passenger traffic were £3,089,161, a decrease of £167,606, and those from goods and mineral traffic £3,916,734, an increase of £300,395.

Fishery Statistics.—The total value of the fish (including shell fish) landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom during May was £779,128, an increase of £33,795, as compared with May, 1899. In England and Wales there was an increase of £49,315, in Scotland of £4,568, and in Ireland there was a decrease of £20,087.

Bankruptcies.—The bankruptcies gazetted during May numbered 372, being 61 more than in May, 1899, 13 less than in May, 1898, and 76 more than in May, 1897.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN MAY.

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

The total number of workpeople reported as killed by accidents during May was 440, or 2 less than in April, and 15 less than in May, 1899.

In the first group of industries shown in the following summary table, including railways, mines, quarries, shipping, and factories, and employing 5,447,140 persons (according to the latest available figures), 414 were reported killed, and 8,352 injured by accidents in May, as compared with 437 reported killed and 6,738 injured in May, 1899. These figures give one death in May, 1900, for every 13,157 persons employed in those industries. During the five completed months of 1900, 2,167 persons were reported killed and 37,688 injured, as against 1,989 reported killed and 34,083 injured in the corresponding period of 1899.

In the remaining occupations included in the tables, 26 persons were reported killed, and 1,022 injured in May, as compared with 18 killed and 967 injured in May, 1899.

SUMMARY TABLE.

Table with columns: Killed, Injured, Number Employed according to latest Returns.

DETAILED TABLE.

Table with columns: Killed, Injured, Total.

Table with columns: Killed, Injured, Total.

Table with columns: Killed, Injured, Total.

Table with columns: Males, Females, Total.

Table with columns: Killed, Injured, Total.

Table with columns: Killed, Injured, Total.

Table with columns: Killed, Injured, Total.

Table with columns: Construction or Repair, Use or Working, Total.

\* The figures relate to seamen who have been reported during the month to have been killed or injured by accidents at sea, or in rivers and harbours, whilst they were members of the crews of sea-going vessels (except yachts) registered in the British Islands under Part I. of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894 (this includes all trading vessels and about a half, say 3,000, of the fishing vessels of 15 tons and upwards). Injuries to members of the crews of fishing vessels employed in and out of Scottish ports and of vessels trading exclusively between Scottish ports, or to Asiatics serving under Asiatic articles of agreement, are not included. With these exceptions, injuries, however trivial, are included. The number of persons stated to be employed is the sum of the number of persons engaged for the first crew of each vessel employed during 1899, and remaining on the Register at the end of that year. † Accidents during the working of railways, being reportable under other Acts, are not notified under the Act of 1894. ‡ Authorised by any local or personal Act of Parliament. § Or other steam engine or machine in the open air.

TRADE DISPUTES.

(Based on information, obtained from all available sources, verified and corrected by direct application to the Employers, Trade Unions, and other parties concerned. Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have been omitted, except when the aggregate duration exceeded 100 working days.)

Number and Magnitude.—Forty-four fresh disputes were reported as having begun in May, 1900, compared with 52 in April, 1900, and 94 in May, 1899. In these 44 disputes 10,043 workpeople were directly and 5,888 indirectly affected, a total of 15,931, which compares with 31,181 in April, 1900, and 23,577 in May, 1899.

Trades Affected.—In the building trades 25 disputes took place, involving 3,156 workpeople; in the mining industry 4 disputes, involving 556 workpeople; in the metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades 5 disputes, involving 2,505 workpeople; in the textile trades 6 disputes, involving 6,792 workpeople; and in miscellaneous trades, 4 disputes, involving 2,922 workpeople.

Causes.—Of the 44 disputes, 30 resulted from demands for advances and 3 from objections to reductions in wage-rates. Three disputes arose on other wages questions, 4 on questions of working arrangements, and 4 on miscellaneous questions.

Results.—Twenty-four new disputes, involving 6,594 workpeople, and 12 old disputes, involving 21,722 workpeople, were reported as having terminated. Of the 36 new and old disputes terminated, 10, involving 2,294 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 8, involving 2,581 persons, in favour of the employers; and 16, involving 23,234 persons, resulted in compromise. With regard to the remaining 2 disputes, involving 207 persons, certain points were still under consideration. At the end of May 14 old disputes were reported to be still unsettled, involving altogether about 2,000 workpeople.

Duration of Disputes in Working Days.—The aggregate duration in May of all the disputes, new and old, was about 780,000 days, compared with 210,000 in April, 1900, and 350,000 in May, 1899.

Summary for the First Five Months of 1900.—For the five completed months of 1900 the aggregate number of workpeople involved in the 225 disputes which commenced in these months was 79,904, as compared with 62,783 in the 323 disputes reported in the corresponding period of 1899. The aggregate duration in working days was about 1,340,000, as compared with 1,100,000 in the corresponding period of 1899.

Table with 6 columns: Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected (Directly, Indirectly), Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN MAY, 1900.

Table for Building Trades (25 Disputes, 3,156 Workpeople affected). Columns include Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

4 Disputes. MINING. 556 Workpeople affected.

Table for Mining (4 Disputes, 556 Workpeople affected). Columns include Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

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

TRADE DISPUTES—(continued.)

Table with 6 columns: Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected (Directly, Indirectly), Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN MAY, 1900—(continued.)

Table for Metal, Engineering, and Shipbuilding Trades (5 Disputes, 2,505 Workpeople affected). Columns include Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

6 Disputes. TEXTILE TRADES. 6,792 Workpeople affected.

Table for Textile Trades (6 Disputes, 6,792 Workpeople affected). Columns include Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

4 Disputes. MISCELLANEOUS TRADES. 2,922 Workpeople affected.

Table for Miscellaneous Trades (4 Disputes, 2,922 Workpeople affected). Columns include Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE MAY, 1900, AND TERMINATED IN THAT MONTH.

Table for Disputes terminated before May 1900. Columns include Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

\* 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.

Handbooks to the Colonies.

A volume containing a series of handbooks upon the most important British Colonies has been issued by the Emigrants' Information Office. Each handbook contains a map of the colony, an account of its constitution, its climate, the cost of living, rates of wages, conditions of labour, and many other matters of interest.

A further recent publication is a handbook on the Federated Malay States, containing particulars as to the population, history, government, laws, customs, etc., and as to cost of living, transport, openings for emigrants and other information of interest to intending emigrants. The price of this handbook is fourpence.

These publications can be obtained of the Chief Clerk, Emigrants Information Office, 31, Broadway, Westminster, S.W.

EXAMINATIONS FOR MINING MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.

Yorkshire and Lincolnshire District.—An examination for Certificates of Competency as Manager or Under Manager of a mine will be held on July 16th, 1900. Intending candidates should communicate on or before June 25th next with the Secretary of the Examination Board, Mr. John R. Jeffery, 5, Piccadilly, Bradford.

South Western District.—An Examination for Certificates of Competency as Manager of a Mine will be held on September 4th, 5th and 6th next, and for Certificates as Under Manager on September 11th, 12th and 13th next. Intending candidates should communicate on or before September 1st, with the Secretary of the Examination Board, Mr. S. J. Thomas, Forest House, Coleford, Gloucestershire.

PAUPERISM IN MAY.

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

THE number of paupers relieved in 35 selected Urban Districts of the United Kingdom on one day in the second week of May was 316,916, corresponding to a rate of 196 per 10,000 of the estimated population of these districts in 1900.

Compared with April, 1900, there is a decrease of 7,517 in the number relieved, and of 4 in the rate per 10,000 of the population. All the districts show decreased rates (with the exception of North Staffordshire, and Coatbridge and Airdrie where there are increases of 6 and 3 per 10,000 respectively), the following districts showing the most marked falling-off:—Cork, Waterford and Limerick (18 per 10,000), Central London (15), East London (8), and Liverpool, Wolverhampton and Dublin (7 each).

Compared with May, 1899, the number relieved has decreased by 6,148, and the rate per 10,000 of population by 6. Twenty-seven districts show decreased rates, the most important decreases being in the Stockton and Tees district (35 per 10,000), Cork, Waterford and Limerick (34), Wolverhampton (19), Leicester (17), and Leeds, Barnsley and Bristol (16 each). Eight districts show increases, including increases of 15 per 10,000 in the Coatbridge and Airdrie, and Galway districts, and one of 11 per 10,000 in Glasgow.

Table with columns for Selected Urban Districts, Paupers on one day in second week of May, 1900 (In-door, Out-door, Total), Rate per 10,000 of estimated population, and Increase (+) or decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of population as compared with A month ago and A year ago. Rows include ENGLAND & WALES (Metropolis and Other Districts), SCOTLAND, and IRELAND.

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

LABOUR BUREAUX IN MAY.

DURING May the 10 bureaux furnishing returns registered 1,881 fresh applications for work, as compared with 1,618 in May, 1899, an increase of 263. Work was found during the month for 1,179 persons, of whom 756 (534 males and 222 females) were engaged by private employers, 137 by Local Authorities, and 286 males by the Salvation Army.

The number remaining on the registers at the end of May was 1,099, as against 1,331 a year ago.

(I.) Work done in May.

Table showing work done in May by 10 bureaux. Columns include Name of Labour Bureau, No. of Fresh Applications by Workpeople during, No. of Situations offered by Employers during, and No. of Workpeople found Work by Bureaux (Engaged by Private Employers, Engaged by Local Authorities). Rows list London, Ipswich, Plymouth, Liverpool, Glasgow, and Total of 10 Bureaux.

(II.) Employments found for Workpeople during May, 1900.

Table showing employments found for workpeople during May 1900. Columns include No. permanently engaged, No. temporarily engaged, and Total. Rows are categorized by Engaged by Private Employers (Men, Women and Girls), Engaged by Local Authorities (Men, Lads and Boys; Women and Girls), and Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities (Men).

(III.) Usual Occupations of Workpeople on Registers at end of Month.

Table showing usual occupations of workpeople on registers at the end of the month. Columns include Occupation, and No. on Register at end of May, 1900 and May, 1899. Rows list Men, Lads and Boys, Women and Girls, and Grand Total for 10 Bureaux.

\* Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

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

Summary for May.

The trade returns for May, 1900, show an increase as compared with the corresponding period of 1899 in the value of the imports from foreign countries and British possessions, and in the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures, but a decrease in the exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

The Imports for May, 1900, were valued at £43,876,427, as compared with £40,876,828 for May, 1899, an increase of £2,999,599, or 7·3 per cent., and the Exports amounted in value to £30,110,392, as against £28,777,036 in May, 1899—an increase of £1,333,356. The exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures alone were valued at £24,715,930 in May, 1900, and £23,030,240 in May, 1899—an increase of £1,685,690, or 7·3 per cent. The value of foreign and colonial merchandise exported in May, 1900, shows a decrease as compared with May, 1899, of £352,334, or 6·1 per cent.

Imports.—The following table shows the value of the imports for May, 1900, as compared with May, 1899, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

Table showing imports for May 1900 vs May 1899. Columns include Month ended May 31st (1899, 1900), Increase, and Decrease. Rows list Food, Drink and Tobacco, Metals, Chemicals, Dyestuffs, and Tanning, Substances, Oils, Raw Materials for Manufactures, Manufactured and Miscellaneous Articles, and Total.

There is a net increase in the value of corn imported of £646,584. Wheat alone has increased 889,700 cwt. in quantity and £270,473 in value; wheat meal and flour 333,943 cwt. in quantity and £132,627 in value. Barley shows a decrease of 84,490 cwt. in quantity, but an increase of £6,765 in value. Oats have increased 471,250 cwt. in quantity and £96,679 in value; peas 1,450 cwt. and £2,687; maize or Indian corn 36,190 cwt. and £94,381; oatmeal 14,120 cwt. and £4,698; maize meal or Indian corn meal 125,492 cwt. and £39,426; and other kinds of corn and meal 24,680 cwt. and £8,652. On the other hand, beans show a decrease of 23,770 cwt. in quantity and £8,804 in value. In dutiable articles of food cocoa has decreased 3321,943 lbs. in quantity and £97,588 in value, and chicory coffee, currants, raisins, tea, and wine have also decreased both in quantity and value, the last-named article to the extent of 144,636 gallons and £140,348. Unmanufactured tobacco shows a decrease of 1,509,561 lbs. and £51,716.

With regard to the imports of raw materials, imports of raw cotton show an increase in May, 1900, as compared with May, 1899, of 199,019 cwt. in quantity and £963,135 in value, chiefly due to larger shipments from the United States and Brazil. The imports of this article from Egypt show a decrease. Sheep or lamb's wool shows a decrease of 8,597,611 lbs. in quantity, but an increase of £132,865 in value, and the imports of alpaca, vicuna, and llama and of goats' wool show decreases in both quantity and value.

Exports.—The following table shows the value of the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures for the month ended May 31st, 1900, as compared with a like period of 1899, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

Table showing exports for May 1900 vs May 1899. Columns include Month ended May 31st (1899, 1900), Increase, and Decrease. Rows list Animals, Living; Articles of Food and Drink; Raw Materials; Articles Manufactured and Partly Manufactured; Yarns and Textile Fabrics; Metals and Articles Manufactured therefrom (except Machinery and Ships); Machinery and Millwork; Ships, new (not registered as British); Miscellaneous, and Total.

The exports of coal, coke and fuel have increased 228,099 tons in quantity, and £1,361,483 in value. Wool (sheep and lambs') has also increased in both quantity and value.

The exports of cotton yarn in May, 1900, show a decrease of 3,862,800 lbs. in quantity, but an increase of £34,635 in value. Cotton piece-goods have also decreased 1,742,800 yards in quantity, but increased £452,547 in value. Jute yarn has increased in both quantity and value, but jute piece-goods have decreased 2,736,000 yards in quantity and increased £7,627 in value. Linen yarn and piece-goods, silk, thrown, twist and yarn, and woollen and worsted yarn have all decreased in quantity, but increased in value, but all kinds of woollen and worsted piece-goods have increased in both quantity and value.

Tonnage of Vessels 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 May, 1900, amounted to 3,010,324 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,997,990 tons, as against 3,097,422 tons entered, and 3,893,749 tons cleared in May, 1899. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes, during May, 1900, amounted to 2,725,860 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,642,332 tons, as against 2,676,968 tons entered and 2,653,807 tons cleared in May, 1899.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN MAY. DURING May 637 fresh applications for work were registered by eight bureaux (see LABOUR GAZETTE, February, 1899, p. 36) furnishing returns, and 917 offers of situations were made by employers; work was found for 220 persons, of whom 114 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers and mothers' help).

The returns for the London Girls' Friendly Society business agency and the Manchester, Liverpool and Edinburgh Bureaux are for the present grouped together in the following table, which shows the work done by the eight bureaux during May. A return from the Dundee Labour Bureau is appended, but not included in the summaries.

WORK DONE IN MAY.

Summary tables for Work Done in May. Includes Summary by Bureaux and Summary by Occupations. Summary by Bureaux shows details for Central Bureau, Society for Promoting Training and Employment, Y. W. C. A., and Other Bureaux. Summary by Occupations lists various roles like Superintendents, Shop Assistants, etc., and Total Number in May 1900 and April 1900.

The number of fresh applications for domestic servants rose from 553 to 597, and the number of servants applying from 323 to 356, the number permanently engaged rising from 79 to 97. The demand for dressmakers, milliners, &c., continued large, the number of fresh applications from employers only falling from 170 to 162, and the number wanting situations falling from 29 to 22; 25 were engaged through the bureaux, compared with 26 in April.

Of the 47 situations offered at the Dundee Labour Bureau, 25 were for mill and factory operatives. Of the 102 wanting situations, 56 were mill and factory operatives, and 33 were charwomen. Of the 21 who obtained situations, 11 were charwomen, and 5 were mill and factory operatives.



## INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS

## REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN MAY.

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

FROM the following summary of the changes in the Register of Industrial Organisations in May it will be seen that 4 Trade Unions, 9 Co-operative Associations for Distribution, 4 Co-operative Associations for Production, 4 Miscellaneous Industrial and Provident Societies, 16 Friendly Societies, and 28 branches of existing Friendly Societies were added to the Register of the United Kingdom during April. One Trade Union, 5 Industrial and Provident Societies, 24 Building Societies, and 37 Friendly Societies (including 15 branches) are reported as having ceased to exist, commenced to "wind-up," or had registration cancelled.

## ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

**Trade Unions.**—*England and Wales.*—Lancashire and Cheshire Enginemen's and Boilermen's Federation, 99, Rose-terrace, Haydock, St. Helens; United Soc. of Mechanical Woodworkers, 9, St. James-grove, Battersea, S.W. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Newry Quarrymen's Union, The Mall, Newry; United Job Carriage Drivers' Protective Soc., 75, Aungier-street, Dublin.

**Industrial and Provident Societies.**—(A) *Associations for Distribution—England and Wales.* Ringstead Unity Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Ringstead, Thrapston; Empingham and Normanton Co-op. Soc. Ltd., Empingham, Stamford; Wigton Industrial and Provident Soc., Ltd., Wigton; Ripon Co-op. Agric. Soc., Ltd., 30, Market-place, Ripon; Rainton Co-op. Agric. Soc., Ltd., The Store, Rainton, Thirsk. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Mullagarry Co-op. Home Industries Soc., Mullagarry, co. Mayo; Gort Industries Soc., Convent of Mercies, Gort, co. Galway; Codrum Co-op. Poultry Soc., Codrum, Macroom, co. Cork; Monasterevan Co-op. Home Industries Soc., Monasterevan, Queen's co. (B) *Associations for Production—England and Wales.*—None. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Drumshambo Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Drumshambo, co. Leitrim; Piltown Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Piltown, co. Kilkenny; Ballinamore Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Ballinamore, co. Leitrim; Tamlaght Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Tamlaght O'Crilly, co. Londonderry. (C) *Miscellaneous—England and Wales.*—Freehold Land Purchase and Development Soc., Ltd., 120 and 122, Victoria-street, S.W.; Co-op. Homes Association, Ltd., 5, Adelaide-terrace, New Bridge-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Hull Co-op. People's Bank, Ltd., 8, Albion-street, Hull; Shildon Club and Institute, Ltd., Club House, Railway-terrace, New Shildon. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

**Friendly Societies.**—(A) *New Friendly Societies—England and Wales.*—Dividing, 4; Cattle Insurance, 1; Specially Authorised, 1; Working men's Clubs, 4. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Specially Authorised, 6. (B) *New Branches of Existing Societies—England and Wales.*—15. *Scotland.*—13. *Ireland.*—None.

**Building Societies.**—*England and Wales.*—None. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

## ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

**Trade Unions.**—*England and Wales.*—North Wales Miners' United Association, White Hart Inn, Pentre, Broughton, Wrexham. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

**Industrial and Provident Societies.**—*England and Wales.*—*Resolution to "wind-up" received.*—Municipal Officers' Club, Limited, 158a, Dale-street, Liverpool; Nottingham Cabinet Makers' Guild Co-op. Productive Soc., Ltd., Collishaws-yard, Nottingham. *Liquidators' final return received.*—Solicitors' Stationery Assoc., Ltd., 79<sup>3</sup>, Gracechurch-street, E.C.; Chelsea and Fulham Ind. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 312, King's-road, Chelsea, S.W. *Registry cancelled by request.*—Gregory's Loan Soc., Ltd., Old Wine Vaults, Ilkeston. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

**Friendly Societies.**—*England and Wales.*—By instrument of dissolution: Ordinary Friendly, 14; Dividing, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 1. Registration cancelled: Ordinary Friendly, 2; Specially authorised, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 1; Dissolved otherwise: Ordinary Friendly, 1; Branches 15. *Scotland.*—By instrument of dissolution: Ordinary Friendly, 1. *Ireland.*—None.

**Building Societies.**—*England and Wales.*—By instrument of dissolution, 2; notice of commencement of dissolution, 7; notice of termination of dissolution, 14. *Scotland.*—Notice of termination of dissolution, 1. *Ireland.*—None.

**Massachusetts State Board of Arbitration and Conciliation.**—A copy of the report of the work of this Board during 1899 has been received by the Department. The report gives a series of accounts of the principal disputes which have enlisted the attention of the Board during the year, with the nature of the action taken by the Board in each case.

## INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN MAY.

## I.—Under Factory and Workshop Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Cases taken.	Con- victions	Amount of Penalties.	Amount of Costs.
<b>By Owners, Managers, &amp;c.:</b>				
Neglecting to Limewash ...	9	9	£ s. d. 14 6 0	£ s. d. 2 6 6
Allowing Factory or Workshop to be over-crowded ...	2	2	6 0 0	0 4 0
Neglecting to Fence Machinery ...	8	8	78 4 6	4 15 6
Allowing Children to clean Machinery in motion, &c. ...	2	2	1 10 0	1 10 6
Employing Young Persons without necessary Certificates ...	43	40	18 4 0	16 7 8
<b>Illegal Hours or Times of Employment—</b>				
Before or after the legal hour ...	76	76	44 10 0	23 17 0
During meal times, or without proper intervals for meals ...	58	58	23 2 0	19 17 0
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day substituted ...	17	16	5 14 6	5 12 9
On Sundays or holidays, or children on successive Saturdays ...	3	3	0 5 0	1 14 6
At night ...	30	37	28 15 0	13 13 10
Other offences ...	7	7	5 0 0	2 14 6
<b>Neglecting Rules as to Registers, Abstracts, Notices, &amp;c.—</b>				
Not keeping Registers ...	36	34	33 12 6	14 17 10
Not affixing or properly filling up Notices and Abstracts ...	14	13	9 14 0	4 4 0
Not sending Notices required by Act ...	6	5	4 12 6	2 8 6
Not supplying sufficient or correct particulars for Prosecutions for Breach of (or not affixing) Special Rules ...	2	2	5 0 0	0 19 2
Prosecutions under Truck Acts ...	4	4	—	—
Other offences ...	3	2	1 4 2	1 15 10
<b>By Workmen:</b>				
Allowing children to clean machinery in motion, &c. ...	2	2	1 0 0	1 15 0
Other offences ...	2	2	0 15 0	0 9 6
<b>Total for May, 1900</b> ...	<b>329</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>283 4 2</b>	<b>122 12 4</b>
<b>Total for May, 1899</b> ...	<b>328</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>194 19 0</b>	<b>110 9 8</b>

## II.—Under Mines and Quarries Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Prose- cutions.	Con- victions.	Cases with- drawn.	Cases dis- missed.	Amount of Fines and Costs.
<b>UNDER THE MINES ACTS.</b>					
<b>By Owners, Managers, &amp;c.:</b>					
Fencing ...	6	4	—	2	£ s. d. 8 6 0
Miscellaneous ...	1	1	—	—	0 10 0
<b>By Workmen:</b>					
Safety Lamps ...	4	4	—	—	4 2 6
Shot-firing and Explosives ...	2	2	—	—	3 19 0
Timbering ...	6	6	—	—	4 13 6
Lucifer Matches, Smoking, &c. ...	8	7	—	1	6 14 6
Riding on Trams ...	8	8	—	—	3 19 0
Miscellaneous ...	18	18	—	—	18 1 0 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Total for May, 1900</b> ...	<b>63</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>80 5 6</b>
<b>Total for May, 1899</b> ...	<b>37</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>42 19 0</b>
<b>UNDER THE QUARRIES ACT.</b>					
<b>By Owners, Managers, &amp;c.:</b>					
Registers, Notices, Returns, &c. ...	2	2	—	—	£ s. d. 7 0 0
Other Special Rules ...	21	21	—	—	15 6 6
<b>By Workmen:</b>					
Explosives and Blasting ...	2	2	—	—	1 15 6
<b>Total for May, 1900</b> ...	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>24 2 0</b>
<b>Total for May, 1899</b> ...	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>5 12 0</b>

## III.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts.

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

Nature of Offence.	Prose- cutions.	Conv- ctions.	Total Penalties.	Total Costs.
<b>By Owners or Masters of Ships:</b>				
Submersion of disc ...	1	1	£ s. d. 75 0 0	£ s. d. 5 5 0
Carrying excessive number of passengers ...	2	2	5 12 6	—
<b>Total for May, 1900</b> ...	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>80 12 6</b>	<b>5 5 0</b>
<b>Total for May, 1899</b> ...	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14 11 0</b>	<b>13 5 10</b>

**Workmen's Compensation Schemes.**—Two schemes, under the Workmen's Compensation Act, relating to workpeople in Dockyards and other Government establishments, were certified by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, on April 25th and June 8th, 1900. These two schemes are revisions of a scheme which was certified on May 17th, 1899.

\* Two offenders were each sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment.

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