# Board of Trade LABOUR GAZETTE.

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MAY, 1908.

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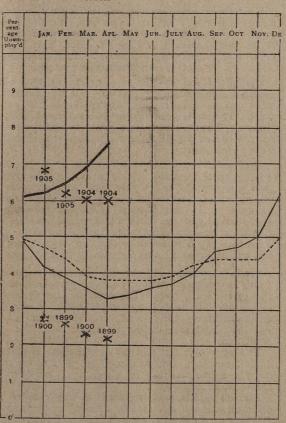
#### EMPLOYMENT CHART

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

- Thick Curve=1908. \_\_\_\_ Thin Curve=1907.

---- Dotted Curve=Mean of 1898-1907.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed during the past ten years, with the dates thereof.



The above Chart is based solely on Returns furnished direct to the Labour Department by various Trade Unions which pay unemployed benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked-out, sick or superannuated, are excluded from the figures. For April, 1908, the general and branch Returns of Unions related to 638,237 members in the following trades:—

Building Coal Mining			Printing & Bookbinding Woodworking and Fur-	56,301
Engineering Shipbuilding		152,658		35,041 21,413
Other Metal Tra	des	31,912 97,005	Total	638,237

#### STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN APRIL.

[In addition to the 2,639 Employment Returns from Trade Unions used for the Chart, 3,801 were received from employers relating to 1,089,634 workpeople employed in coal and iron mining, the cotton, woollen, worsted and other textile trades, the building trades, the boot and shoe and other clothing trades, and the paper and glass trades. Besides these 6,440 statistical returns, a large number of returns of a non-statistical character were received from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, Local Correspondents, and other sources.]

EMPLOYMENT in April showed some decline as compared with the previous month, and continued to be considerably affected by the disputes in the engineering and shipbuilding trades, which have rendered idle an increasingly large number of workpeople not directly

As compared with a year ago there was a decline in most of the principal industries.

In the 268 Trade Unions, with a net membership of 638,237, making Returns, 48,035 (or 7.5 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of April, 1908, as compared with 6.9 per cent. at the end of March, 1908, and 3'3 per cent. at the end of April, 1907.

Coal Mining. — Employment continued good during April. It was about the same as a year ago. Comparison with a month ago is affected by holidays.

Iron Mining .- Employment continued fairly good, but was not so good as a year ago.

Pig Iron Industry. — Employment in this industry during April continued fair on the whole. It was slightly better than a month ago, but considerably worse than a year ago. Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters employing over 22,000 workpeople showed 293 furnaces in blast at the end of April, as compared with 290\* in March, 1908, and 349 in

Iron and Steel Works .- Employment at iron and steel works showed a decline as compared with both a month ago and a year ago. The volume of employment (i.e., number employed multiplied by the number of shifts worked) during the week ended April 18th, 1908, at the works from which Returns were received was 2.8 per cent. less than in the week ended March 21st, 1908, and 12.8 per cent. less than a year ago.

Tinplate and Steel Sheet Manufacture. - Employment during April was good. It was better than a month ago, and about the same as a year ago. At the works covered by the Returns 437 tinplate and sheet mills were working at the end of April, as compared with 430 a month ago and 437 a year ago.

Engineering Trades.—Employment was slack on the whole, and continued to be adversely affected by the dispute on the North-East Coast. It was considerably worse than a month ago, and much worse than a

year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of April was 8.6, as compared with 7.1 a month ago and 2.8 a year ago.\*

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Shipbuilding Trades.—Employment was bad, and continued to be greatly affected by the dispute. It was worse than a month ago and much worse than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of April was 23.2, as compared with 21.5 per cent. at the end of March, and 6.6 per cent. a year ago.\*

Cotton Trade.—Employment in the Spinning branch showed a decline as compared with a month ago and a year ago. In the Weaving branch it continued slack, and was worse than a year ago. A considerable amount of short time was worked, and at a large number of mills and sheds the Easter holiday stoppage was extended.

Woollen Trade.—Employment at the end of the month was moderate, and worse than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 30,428 workpeople in the week ended April 18th showed an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 1.9 per cent. compared with the week ended April 27th, 1907.

Worsted Trade.—Employment at the end of the month was moderate, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. Returns from firms employing 49,216 workpeople in the week ended April 18th showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 5.8 per cent. compared with the week ended April 27th, 1907.

Linen Trade.—Employment continued quiet, and was considerably worse than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 45,400 workpeople in the week ended April 18th showed an increase of 2.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 15.9 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Juie Trade.—Employment was good on the whole, and showed but little change as compared with either a month ago or a year ago. Returns from firms employing 18,307 workpeople in the week ended April 18th showed an increase of 2'2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 1'4 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Silk Trade.—Employment continued fair on the whole. It showed a decline compared with a year ago. Returns from firms employing 8,204 workpeople in the week ended April 18th, 1908, showed an increase of 0.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 3.6 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Lace Trade.—Employment was worse than a month ago, and considerably worse than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 8,889 workpeople in the week ended April 18th showed a decrease of 3'4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago, and of 19'4 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Hosiery Trade.—Employment at the end of the month was moderate, and worse than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 18,213 workpeople in the week ended April 18th showed an increase of 10 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 10 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Tailoring Trade.—Employment in the bespoke branch showed a seasonal improvement, but was worse than a year ago. In the ready-made branch it was fair, and showed a decline as compared with a year ago.

Hat Trade.—Employment in the Silk Hat branch was bad, and worse than a year ago. In the Felt Hat branch it was fair, and showed a decline compared with a month ago. It was about the same as a year ago.

Boot and Shoe Trade.—Employment was fairly good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. Returns from firms employing 62,142 workpeople in the week

\* Members on strike or locked-out are not included in the percentage anemployed.

ended April 18th showed an increase of 3.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 2.2 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Other Leather Trades.—Employment was bad, and worse than both a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 3,570 had 8 to per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of April, as compared with 6 8 per cent. in March, and 5 7 per cent. a year ago.

Paper Making Trades. — Employment in these trades continued good.

Printing and Bookbinding Trades.—Employment was slack, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In the printing trade the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of April was 5.5, as compared with 4.0 at the end of March, and 3.8 in April, 1907. In the bookbinding trade the percentages for the same periods were 8.7, 6.4, and 5.4 respectively.

Building Trades.—Employment in April continued slack. It showed little change compared with a month ago, and was worse than a year ago.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Employment in April continued bad. It was slightly better than a month ago, but considerably worse than a year ago. Trade Unions reported 6.4 per cent. of their members as unemployed at the end of April, as compared with 7.1 per cent. a month ago, and 2.9 per cent. a year ago.

Pottery and Brick and Tile Trades.—Employment in the Pottery trade continued moderate, and was worse than a year ago. In the Brick and Tile trades it was quiet.

Glass Trades.—Employment was fair, but not so good as either a month ago or a year ago. Returns from firms employing 8,910 workpeople in the week ended April 25th showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago, and of 5.2 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Agricultural Labour.—Employment during April was generally regular until towards the end of the month, when rain and snow caused interruption of work in the fields. There was some increase in the demand for day labourers, but the supply was generally sufficient. A scarcity of men for permanent situations was reported from several districts.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—Employment in London was moderate generally during April. It was worse than a month ago and a year ago. At other ports it was moderate, rather better than a month ago, but not so good as in April, 1907. The average number employed daily at the docks and principal wharves in London in the four weeks ended April 25th was 12,073, a decrease of 1.8 per cent. as compared with a month ago, and of 6.9 per cent. as compared with April, 1907.

Trade Disputes. — Twenty-six disputes began in April, as compared with 23 in the previous month, and 39 in April, 1907. The total number of work-people affected by disputes which began or were in progress during April, 1908, was 36,786, or 2,392 less than in March, 1908, and 21,200 more than in April, 1907.

The aggregate duration of all the disputes of the month, new and old, amounted to 765,800 working days, or 25,600 less than in March, 1908, and 617,300 more than in April, 1907.

Definite results were reported in the case of 23 disputes, new and old, directly affecting 2,794 persons. Of these 23 disputes, 6 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 11 in favour of the employers, and 6 were compromised.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes taking effect in April affected 204,000 workpeople, of whom 1,000 received advances and 203,000 sustained decreases. The number whose wages were decreased included 152,000 coal miners in Northumberland, Cumberland, and Scotland, and 11,000 blastfurnacemen and 30,000 iron and steel workers in various parts of England and Wales. The total computed effect of all the changes reported was a net decrease of about £10,600 per week.

#### RECENT CONCILIATION CASES.

#### Painters, Eccles.

May, 1908.

Mr. A. A. Hudson, the arbitrator appointed in this case (see Labour Gazette for April, page 101), met the parties on April 13th, and drew up a new code of working rules for Eccles, Patricroft, and district, which both the parties agreed to and signed.

The principal features of the new rules are an advance in wages from  $8\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 9d. per hour, and an alteration in the rule as to country work.

#### Slaters and Tilers, Wigan.

Mr. A. A. Hudson, the arbitrator appointed in this case (see Labour Gazette for April, page 101), issued his award on April 15th.

The award is issued in the form of a code of working rules under which an advance in wages from 8½d. to od. per hour is given from May 1st; the hours of labour in winter are also to be shortened. The new working rules are substantially the same as those which the representatives of the parties had agreed to in January, but which were not accepted by the employers on account of a technical objection.

#### Painters, Huddersfield.

Mr. A. A. Hudson, the arbitrator appointed in this case (see Labour Gazette for April, page 102), issued his award on April 22nd.

The operatives had asked for an advance in wages of id. per hour, and alterations in other working rules; the employers offered an advance of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour, on condition that all other proposed alterations were withdrawn.

Mr. Hudson decided that wages should be advanced from 7½d. to 8d. per hour, and that the time for leaving off work on Saturday should be altered from 12.30 p.m. to 12 noon. He also modified the rule as to the formation of a Court of Arbitration for settling disputes.

#### Painters, Halifax.

Sir Alfred Bateman, K.C.M.G., the arbitrator appointed in this case (see Labour Gazette for April, page 102), issued his award on May 11th.

The operatives had asked for an advance of id. per hour, and other alterations in the working rules. The arbitrator awarded an advance of ½d. per hour (from 7½d. to 8d.), and fixed 7.30 a.m. instead of 6.30 a.m. as the starting time, with no later starting time on Monday or interval for breakfast as formerly. The arbitrator also made alterations in the rules relating to country work and to payment for overtime.

#### Painters, Farnworth.

Mr. A. A. Hudson, the arbitrator appointed in this case (see Labour Gazette for April, page 102), issued his award on April 16th.

The operatives had given notice of proposed alterations in the working rules. The employers, not being organised in an association at the time of receiving the notice, gave no counter notice; but at the hearing of the case before Mr. Hudson they offered the workpeople an advance in wages of ½d. per hour (from 8½d. to 9d.) on condition that the men referred all the questions in dispute to the arbitrator for settlement. This offer was accented

Mr. Hudson's award was given in the form of a complete code of revised working rules, which came into operation on May 1st. The new rules are similar to those recently agreed upon between the employers and workpeople at Bolton.

#### Joiners, Glasgow.

Alterations in the working rules for joiners having been proposed by the Glasgow Master Wrights' Association, and by the Associated and Amalgamated Societies of Carpenters and Joiners (Glasgow District), the matter was referred for settlement to the Conciliation Board for the Carpenter and Joiner Trade in the Glasgow District

No settlement was arrived at by the Conciliation Board; and in accordance with the rules of the Board, joint application was, on April 23rd, made to the Board of Trade by the secretaries of the Conciliation Board,

asking for the appointment of a "conciliator" to effect a settlement of the questions in dispute.

On April 29th the Board of Trade appointed Mr. A. A. Hudson, to act in that capacity.

#### Pottery Trade, Glasgow.

Mr. W. B. Yates, the arbitrator appointed in this case (see Labour Gazette for April, page 101), issued his award on April 16th.

The arbitrator was requested to fix minimum prices per score for turning neck and fluted 1 lb. and 2 lb. jam jars, and was restricted by the terms of reference to a minimum of 2s. 3d. per score for neck jars and 1s. 1d. per score for fluted jars.

jars and 1s. 1d. per score for fluted jars.

Mr. Yates decided that the minimum price to be paid to men for turning neck jars should be 2s. 3d. per score, and for fluted jars 1s. 1½d. per score. He also fixed the minimum prices to be paid to women at 1s. 6d. and 11d. per score for neck and fluted jars respectively. No deduction is to be made from these prices, nor any charge made for light, &c.

#### Carpenters and Joiners, Coventry.

Mr. A. A. Hudson, the arbitrator appointed in this case, (see Labour Gazette for April, page 101), met the parties on April 22nd.

The operatives had given notice of a demand that overtime should commence at the end of the working day, instead of at 7 p.m. At the hearing of the case before Mr. Hudson, an agreement was arrived at between the parties that the rule as to overtime should remain in force, with the following addition:—

"Ten minutes to be allowed in the masters' time for tea if the operative works till 7 o'clock, but not otherwise."

#### Builders' Labourers, Coventry.

Mr. A. A. Hudson, the independent chairman appointed in this case (see Labour Gazette for April, page 101), issued his award on April 25th.

The men had given notice of demands for an advance in wages from 6d. to  $6\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour, for an extra  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour to scaffolders, and for an alteration of the rule as to setting men on at the job.

Mr. Hudson decided that none of these alterations should be made.

#### Coal Miners, Cwmamman.

Mr. D. Lleufer Thomas, the umpire appointed by the Board of Trade in this case (see Labour Gazette for April, page 102), issued his award on May 12th.

The dispute arose out of a claim on the part of the workpeople that they should receive an increase in their piecework rates on account of the substitution of safety lamps and permitted explosives for naked lights and compressed gunpowder. Mr. Thomas awarded an increase of 3½ per cent. on certain items of the standard list of piecework prices in respect of the substitution of safety lamps for naked lights. The award also provides that no collier is to be required to go more than 300 yards from his working place to re-light or change his lamp. (This last provision was settled by agreement arrived at between the arbitrators at the hearing before Mr. Thomas.)

In respect of the substitution of permitted explosives for gunpowder, Mr. Thomas awarded an increase in the price for cutting and filling large coal of 1½ per cent. from January 1st to June 30th, 1908, and of 1 per cent. for the next six months. No increase to be given after December 31st, 1908.

#### Makers of Army Boots, Northamptonshire.

Mr. G. R. Askwith, K.C., the umpire appointed (with the approval of the Board of Trade) by the Standing Committee of Army Contractors and Representatives of the National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives, issued an award on May 11th on certain matters which had been referred to him by the Joint Committee. Mr. Askwith decided as follows:—

(i) Admiralty Pattern Halfboot for 1907 (for seamen of the fleet) made throughout: putters up price to be 13s. per dozen pairs, the extra 1d. being distributed at ½d. on lasting, ¼d. for opening channel, and ¼d. for closing channel.

(ii) Admiralty (1908) shoes advanced ½d. per pair for lasting and ¿d. for puff.

Birmingham.

(iii) Finishing both above boots and shoes: advanced 1d. per

(iv) Admiralty canvas shoes sewn to be paid same as Admiralty canvas shoes riverted.

(v) Lasting under the heading "Rubber canvas lasting, per dozen pairs 3s.," includes items as under heading "Canvas shoes, brown, machine sewn."

#### CO-OPERATIVE PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION IN IRELAND IN 1906.

RETURNS from co-operative societies for production and distribution in Ireland show that 472 societies were at work during the year 1906. Their total membership at the end of 1906 was 71,081 (consisting of 70,887 individual members and 194 societies), their total share and loan capital amounted to £349,144 (£180,018 shares and £169,126 loans), and their reserve and insurance funds to £349. funds to £97,623.

Their sales during the year amounted to £2,271,694,

and the profit, including interest on share capital, amounted to £46,616.

Compared with 1905 an increase is shown of 45 societies, of 5,225 members, of £14,922 in share and loan capital, of £29,970 in the reserve and insurance funds, of £393,108 in total sales, and of £10,779 in the amount of profit. The total number of persons directly employed by the societies was 2,394, of whom 1,905 were employed in production.

The following Table (i.) shows the distributive sales for each of the years 1896 to 1906 of the retail stores, the wholesale federations, the agricultural societies, and the miscellaneous societies, including egg and poultry, beekeepers', and home industries societies. It will be seen that the total distributive sales have increased from £203,937 in 1896 to £629,014 in 1906.

#### (i.) Distributive Sales in 1896-1906.

Year.	Retail Stores.	Wholesale Federations.	Agricultural Societies.	Miscellaneous Societies.	Total.
1896	£ 51,878	£ 110,726	£ 39,741	£ 1,592	£
1897	53,599	130,679	43,104	4,111	203,937
1898	60,245	173,017	58,551	4,650	296,463
1899	61.956 72,751	195,906	62,652 74,279	6,699	327,213
1901	90,452	213,614	67,095	22,898	375,151
1902	110,140	237.779	74,791	42,567	465,277
1903	139,635	251,638	74,580	60,130	525,083
1904	150,178	228,667	77,659	54,349 50,696	510,853 527,433
1905	201,269	228,774	104,235	94,736	629,014
ncrease 1906	149,391	118,048	64,494	93,144	425,077
over 1895 Percentage increase	288'0	106.6	162'3	-	208'4

The next Table (ii.) shows the sales of the productive societies in each of the years 1896 to 1906, the dairying societies being shown separately. The sales of these societies have grown from £287,218 in 1896 to £1,642,680 in 1906, an increase of £1,355,462.

#### (ii.) Co-operative Productive Sales in 1896-1906

•	Dairying	Societies.	Other So	cieties.*	Total.		
	No. of Societies.	Sales.	No. of Societies.	Sales.	No. of Societies.	Sales.	
HY LIFE VERN		£	1	£		£	
1896	56	285,190	3	2,028	59	287,218	
1897	71	358,247	5	4,083	76	362,330	
1898	106	456,643	3	3,227	109	459,870	
1899	123	615,026	4	3,638	127	618,664	
1900	143	777,804	3 4 7	5,199	150	783,003	
1901	150	862,077	9	5,524	159	867,601	
1902	177	1,003,210	14	18.051	191	1,021,261	
1903	206	1,099,357	14	18,596	224	1,117,953	
1904	242	1,089.805	23	18,471	265	1,108,276	
1905	243	1,334,879	23	16,274	266	1,351,153	
1906	246	1,618,958	31	23,722	277	1,642,680	
Increase 1906 over 1806	190	1,333,768	28	21,694	218	1,355,462	
Percentage Increase		467.7		1,069'7		471'9	

In Table (iii.) the membership, capital, sales and profit of the several groups of distributive and productive societies are shown separately for the year 1906, together with the totals for 1905 and 1906, and percentage increase in 1906 compared with 1905.

#### (iii.) Total Distribution and Production in 1906.

Promise Air Co		Member-	Caj	oital.		
	No. of Societies.	ship at end of 1906.	Share and Loan.	Reserve and In- surance	Sales.	Profit.
Distribution:—			£	£	£	£M
Retail Stores	22	7,295	47,940	2,573	201,269	11,739
Wholesale Society	I	155	8,431	507	54,092	544
Agency	128	48	9,518	2,375 6,718	174,682	130*
Agricultural Societies Egg & Poultry	21	13,333	34,404	1,363	57,204	115
TT T- Jt-l	18	1,121	2,008	1,145	9,284	51*
Miscellaneous ,,	7	130	1,000	360	28,248	226
Total, Distribution	198	28,355	110,618	15,041	629,014	14,185
Production:						
By Retail Stores	3‡	+	+	+	2,326	t
Dairying Societies	246	41,033	227,067	80,359	1,618,958	32,914
Textile ,, Tailoring and	3	728 460	6,558	24	7,945	971
Shirtmaking	3	400	0,330		6,857	275
Flax Societies	8	457	1,008	363		
Threshing Societies	4	39	2,346	231	632	108
Art Decoration Society	1	9	324		695	31*
Total, Production	277	42,726	238,526	82,582	1,642,680	32,431
Totals, Distribution and	472	71,081	349,144	97,623	2,271,694	46,616
Production in 1906 Ditto in 1905	427	65.856	334,222	67,653	1,878,586	5,837
Percentage Increase in	10.2	2.9	4.2	44'3	20.0	30.1

#### RAILWAY CONCILIATION BOARDS. LIST OF MEMBERS ELECTED.

THE persons named below have been duly returned on behalf of the employees as members of the Conciliation Boards on the following Railways:-

#### NORTH LONDON RAILWAY.

#### Section 1.

Richard Henry Carter, engine driver, Bow; Samuel Charles Kersey, fireman, Bow.

#### Section 2.

Job Vincent Harris, signalman, Dalston; Edwin Wigan, signalman, St. Pancras.

#### Section 3.

Alfred John Jefferies, platelayer, Dalston; John Thomas Rands, platelayer, Poplar.

Section 4.

Alfred Henry Langston, ticket collector, Hackney; Sidney Culling, porter, Broad Street.

#### FURNESS RAILWAY.

#### Sectional Board A.

Isaac Copeland, porter, Whitehaven; J. Dawson, carter, Ulverston; Joseph William Thompson, number taker, Corkickle.

#### Sectional Board B.

John Cornish, driver, Carnforth; James Berryman, fireman Moor Row; John Robinson, driver, Barrow-in-Furness.

#### Sectional Board C.

George Graham, signalman, Barrow-in-Furness; William Palmer, goods guard, Barrow-in-Furness; William Lowery, passenger guard, Moor Row.

#### Sectional Board D.

William John Bell, ganger, Grange-over-Sands; Arthur Holloway, platelayer, Corkickle; Thomas Lowery, platelayer,

#### LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

#### Sectional Board A.

District No. 1.—Henry James Savory, engine driver, Willesden

District No. 2.—Jesse Ford, engine driver, Rugby; Allen Wells, fireman, Oxford.

District No. 3.—George Pye, fireman, Stafford; George Dix, engine driver, Walsall.

District No. 4.—Richard Alexander Prestwich, engine driver, Crewe: John William Newton, fireman, Crewe,

District No. 5 .- Albert Bellamy, engine driver, Stockport; Walter Taylor, engine driver, Warrington.

District No. 6.—Herbert Ellison, fireman, Preston; Edward Smyth, engine driver, Springs Branch.

#### Sectional Board B.

District No. 1.—Samuel Iddo Clarke, signalman, Willesden Junction.

District No. 2. - William Henry Parkinson, signalman, Northampton (Castle).

Included under Distribution.
These societies are also included under the head of Distribution, but are unted only once in the grand total.

District No. 3.—Joseph Thickett, signalman, Bescot Junction.
District No. 4.—Arthur Farmer, signalman, Crewe; David Davies, signalman, Dowlais (High Street).

District No. 5 .- John Peter Wilson, signalman, Heaton Norris

District No. 6.- James Brown, signalman, Morecambe. Sectional Board C.

District No. 1.—Shepherd Margerison, brakesman, Camden. District No. 2.—William Edwins, brakesman, Rugby. District No. 3.—Alfred Hurley, brakesman, Curzon Street,

District No. 4.-William Hepden, brakesman, Crewe; William Thomas, brakesman, Tredegar.

District No. 5 .- Henry Williams, shunter, Edge Hill, Liverpool;

John Gibson, brakesman, Edgeley Junction.

District No. 6.—William Ellison, brakesman, Preston.

#### Sectional Board D.

District No. 1.—Andrew George Edwin, guard, Euston. District No. 2.—Josiah Davison, guard, Peterborough.

District No. 3.-William Elias Morris, coaching shunter, New Street, Birmingham.

District No. 4.-Edwin Yates, guard, Crewe; Harry Kelsall, parcels porter, Crewe.

District No. 5 .- Joseph Needham, porter, Buxton; Christopher

Charles Hayes, guard, Leeds. District No. 6.—Joseph Bowerbank, guard, Workington.

### Sectional Board E.

District No. 1.-John Camp, platelayer, Broad Street. District No. 2.—Page Robinson, platelayer, Rugby; George

Garratt, lineman, Wansford. District No. 3.—Frederick Polton, platelayer. Windsor Street,

Birmingham; Thomas Watkiss, chargeman, Walsall. District No. 4.-William Pugh, platelayer, Crewe; William

Thomas, ganger, Brynmawr. District No. 5.—William Samuel Watson, platelayer, Edge Hill, Liverpool; Friend Gillbanks, chargeman's assistant,

Ravensthorpe and Thornhill. District No. 6. - John Johnson, chargeman's assistant, Bolton; George Dobson, platelayer, Parton.

#### Sectional Board F.

District No. 1.- John Thomas Alden, capstanman, Broad Street; George Gowing, capstanman, Camden.

District No. 2.-Robert Frank Webb, goods porter, Warwick (Milverton).

District No. 3.—Isaac John Hateley, warehouseman, Mill Street, Wolverhampton; William Stephens, shipper, Monument

Lane, Birmingham. District No. 4.- John Williams, checker, Egerton Dock, Birkenhead; Joseph Freedman, caller-off, Crewe Tranship Shed.

District No. 5. -John Neil, warehouseman, Liverpool Road, Manchester; Joseph Henning, checker, London Road,

Manchester. District No. 6.- John Henry Jackson, deliverer, Carlisle Goods Warehouse.

#### Sectional Board G.

District No. 1.—William Lewin Brunsdon, carman, Camden; Frederick Desbonnet, carman, Broad Street.

District No. 2.—Arthur King, carman, Northampton (Castle). District No. 3.—Ernest Charles William Wale, carman,

Curzon Street, Birmingham; Charles Thomas William Burditt. carman, Leicester.

District No. 4.-Frank Hodson Law, carman, Cardiff.

District No. 5.—Charles Beamand, carter, Liverpool Road, Manchester; Robert Jones, carter, Canada Dock, Liverpool. District No. 6.-Peter Leigh, carter, Bolton

#### NEW SCHEMES FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF RAILWAY CONCILIATION BOARDS.

The following additional Schemes have been arranged in accordance with the Agreement of November 6th,

#### NORTH BRITISH RAILWAY.

The staff affected will be grouped into seven sections, as follows :-

Section No. 1, to include signalmen, porter signalmen, pointsmen, gatekeepers (excluding females) and train register boys.

Section No. 2, to include passenger guards, passenger shunters, ticket collectors, ticket examiners, incline brakesmen and

Section No. 3, to include passenger porters, parcel porters, carriage cleaners (excluding females), lampmen, coupling cleaners and horse box cleaners.

Section No. 4, to include marshalmen, yardsmen, goods guards, goods and locomotive shunters, pilot guards, flagmen (traffic),

traffic regulators, couplers, hydraulic shunters (goods), and bankheadmen.

Section No. 5 to include checkers, number takers, weighers, loaders, sheeters, goods porters, cranemen, load inspectors,

hoistmen, ticketers, waggon adjusters, cattlemen, disinfectors.

Section No. 6, to include engine drivers, firemen, cleaners, carriage examiners, waggon examiners, greasers, locomotive department shedmen, locomotive department coalmen, locomotive department hydraulicmen, locomotive department hoistmen, stationary enginemen, electric lightmen, and swing

Section No. 7, to include platelayers, surfacemen (including permanent way flagmen), ballastmen, signal fitters, telegraph linesmen, and telegraph workmen.

Electoral Areas.—For electoral purposes the North British Railway is divided into four districts, as follows :

- (1) The Southern and Eastern Traffic Districts.
- (2) The Fife and Northern Traffic Districts.
- (3) The Western and West Highland Traffic Districts.

#### (4) The Monkland Traffic District.

The Dundee and Arbroath Joint Line and the Kilsyth and Bonnybridge Railway are held to fall within the respective districts in which they are situated, and the North British and joint employees are to be included in the scheme.

Sectional Boards. — The total number of employees' representatives on each sectional board is to be eight, two of whom are to be elected by and from the employees in the section in each district.

Central Board .- The total number of employees' representatives on the Central Board is to be fourteen, of whom two are to be elected by and from the members of each Sectional Board.

The company's representatives on each Sectional and Central Board are not to exceed in number the employees' representatives.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY, IRELAND.

For electoral purposes this Railway is divided into two districts, as follows:-

District A to include the staff employed at the stations and on the line running from Cavan and Belturbet to Warrenpoint via Armagh and all places south thereof.

District B to include the staff employed at the stations and on the line for the whole of the system north of District (A).

Sectional Boards.—It is proposed that there shall be formed four Sectional Boards for the staff affected. viz.:-

Board I., representing shed foremen, cleaners, fire lighters, drivers, greasers, bar boys, firemen, examiners, steam raisers, and running shed labourers.

Board II., representing signalmen, passenger guards, goods guards, goods shunters, and passenger shunters.

Board III., representing permanent-way inspectors, gangers, platelayers, ballastmen, fencers, signal fitters, and labourers. Board IV., representing goods and passenger foremen, goods

and passenger porters, ticket examiners, number takers, carriage cleaners, gatemen, checkers, lampmen, and carters. Each Sectional Board is to consist of two represen-

tatives from each of the two districts of the line, and four representatives appointed by the directors.

The Central Conciliation Board will be formed of eight employees chosen from the four Sectional Boards (two from each Board) and an equal number of the company's representatives.

## NUMBER OF WORKPEOPLE EMPLOYED IN NON-TEXTILE FACTORIES, 1904.

THE Home Office have issued a Return\* giving the number of persons employed in non-textile factories in the United Kingdom in 1904, the date of the last triennial census. The census figures for workshops and laundries, and for textile factories, have already been published.+

The present Return shows that there were 3,067,780 persons employed in non-textile factories in 1904, as compared with 3,112,194 in 1901; a reduction of 44,414

<sup>\*</sup> Including Productive Department of Retail Distributive Societies

<sup>\*</sup> Cd. 3986. Price 2½d. † Cd. 3323 and Cd. 3586. The textile factory figures are summarised in the OARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for July, 1907.

persons, or 1.4 per cent. The decrease was confined to male employees, who numbered 2,450,113 in 1904, as against 2,507,770 in 1901, a reduction of 57,657, or 2'3 per cent.; the number of female employees was 617,667, as against 604,424, showing an increase of 13,243, or 2.1 per cent. The reduction was confined to Great Britain, Ireland showing a slight increase.

The number of children employed (half-timers under 14) was only 3,301 (2,406 males and 895 females). The number of "young persons," i.e., full-timers under 18, was 466,358 (301,309 males and 165,049 females).

The following Table shows the number of workpeople returned as employed in factories in the several industries in 1904:-

Flax scutching; fustian, rope and rag; lace warehouses   Gas	Flax scutching; fustian, rope and rag; lace   7,377   8,651   warehouses   Gas   Ga;767   17   Wood (sawmills, carpenters, &c.)   128,575   2,580   1   128,575   2,580   1   128,575   2,580   1   128,575   2,580   1   1   1   1   1   1   1   1   1	2c,238 16,058 62,784 31,155 29,325 73,022 70,446 31,41 31,718 25,741 10,285
Flax seutching; fustian, rope and rag; lace warehouses  Gas  Gas  Gas  Gas  Gas  Gas  Gas	Flax scitching; fustian, rope and rag; lace   7,377   8,681	16,058 62,784 31,155 29,325 73,025 70,446 31,441 31,718 25,741 10,285
Gas         62,767         17         62,767           Wood (sawmills, carpenters, &c.)         128,575         2,580         131,11           Hides, skins, furs         27,005         2,317         29,38           Clay, stone, &c. —         87,052         5,075         73,07           Bricks and plain tiles         67,952         5,075         73,07           China, carthenware and ornamental tiles         42,174         28,222         70,08           China, carthenware and ornamental tiles         42,174         28,222         70,08           Glass         31,235         31,255         31,355         31,47           Glass         28,363         3,355         34,7         31,425         31,425         31,425         31,425         31,425         31,425         31,425         31,425         31,425         31,425         31,425         31,425         31,425         31,425         31,425         31,422         20,44         41,956         41,656         41,656         41,956         41,656         41,42         48,799         131,122         21,434         41,956         34,650         34,650         34,650         34,650         34,650         34,650         34,650         36,672         36,672         36,672 <th>warehouses         62,767         17         17         17         17         17         17         17         17         18         18         17         17         17         17         17         17         17         17         18         18         17         18         18         17         18         3         35         35         35         35         35         35         35         35         35         35         36         36         31         25         70         38         10</th> <th>62,784 31,155 29,325 73,025 70,446 31,441 31,718 25,741 10,285</th>	warehouses         62,767         17         17         17         17         17         17         17         17         18         18         17         17         17         17         17         17         17         17         18         18         17         18         18         17         18         3         35         35         35         35         35         35         35         35         35         35         36         36         31         25         70         38         10	62,784 31,155 29,325 73,025 70,446 31,441 31,718 25,741 10,285
Gas	Gas	31,155 29,325 73,025 70,446 31,441 31,718 25,741 10,285
Wood (sawmills, carpenters, &c.)         128,775         2,580         131,74           Hides, skins, furs         27,005         2,317         23,317         23,317         23,317         23,317         23,317         23,317         23,317         23,317         23,317         25,703         73,00         70,00         73,00         70,00         73,00         73,00         70,00         73,00         70,00         73,00         70,00	Wood (sawmills, carpenters, &c.)     128,575     2,580     1       Hides, skins, furs     27,008     2,317     2,317       Clay, stone, &c.:-     67,052     6,952     6,952     6,952     6,952     6,952     6,952     6,952     6,952     6,952     6,952     6,952     6,952     6,952     6,952     6,952     6,952     6,952     6,952     6,952     1,24     28,272     2,272 <td>31,155 29,325 73,025 70,446 31,441 31,718 25,741 10,285</td>	31,155 29,325 73,025 70,446 31,441 31,718 25,741 10,285
Hides, skins, furs	Hides, skins, furs	29,325 73,025 70,446 31,441 31,718 25,741 10,285
Clay, stone, &c.:— Bricks and plain tiles China, earthenware and ornamental tiles A4.174 Lime and cement; masons, &c  Glass Associated and common tiles Associated and	Clay, stone, &c.:—     67,952     5,075       Bricks and plain tiles     42,174     28,272       China, earthenware and ornamental tiles     42,174     28,272       Lime and cement; masons, &c     31,258     183       Glass     28,363     3,355       Metals, extraction of:—     25,703     38       Other metals     10,178     107       Metals, founding and conversion of:—     110,556     1,663     1       Iron founding     110,556     1,663     1	73,022 70,446 31,441 31,718 25,741 10,285
Bricks and plain tiles	Bricks and plain tiles	70,446 31,441 31,718 25,741 10,285
China, earthenware and ornamental tiles	China, earthenware and ornamental tiles	70,446 31,441 31,718 25,741 10,285
Lime and cement; masons, &c	Lime and cement; masons, &c 31,258 183 Glass 28,363 3.355 Metals, extraction of: - 28,703 38 Other metals 10,178 107 Metals, founding and conversion of: - 110,556 1,663 1	31,441 31,718 25,741 10,285
Glass	Glass	31,718 25,741 10,28
Salass	Glass	31,718 25,741 10,28
Metals, extraction of i         25,703         38         25,703           Other metals          10,178         107         10,208           Metals, founding and conversion of :-         10,178         107         10,208           Iron mills          125,414         2,879         13,128         23,713         13,128         23,414         2,879         13,128         23,414         2,879         13,128         23,414         2,879         13,128         23,417         7,517         47,99         47,99         3,41,9         47,996         3,41,9         47,996         3,41,17         7,517         47,99         54,672         156         54,672         156         54,672         156         54,8         134,117         394         134,117         394         134,117         394         134,117         394         134,117         394         134,117         394         134,117         394         134,117         394         134,117         394         134,217         360         54,44         1,413         381,217         70,527         267         70,527         267         70,527         267         70,527         267         70,527         267         70,527         269         30,34	Metals, extraction of:     38       Smelting of iron        Smelting of iron        Other metals        Metals, founding and conversion of:        Iron founding	25.741 10,285
Smelting of iron	Smelting of iron        25,703     38        Other metals        10,178     107       Metals, founding and conversion of:—         110,556     1,663     1	10,28
Other metals	Other metals 10,178 107 ::  Metals, founding and conversion of:— Iron founding 110,556 1,663 1	10,28
Metals, founding and conversion of:—         110,556         1,663         112,2           Iron founding	Metals, founding and conversion of:—  Iron founding 110,556 1,663 1	12,219
Iron founding	Iron founding 110,556 1,663 1	
Iron mills	Iron mills 1,003 1	
Other metals		
Metals, galvanising, finishing, &c.         40,417         7,517         47,98           Machines, conveyances, appliances, tools:—         60ilermaking         41,996         3         3         54,672         156         54,8         54,672         156         54,8         54,672         156         54,8         54,8         52,8         54,8         54,8         52,8         54,9         77,0         70,5         70,7         70,5         70,5         70,7         70,5         70,5         70,5         70,5         70,7         70,5         310,7         70,5         70,5         70,5         70,5         70,5         70,5         70,5         70,5         70,5         70,5         70,5         70,5         70,5         70,5         70,5         70,5         70,5         70,5 </td <td></td> <td></td>		
Machines, conveyances, appliances, tools:—Boilermaking         41,956         3         44,956         3         44,956         3         44,956         3         44,956         3         44,956         54,672         156         54,8         156         54,8         156         54,8         156         54,8         156         54,8         134,117         394         134,117         394         120,257         267         70,557         267         70,557         267         70,557         267         70,557         267         70,557         267         70,557         267         70,557         267         70,557         267         70,557         267         70,557         267         70,557         267         70,557         267         70,557         267         70,557         310,75         310		23,45
Boilermaking	metals, galvanising, unishing, &c 40,417 7,517	47,934
Marine engineering		
Locomotives and auto-motors	Boilermaking 41,996 3	41,999
Locomotives and auto-motors	Marine engineering 54,672 156	54,828
Locomotives and auto-motors	Ship and boat building   134,117   394   1	34,511
Coaches, carriages, wagons, &c		70,824
Engineering (agricultural machinery, textile machinery, electrical & general engineering)   301,842   7,891   310,7	Coaches, carriages, wagons, &c 80,344 1,413	81,75
machinery, electrical & general engineering) Ordnance, small arms, swords, &c	Engineering (agricultural machinery, textile 302.842 7.801 3	
Ordnance, small arms, swords, &c.         41,637         931         42,627           Other (plumbing; heating and sanitary appliances; cycles; machine accessories; cutlery and tools; nails, screws, chains, &c.         120,434         29,629         150,6           Chemicals         82,920         15,280         98,2           Coopers; box, bag, and basket makers         23,938         9,994         38,7           Furniture trades; brush makers         67,996         17,654         85,6           Food and drink:-         34,369         24,134         58,5           Bread, biscuits, confectionery         34,369         24,134         58,5           Other food and drink trades         102,530         45,552         145,53           Tobacco, snuff, cigars         102,530         45,552         145,53         145,53           Tobacco, snuff, cigars         13,084         46,072         60,02         170,02         31,467         170,02         24,831         119,081         46,072         60,02         170,02         24,831         119,078         114,42         25,804         67,2         18,407         67,2         113,407         22,804         67,2         113,407         22,03         113,407         22,031         13,6         67,2         113,607 <t< td=""><td>machinery, electrical &amp; general engineering)</td><td>,, 5.</td></t<>	machinery, electrical & general engineering)	,, 5.
Other (plumbing; heating and sanitary appliances; cycles; machine accessories; appliances; cycles; machine accessories.         120,434         29,629         150.60         98,200         15,280         98,200         15,280         98,200         15,280         98,200         15,280         98,200         17,054         85,170         17,054         85,170         17,054         85,170         17,054         85,170         17,054         85,170         17,054         85,170         17,054         85,170         17,054         85,170         17,054         85,170         17,054		10 565
appliances; cycles; machine accessories; cutlery and tools; nails, screws, chains, &c.) Chemicals	Other (plumbing: heating and sanitary 120 424 20 620 7	
cuttery and tools; nalls, screws, chains, &c.) Chemicals	appliances cycles machine accessories	50,00
Chemicals	cuttery and tools: nails sorous chains to	
Coopers; box, bag, and basket makers         23,938         9,994         33,25           Funditure trades; brush makers         67,396         17,054         85,6           Food and drink:		-0
Furniture trades; brush makers 67,396   17,654   85,6   Food and drink :—	Consequent how and hard-state of the consequence of	
Food and drink:—    34,369   24,134   58,8   Bread, biscuits, confectionery   34,369   34,134   58,8   Brewing, malting, distilling   51,933   394   52,2   394   52,5   394   39		33,93
Bread, biscuits, confectionery		85,05
Brewing, malting, distilling   51.933   394   52.20     Other food and drink trades   102,530   45,552   148,6     Tobacco, snuff, cigars   102,530   45,552   148,6     Clothing:		
Other food and drink trades		58,50
Tobacco, snuff, cigars   8,509   25,603   34.1		52,32
Tobacco, snuff, cigars   8,569   25,603   34,10   10,10   15,084   46,072   60,000   10,		148,08
Clothing: -		34,11
Boots and shoes		3
Boots and shoes	Tailoring 13.084 46.072	60,05
Other clothing trades	Boots and shoes	
Ewellery, plate, fine instruments, fancy goods   41,442   25,804   67,2     Paper, printing, stationery:—	Other clothing trades	
Paper, printing, stationery:—     23,611     10,808     34,4       Bookbinding; machine ruling     17,258     27,632     44,5       Letterpress and lithographic printing     113,407     22,030     133,6       Other paper trades:     20,051     29,945     50,001       Other trades (electricity generation, &c. indiarubber and gutta-percha: explosives; and miscellaneous)     83,187     30,070     113,6		
Paper making		07,44
Bookbinding; machine ruling 17,258 27,652 44.4.		
Letterpress and lithographic printing 113,407 22,030 135, Other paper trades 20,801 29,945 50, Other trades (electricity generation, &c. indiarubber and gutta-percha: explosives; and miscellaneous)	Pool-binding 23,011 10,808	34,41
Other paper trades 20,801 29,945 50.2 Other trades (electricity generation, &c. india rubber and gutta-percha: explosives; and miscellaneous) 113,3		44,91
Other trades (electricity generation, &c. india- rubber and gutta-percha: explosives; and miscellaneous)	Letterpress and ittnographic printing   113,407   22,030   1	135,43
Other trades (electricity generation, &c. india- rubber and gutta-percha: explosives; and miscellaneous)	Other paper trades 20,801 29,945	50,74
miscellaneous)	Other trades (electricity generation, &c. india-   83,187   30,070   1	113,25
	rubber and gutta-percha: explosives; and	150500
Total Non Toutile Featories	miscellaneous)	
Total Non Toutile Pasteries		
lotal, Non-Textile Factories   2,450,113   617,667   3,067,7	Total, Non-Textile Factories 2,450,113 617,667 3,0	displace of

#### REPORT OF CENTRAL (UNEMPLOYED) BODY FOR LONDON, 1906-7.

THE Central (Unemployed) Body for London have issued a Report upon their work during the period from May 12th, 1906, to June 30th, 1907.

The total number of persons registered by Distress Committees in London (exclusive of Battersea) during the period was 27,570, of whom 26,155 were men and boys, and 1,415 women and girls. The corresponding numbers for 1905-6 were 36,448, 35,923 being males and 525 females. There was thus a reduction in 1906-7 as compared with 1905-6 of 8,878 persons: the reduction was principally in the building trades, in which the number of applicants was 8,549, as against 14,856 in the previous year; and there were also reductions in the "transport and general labour" group (12,350 against 13,912) and in the wood-working group (674 against 1,635).

Although 45 per cent. of the applicants were under 35 years of age, an analysis of the figures shows that the later ages supply a larger number of unemployed in proportion. Thus, while the number of applicants aged 20-24 represented a proportion of 14.8 per thousand of the occupied males between those ages in London at the census of 1901, the proportion rises to 22.4 per thousand for the age group 25-34, and to 27.0 per thousand for the age group 35-44.

\*P. S. King & Son, Westminster. Price 1s. A Report for the period 1905-6 has also been published (same price and publishers).

Of the applicants registered during 1906-7, 7,160 had also registered during the previous season. Taking those who had been assisted in the previous year, it is found that 42.6 per cent. reapplied in 1906-7; the proportion among those who had not been assisted was 18.0 per cent. One Distress Committee reported that "a large number of applicants considered that, having once 'worked for the unemployed,' they were entitled to do so whenever such work was available.

The number of persons for whom employment was found was 5,740, of whom 5,432 were men, and 308 women.

Many of the Distress Committees call attention to the difficulty of giving preference to certain classes of applicants in accordance with the regulations of the Local Government Board and of the Central Body, i.e., to those "usually in regular work, but temporarily unable to find employment," as distinguished from those in a "normal condition of chronic casual employment." Several Committees express the opinion that few of those registering were men of the type whom the Unemployed Workmen Act was primarily intended to assist, the majority of the applicants being casual workers. An analysis included in the Report indicates that about one-quarter of those who received relief work belong to the "preferential" class, and about three-quarters to the casual class.

Nearly all the Committees call attention to the improvement in health and physique brought about by a spell of regular work and food after a prolonged period of unemployment; and many also emphasise the advantage of enabling the men to keep their homes together, and of saving them from contact with the Poor Law. As to any permanent benefit being conferred on the men, however, a good deal of doubt is expressed by several Committees. Men after being discharged from relief work often failed to obtain permanent work elsewhere.

Non-Colony work was generally found more attractive to the applicants than Colony work, but several Committees consider that Colony work (i.e., work at Hollesley Bay, Fambridge, &c.) was more advantageous, either as being more conducive to the physical and social wellbeing of the men, or as affording a better test of character and of the desire for work.

The total number of persons emigrated during the season 1906-7, i.e., November, 1906-August, 1907, was 5,415, consisting of 958 married men, with their wives and 2,657 children; 27 widows and widowers; and 815 single men. Omitting the wives and children, the number of heads of families and single persons emigrated was 1,800; of whom 1,048, or nearly 60 per cent., were 30 years of age or under, and only 173 were over 40 years of age. 1,330 of the cases were town-born, and 470 country-born. It is reported that the proportion of failures among the Central Body's emigrants is very

The following are among the general conclusions at which the Central Body have arrived as the result of three years' work :-

Training on the land is useless from a permanent point of view unless there is some assured settlement for the men when trained. Londoners can be made fit for country life, but only a proportion of those placed under training would be suitable for small holdings.

The first results of emigration are encouraging, but there is a temptation to over-emphasise emigration as a remedy.

The Women's Work Department has possibilities of usefulness; but there is a danger of women becoming the principal wage-earners, and also of their leaving other employment to enter the workrooms because of their better rate of pay and conditions.

More technical education is desirable as a preparation for life. Boy labour, under present conditions, supplying as it does large numbers of unskilled and untrained labourers at the age of 18 to 20 years, is a difficulty which has to be met. The preponderance of casual labourers and the under-employment of such men is largely responsible for present difficulties.

The work of the Employment Exchanges is making steady progress, but there is still insufficient co-operation on the part of employers and local authorities.

It is impossible to deal adequately with unemployment by local authorities, and in any future legislation the question should be dealt with nationally.

#### EMPLOYMENT IN THE COLONIES.\*

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

#### Canada.

All emigrants sent out by British charitable societies, or by public funds, must obtain certificates from the Canadian emigration authorities, Charing Cross, London, that they are suitable settlers for Canada. All emigrants landing in Canada till the end of 1908 must possess 25 dols. at the time of landing (unless they have purchased tickets to Canada before March 28th last and are otherwise suitable), and must, in addition, in every case, have money for their inland railway fares—unless they can satisfy the emigration officers at the time of landing that they are going to already assured employment immediately on arrival, or will be cared for by friends. Children, however, who are emigrated by societies and sent to a receiving home in Canada, need not possess the 25 dols. There is a constant demand for female servants, and for farmers with a little capital. There is a large demand for farm labourers in the North-West; the demand in Ontario is not so great, but competent men can always obtain work. The supply of workers on railway construction is now sufficient, so that no one should now emigrate to Canada in the hope of obtaining this kind of work. Skilled coal miners have been wanted in parts of Nova Scotia, but not in British Columbia. During last March hundreds of mechanics and labourers were out of work in Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton, Edmonton, and British Columbia; employment is better now, but persons of this class should not go out unless they go to assured work, or have ample means of their own.

#### Australia.

Free, assisted, or nominated passages are now being granted—mainly to farmers, farm labourers, and female servants-by the Governments of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and Western Australia. There is an excellent demand for members of these classes. The general demand for mechanics is not so good. In New South Wales, however, work has been brisk for men in nearly all trades with the exception of boiler makers, iron shipbuilders, and bootmakers. In this and the other States the best openings as a rule are for carpenters, bricklayers, masons, and blacksmiths. They will generally do better by going to the country towns than by staying in the capitals. Mechanics are often wanted on sheep and cattle stations also, but they would work there as general hands in the ordinary way, and as mechanics only when wanted.

#### New Zealand

Reduced passages to New Zealand may be granted on certain conditions to farmers, farm labourers, and domestic servants. There is a good demand for these classes. The demand for mechanics is not so general; employment has been good, but the local supply of men has been mostly sufficient; but carriage builders, painters, carpenters, and cabinet makers have been wanted in places. Female machinists are wanted in the boot factories and woollen mills at Christchurch, Auckland, Dunedin, and elsewhere.

#### South Africa.

Cape Colony.—The Annual Report of the Government Labour Bureau states: "It is impossible to describe the condition of the labour market otherwise than as deplorable. The year 1906 was spoken of as the worst experienced for many years, but the year 1907 has been worse." There is now an excess of mechanics in the building, engineering and other trades in all the principal towns of the Colony. In Cape Town work for artisans is almost unobtainable. In Kimberley the supply of artisans, clerks, shop assistants, labourers and miners is much in excess of the demand. In East London the building trade is very dull. Considerable distress prevails in consequence in these and other places.

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

The congestion amongst unskilled labourers has been somewhat relieved by the engagement of men for railway construction and municipal works.

Natal.—The supply of labour is more than sufficient.

Transvaal.—Persons are warned against going to the Transvaal in search of work. A large number of those now there cannot obtain employment, and considerable distress and privation prevail. The Railway Commission recommend reductions in the staffs of all departments. Various mines have offered to take on some of the unemployed as unskilled labourers in place of Kaffirs, but many of the men refused to accept such work; the wages of those that accepted it range from about 3s. 6d. to 5s. 10d. a shift (usually 10 hours).

Orange River Colony.—There are no openings for British emigrants, the local supply of labour being excessive. Those entering the colony require permits: the Permit Offices at Cape Town, Durban, and Laurenço Marques, where such permits used to be obtained, have just been abolished; permits are now issued on application to the Colonial Secretary, Bloemfontein.

#### LABOUR ABROAD.

[Note.—The following reports include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment in foreign countries, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in these countries are, however, not the same as those for the United Kingdom, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot be properly used with those on p. 133 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that in foreign countries. For further information on the subject of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries, see p. 104 of Cd. 2337 of 1904.)]

#### FRANCE.

Employment in March.\*—Employment in the building trades continued to improve, but in the metal trades there was an accentuation of the decline previously noted. In the textile trades the decline continued in most of the Nord centres; in the Vosges and Ardennes employment continued fair; in the smaller centres of Maine-et-Loire and Deux-Sèvres it was only moderate. Among silk weavers in the St. Etienne and Lyons districts there was an increase in the number of looms standing idle. In the garment-making trades employ-ment improved, and in the printing and bookbinding trades it continued satisfactory. There was still much unemployment among tin box makers in Brittany, and among leather dressers in the provinces. The proportion of coopers out of work increased; among carriage builders in Paris it was about the same as in February. Employment continued to improve for vineyard workers in the South of France, owing to the necessity of finishing work hindered by the bad weather. Forestry work terminated in most centres, but the workpeople discharged found employment in agriculture.

Returns showing the number of members unemployed in March were received by the French Labour Department from 1,016 Trade Unions, with an aggregate membership of 210,970. Excluding returns from the miners' Unions in the Pas-de-Calais department, 10.5 per cent. of the members were described as unemployed, as compared with 10.6 per cent. in the previous month, and 7.4 per cent. in March, 1907.

Coal Mining in March. - The average number of days worked per week by persons employed under-ground in coal mines in France during March was 5.76, as compared with 6.01 in February, and 5.99 in March, 1907. Taking surface and underground workers together 53.81 per cent. worked full time (6 days or over per week) and 45.91 per cent. from 5 to 6 days. In the previous month the corresponding percentages were 97.17 and 2.66, and in March, 1907, 95.53 and 4.43.

Labour Disputes in March.-One hundred and fortyseven disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in March, compared with 118 in the previous month, and 128† in March, 1907.

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

In 139 of the new disputes 8,622 workpeople took part, as compared with 7,432 workpeople who took part in 113 of the February disputes, and 16,702 who took part in 105 of the disputes in March, 1907. The trades in which the largest number of disputes occurred were building (85), textile (17), agriculture (11), metal (8), pottery and glass (8), and transport and warehousing (6). Of 129 new and old disputes of which the results were reported, 17 terminated in favour of the workpeople and 79 in favour of the employers, while 33 were compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in March.—Six instances of recourse to the law on conciliation and arbitration were reported to the French Labour Department as having occurred in March. In four cases conciliation committees were formed, and these succeeded in settling one dispute. In the two other cases the employers declined to take part in conciliation proceedings.

Dispute in the Building Trades at Paris.—A despatch from H.M. Ambassador at Paris to the Foreign Office, dated April 22nd, states that the lock-out of 20,000 masons, which began at Paris on April 5th (see April GAZETTE, p. 108), terminated without any definite result being arrived at. The employers are said to have agreed to take back only those workmen who submitted to certain new conditions, but it appears that in many cases the men returned to work without doing so. The workmen's Union rejected these conditions on behalf of the men, but in some cases the latter have agreed to

Regulations for Lead Works: New Decree.\*—A Presidential Decree, issued April 23rd, 1908, prescribes a number of rules for the health and safety of workpeople employed in certain occupations involving the use of lead. According to these the smelting of lead may only be carried on in a ventilated place detached from the other workshops, and there must be chimneys or other suitable means for carrying away the fumes given off. In all work with lead oxides or other lead compounds where there is a possibility of lead dust being formed, the materials must be in a moist state wherever possible. If the work cannot be done in contact with water or other liquid it must be carried on by mechanical means in tightly closed apparatus. Where neither of these methods is possible an apparatus with a strong suction must be installed, and so placed as to carry off noxious products. Where this also is impossible the workpeople must wear respiration masks. The handling of oxides and other lead compounds with bare hands is prohibited; suitable gloves or tools must be provided by the employer. The benches, floors and walls of workrooms must be regularly cleaned, and no article of food or drink must be brought into the workrooms. Employers must provide overalls and facilities for washing, and post notices in conspicuous places calling attention to the hygienic measures to be observed. The Decree is to come into force a year after the date of issue.

#### GERMANY.

Employment in March. +- The usual spring revival in employment was experienced to a less degree than in previous years. This was especially so in the building and other seasonal trades, above all in the manufacture of ready-made clothing. In coalmining in the Ruhr district there was a further decline owing to the weakening demands of other industries. In lignite mining there was, in addition, a falling off in the demand for house fuel owing to the comparatively mild weather. In steel works and rolling mills, with the exception of the Saar district and Alsace-Lorraine, employment in many cases was worse than a year ago. In the engineering trades there was little change, but the branches engaged in the manufacture of agricultural machinery benefited by the resumption of

agricultural work. In the electrical and chemical trades employment was still satisfactory on the whole, but in the latter there was a decline owing to the unfavourable condition of the American market. The toy-making trade was especially affected by this cause. In the textile industry the spinning branches in general continued busy on old orders; the weaving branches continued depressed. In inland navigation the improvement in the Elbe shipping experienced at this time in previous years was entirely absent, and on the Rhine, in general, employment was not satisfactory.

May, 1908.

Unemployment in First Quarter of 1908.—Returns relating to unemployment during the first quarter of 1908 were supplied to the Imperial Statistical Office by Trade Unions with an aggregate membership at the end of the quarter of 1,297,953. From certain branches of the Unions reporting, however, no returns as to the numbers out of work were available; omitting these, the membership covered was 1,292,695, of whom 31,733 (or 2.5 per cent.) were unemployed on March 28th, as compared with 35,319 (or 2.7 per cent.) on February 22nd, and 38,058 (or 2.9 per cent.) on January 25th. The percentage at the end of March, 1907, was 1.3. It should be added that these figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentage for the United Kingdom given on page 133.

The following Table shows, for each of the six principal Unions for which figures are available, the membership at the end of the first quarter of 1908, the percentage of members returned as out of work on one day in each month of the quarter, and the corresponding percentage for the end of the first quarter of 1907.

Name of Union.	Membership on March 28th.		entage of ned as U		
	1908.	Mar. 28, 1908.	Feb. 22, 1908.	Jan. 25, 1908.	Mar. 30,
Metal Workers (Soc. Dem.) Engineers & Metal Workers (Hirsch-Duncker)	368,436 40,449	2.7	2.8	2.6 1.1	0.6
Woodworkers	148,799	4.6 0.1	4'9	2.8 0.1	2'5
Transport Workers	52,719 89,611	1.2	2.1 5.1	2.3	0.6

#### HOLLAND.†

Employment in March.—In the building trades the usual spring revival of employment was experienced nearly everywhere, but to a less degree than in previous years. In the larger metal and engineering establishments employment continued satisfactory; in ship building it was moderate. Employment in the textile trades was still slack, but the improvement in the garment making trades continued; in the boot and shoe trades, however. with local exceptions, there was still no improvement. In the majority of branches of the woodworking trades employment was slack. Printers were on the whole busier than last month. In bulb growing employment was regular, though in the case of seasonal workers somewhat interfered with by the unfavourable weather. There was general slackness in breweries and distilleries, but margarine makers were busier than in February.

Labour Disputes in March.—Fifteen strikes, 14 of which directly affected 389 workpeople, were reported as having commenced in March. Ten strikes came to an end during the month, including 4 which had begun in previous months. The results were known in 7 cases. One of these resulted in favour of the workpeople, and 5 in favour of the employers, while one was compromised. One lock-out began in March, and was still in progress at the end of the month.

#### BELGIUM.

Employment in March .- According to returns made to the Belgian Labour Department, 6:0 per cent. of the 47,647 members of 226 Trade Unions reporting were unemployed towards the latter part of the month, as compared with 7.3 per cent. in the previous month, and ory per cent. a year ago. The depression in the diamond industry continued to affect the percentage. (As regards these figures see note under "Labour Abroad" on

Labour Disputes in March.—Fourteen strikes, affecting 1,989 workpeople, and one lock-out of 800 cigar makers, were reported to the Belgian Labour Department as having begun in March. The termination of 9 strikes was reported. Two of these (involving 110 strikers) ended in favour of the workpeople and 5 (involving 1,051 strikers) in favour of the employers, while 2 (involving 85 strikers) were compromised.

#### NORWAY.\*

Employment in March.—Of 10,497 members of Trade Unions making Returns to the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics, 3'9 per cent. were unemployed at the end of the month. (As regards these figures see note under "Labour Abroad" on p. 139).

The following Table shows, for the same Unions, the

membership and percentage unemployed in each group of trades at the end of March, as compared with a month ago and a year ago :-

	M	Membership.			Percentage Unemployed at end of		
Group of Trades.	Mar., 1908.	Feb., 1908.	Mar.,	Mar., 1908.	Feb., 1908.	Mar.,	
Metal Workers and Moulders Carpenters, &c Painters and Masons Boot and Shoe Makers Printers Cabinet Makers Wood Pulp and Paper Makers Bakers	6,159 768 853 261 879 395 982	5,999 753 845 252 874 325 959	6,054 293 661 199 953 344 900	1'3 10'7 23'9 0'4 1'4 0'5 0'2 14'0	1.3 18.3 30.3  0.6 0.9 0.7	1'3 6'3 16'8 2'5 3'6  0'1	
Total	10,497	10,192	10,068	3.9	5'0	3.0	

#### ITALY.

Law prohibiting Night Work in Bakeries and Confectionery works, +-A law of March 22nd, 1908, prohibits nightwork in bakeries and confectionery works in Italy. It is provided that no work shall be done between the hours of 9 p.m. and 4 a.m., except on Saturday evening, when work may be carried on up till 11 p.m.

The prohibition applies to all preparatory fermenting processes, heating of ovens, and kneading, mixing and

baking of bread and confectionery.

The factory and sanitary inspectors and the police are responsible for the execution of the law, which is to come into force 15 days after publication of the regulations for its application.

#### UNITED STATES.

Employment and Wages in Textile Trade, New England and New York States. 1—Reductions in wages averaging 10 per cent. took place in cotton cloth, yarn and thread mills employing 43,500 workpeople in New England and in the State of New York on April 13th. Since the beginning of the general reduction (see April GAZETTE, p. 109) the wages of 153,500 mill hands in this district have been reduced—144,000 of these being employed in New England and 9,500 in New York

Four thread mills in Pawtucket and Central Falls (Rhode Island) employing 2,500 operatives, reduced their running time to 5 days per week from April 11th

### REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES

IN APRIL.

#### COAL MINING.

(Based on 496 Returns-438 from Employers, 45 from Trade Unions, and 13 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the coal mining industry continued good during April. It was about the same as a year ago. Comparison with a month ago is affected by

Returns relating to 1,344 pits employing 630,763 workpeople show that the average number of days\* worked per week during the four weeks ended April 25th, 1908, was 5'05 as compared with 5'49 in March (when no time was lost on account of holidays), and 5.17 in April, 1907. In April, 1908, holidays accounted for 0.65 of a day per week; and in April, 1907, for 0.57 of a day per week.

Of the 630,763 workpeople covered by the Returns 443,577 (70.3 per cent.) were employed at pits working 20 or more days during the four weeks ended April 25th, 1908, while 58,975 (9.4 per cent. of the whole) were employed at pits working 22 days or more.

The highest average number of days worked per week in April was in Durham (5.21), and the lowest in Nottingham and Leicester (4.44).

The following Table shows the average number of days per week worked by the pits during the four weeks ended April 25th, 1908, together with the figures for similar periods in March, 1908, and April, 1907:—

Districts.	No. of Workpeople employed in April, 1908, at the	worked Collie	number oper week eries in Feeks ende	by the	or De	ase(+) crease April, as com-
	Collieries included in the Table.	April 25th, 1908.†	Mar. 21st, 1908.	April 20th, 1907.†	A m'nth ago.	A
ENGLAND & WALES.		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland	43,763	5'20	5'47	5.18	- '27	+ '02
Durham	114,178	5'21	5'45	5'24	- '24	- '03
Cumberland	7,336	4'90	5'49	5'26	- '59	- '36
South Yorkshire	64,906	5'08	5'73	5'29	- 65	- '21
West Yorkshire	23,953	4'86	5'42	5'00	- '56	- '14
Lancashire and Cheshire	57,085	4'84	5'47	5'07	- '63	
Derbyshire	41,223	4.86	5'67	4.72	81	+ '14
Nottingham and Leicester	33,051	4'44	4'75	4'54	31	
Staffordshire Warwick, Worcester, and	28,042	4'96	5.65	4'94	- '69	+ '02
Salop	11,149	4'91	5'56	4'84	- '65	+ '07
Gloucester and Somerset	8,104	5'12	5'29	4.71	- '17	+ '41
North Wales	11,196	5'03	5'57	5'24	- '54	- '21
South Wales and Mon	139,270	5'18	5'72	5'42	- '54	- '24
England and Wales	583,256	5-04	5.83	5.18	- •49	- •11
SCOTLAND.				****		3
West Scotland	23,950	5.10	5'04	5.38	+ '06	
The Lothians	4,416	4'98	4 92	5 68	+ '06	- '70
Fife	18,611	5'20	4.73	5.40	-	011100000
SCOTLAND	46,977	5.13	4.91	5.42	+ .83	- •29
IRELAND	530	5'15	5'23	4.78	08	+ '37
United Kingdom	630,763	8.08	5-49	5-17	- •44	18

Compared with a month ago (after making allowance for holidays), there was some improvement in all districts in England and Wales. In Nottingham and Leicester employment was better owing to the termination of a dispute. Employment in Scotland showed an improvement, which was greatest in Fife, where it amounted to about half-a-day per week. Compared with a year ago employment in the Northern Counties and in South Wales showed little change. There was some decline in Yorkshire and in Lancashire and Cheshire. Employment in Derbyshire and Staffordshire was better. In

Journal Officiel de la Republique Française, April 29th, 1908. Reichs-Arbeitsblatt (Journal of the German Labour Departme

<sup>†</sup> Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek (Journal of the Dutch Central Statistical Office).

Information supplied by the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics.

Bolletting dell' Ufficio del Lavoro (Journal of the Italian Labour Department),

nuacu, 1900:

† Based on despatches to the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul-General at New York, dated April 13th and 16th respectively.

<sup>\*</sup> The figures in this article only show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal was hewn and wound at the collieries included in the returns received. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons employed at these collieries worked the whole number of

days.
† Easter holidays are included in these periods.

Scotland there was a decline, which was most marked in the Lothians.

The following Table shows the numbers employed and the average number of days worked per week, according to the principal kind of coal produced at the pits at which the workpeople were engaged. At pits employing 203,967 workpeople it was not found possible to state which class of coal predominated, and they are entered in the Table under the description "mixed." Compared with a year ago there was a decline in employment at pits producing all classes of coal except house coal, which showed a slight improvement.

Description of Coal.	No. of Workpeople employed in April, 1908, at the	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in Four Weeks ended				crease Apr., s com-
	Collieries included in the Table.	April 25th, 1908.*	Mar. 21st, 1908.	April 20th, 1907.*	A m'nth ago.	A year ago.
Anthracite	7,487 32,679 40,431 82,025 264,174 203,967	Days. 5'11 5'19 5'16 4'88 5'07 5'04  6'05	Days. 5'72 5'47 5'46 5'36 5'53 5'48	Days. 5'31 5'34 5'21 4'81 5'25 5'17  8-17	Days '61 - '28 - '30 - '48 - '46 - '44 - '44	- '05 + '07 - '18 - '13

The Exports of coal, coke, and manufactured fuel in April, 1908, amounted to 5,163,908 tons, or 104,686 tons more than in March, 1908, but 118,414 tons less than in April, 1907.

## IRON, SHALE, AND OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING.

(Based on 88 Returns—72 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 2 from Trade Unions, and 14 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in iron mines continued fairly good, but was not so good as a year ago. It continued good in shale mines.

Employment continued fair in tin and copper mines, and good in lead mines. In quarries it was moderate on the whole.

#### Mining.

Iron Mining.—During the four weeks ended April 25th, 1908, the average number of days per week worked by all mines and open works included in the Returns was 5.54, as compared with 5.76 days a month ago, and 5.67 days a year ago. The April figures are, however, affected by the Easter holidays, the time lost through these amounting to 0.26 of a day both in 1908 and 1907.

The following Table summarises the Returns received:—

Districts.	No. em- ployed in April, 1908, at the	worke	Number ed per we n 4 week	of Days eek by s ended	Increase Decrease April, 1 compar	e (-) in
	Mines included in the Returns.	April 25th, 1908.*	Mar. 21st 1908.	April 20th, 1907.*	A month ago.	A year ago.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cleveland	7,222	5'60	5.80	5'79	- 0'20	- 0.10
Cumberland and Lancashire	4,928	5'45	5.70	5.63	- 0'25	- 0.18
Scotland	734	5'64	5'68	5'67	- 0.04	- 0.03
Other Districts	2,517	5'49	5.80	5'44	- 0.31	+ 0.02
All Districts	15,401	B-54	B•76	B-67	- 0.22	- 0.13

Of the total number of workpeople covered by the Returns 80.3 per cent. were employed in mines working 22 or more days during the four weeks ended April 25th, as compared with 87.9 per cent. a year ago.

Shale Mining.—At the mines respecting which Returns

Shale Mining.—At the mines respecting which Returns have been received 3,304 workpeople were employed in the four weeks ended April 25th, as compared with 3,349 a month ago, and 3,210 a year ago. The average weekly number of days worked in the four weeks ended April 25th, 1908, was 5'74, as compared with 5'77 a month ago, and 5'69 a year ago. These averages are not affected by holidays.

Tin and Copper Mining.—Employment continued fairly good in Cornwall.

Lead Mining.—Employment continued good in North Wales, in Derbyshire, and in Weardale.

#### Quarrying.

Slate.—In North Wales employment was fairly good in Carnarvonshire, but was slack at Festiniog, with some short time. At Ballachulish (Argyllshire) it continued fair.

Granite.—Employment in Leicestershire was good. In Aberdeenshire it was reported as bad. It was bad in the Penryn district, but showed some improvement compared with a month ago on Dartmoor.

Limestone.—In Cumberland employment continued bad; in Weardale it was good. In Cleveland it continued fairly good. In North Wales employment was fair, but somewhat affected by the bad weather. In the Plymouth district it was dull. In the Somerset blue lias quarries it was bad.

Other Stone.—In the Forfarshire quarries employment was bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. With sandstone quarrymen in North Wales it was on the whole fair. In the Sheffield and Barnsley district employment was moderate with quarrymen; with grindstone makers at Rotherham it was quiet. In the Bakewell chert quarries it was good, and overtime was worked. Employment continued good in the road-material quarries at Clee Hill. At the Bath stone quarries, and at the Gloucestershire pennant stone quarries it was dull.

Settmaking.—Employment was fair at Glasgow, Airdrie, and Aberdeen. In North Wales it was slack. It was bad in Leicestershire, and worse than a month ago. In the Clee Hill district it was dull.

China Clay.—Employment in the St. Austell district was fair, and better than a month ago.

#### PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

(Based on 114 Returns—108 from Employers, 3 from Trade Unions, and 3 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this industry during April, 1908, continued fair on the whole. It was slightly better than a month ago, but considerably worse than a year ago.

Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters, employing over 22,000 workpeople, show that the total number of furnaces in blast at the end of April, 1908, was 293, as compared with 290\* in March, 1908, and 349 in April, 1907. During April, 10 furnaces were re-lit (5 in Lanarkshire, 3 in South Yorkshire, 1 in Derbyshire, and 1 in South Wales), while 4 were damped down (3 in South Yorkshire and 1 in Ayrshire), and 3 were blown out (1 each in South Yorkshire, Cumberland, and Lanarkshire).

The Returns are summarised in the following Table:-

Districts.	Number of the Return	f Furnaces, i rns, in Blast	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Apr., 1908, as compared with			
Diamois	April, 1908.	Mar., 1908.	April,	A month ago.	A year ago,	
ENGLAND & WALES-		on accuracy				
Cleveland	78	78	89		-11	
Cumberland & Lancs.	24	25*	38	- r	-14	
S. and S.W. Yorks	14	15	16	- I	- 2	
Derby & Nottingham	35	34*	43	+ 1	- 8	
Leicester, Lincoln, and Northampton	26	26	27		- z	
Stafford & Worcester	34	34	36		- 2	
S.Wales & Monmouth	13	12	16	+ 1	- 3	
Other districts	6	6	6			
England & Wales	230	230*	271		-41	
Scotland	63	60*	78	+ 3	-15	
Total	293	290*	849	+ 3	-56	

<sup>\*</sup> Revised Figure

The Imports of iron ore in April, 1908, amounted to 480,769 tons, or 17,066 tons less than in March, 1908, and 192,109 tons less than in April, 1907.

May, 1908.

The Exports of pig iron from the United Kingdom in April, 1908, amounted to 110,721 tons, or 4,880 tons less than in March, 1908, and 76,550 tons less than in April, 1907.

#### IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

{Based on 213 Returns—196 from Employers, received partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent; 6 from Trade Unions; and 11 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works showed a decline as compared with both a month ago and a year ago.

The volume of employment (i.e., number employed multiplied by the number of shifts worked) during the week ended April 18th, 1908, at the works from which Returns were received was 2.8 per cent. less than in the week ended March 21st, 1908, and 12.8 per cent. less than a year ago.

The aggregate number of shifts worked during the week ended April 18th, 1908, by all the workpeople included in the Returns was about 469,000, as compared with 482,700 a month ago, and 537,700 a year ago.

Number of Workpeople Average Number of

		loyed by king Ret			worked 1	per man.
-	In week ended	decreas	se (+) or se (-) as red with	In week ended	decreas	e (+) or e (-) as red with
	April 18th, 1908.	A month ago.	A year ago.	April 18th, 1908.	A month ago.	A year ago.
Departments.		62				
IRON: Puddling Forges Rolling Mills Forging Founding Other Departments Mechanics, Labourers	9,815 3,900 440 1,813 661 1,687	- 143 - 454 + 6 - 131 - 7 + 21	- 826 - 106 - 82 - 336 - 24 + 6	4.61 4.25 5.54 5.87 5.53 5.50	+ 0'09 + 0'04 + 0'25 - 0'39 + 0'09	- 0.01 - 0.01 + 0.08 - 0.12 - 0.38 - 0.02
Total, Iron	18,316	+ 708	-1,458	4.78	+ 0.04	- 0-87
STEEL: Open Hearth Melting Furnaces	7.745	- 636	-1,122	5'79	- 0'02	- 0.11
Crucible Furnaces Bessemer Converters Rolling Mills Forging and Pressing Founding Other Departments Mechanics, Labourers	547 1,289 13,817 2,951 7,434 6,667 7,352	- 3 - 162 - 855 - 35 - 20 - 190 - 182	- 23 - 407 -2,592 + 33 - 750 - 104 -1,329	4'18 5'79 5'19 5'47 5'92 5'84 5'84	- 0'54 + 0'69 + 0'05 + 0'02 	- 1'27 + 0'40 - 0'31 - 0'19 + 0'04 - 0'04 - 0'11
Total, Steel	47,802	-2,083	-6,294	8-59	+ 0.21	- 0.16
IRON OR STEEL (not distinguished): Rolling Mills Forging and Pressing Founding Other Departments Mechanics, Labourers	10,634 728 741 2,902 6,220	- 35 - 63 - 3 + 49 - 39	- 361 + 13 - 34 - 8 - 25	4'98 5'44 5'82 5'85 5'77	+ 0.02 + 0.03 + 0.03 + 0.03	- 0.36 + 0.06 - 0.15 - 0.06
Total, Iron or Steel (not distinguished)	21,225	- 91	- 415	5-38	+ 0.05	- 0.20
Grand Total	87,343	- 2,882	-8,167	5.37	+ 0.02	- 0.26
Districts.  Northumberland & Durham Cleveland Sheffield and Rotherham Leeds, Bradford and other Yorkshire Towns Cumberland, Lancs, & Ches. Staffordshire	9,935 7,826 16,403 4,534 7,775 9,993	- 569 - 91 - 168 - 8 - 821 - 239	-2,28t - 308 - 442 - 92 -2,345 - 4	5'11 5'61 5'54 5'46 4'79 5'43	+ 0'03 - 0'04 + 0'07 - 0'21 + 0'11	- 0.21 - 0.02 - 0.12 - 0.13
Other Midland Counties Wales and Monmouth	4,899 9,474	+ 84 - 775	- 255 - 837	5.30	- 0'10 + 0'23	- 0.09 - 0.09
Total, England and Wales Scotland	70,839 16,504	-2,587 - 295	-6,564 -1,603	5°38 5°38	+ 0'02	- 0.55 - 0.52
Total	87,343	-2,882	-8,167	5.37	+ 0.02	- 0.26
	CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF		AND THE PERSON NAMED IN	DATE OF THE PARTY OF		270 TO 100 TO 10

Compared with a month ago there were decreases in the number of workpeople employed in all districts except "Other Midland Counties"; the decreases were greatest in the Cumberland and Lancashire, Wales and Monmouth, and Northumberland and Durham districts. The number employed was less than a year ago in all districts, except in Staffordshire, where there was no change. As regards the departments, Open Hearth melting furnaces and the steel rolling mills showed the

The average number of shifts per may 5:37, as compared with 5:35 a month ago, year ago. Compared with a month ago, worked showed an increase in a majority of the ments, the most marked increase being in the Book with this exception both the increases and the decrease were unimportant. As regards districts, the increase in the average number of shifts was most marked in Wales and Monmouth (0:23); while in Cumberland and Lancashire there was a decrease of 0:21.

Compared with a year ago there was a decline in nearly all the departments, and in every district, amounting on the whole to 0.26 of a shift. The decline was greatest in the Cumberland and Lancashire, and in the Northumberland and Durham districts.

The Imports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof during April, 1908, amounted to 95,191 tons, or 11,679 tons less than in March, 1908, but 31,095 tons more than in April, 1907.

The Exports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof (excluding pig and puddled iron, and tinned plates and black plates for tinning) during April, 1908, amounted to 217,446 tons, or 24,845 tons more than in March, 1908, but 28,201 tons less than in April, 1907.

## TINPLATE WORKS AND STEEL SHEET MILLS.

(Based on 57 Returns—55 from Employers, 1 from a Trade Union, and 1 from a Local Correspondent.)

EMPLOYMENT during April was good. It was better than a month ago, and the same as a year ago.

At the works covered by the Returns, 386 tinplate and 51 sheet mills were working at the end of April, as compared with 385 and 45 respectively in March, 1908, and 386 and 51 in April, 1907.

The following Table gives particulars of the numbers of tinplate and sheet mills reported to the Department as working at the end of April, 1908, March, 1908, and April, 1907. The works to which these Returns relate are chiefly in South Wales and Monmouthshire, and employ about 22,000 workpeople.

	Apri	l, 1908.	March	, 1go8.	Number of Works	, 1907.
	Number of Works open,*	Number of Mills in operation.	Number of Works open.*	Number of Mills in operation.	Number of Works open.*	Number of Mills in operation.
Tinplate Mills Sheet Mills	74 8	386 51	75 7	385 45	76	386 51
Total	82	437	82	430	84	437

**Exports.**—The Table below shows the quantity of tinned plates and tinned sheets, and of black plates for tinning, exported during the months stated:—

<u> </u>	April,	Mar.,	April,	Increase Decrease April, 19 compared	e (-) in go8, as	
	1908.	1908.	1907.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
	Ti	inned Plat	es and Ti	nned Sheet	s.	
To United States , British East Indies , Germany	Tons. 7,426 3,965 2,622 2,745 2,601 16,425	Tons. 4,883 3,816 3,170 2,429 2,152 20,940	Tons. 6,191 4,500 3,598 1,903 2,256 17,428	Tons. + 2,543 + 149 - 548 + 316 + 449 - 4,515	Tons. + 1,235 - 535 - 976 + 842 + 345 - 1,003	
Total	35,784	37,390	35,876 lates for T	- 1,606	- 92	
Total	4,253	4,526	5,887	- 273	- 1,604	

\* It will be understood that in addition to the works returned as open, in giving full or partial employment, a certain number of tinplate works we sholly idle at each of the dates to which the Returns relate, but the figure quoted are believed to give approximately the total number of works and mil actually in operation.

<sup>\*</sup> Easter Holidays are included in these periods.

#### INEERING TRADES.

294 Returns—9 from Employers' and Employers' cions, 946 from Trade Unions and their branches, and 39 Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was slack on the whole, and continued to be adversely affected by the dispute on the North-East Coast. It was considerably worse than a month ago, and much worse than a year ago.

Returns received from Trade Unions having a membership of 152,658 show that at the end of April the percentage unemployed was 8.6, as compared with 7.1 a month ago, and 2.8 a year ago, the increase as compared with both a month ago and a year ago being common to all districts, except Hull and Lincolnshire. Apart from the North-East Coast the decline was most noticeable in the West Riding of Yorkshire, and in Scotland and Ireland.

District.	No. of Members* of Unions at end of April, 1908	Percentage re- turned as Unem- ployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unem- ployed for April, 1908, as compared with a		
	included in the Returns.	April, 1908.	Mar., 1908.	April, 1907.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
North-East Coast	4,924†	28'3†	23'4+	4'3	+ 4'9	+24.0	
Manchester and Liverpool	19,236	6.9	5.8	2.4	+ 1.1	+ 4.2	
Oldham, Bolton, and Black- burn District	13,219	5.8	4.7	2.1	+ 1.1	+ 3.7	
West Riding Towns	12,955	12.2	7'9	3.1	+ 4'3	+ 9,1	
Hull and Lincolnshire District Birmingham, Wolverhamp-	3,963+	6'51	7'2	1'4	- 0.7	+ 5'1	
ton, and Coventry District	7,009	0.0	02	1.9	+ 0.4	+ 4.7	
Notts, Derby and Leicester District	4,339	7.6	56	2'3	+ 2'0	+ 5.3	
London and Neighbouring District	12,264	62	5.8	3'3	+ 0'4	+ 2.9	
South Coast	4,355	4'2	3'5	2.8	+ 0.7	+ 1'4	
South Wales and Bristol	6,394	4'5	2.0	2'6	+ 1.6	+ 1.0	
Glasgow and District	16,493	16.1	14'3	4'0	+ 1.8	+12'1	
East of Scotland	4,067	14'9	12.0	3.6	+ 2'0	+11.3	
Belfast and Dublin Other Districts	3,567 6,252	6.6	8.9	4'0	+ 1.8	+ 7.2	
United Kingdom (Including certain Unions for which District figures are not available)	152,658	8.6	7:1	2.8	+1.5	+ 5.8	

On the North-East Coast employment was still greatly affected by the strike of turners, fitters, and machinemen. At Darlington, however, bridge builders and wagon builders were well employed.

In Lancashire employment with textile machinery engineers was fair, and overtime was still frequently worked; but ironfounders reported employment as declining at several textile centres. At general engineering works employment was dull on the whole. It was fairly good at Crewe, Oldham, and Wigan, and also with ironfounders at Liverpool. With patternmakers employment was slack generally. At Barrow employment was reported as fair.

In Yorkshire employment was slack generally, and considerably worse than a month ago and a year ago. It continued fair at Lincoln, and good at Grantham.

In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district employment was dull generally, but fair with ironfounders. It was dull and worse than a month ago in the motor and cycle industries. Employment was bad in the Potteries. At Nottingham it showed some decline with textile machine makers; it was generally bad in other branches. At Leicester it was still good with shoe machinery makers; but dull and worse than a month ago with general engineers. At Derby employment was fair on the whole, but slack in railway works. At Colchester and Ipswich it was moderate.

Employment continued dull in London and fair at Southampton. In the Royal Dockyards it was fair on the whole. With engineers at Plymouth it was slack. At Swindon many of the men were on short time. At Bristol employment was moderate. It was also moderate on the whole in South Wales.

In the Glasgow district employment was slack generally, but fair at Renfrew and Dumbarton. Employment remained slack at Edinburgh, Falkirk, and Aberdeen, and fair at Dundee. It continued dull at Belfast and Dublin.

May, 1908.

The Imports of machinery in April, 1908, amounted to £540,885 as compared with £527,858 in March, 1908, and £564,651 in April, 1907; and the Exports for the same months to £2,713,987, £2,754,475, and £2,619,202 respectively.

#### SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

(Based on 306 Returns—7 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 283 from Trade Unions and their Branches, and 16 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was bad, and continued to be greatly affected by the dispute on the North East Coast. It was worse than a month ago, and much worse than a year ago.

Branches of Trade Unions with 54,644 members had 12,655 (or 23.2 per cent.) unemployed at the end of April, as compared with 21.5 per cent. at the end of March, and 6.6 per cent. at the end of April, 1907.

Compared with a month ago there was a considerable decrease in the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed on the Humber, but most districts showed an increase, that on the Mersey being the most noticeable. Compared with a year ago the decline in employment was very considerable, not only on the North East Coast but also in Scotland.

District.		No. of Members* at end of Apl.,1908, included	re Une	ercenta turned employe end of	as ed at		e (-) in tage for 1908, as
		in the Returns.	April, 1908.	Mar., 1908.	April,	Month ago,	Year ago.
Tyne and Blyth Wear Tees and Hartlepool Humber Thames and Medway South Coast Bristol Channel Ports Mersey Clyde Dundee, Leith and Aberdeen Belfast Other Districts		4,330 4,427 2,744 4,100 11,701 2,454	39'3† 46'3 51'0† 13'8 14'8 500 16'8 14'2 20'0 18'7 5'4 4'6	37.7† 40.2 50.5† 20.8 11.7 4.2 16.6 5.3 18.1 14.2 6.8 5.3	4'3 5'9 7'6 3'8 9'4 3'1 19'0 10'3 5'7 6'3 4'9 7'3	+ 1'6 + 6.1 + 0'5 - 7'0 + 3'1 + 0'8 + 0'2 + 8'9 + 1'9 - 1'4 - 0'7	+ 35'0 + 40'4 + 43'4 + 10'0 + 5'4 + 1'9 - 2'2 + 3'9 + 14'3 + 12'4 + 0'5 - 2'7
United Kingdom	•••	54,644	23.2	21.5	6.6	+ 1.7	+ 16.6

On the Tyne and Tees the dispute continued, and employment was bad. On the Wear also it remained very bad. On the Humber it was slack on the whole, but shipwrights on repair work were fairly well employed.

On the Thames employment was slack, except with bargebuilders, who reported it as fair. At the Royal Dockyards it was fairly good. At Southampton it was fairly good on ship work, moderate on yacht work. At Bristol it was fair, but at the South Wales ports it was slack on the whole. On the Mersey it was slack, and considerably worse than a month ago.

In Scotland employment was slack generally, but fair with shipwrights at Dundee and Aberdeen. At Belfast and Barrow it continued moderate on the whole. At Lowestoft, Yarmouth and Wyvenhoe shipwrights were fairly well employed.

#### MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

Based on 88 Returns—4 from Employers' Associations, 60 from Trade Unions, and 24 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during April continued slack generally, and was rather worse than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 16,524 had 3.5 per cent. out of work at the end of April, as compared with 3.6 per cent. at the end of March, and 3.2 per cent. a year ago.

Brasswork, Bedsteads, etc.—Employment with brassworkers at Birmingham, Manchester and London was bad; at Wolverhampton it was quiet. It was fair at Bury, Bolton and Wigan, and at Nottingham. With bedstead makers at Birmingham it was bad, with much short time.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, etc.—At Blackheath and Halesowen employment improved. With nut and bolt makers at Darlaston it continued good; at Birmingham it was fair. With wire nail and shoe rivet makers at Birmingham it was good; with cut nail makers it was fair.

Wire.—Employment was slack, and much short time was reported; at Sheffield it was fairly good. It was fair with wire drawers at Warrington.

Locks, Keys and General Hardware.—At Wolverhampton employment in the lock and latch trades continued bad, with much short time. It continued slack in the hollow-ware trade at Wolverhampton; at West Bromwich it was quiet. It was slack with hollow-ware stampers at Sheffield.

Stoves, Grates, etc.—At Rotherham employment was slightly better than a month ago; at Falkirk and Glasgow it continued fair.

Cutlery, Tools, etc.—Employment at Sheffield was moderate on the whole, and worse than a month ago. It was slack with table-blade and butcher knife hafters, and with pen and pocket blade and razor grinders. At Birmingham employment in the edge tool trade was quiet; at Wednesbury it had improved. At Redditch employment with needle and fishhook makers was quiet.

Tubes.—Employment in South Wales and in South Staffordshire continued slack, and was worse than a month ago; at Birmingham it was quiet.

Chains, Anchors, Springs, etc.— At Cradley Heath employment continued slack. At Wednesbury it had improved with railway axle, wheel, and spring makers; at Sheffield employment was slack with railway spring fitters and vicemen. At West Bromwich it continued fair with spring and axle makers. At Dudley employment was slack with anvil and vice makers, short time being general. With chain makers at Cradley Heath, Winlaton, and Gateshead it was quiet: while with anchor makers on the Wear it was bad, and at Cradley Heath slack.

Sheet Metal, etc.—Employment with braziers and sheet metal workers was fair at Manchester, but not so good as a month ago. With sheet metal workers at Leeds it was fairly good; at Belfast it was dull; at Aberdeen it was bad. With tinplate workers it was bad in London, Wolverhampton and Nottingham; at Birmingham it was quiet; at Edinburgh it was fair. With ironplate workers at Dudley it was slack; at Birmingham it was quiet; in the Lye district it was fair.

Gold, Silver, Britannia Metal, etc.—Employment in London continued bad generally. In Birmingham it was also bad with jewellers and Britannia metal workers; with silversmiths and electro-platers it was quiet at Birmingham and bad at Sheffield. With watchmakers at Coventry employment was quiet.

Farriers.—Employment continued fair generally.

Imports and Exports. — The Table below shows the value of cutlery and hardware imported and exported for the months stated:—

Description,	April,	Mar.,	April,	Decreas	e (+) or se (-) in 1908, as ed with a
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Cutlery  Hardware  **Syborts: Cutlery  Hardware  Implements and Tools	£ 16,928 81,042 59,848 180,439 176,989	£ 12,974 92,094 50,753 188,288 178,383	£ 10,218 84,056 62,927 211,404 178,782	£ + 3,954 - 11,052 + 95 - 7,849 - 1,394	£ + 6,710 - 3,014 - 12,079 - 30,965 - 1,793

#### COTTON TRADE.

(Based on 498 Returns—386 received from Employers, partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 103 from Trade Unions, and 9 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the Spinning branch showed a decline as compared with a month ago and a year ago. In the Weaving branch it continued slack, and was worse than a year ago. A considerable amount of short time was worked, and at a large number of mills and sheds the Easter holiday stoppage was extended.

Easter holiday stoppage was extended.

The number of workpeople employed by the firms making Returns for the week ended April 18th was 125,983, a decrease of 0'3 per cent. as compared with the previous month, and of 0'9 per cent. as compared with April, 1907. The amount of wages paid showed an increase of 0'5 per cent. as compared with a month ago, but a decrease of 4'1 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

	Wo	orkpeople	e.	1	Earnings	
_	No. paid Wages on pay day in week ended	paid Wages on pay day in week in mrease (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay day in week	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with	
	April (8th, 1908.	A month ago.	A year ago.	ended April 18th, 1908.	A month ago.	A year ago.
Departments. Preparing Spinning Weaving Other Departments not specified Total	14,244 25,561 57,767 10,469 17,042	Per cent 0'2 - 0'4 - 0'5 - 0'8 + 0'7 - 0'3	Per cent. + 0.8 + 0.1 - 2.2 - 1.3 + 0.9 - 0.9	£ 12,915 24,496 50,417 11,867 18,211 117,906	Per cent 0.5 - 1.7 + 2.0 - 0.9 + 1.2 + 0.5	Per cent. + 1'5 - 1'2 - 7'6 - 5'0 - 0'6 - 4'I
Districts.  Ashton District	7,962 6,172 13,529 13,850 10,370 9,097 13,137 19,194 14,753 6,504 5,624 5,791	- 0°1 - 0°8 + 0°5 - 0°2 - 0°2 - 2°1 - 0°0 + 1°1 - 1°6 + 0°8 - 1°1 - 1°9	- 0.6 - 4.5 - 1.3 - 0.2 + 0.2 - 3.6 - 1.6 + 4.3 - 4.1 - 1.4 - 1.2 - 0.9	7,163 5,887 14,705 12,621 9,677 6,614 11,590 18,318 15,927 5,702 5,104 4,598	- 0'4 - 0'2 + 1'5 - 0'1 + 0'5 - 4'9 + 10'1 + 1'7 - 2'0 + 1'7 - 0'9 - 6'5	- 7'3 - 1'6 + 2'8 + 0'1 - 2'7 - 12'6 - 4'0 + 0'0 - 11'8 - 1'0 - 7'3 - 9'2
Total	125,983	- 0.3	- 0.9	117,906	+ 0.2	- 4.T

In the preparing and spinning departments employment showed a decline as compared with a month ago. In the spinning department there was also a slight decline as compared with a year ago. During the latter part of April, however, the decline in both departments became more marked, and employment was reported as slack. In the weaving branch employment was bad, and worse than a year ago, short time or playing for warps being reported in most of the principal districts.

Compared with a month ago the figures in the Table show increases in five districts in the amount of wages paid, the increase being greatest in the Preston and Chorley district (10-1 per cent.) The other districts show decreases, that in the Manchester district amounting to 4-9 per cent. As compared with a year ago nine districts show decreases, the most considerable being in the Manchester, Burnley, Ashton, and Yorkshire districts.

#### Raw Cotton.

American Cotton. — During the month of April the average price of raw cotton "middling American" at Liverpool was 5.52d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 5.83d. per lb. and the lowest 5.16d. The price for March, 1908, was 5.92d. per lb., and for April, 1907, 6.21d. per lb. For the period from May 1st to 11th, 1908, the average price of "middling American" was 5.55d. per lb.

Egyptian Cotton.—The price of "good fair Egyptian" during April averaged 7·12d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being  $7\frac{7}{16}$ d., and the lowest  $6\frac{1}{16}$ d.,

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

<sup>+</sup> Exclusive of members on strike.

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

<sup>†</sup> Members on strike are excluded from these figures.

Imports (less Re-Exports) 1,000 lbs. British Exports ,,

Alpaca & Mohair ...

Total, Yarn

1,000 yds

worse than a year ago.

whole.

April,

139 3,790 971

4,900

215 4,258 1,125

5,598

5,418 6,373

LINEN TRADE.

(Based on III Returns—101 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 6 from Trade Unions, and 4 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued quiet, and was considerably

Returns from firms employing 45,400 workpeople in the week ended April 18th showed a decrease of 0.2 per

cent. in the number of workpeople employed, but an increase of 2.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as

compared with a month ago. As compared with a year ago the number employed decreased by 4.4 per cent., and

In Belfast short time continued, the majority of the

mills working only 37 hours per week; in other parts of Ireland employment was quiet, and much short time was worked. In Scotland employment was moderate on the

the amount of wages paid by 15.9 per cent.

Workpeople covered by

A month ago.

Per cent.
- 0'2
- 0'0
- 2'2
+ 0'8
+ 3'I

- 0'2 - 4'4

Per cent. Per cent + 0'4 - 3'5

- 1'3

0'4

0'2

+ 1.0

12,604 + 0'4 - 3'8

1,787 + 0.6 - 2.9

45,400 - 0'2 - 4'4

April, 1908.

11,395

11,964

99,069

Imports and Exports.

7.166

115,358

- 6.0

- 4'7

- 6.5

pay-day in week ended April 18th, 1908.

6,287 11,952 14,136 6,347 6,678

45,400

16,310

14,699

31,009

6,580

Total, Ireland ...

Total. Scotland

Description

Flax (Dressed and Undressed, Tow or Codilla) ... Tons

100 Yds.

England

per lb. The price for March, 1908, was 7.70d. per lb., and for April, 1907, 10.19d. per lb. For the period from May 1st to 11th, 1908, the average price of "good toir Exercise".

The visible supply of American cotton for the United Kingdom on May 8th, 1908, was estimated by the Liverpool Cotton Association to be 807,400 bales, as compared with 1,251,030 bales on May 10th, 1907.

Particulars of the various descriptions of cotton forwarded from ports to inland towns are given below for the months stated :-

April,	Mar.,	April,	Decreas April,	e(-) in
			Month ago.	Year ago.
Bales. 203,938 1,530 5,159 22,161 3,229	Bales. 261,339 2,601 2,977 23,225 2,937	Bales. 285,825 10,000 7,088 17,977 7,070	Bales 57,401 - 1,071 + 2,182 - 1,064 + 292	Bales 81,887 - 8,470 - 1,929 + 4,184 - 3,841
	Bales. 203,938 1,530 5,159 22,161	1908. 1908.  Bales. 203,938 261,339 2,601 51:59 24,161 23,225 3,229 2,937	1908. 1908. 1907.  Bales. Bales. Bales. 203,938 261,339 285,845 1,530 2,601 10,000 51:59 2,977 7,088 22,161 23,225 17,977 3,229 2,937 7,070	1908.   1908.   1907.     Month ago.

#### Exports of Cotton Goods.

The Table below shows the quantity of exported cotton yarn and cotton piece goods for the months

Description.	April,	Mar.,	April,	Increase Decrease April, compare	e (—) in	
		-1.5		A month ago.	A year ago.	
Cotton Yarn and Twist— Grey Bleached and Dyed		1,000 lbs. 16,796 3,228	1,000 lbs. 16,542 2,730	1,000 lbs. - 696 - 278	1,000 lbs. - 442 + 220	
Total	19,050	20,024	19.272	- 074	- 222	
Cotton Piecs Goods— Grey or Unbleached Bleached Printed Dyed or Manufactured o Dyed Yarn	128,480 85,462	1,000 yds. 156,254 145,016 84,542 87,689	1,000 yds. 186,826 158,196 100,624 90,255	1,000 yds. + 4,674 - 16,536 + 920 - 7,538	1,000 yds. - 25,898 - 29,716 - 15,162 - 9,904	
*Total	455,221	473,701	535,90L	- 18,480	- 80,680	

### WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

(Based on 409 Returns—392 received from Employers and Employers' Associations, 10 from Trade Unions, and 7 from Local Correspondents.) Woollen Trade.

EMPLOYMENT at the end of the month was moderate,

		eople co		Earnings.		
<u> </u>	No. em- ployed on pay- day in week		r e(-),as pared	Aggregate amount of Wages paid on pay-day in week	Increase or Decrease comp	e (-) as pared
	ended April 18th, 1908.	Month ago.	Year ago.	ended April 18th, 1908.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Departments. Wool Sorting Spinning Weaving Other Departments Unspecified	671 6,251 13,165 8,607 1,734	Per cent 1.5 + 0.2 + 0.7 + 0.3 + 1.3	Per cent 3.0 - 0.2 - 0.8 + 1.7 + 0.9	671 5,560 11,148 8,736 1,500	Per cent. + 3'7 + 1'0 + 0'2 - 0'9 + 3'6	Per cent 5'2 - 0'9 - 2'1 - 2'0 - 0'9
Total	30,428	+ 0'5	+ 0.0	27,615	+ 0.3	- 1.0
Districts.  Huddersfield District  Leeds District  Dewsbury & Batley District Other Parts of West Riding	4,711 4,210 5,125 2,449	+ 0.2 + 0.6 + 0.7	+ 0'8 - 2'1 - 3'8 + 7'9	4,932 3,719 5,020 2,349	- 0'1 - 2'9 + 0'3 + 3'2	- 5.1 - 2.1 - 2.5
Total, West Riding Scotland Other Districts	16,495 7,582 6,351	+ 0.1 + 0.4 + 0.4	+ 0.1 + 0.1	16,020 6,656 4,939	- 0.4 + 5.1 - 0.5	- 2.0 - 2.0 + 0.8
Total, Woollen	30,428	+ 0'5	+ 0.0	27,615	+ 0.3	- 1.0

Returns from firms employing 30,428 workpeople in the week ended April 18th showed an increase of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with the week ended April 27th, 1907, there was no change in the number employed, and a decrease of 1.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

In the Huddersfield district employment at the end of the month was only fair, few firms working overtime and nightwork. In the Leeds district employment was worse than a month ago and a year ago. In the Dewsbury and Batley district it was quiet with some firms, and busy with others, and generally worse than a year ago. At Selkirk employment continued fairly good; at Hawick and Galashiels it was quiet.

#### Worsted Trade.

Employment at the end of the month was moderate, and worse than a month ago and a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 49,216 workpeople in the week ended April 18th showed a decrease of 0.7 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with the week ended April 27th, 1907, there was a decrease of 2.5 per cent. in the number employed, and of 5.8 per cent. in the amount of wages

In the Bradford district employment showed a decline in every branch, and was worse than a year ago. In the Keighley district employment at the end of the month was quiet, and worse than a year ago. In the Halifax district it showed a decline. In the Huddersfield district it showed an improvement before Easter, but some short time was reported at the end of the

A San delivery		eople co		Earnings.		
	No. em- ployed on pay-day in week	Increase Decrea as com wit	se ()	Aggregate amount of Wages paid on pay-day	Increase Decrea as com with	se (-)
	ended April 18th, 1908.	Month ago.	Year ago.	in week ended April 18th, 1908.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Departments. Wool Sorting & Combing Spinning Weaving Other Departments Unspecified Total	5,360 27,009 9,340 5,890 1,617	Per cent 0'9 - 0'8 - 1'1 + 0'1 - 0'1	Per cent 8'0 - 1'3 - 5'8 + 1'9 - 0'4 - 2'5	£ 5,158 14,656 7,836 5,748 1,140 34,538	Per cent 1'3 - 1'5 + 1'6 + 0'6 - 0'7 - 0'4	Per cent 12'1 - 3'0 - 8'4 - 2'4 - [6'9 - 5'8
Districts. Bradford District	24,129 6,982 5,308 6,272 3,068	- 0.1 - 0.2 - 0.2 - 0.2	- 5.0 - 0.2 - 0.2 - 0.2	16,552 4,995 3,285 5,731 1,828	- 2.3 + 0.1 - 1.8 + 2.0 - 0.3	- 8.8 - 1.7 - 2.1 - 2.1 - 2.1
Total, West Riding Other Districts  Total, Worsted	3,457	N CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH	- 2.3 + 2.5 - 2.5	32,391 2,147 34,538	+ 1'5	+ 2'0

#### Prices of Raw Material.

The prices of wool and tops in Bradford are shown below for the three months specified :-

		April, 1908.	Mar., 1908.	April, 1907.
Average Prices: Lincoln Hoggs 40's Crossbred tops 60's Super Botany tops		 Pence per lb. 91/2 81/4 22	Pence per lb. 10½ 94 24	Pence per lb.  132 162 28
Course of Prices: Lincoln Hoggs 40's Crossbred tops 50's Super Botany tops	pet pet pet	 101-83 81-8 221-212	10 1 10 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	14-13 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>2</sub> 17 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -16 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> 28

Imports and Exports.—The following Table shows the quantities of raw wool imported and exported, and of British and Irish exports of woollen and worsted yarns and piece goods for the months stated.

### JUTE TRADE. Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in April, 1908, as compared with a

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

April, 1907.

British and Irish Manufactures Exported.

186 4,654 1,605

6,445

4,817

58,133 64,914 - 6,368 - 13,149 1,554 1,345 + 1,719 + 1,928

76 468 154

- 1,315 - 714 - 2,230 - 2,021

A month ago,

+ 2'3 - 15'9

+ 2.8 - 15.7

+ 2.6 - 19.0

- 0.7 - 16.9 + 2.7 - 4.1

£ Per cent Per cent + 2'5 - 21'7

7,503 + 1'1 - 10'4

1,113 + 5'4 - 5'8

23,977 + 2'3 - 15'9

Month

14,321 + 4,230 - 2,925

13,536 + 523 - 1,572

145,990 - 16,289 - 46,921

Increase (+) or
Decrease (-)
in April, 1908,
as compared with a

£ 3,083 5,102 7,614 4,799 3,379

23,977

7,116

15,361

3,438

4.065

698 - 1,545

Imports and Exports of Raw Wool (SHEEP OR LAMBS').

(Based on 34 Returns-32 from Employers and Employers' Associations, and 2 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was good on the whole, and showed but little change compared with either a month ago or a

Returns received from firms employing 18,307 work-people in the week ended April 18th showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed, but an increase of 2.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago the number employed showed no change, but the amount of wages paid increased by 1.4 per cent. Of the 18,307 workpeople covered by the Returns, 15,826 (or 86.0 per cent.) were employed in the Dundee district.

Compared with a month ago the amount of wages paid showed an increase in every department. Compared with a year ago there were increases in the preparing and in the spinning departments, but a slight decrease in the weaving.

	Workp	eople cove Returns		Ea	rnings.	nings.		
Departments.	Number paid wages on pay-day in week	Decreas	e (+) or se (-) as red with	Aggregate amount of Wages paid on pay-day in	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with			
	ended April 18th, 1908.	A month ago.	A year ago.	week ended April 18tb, 1908.	A month ago.	A year ago.		
Preparing Spinning Weaving Other Not specified Total	4,135 5,150 6,126 2,005 891	Per cent 1'9 + 0'6 - 0'0 - 0'3 - 2'2 - 0'4	Per cent. + 1'2 + 0'7 - 0'2 - 3'4	2,847 3,232 4,560 2,080 672	Per cent. + 1'4 + 1'6 + 3'9 + 1'1 + 1'1	Per cent. + 7.5 + 2.4 - 0.9 - 2.0 - 0.9 + 1.4		

Imports and Exports.—The Table below shows the quantities of imported jute and of British and Irish exports of jute yarn and manufactured goods for the months stated.

Description.	April,	Mar.,	April,	Decreas April,	se (+) or se (-) in 1908, as ed with a
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports: Tons	26,459	27,289	19,422	- 8 <sub>3</sub> o	+ 7,037
Exports: Jute Yarn 100 Lbs. Jute Plece Goods 100 Yds.	45,852 113,724	49,633 99,689	62,158 138,553	- 3,781 + 14,035	- 16,306 - 24,829

#### LACE TRADE.

(Based on 98 Returns-88 from Employers, 6 from Trade Unions, and 4 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was worse than a month ago and considerably worse than a year ago. Much short time was worked.

Returns from firms employing 8,889 workpeople in the week ended April 18th, and paying £7,910 in wages, showed a decrease of 2.3 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 5.1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 19.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

At Nottingham employment was bad in the levers branch, fair in the curtain branch, and moderate in the plain net branch. It was worse than a month ago and much worse than a year ago.. In the Long Eaton district and in the West of England employment continued bad, and worse than a year ago. In Scotland employment was dull, and worse than a month ago and

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Imports and Exports.—The Table below shows the values of lace imported and exported for the months stated:—

Description,		April,	Mar.,	April,	Decreas	e (+) or e (-) in 1908, as l with a
					Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:-		£ 22,512	£ 27,778	£ 17,953	_ £	+ £ 4,559
Exports:— Cotton Lace Silk Lace		290,908 5.425	366,900 8,870	3 <sup>8</sup> 4,793 9,277	- 75,992 - 3,445	- 93,885 - 3,852

#### HOSIERY TRADE.

(Based on 106 Returns—100 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 2 from Trade Unions, and 4 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT at the end of the month was moderate, and worse than a year ago.

Firms employing 18,213 workpeople, and paying £14,031 in wages in the week ended April 18th, have made Returns. From these it appears that there was no change in the number employed, and an increase of 1 o per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 1 o per cent. in the number employed, and a decrease of 1 o per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

At Leicester employment was fair; at Hinckley and Loughborough it was moderate. At Nottingham employment was quiet with power frame knitters, and worse than a year ago. In Derbyshire it was moderate, and worse than a year ago. With hand frame knitters generally it was moderate. At Hawick and Selkirk it continued good, and was better than a year ago.

The Returns are summarised in the following Table:-

		people co y Return		Earnings.			
District.	No. paid wages on pay-day in week	as con		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay day	Increa o Decrea as com wit	r ise (-)	
	ended April 18th, 1908.	Month ago.	Year ago.	in week ended April 18th, 1908.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Leicester County District Leicester County District Notts. and Derbyshire Scotland Other Districts	9,230 2,807 3,015 2,202 959	Per cent 0'1 - 1'2 - 0'6 + 1'6 + 2'7	Per cent. + 1'2 + 4'0 - 3'8 + 4'5 + 2'1	£ 7,535 2,079 2,207 1,630 580	Per cent. + 2'4 - 1'8 - 0'7 + 0'6 + 0'5	Per cent. + 1'8 - 5'4 - 10'4 + 6'5 - 1'5	
Total, United Kingdom	18,213	- 0.0	+ 1'2	14,031	+ 1,0	- I.	

The Imports of woollen and cotton hosiery in April, 1908, amounted to £30,103 and £119,235 respectively, as compared with £41,006 and £143,296 in March, 1908, and £29,109 and £102,851, in April, 1907.

May, 1908.

The **Exports** of woollen and cotton hosiery in April, 1908, amounted to £78,951 and £32,959, as compared with £122,368 and £39,744 in March, 1908, and £91,295 and £33,284 in April, 1907.

#### SILK TRADE.

(Based on 55 Returns—52 from Employers, 1 from a Trade Union, and 2 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued fair on the whole, but showed a decline as compared with a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 8,204 workpeople, and paying £5,443 in wages on pay-day in the week ended April 18th, 1908, showed that, compared with a month ago, there was a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, but an increase of 0.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 2.3 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and of 3.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

The Returns are summarised in the following Table:-

		eople co Return		Earnings.		
<u></u> -	No. paid wages on pay-day in week	Decrea as con	r ase (-)	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid in week ended	Increa Decrea as com with	r ise (-) ipared
	ended April 18th, 1908.	Month ago.	Year ago.	April 18th, 1908.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Branches. Throwing Spinning Weaving Other Not specified	985 2,770 3,232 1,082 135	Per cent. + 0.6 - 0.5 - 1.0 + 0.8 - 2.9	Per cent 8'2 - 0'8 - 2'3 + 0'3 - 4'3	£ 439 2,065 2,030 841 68	Per cent 0'2 + 1'9 - 1'4 + 2'9	Per cent 6:8 + 1:5 - 7:8 - 3:0 - 2:9
Total	8,204	- 0'4	- 2'3	5,443	+ 0.6	- 3.6
Districts. Lancashire and W. Riding of Yorkshire Macclesfield, Congleton and District Eastern Counties Other Districts, including Scotland	2,989 852 2,452 1,911	- 0.2 - 0.2 + 0.6 - 0.3	- 2'2 - 1'0 - 1'2 - 4'2	2,305 601 1,363 1,174	+ 1.2 + 1.2 + 1.2	- 0.4 - 1.0 - 2.5 - 6.4
Total	8,204	0'4	- 2'3	5,443	+ 0.6	- 3.6

With spinners and throwsters employment continued good at Macclesfield, and fair at Leek. At Congleton it was fair with throwsters, good with spinners. At Macclesfield it continued fair with powerloom weavers, and bad with outside handloom weavers; with handloom weavers in factories it was fair. At Congleton with trimming weavers it was moderate; with dressers, good. In the Bradford district employment was quiet; in the Eastern Counties it continued dull and was worse than a year ago.

Imports and Exports.—The Table below shows the quantities of raw and manufactured silk imported and exported for the months stated.

Description.	April,	Mar., 1908.	April,	Decreas April,	se (+) or se (-) in 1908, as ed with a
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:— Raw Silk Lbs Thrown Silk , Spun Silk Yarn , Silk Broad-Stuffs yards	86,717 44,198 14,634 6,202,822	18,295	57,892	+ 20,239 - 7,064 - 3,662 -1,714,633	- 13,694 - 19,177
Exports:— Thrown Silk Lbs Spun Silk Yarn , Silk Broad-Stuffs yards	95,646		95,604	- 471 - 556 - 135,123	+ 42

#### OTHER TEXTILE TRADES.

(Based on 36 Returns-4 from Employers' Associations, 22 from Trade
Unions, and 10 from Local Correspondents).

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

Woollen and Wersted Dyers.—Employment in the West Riding was quiet, and about the same as a month ago; it was worse than a year ago. About one half of the Trade Union dyers worked short time, and about one eighth worked overtime.

Cotton Dyers.—Employment was reported as bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago.

Silk Dyers.—Employment was reported as good at Macclesfield and Leek.

Calico Printers, &c. — Employment with machine calico printers was moderate, and worse than a year ago; with calico printers' engravers it was good. In Glasgow it continued bad with calico printers and engravers.

Hosiery and Lace Dyers, Trimmers, &c.—At Leicester employment showed a slight improvement, but some short time was still worked. At Hinckley employment showed a further decline. At Loughborough it was reported as slack. With dyers at Nottingham employment was reported as good; with dyers and bleachers at Basford it was dull; with hosiery trimmers at Basford and Bulwell it was fair; on the whole employment in Nottinghamshire was not so good as a year ago.

Calenderers, &c.—In Glasgow employment was dull, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In Dundee it continued quiet with bleachfield workers, and fair with calender workers.

#### TAILORING TRADE.

(Based on 120 Returns—90 from Employers, 4 from Trade Unions, and 26 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the bespoke branch showed a seasonal improvement, but was worse than a year ago. In the ready-made branch it was fair, and showed a decline compared with a year ago.

#### Bespoke Branch.

London,—Employment during April showed the usual seasonal improvement, but was worse than a year ago.

Firms paying £11,159 in wages to their workpeople during the four weeks ended April 25th showed an increase of 13.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the four weeks ended March 21st, and a decrease of 6.2 per cent. compared with the four weeks ended April 27th, 1907.

Other Centres.—Employment was reported as good at Glasgow and Belfast, fair at Liverpool, Edinburgh and Dublin.

#### Ready-made Branch.

London.—Employment was fair, and about the same as a year ago.

Leeds.—Employment was moderate, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. Firms employing 7,150 workpeople in their factories (in addition to persons employed on work for them in workshops) in the week ended April 25th showed a decrease of 6.5 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 7.7 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Other Centres.—Employment at Manchester was fairly good, and about the same as a year ago. At Norwich it was fairly good. At Bristol it continued fair, and was worse than a year ago. At Glasgow it was good, and better than a year ago.

The Imports of apparel, not waterproofed, in April, 1908, were valued at £211,667, as compared with £264,336 in March, 1908, and £295,061 in April, 1907; and the Exports for the same months at £319,937, £389,354 and £363,874 respectively.

#### BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

(Based on 514 Returns—498 received from Employers, partly direct same partly through the Trade Correspondent, 5 from Trade Unione, and 11 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was fairly good, and better than a manufago and a year ago.

Returns received from firms employing 62,142 work-people in the week ended April 18th showed are increase of 0.6 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 1.0 per cent. in the number employed and of 2.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Employment at Leicester was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. At Northampton it continued good, and was better than a year ago; at Kettering it was moderate; with army bootmakers it showed an improvement. At Bristol employment was moderate. In the heavy boot trade at Kingswood employment was slack, but much better than a year ago. At Leeds it was slack, but slightly better than a year ago. In Scotland employment was fair, and decidedly better than a year ago.

		people co			Earnings.			
District.	No.paid wages on pay- day in week ended	wages Decrease(-) as compared with a week ended			Increase (4) or Decrease (-) as compared with a			
	April 18th, 1908.	Month ago.	Year ago.	ended April 18th. 1908.	Month ago.	Vent age.		
England & Wales. London Leicester Leicester Country District Northampton Country District Kettering Stafford & District Norwich & District Norwich & District Kingswood Leeds & District Manchester & District Birmingham & District Other parts of England and Wales	2,244 13,862 3,215 8,421 8,308 3,780 2,648 3,492 2,075 1,776 2,167 2,167 1,024 2,473	Per cent. + 1'3 + 0'7 + 2'7 + 1'1 + 0'6 + 0'7 + 1'3 + 0'1 + 0'8 - 0'7 - 1'0 - 1'0 + 0'9	Per cent 2.4 + 2.6 - 5.7 + 5.8 - 2.4 - 0.6 + 2.8 - 0.5 + 8.9 + 7.8 - 1.0 + 0.4	£ 2,602 15,994 3,034 8,246 8,093 4,024 2,575 2,998 1,852 1,557 1,826 2,201 849 2,070	Per cent. + 2°3 + 2°4 + 3°1 + 4°8 + 6°9 + 5°2 + 7°7 + 2°1 + 3°8 + 5°8 - 5°8	- 224 - 224 - 224 - 224 - 225 - 226 - 226		
England & Wales	57,969	+ 0'7	+ 06	57,921	+ 3.6	+ 198		
SCOTLAND IRELAND	3,910 263	+ 1.8 - 0.9	+ 7.4	3,692 191	+ 179	4-125E		
United Kingdom	62,142	+ 0.6	+ 1.0	61,804	+ 3'5	+ 22		

Imports and Exports.—The Table below shows the quantities and values of the boots and shoes imported and exported for the months stated:—

<u></u>	April,	Mar.,	April,	Decreas April,	se (+) me se (-) me nge8, ms sed widthen	
	1908.		1907.	Month ago.	Fear egn.	
Imports (less Re-Exports) Quantity Dozen pairs Value £	23,626 80,238	24.516 80,207	21,895 71,479	- 899 + 31	+ 5750	
Exports (British and Irish) Quantity Dozen pairs Value £	69.937 164,720	87,938 199,295	85,440 185,413	— 184001 — 34,575	- 15,505 - 30,665	

Note.—For imports of hides and of leather see under "Other Leather Trades" p 150.

#### HAT TRADE.

(Eased on 14 Returns—2 from Employers' Associations and at from Trade Unions).

EMPLOYMENT during April in the Silk hat branch was bad, and worse than a year ago. In the Filt hat branch it was fair, and showed a decline compared with a month ago; it was about the same as a year ago.

In the Silk hat trade the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of April was 14.6, compared with 14.2 a month ago, and 5.1 a year ago.

In the Felt hat trade the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of April was 2'1, compared with 1'7 a month ago and 2'1 a year ago. Employment was fair at Denton, and fairly good at Stockport; in Warwickshire much short time was worked, and employment was quiet, and worse than a year ago.

Imports and Exports.—The Table below shows the number of hats and bonnets, trimmed and untrimmed, imported and exported for the months stated:—

Description.	April,	Mar.,	April,	Decrease(	e (+) or -)in April, compared th a
		1,000	1908. 1907.		Year ago.
Imports: All kinds	Dozens. 27,580	Dozens. 33,362	Dozens. 45,005	Dozens. - 5,782	Dozens. - 17,425
Exports: Felt Straw Other Sorts	49,251 37,227 5,835	57,088 47,042 6,341	40,624 34,614 3,317	- 7,837 - 9,815 - 506	+ 8,627 + 2,613 + 2,518
Total	92,313	110,471	78,555	- 18,158	+ 13,758

#### OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

(Based on 186 Returns—181 from Employers, and 5 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in London in the West-End dressmaking trade and in the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, &c., trades was worse than a year ago. In the shirt and collar trade generally it was moderate, and worse than a year ago. In the corset trade it was fairly good.

Dressmaking, Millinery, and Mantle Trades. — Returns from retail firms in London, chiefly in the West-End, employing 1,693 dressmakers in the week ended April 25th, showed an increase of 6.7 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 4.2 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was fair. Court dressmakers, employing 1,255 workpeople in the week ended April 25th, showed a decrease of 0.7 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 11.1 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was moderate. Employment with milliners in the West-End showed a seasonal improvement, but was worse than a year ago.

In the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, underclothing and infants' millinery trades, firms in London employing 3,765 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) showed a decrease of 5.9 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 9.9 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment during the month was moderate.

Returns from two Employment Bureaux in London showed a large decrease in the demand for, and a slight decrease in the supply of, dressmakers and milliners compared with a year ago.

In Manchester employment with mantle makers was fair, and slightly worse than a month ago; it was about the same as a year ago. In the costume and skirt trade firms employing 1,667 workpeople in the week ended April 25th showed very little change compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 1.3 per cent. compared with a year ago.

In Glasgow employment in the mantle trade continued fairly good.

Shirt and Collar Trade.—Returns received from shirt and collar manufacturers employing 6,702 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended April 18th, and paying £4,598 in wages, showed a decrease of 1.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid

compared with a month ago, and of 7.5 per cent. compared with the week ended April 27th, 1907. Employment generally was moderate.

Corset Trade.—Returns received from corset manufacturers, employing 3,082 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended April 25th, showed a decrease of 2'4 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 2'7 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was fairly good.

#### OTHER LEATHER TRADES.

(Based on 41 Returns—25 from Trade Unions, and 16 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was bad, and worse than both a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 3,570 had 8 o per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of April, as compared with 6 8 per cent. in March, and 5 or per cent. a year ago.

Skinners, Tanners, Curriers, Dressers.—Employment with skinners was bad in London and Birmingham, and quiet at Leeds. With curriers it was bad generally. With dressers it was slack. With leather workers generally it was fair at Bolton, Bury and Wigan, good at Manchester.

Saddle and Harness Makers.—Employment was bad in London. At Walsall it was bad with brown saddlers, quiet with gig saddlers. With saddlers at Glasgow and Dublin it was fair.

Miscellaneous Leather Trades. — With fancy leather workers employment was bad, and worse than both a month ago and a year ago; but with fancy and morocco leather finishers in London it was good. With portmanteau and trunk makers it was fair in London; bad at Manchester.

#### Imports and Exports.

The Table below shows the imports of hides and undressed skins and of leather, and the exports of saddlery and harness, for the months stated:—

Description,	April,	Mar., 1908.	April,	Decrea April,	se (+) or se (-) in 1908, as ed with a		
				Month ago.	Year ago.  cwts.  - 17,754  + 10,480		
Imports:  Hides, raw, and pieces thereof, dry	cwts. 22,039	cwts. 21,053	cwts. 39,793	cwts. + 986	cwts. - 17,754		
Ditto, wet	52,446	49,932	41,966	+ 2,514	+ 10,480		
Total, hides, dry and wet	74,485	70,985	81,759	+ 3,500	- 7,274		
Goat skins, undressed (No.) Sheep skins ,, (value) £	809,932 193,744	737,432 214,002	1,497,678 341,943	+ 72,500 - 20,258	-687,746 -148,199		
Leather*	cwts. 99,041	cwts. 87,770	cwts. 86,990	owts. + 11,271	cwts. + 12,051		
Exports:— Saddlery and harness (value)	£ 35,317	£ 38,181	£ 45,540	- £,864	- £		

#### PAPER, PRINTING, AND BOOK-BINDING TRADES.

(Based on 440 Relurns—138 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 282 from Trade Unions, and 20 from Local Correspondents.)

PAPER TRADES.

Employment in these trades continued good. Returns received from firms employing 22,474 workpeople in the last week of the month showed that there was an increase of 0.5 per cent. in the total number of workpeople employed as compared with a month ago, and an increase of 3.6 per cent. compared with a year ago.

The following Table summarises the returns from employers:—

\* Includes hides tanned, tawed, curried, or in any way dressed, and goat and sheep skins tanned or dressed as leather.

Percentage Increase (+)
or Decrease (-)
in No. of Workpeople as
compared with a Month ago. Year ago. ine-made Paper and Milled ords:
Northern Countles ... ...
Midlands, Wales, and Ireland...
Southern Countles ... + 0.6 - 0.2 + 0.5 + 0.8 + 0'5 + 3.8 Total, Machine-made Paper, &c. + 0'2 - 0.I Hand-made Paper ... ... ... + 0.2 + 3.6 Total ... ... 22,474

Trade Unions in the machine-made paper trade, with 1,895 members, had 2·1 per cent. unemployed at the end of April, as compared with 1·8 per cent. a month ago, and 2·0 per cent. a year ago.

The Imports of paper in April, 1908, amounted to £493,792, as compared with £540,591 in March, 1908, and £494,267 in April, 1907; and the Exports for the same periods amounted to £189,068, £205,580, and £194,533, respectively.

#### PRINTING TRADES.

Employment was dull generally, and worse than a month ago and a year ago.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Apl, 1908,		age retu ployed a		Increase Decrease centage un as compar	(-) in per- nemployed
	included in the Returns.	April, 1908.	Mar., 1908.	April,	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	20,441	6.3	3.7	3'2	+ 2.6	+ 3.1
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	5,278	4'9	4.1	4.9	+ 0.8	
Langs, and Cheshire	6,577	4'9	4'T	5'3	+ 0.8	- 0'4
East Midland and Eastern Countles	2,442	4'5	3.0	3.9	+ 1.2	+ 0.6
West Midlands	2,516	5'2	4.4	4.8	+ 0.8	+ 0'4
S. & S. W. Counties and Wales	3,949	3.2	3.0	2.7	+ 0'2	+ 0'5
Scotland	5,616	4.6	3'9	2'5	+ 0.7	+ 2'1
Ireland	2,504	9.2	8.9	4'9	+ 0.3	+ 4'3
United Kingdom	49,323	5.2	4'0	3.8	+ 1'5	+ 1.7

London.—Employment with compositors was reported as bad for the time of year, worse than a month ago, and much worse than a year ago. Printing machine managers reported it as fair; correctors of the press, electrotypers and stereotypers as better than a month ago. With lithographic printers employment was slack; with lithographic artists it was fair. At the end of April, 1908, 6'3 per cent. of Trade Union members were unemployed, as compared with 3'7 per cent. at the end of April, 1907.

Other Centres.—Employment was dull on the whole, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. With letterpress printers, however, it was good at Bolton, Derby, Oxford, and Dundee, and fair (except in the machine branch) at Edinburgh. It was fair also at Manchester, Leeds, Sheffield, Nottingham, Ipswich, and Plymouth. A considerable amount of short time was reported by lithographic printers. Lithographic artists, electrotypers and stereotypers were fairly well employed.

#### BOOKBINDING TRADES.

Employment was bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In London and Edinburgh short time was common. At Birmingham and Newcastle employment was fair.

- 7	No. of Members of Unions at end of Apl., 1908,			tage retu oloyed at		Decrease centage un as compan	(-) in per- nemployed
		Apl., 1908, included in the Returns.	April, 1908.	Mar., 1908.	April, 1907.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London Other Districts		3,594 3,384	10'4 6'9	7'4 5'5	7.8	+ 3.0	+ 2.6 + 4.0
United Kingdom		6,978	8.7	6'4	5'4	+ 2'3	+ 3'3

#### BUILDING TRADES.

(Based on 1,738 Returns—785 from Employers and Employers' Associations, received partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 896 from Trade Unions and their branches, and 57 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in April continued slack. It showed little general change compared with a month ago, and was worse than a year ago.

Returns received from 724 firms employing 47,055 workpeople at the end of April are summarised below. These Returns show that compared with a month ago there was an increase in the total number of workpeople employed of 0·1 per cent., while compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 9·1 per cent. The decrease compared with a year ago was chiefly in London, in the North Counties and Yorkshire district, and in the Southern and South Western district.

Number of Workpeople paid wages on the last

		pa	y-day of t	he mont	h.				
District.	April, 1908.	March, 1908.	April, 1907.	April, 1908.	March, 1908.	April, 1907.			
20,000	Skille	ed Trade	smen.	I	abourers	3.			
London Northern Counties and Yorkshire	8,015 2,402	7,947 2,352	9,640 2,794	5,703 2,005	5, <b>7</b> 49 1,969	6,809 2,509			
Lancashire and Cheshire Midland & Eastern Counties S. & S.W. Counties & Wales	3,881 2,829 2,999	3,748 2,767 3,193	4,066 2,775 3,442	3,348 3,508 1,704	3,332 3,485 1,765	3,123 3,329 2,056			
England and Wales	20,126	20,007	22,717	16,268	16,300	17,826			
Scotland Ireland	3,382 623	3,3 <b>2</b> 9 642	3,397 880	1,947 986	1,987	2,139 765			
United Kingdom	24,131	23,978	26,994	19,201	19,318	20,730			
	La	ds and B	oys.		Total.				
London Northern Counties and Yorkshire	539 545	506 541	574 642	14,257 4,952	14,202 4,852	17,023 5,945			
Lancashire and Cheshire Midland & Eastern Counties S. & S.W. Counties & Wales	967 335 491	984 340 494	998- 365 547	8,196 6,672 5,194	8,084 6,592 5,452	8,187 6,469 6,045			
England and Wales	2,877	2,855	3,126	39,271	39,172	43,669			
Scotland Ireland	755 90	771 94	845 89	6,085 1,699	6.087 1,767	6,381 1,734			
United Kingdom	3,723	3,730	4,050	47,055	47,026	51,78₹			

Employment with painters was fair, and better than in March. With slaters it was moderate, and rather better than a year ago. In other branches employment was slack, and worse than a year ago.

The percentage of Trade Union carpenters and joiners unemployed at the end of April was 8.1, as compared with 8.8 a month ago and 4.3 a year ago; and for plumbers, for the same dates, 13.4, 12.8, and 7.1 respectively.

London.—Employment remained slack generally. It showed a slight improvement compared with March, but was much worse than a year ago. Trade Union returns relating to carpenters and joiners in the London district showed that 9'9 per cent. were unemployed at the end of the month, against 10'4 per cent. a month ago and 7'6 per cent. in April, 1907. The corresponding percentages for plumbers were 14'8, 17'5, and 9'3 respectively.

Other Districts. — Employment remained slack in nearly all districts. It showed little general change compared with a month ago, but was worse than a year ago.

Labourers at Hull and bricklayers at Middlesbrough were still moderately well employed, and an improvement was reported by bricklayers at Leeds, by carpenters at Hull, and by bricklayers at Salford, and carpenters at Manchester. Employment at Oldham continued moderate. Masons at Northampton, Burton, Wolverhampton, and Norwich, and bricklayers at Ipswich, were fairly well employed. At Plymouth a decline was reported by carpenters and plasterers. At Gloucester there was a general improvement. Labourers at Cheltenham, plumbers at Cardiff, and carpenters and

Ministerers at Swansea were fairly well employed.

Ministration of the state of the

## FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

Missed on 188 Returns—4 from Employers' Associations, 156 from Frade Unions, and 28 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the furnishing and woodworking trades considerably worse than a year ago. Trade Widons with a membership of 35,041 reported 6.4 per considerably worse than a year ago. Trade Widons with a membership of 35,041 reported 6.4 per considerably as compared with 7.1 per cent. a month ago, and 2.9 per cent. a year ago.

#### Furnishing Trades.

Employment in the furnishing trades continued bad.

There was an improvement as compared with a month

mgo, but it was considerably worse than a year ago.

There was a month ago, and 2.7 per cent. a year ago.

There was a month ago, and 2.7 per cent. a year ago.

The Imports of furniture and cabinet ware in 1908, were valued at £46,616, as compared £53,279 in March, 1908, and £60,336 in April, 2007, and the Exports for the same periods at £43,686, £22,050, and £59,219, respectively.

#### Millsawyers and Woodworking Machinists.

Imployment with millsawyers and woodworking machinists continued bad generally. It was about the same as a month ago, but worse than a year ago. Trade Unions reported 8.3 per cent. of their members manaployed at the end of April, as compared with 8.2 amounth ago and 4.6 per cent. a year ago.

#### Imports

Beseription.	April,	Mar.,	April,	Decreas April,	se (+) or se (-) in 1908, as ed with a
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Diader, hewn	Loads. 71,008 200,164	Loads. 43,528 134,695	Loads. 77,811 230,704	Loads. + 27,480 + 65,469	Loads. - 6,803 - 30,540
Monte Frames, Fittings and Joiners' Work (value)	£ 17,147	£ 20,916	£ 23,199	- £ 3,769	- £,052

#### Coopers.

Employment with coopers remained quiet generally.

The was fair at Hull, at Liverpool, and at Dublin.

#### Coachbuilding.

Employment with coachbuilders was moderate on the whole. It was slightly better than a month ago, but much worse than a year ago. At Sheffield employment was fair; at Belfast dull; and at Dublin bad. Trade Unions reported 5.5 per cent. of their members manaployed at the end of April, as compared with 6 iper cent. a month ago, and 1.7 per cent. a year ago.

#### Miscellaneous.

Breshmakers.—Employment with brushmakers continued fair. It was better than a month ago, but not so good as a year ago. Trade Unions reported 3.3 per cent. of their members as unemployed at the end of land, as compared with 4.0 per cent. a month ago, and was per cent. a year ago.

Other Trades.—With packing-case makers employment was bad generally, but fair at Belfast. With basket-makers it was bad generally; with skipmakers at Oldham it continued good.

The Imports of brushes and brooms in April, 1903, were valued at £32,423, as compared with £31,280 in March, 1908, and £30,748 in April, 1907; and the imports for the same periods at £15,916, £15,187, and £12,281 respectively.

## POTTERY AND BRICK AND TILE TRADES.

May, 1908.

(Based on 34 Returns—8 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 11 from Trade Unions, and 15 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the *Pottery* trade continued moderate, and was worse than a year ago. In the *Brick and Tile* trades it was quiet.

Pottery Trade.—Employment in Staffordshire was moderate, and was affected to some extent by holidays; it was also moderate in Scotland; in Devonshire and at Swadlincote and Newcastle-on-Tyne it was fair; at Bristol it declined. With earthenware makers employment was slack in the Potteries, and continued about the same as a month ago in the South Yorkshire and the River Aire district. With insulator turners and throwers in the Potteries it was fair, and better than a month ago. Employment with packers in the Potteries was very quiet. With clay tobacco-pipe makers it was good at Manchester, dull at Gateshead, and bad at Glasgow.

Brick and Tile Trades.—Employment was good at Oldham, at Chelmsford, in Bedfordshire and in South Wales and Monmouthshire; fair in North Wales; moderate in the Tees and Hartlepool district; quiet in the Eastern Counties and Devonshire; slack at Peterborough and Birmingham; bad at Nottingham, at Glasgow, in South Staffordshire and in Leicestershire; some improvement was shown in Shropshire and at Stourbridge.

The Imports of chinaware or porcelain and earthenware in April, 1908, were valued at £91,634, as compared with £82,076 in March, 1908, and £83,091 in April, 1907; and the Exports for the same months at £213,186, £209,680 and £216,685, respectively.

#### GLASS TRADES.

(Based on 95 Returns-65 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 19 from Trade Unions, and 11 from Local Correspondents.)
EMPLOYMENT in the glass trades was fair, but not so good as either a month ago or a year ago.

Returns received from firms employing 8,910 work-people in the week ended April 25th, and paying £10,424 in wages, showed a decrease of 0.9 per cent. in numbers employed, and of 0.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. The decline was principally in the North of England and Lancashire.

Compared with a year ago there were decreases of 5.4 per cent. in the numbers employed and of 5.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. The decline was common to all departments and to all the principal districts except Scotland, which showed an increase.

	Workp	Returns.	ered by	Ea	rnings.	rnings.		
_	Number paid Wages on pay-day in week	Decre as cor	Decrease (-) Wages paid D		Decreas	e (+) or se (-) as ed with		
	ended April 25th, 1908.	A Month ago,	A Year ago.	ended April 25th, 1908.	A Month ago.	A Year ago.		
Branches. Glass Bottle Plate Glass Flint Glass Ware (not Bottles) Other Branches	5,569 754 2,162 425	Per cent 1'1 - 0'9 - 0'7 + 2'2	Per cent 6'3 - 10'7 - 0'5 - 7'6	£ 6,867 864 2,215 478	Per cent. + 0'5 + 5'0 - 5'3 + 0'4	Per cent 4'5 - 8'6 - 6'1 - 6'1		
Total	8,910	- 0.0	- 5'4	10,424	- 0.4	5'2		
Districts. North of England Yorkshire Lancashire Worcester and Warwick Scotland Other parts of the United Kingdom	1,234 4,540 685 1,244 881 326	- 3°0 - 0°6 - 2°6 - 0°1 - 1°6	- 11.8 - 2.4 - 22.9 - 5.5 + 4.8 + 0.6	1,003 5,703 760 1,515 1,127 316	- 10'3 + 0'9 + 3'6 - 0'9 + 0'6	- 23'2 - 1'7 - 24'9 - 0'5 + 8'7 - 1'9		
Total	8.010	- 0'0	- 54	TO 424	0.4	- 5'0		

Total ... 8,910 | -09 | -54 | 10,424 | -04 | -52 Employment with glass bottle makers was good at Bristol and at Portobello; moderate in the North of England and in Lancashire, and at Barnsley, Leeds, and Glasgow; slack at Wakefield, Castleford and Mexborough; improving at Dublin. With medical glass bottle makers employment was fair at Rotherham and

quiet at Leeds. Employment with flint glass makers continued good in Scotland and fairly good in England. With cutters it was fair; at Stourbridge and Wordsley it was good. Employment with plate glass bevellers and silverers at Birmingham was bad; with sheet glass flatteners at St. Helens it was fair. Employment with London glass blowers showed a decline. With pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear employment was very bad, short time being general.

Very Dad, Short time b		d Expor	rts.		
Description.	April,	Mar.,	April,	Increase Decrease April, 19 compare	(-) in 908, as
				A Month ago.	A Year ago.
Imports:	owts.	owts.	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.
Window & German Sheet Glass,including Shades,&c.	96,569	100,485	105,128	- 3,916	- 8,559
Plate Flint, plain, cut or orna- mental, &c.	23,727 57,425	25,970 56,866	43,249 62,046	- 2,243 + 559	- 19,522 - 4,621
Manufactures, other sorts	298 gross	445 gross	1,369 gross	- 147 gross	- 1,071 gross
Bottles	143,831	148,944	150,997	- 5,113	- 7,166
Exports:	cwts.	owts.	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.
Plate Flint	10,939	13,784	12,404	- 2,845	- 1,465 + 127
Manufactures, other sorts	5,302 45,947 gross	4,151 39,623 gross	5,175 33,361 gross	+ 1,151 + 6,324 gross	+ 12,586 gross
Bottles	62,250	64,085	72,588	- 1,835	- 10,338

## AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN ENGLAND.

(Based on 220 Returns from Correspondents in various districts)
EMPLOYMENT during April was generally regular until towards the end of the month, when rain and snow caused interruption of work in the fields. There was some increase in the demand for day labourers, but the supply was generally sufficient. A scarcity of men for permanent situations was reported from several districts.

Northern Counties.—In Northumberland, Cumberland, and Westmorland wet and stormy weather interfered with outdoor work, and employment was somewhat irregular. In some districts there was a fair demand for day labourers to assist in potato planting, manure carting, &c., and the supply of this class of labour was quite adequate. A correspondent in the Hexham Union states that at the annual hirings in the first week of April higher wages were given in some instances, and that boys were scarce. Employment in Lancashire was fair, and day labourers were generally fully employed in sowing corn, planting mangolds and potatoes, and making the land ready for turnip-sowing. In the Fylde Union a scarcity of men for permanent situations was reported. In Yorkshire employment was somewhat irregular, owing to wet and stormy weather. The supply of day labourers was generally sufficient for requirements. A scarcity of men for permanent situations is reported from the Driffield and Skipton Unions

Midland Counties .- According to correspondents in Cheshire and Derbyshire there was a good demand generally for day labourers, but the supply was sufficient. Outdoor work was but little hindered until the end of the month, when rain, snow and frost caused some time to be lost. Employment in Nottinghamshire was somewhat irregular, owing to the unfavourable weather. Day labourers were in demand in some Unions, particularly for threshing. In the Southwell Union the supply of men for permanent service was reported to be insufficient. In Leicestershire rain and snow caused some loss of time, but employment was fairly plentiful. In the Melton Mowbray and Market Harborough Unions a scarcity of men for permanent situations was reported. In Staffordshire and Shropshire day labourers lost time owing to inclement weather, but employment was plentiful in threshing, sowing spring corn, planting potatoes, and preparing the land for cereal and root crops. The supply of day labourers was generally adequate, and Irish labourers were said to be available in the Tamworth and Cannock Unions (Staffordshire) A scarcity of men for permanent situations was reported

from certain Unions. Employment in Worcestershire and Warwickshire was affected by snow and rain in the latter part of the month, but work was plentiful, and the supply of day labourers was generally adequate. Men for permanent posts were in demand in some districts. Similar conditions prevailed in Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire. Day labourers lost time in Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire in consequence of wet and stormy weather. The supply of this class of labour was generally equal to the demand.

Eastern Counties.—In Huntingdonshire and Cambridge-shire employment was somewhat irregular owing to wet weather, but work was plentiful in sowing spring corn, preparing land for roots, threshing, &c. The supply of day labourers was adequate. Employment in Lincolnshire was plentiful, and little time was lost. Day labourers were in demand, and the supply was not always sufficient. In Norfolk farm work was in arrear, and day labourers found ample employment when the weathe permitted. The supply of this class of labour was generally equal to the demand. Employment in Suffolk and Essex was regular in the early part of the month, but was interrupted by stormy weather in the last week. The supply of day labourers and of men for permanent cituations was operably adequate.

situations was generally adequate.
Southern and South Western Counties.—The supply of day labourers in Kent was rather in excess of the demand, and work in the fields was interrupted by unsettled weather. Employment in Surrey and Sussex was somewhat irregular, owing to rain and snow and the backward state of the crops. Day labourers were not in much demand, and the supply was generally sufficient. In Hampshire and Berkshire employment was generally regular until the last week of the month, when rain and snow hindered outdoor work. The supply of day labourers was generally equal to the demand. Similar conditions were reported with regard to Wiltshire and Dorsetshire. Employment in Somersetshire was hindered by frost, rain and snow, and day labourers were not in demand. In Herefordshire and Gloucestershire day labourers were occupied in sowing barley and oats, hoeing, potato planting, &c. Some time was lost in consequence of inclement weather at the end of the month. The supply of day labourers in Devon and Cornwall was generally sufficient, and employment was not greatly affected by bad weather. A scarcity of men for permanent situations is reported from certain

### DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

(Based on 135 Returns—116 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 5 from Trade Unions, and 14 from Local Correspondents.)
EMPLOYMENT in London was moderate generally. It was worse than a month ago and a year ago. At other ports it was moderate, rather better than a month ago, but not

so good as in April, 1907.

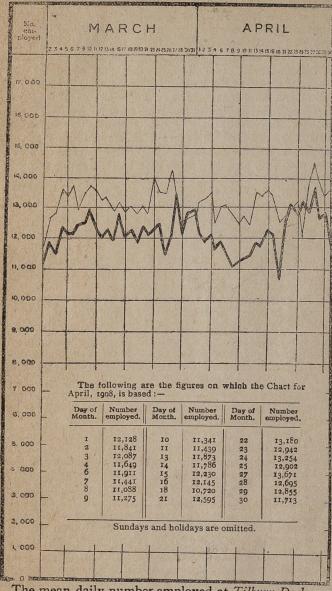
London.\*—Employment was moderate generally during April, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. The average number employed daily at the docks and principal wharves during the four weeks ended April 25th was 12,073, a decrease of 1.8 per cent. as compared with a month ago, and of 6.9 per cent. as compared with April, 1907. The daily numbers in April, 1908, ranged from 10,720 on the 18th to 13.671 on the 27th. During April, 1907, the numbers ranged from 12,115 on the

	Average Dai	ly Number o	f Labour	rers employ res in Lond	ed in Docks	
		In Docks*			1.000	
Period.	By Dock Companies or through Contractors	By Ship- owners, &c.	Total.	At III Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.	
Week ended April 4th	4,239 3,629 3,777 4,055	2,394 2,104 2,378 3,091	6,633 5,733 6,155 7,146	5,614 5,683 5,596 5,829	12 217 11,416 11,751 12,975	
Average for 4 weeks ended April 25th, 1908	} 3,926	2,470	6,395	5,678	12,073	
Average for Mar., 1908	4,247	2,256	6,503	5,797	12,300	
Average for Apl., 1907	4,053	2,819	6,872	6,099	12,971	

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 111 of the principal Wharves, for each day during the months of March and April, 1908. The corresponding curve for March and April 1907, is also given for comparison.

also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1908, and the thin curve to 1907.]



The mean daily number employed at Tilbury Dock was 1,120 during April, as compared with 1,100 a month ago, and 1,429 in April, 1907.

At Liverpool employment was slack generally with dock labourers; it was moderate with quay and railway

Other Ports.- Employment on the Tyne and Wear with dock labourers was bad, and worse than a month With trimmers and teemers it continued fairly good. Employment with dock labourers continued slack at Hartlepool; at Middlesbrough it was fairly good, and better than a month ago. Employment was bad with dock labourers at Hull, Grimsby and Goole; with coal porters at Hull it was moderate, and at Grimsby good; at both ports it was better than a month ago. At Goole it continued bad. At Yarmouth and Lynn employment was slack; at Lowestoft, fair; and at Ipswich, good. At Plymouth employment was moderate, and better than a month ago. At the South Wales ports it was fair, but not quite so good as in March. Employment was bad at Manchester. At Leith it was fairly good, and better than a month ago. At Dundee employment was fair; at Aberdeen, dull. It was dull also at Dublin and Belfast.

### FISHING INDUSTRY.

(Based on 15 Returns—2 from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, 8 from the Collectors of Fishery Statistics for England and Wales and the Fishery Board for Scotland, 1 from the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, and 4 from Local Corre-

THE fish landed in April, 1908, showed an increase in both quantity and value as compared with April, 1907.

it was fair with fishermen and fish dock labourers, but bad with fish curers. At Grimsby it was good with all classes, and better than a month ago and a year ago. At Lowestoft and Hull it was fair generally; with fish dock labourers at the latter port it was good. At Aberdeen it was good; at Peterhead it was bad with fishermen and fish curers and fair with fish dock labourers; at Fraserburgh it was fair with fishermen and fish dock labourers and good with fish curers; at Macduff it was moderate generally and worse than a month ago. Off the south-west coast of England fishing operations, though slightly better than last month, were far from satisfactory; off the south-west coast of Ireland fairly good catches were made.

May, 1908.

The following Table shows the quantity and value of the fish landed during April, 1908 and 1907

		Qua	intity.	Value.		
		April, 1908.	April, 1907.	April, 1908.	April, 1907.	
Fish (other than Shell): England and Wales Scotland	***	Cwts. 1,005,177 296,687 43,513	Cwts. 944,038 275,285 3 <b>7</b> ,871	£ 714,581 133,822 20,945	£ 649,661 126,528 18,418	
Shell Fish	•••	1,345,377	1,257,194	869,348 35,231	794,607 43, <b>97</b> 2	
Total Value				904,579	838,579	

The Exports of herrings, cured or salted, in April, 1908, were valued at £30,996, as compared with £49,720 in March, 1908, and £26,375 in April,

#### SEAMEN SHIPPED IN APRIL.

(Based on 27 Returns received through the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.)

RETURNS received from certain selected ports (at which about 83 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared) show that during April 41,743 seamen\*, of whom 3,735 (or 8.9 per cent.) were foreigners, were shipped on foreign-going vessels. As compared with April, 1907, there was a net increase of 1,334, the greatest increases occurring at Liverpool and Southampton, and the greatest decreases at London and at the Tyne Ports.

For the four months ended April, 1908, the total number of seamen\* shipped was 154,369, an increase of 1,034 as compared with the corresponding period of 1907. The greatest increases were at Southampton and Liverpool, and the greatest decreases at Cardiff and at

Lascars are not included in these figures.

			Numb	per of Sea	ımen* sh	ipped in			
Principal Ports.			April,		Ja	January-April,			
		1907.	1908.	Inc. (+) or Dec.(-) in 1908.	T00M	1908.	Inc.(+) or Dec.(-) in 1908.		
ENGLAND AND WAR East Coast. Tyne Ports Sunderland Middlesbrough Hull Grimsby	LES  	2,505 281 529 1,072 82	1,949 220 203 895 49	- 556 - 61 - 326 - 177 - 33	9,608 1,435 1,628 4,896 218	9,018 1,443 1,041 4,018 237	- 590 + 8 - 587 - 878 + 19		
Bristol Channel. Bristol† Newport, Mon Cardiff‡ Swansea		562 877 4,929 420	684 582 4,408 417	+ 122 - 295 - 521 - 3	2,458 3,435 21,139 1,785	2,475 3,487 18,660 1,467	+ 17 + 52 - 2,479 - 318		
Cther Ports. Liverpool London Southampton		15,445 6,520 2,496	17,893 5,864 4,021	+2,448 - 656 +1,525	56,127 23,724 9,706	57,815 23,496 16,354	+ 1,688 - 228 + 6,648		
SCOTLAND. Leith Kirkcaldy, Methil Grangemouth Glasgow	and	575 221 3,587	467 208 3,716	- 108 - 13 + 129	1,851 837 13,219	1,397 593 11,637	- 454 - 244 - 1,582		
Dublin Belfast		13 295	55 112	+ 42 - 183	233 1,036	214	- 19 - 19		
Total	•••	40,409	41,743	+1,334	153,335	154,369	+ 1,034		

Employment at the principal ports during April was fair generally, and better than a month ago. At Yarmouth

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

† Including Avonmouth and Portishead.

‡ Including Barry and Penarth.

### PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT, AND FLOUR.

RETURNS showing the predominant prices of bread on May 1st, 1908, have been received from the principal Master Bakers' Associations in the United Kingdom, and from other sources. These Returns are summarised in the following Tables :-

	ıst	May, 1	go8.	ıst A	April,	1908.	ıst	May, 1	907.
District.		domin Prices		Predominant Prices.			Predominant Prices.		
	High- est.	Low- est.	Mean.	High- est.	Low- est.	Mean.	High- est.	Low- est.	Mean.
London:—     N, & N.W     E. & N.E     S.E     S.W     W. & W.C	d. 512 512 6 612 6	d. 5 12 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	d. 5.4 5.3 5.6 5.6 5.7	d. 5½ 5½ 6 6 5½	d. 5 1512 512 512	d, 5.3 5.6 5.6 5.5	d. 5 5 5 5 5 5	d. 4 4 4 4 4 4 5 5	d. 4.7 4.6 4.6 4.9 5.0
N. Counties & Yorks, Lancs, & Cheshire Midlands Eastern Counties Southern Counties S. Western Counties and Wales	6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6	5 4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> 5 4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> 5	5·7 5·4 6·4 5·8 5·6	7 6 6 6 6	5 5 5 5 5 5	5.9 5.4 5.4 5.9 5.6	6 55 6 55 5	4 4 4 4 5 4	5.0 4.8 4.7 8.3 4.9
Scotland Great Britain	7 7	5½ 4½	6.2	7	5½ 4½	5.7	6	46	5.2

Compared with a month ago, the mean of the prices remains almost unaltered. As compared with a year ago, an increase of '7d. is shown. In Scotland the increase amounted to 1d. per 4 lbs.

Price of Bread in 28 Large Towns.

Place.	Place. Predominant Price at May 1st, 1908		Decreas	e (+) or e (-) as red with	Last Ch	ange.
		at May 1st, 1900	A Month ago.	A Year ago.	Date.	Am'nt per 4 lbs
		d.	d.	d		d.
London	•••	53		+ 1 to 1	Oct. '07	- ±
			ONE		4	
Birmingham	-	5½		+ ½	Nov. '07	- 1
Bolton		6		+ 1	Oct. '07	+ 1
Bristol	-	51 & 6	•••	+ 1	Sept. '07	+ 3
Cardiff	***	5 & 51	•••	+ 1	Mar. '08	-1
Derby	***	5	- 1/2	+ 1/2	April '08	- 1
Huddersfield	•••	5	•••	•••	•••	•••
Hull	•••	5½	•••	+ 1/2	Mar. '08	- 3
Ipswich	•••	6	•••	+ 1	Oct. '07	+ 1
Leeds	***	6		+ 1	Sept. '07	+ I
Leicester	***	5	•••	+ 1	Feb. '08	- 1
Liverpool	***	51		+ 1	Sept. '07	+ 1
Manchester	***	5	- 1	+ 1	April '08	- 1
Middlesbrough		51	- 1	+ %	April '08	1
Newcastle		51	-	+ 1	Jan. '08	- 1
Norwich	01-1	5		+ 1	Feb. '08	- 1
Nottingham	-	5 & 5		+ 1	Mar. '08	- i
Oldham		4	- 1		April '08	- ī
Plymouth		- 6		+ 1	Sept. '07	+ 1
Portsmouth		6		+ 1	Sept. '07	+ 1
Potteries	***	44		+ 1	Mar. '08	- 1
Wolverhampto		5		+ 1	Feb. '08	- +
Aberdeen		6		+ 11	Nov. '07	+ 1
Dunder	-	51 & 61	***	+ 1	Dec. '07	- 6
Edinbunch			•••	+ 1	Sept. '07	+ 1
Classes		6		+ 1	Sept. '07	+ 6
Dalfast		A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR		THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE	Sept. '07	+ 6
Deliast	***	6	***	+ 1	Sept. 07	

The above Table shows that, compared with a month ago, the predominant price of the 4 lb. loaf has fallen td. in Oldham, and  $\frac{1}{2}d$ . in Derby, Manchester, and Middlesbrough. As compared with a year ago, each of the towns except Huddersfield and Oldham shows an increase. In Aberdeen the rise amounted to 1½d. per 4 lbs. In 11 of the towns the increase amounted to 1d., in 11 to  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and in 2 to  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per 4 lbs. The price in London was from  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1d. higher.

+ ½ Mar. '08 - ½

#### II.-WHEAT AND FLOUR.

The imports of wheat during September, 1907-April, 1908, amounted to 64,330,200 cwts., or 8,317,800 cwts. more than during the corresponding period of 1906-7. The imports of wheat-meal and flour during September, 1907-April, 1908, amounted to 10,366,861 cwts., or 987,256 cwts. more than in September, 1906-April, 1907.

British Wheat  Mean London Gazette Price			ports.	Average Monthly Price of Flour(Town Households)	
	(England and Wales).	Wheat. Wheat-meal and Flour.		cash.	
April April	Per cwt. s. d. 6 2 7 3 7 3	Per cwt. s. d. 6 10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> 8 2 <sup>8</sup> / <sub>4</sub> 8 1	Per cwt. s. d. 9 4 11 1 10 93	Per cwt. s. d. 8 10½ II 3½ II 2½	

#### LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

THE following are among the more interesting legal cases affecting labour reported in April. The accounts are based principally upon reports appearing in newspapers:—

(1) Workmen's Compensation Acts.

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF THE EMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT.

Compensation to an injured workman, or in case of death to his dependants, is only payable under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, where the injury was caused by an accident arising out of and in the courseof the workman's employment.

A man was employed as a steward on board a ship, and had signed articles to serve for a period of twelve months. While the ship was discharging cargo at a Canadian port the hours of duty for the stewards were from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., unless they had notice that their services were required at other times. In case no such notice were given a steward might dispose of his time in any way he chose after 5 p.m., and might leave the vessel provided he was ready to begin his work at 6 a.m. the next morning. If he remained on the ship he was always liable to be called upon to do any work ready to begin his work at 6a.m. the next morning. If he remained on the ship he was always liable to be called upon to do any work that might be required. One evening in October, 1907, the steward, with a companion, left the ship and spent some hours on shore drinking in various public-houses. He proceeded to return to the ship about 10.15 p.m., when he appeared to be to some extent under the influence of drink, though able to walk straight and take care of himself. When he reached the ship, about 10.40 p.m., he went on board by means of the cargo staging used for the purpose of unloading. This way of going on board was forbidden, but the members of the crew frequently used it, especially when they wished to escape observation on their return to the ship. In stepping from the stage to the deck the man slipped and fell down into the hold, receiving injuries from the effects of which he died.

His dependants claimed compensation under the Act; but the employers resisted the claim on the grounds that the accident did not arise out of and in the course of the employment of the deceased, as it had occurred during hours when he was not on duty, and at a place where he had no occasion to be, and that it was a result of a

as it had occurred during hours when he was not on duty, and at a place where he had no occasion to be, and that it was a result of a "spree" on his part. The County Court judge, however, held that although he had gone on board in an irregular manner, he was returning to the ship in pursuance of his obligation which arose out of his employment, that the accident occurred by reason of a risk naturally incident to his employment and while acting in accordance with one of the normal incidents arising out of his employment, and that therefore his dependants were entitled to

Against this decision the shipowners appealed, but the Court of Appeal upheld the decision of the County Court judge and dismissed the appeal.—Robertson v. Allen Brothers & Company, Limited, Court of Appeal, April 1st, 1908.

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES: LEAD POISONING: LEAD NOT USED WITHIN TWELVE MONTHS.

WITHIN TWELVE MONTHS.

Where a certifying surgeon certifies that a workman is suffering from any one of certain diseases referred to in the Act of 1906, and is thereby disabled from earning full wages at his work, and the disease is due to the nature of the employment in which the workman was employed at any time within the twelve months previous to the date of his disablement, such workman is entitled to compensation as if the disease were a personal injury by accident arising out of and in the course of that employment.

A workman who had been employed as a file-maker for many years by a firm of file-makers, was taken ill in 1907, and disabled from following his employment. His symptoms were certified to be more or less those of lead poisoning, and he accordingly claimed compensation under the Act. Medical evidence was given to the effect that the workman was suffering from lead poisoning, and that cases of lead poisoning were known to have followed the employment of hand-filing. There was, however, no evidence that any lead had been used in the course of the man's employment within twelve months before the date at which he was taken ill.

The County Court judge accordingly refused to make an award in The County Court judge accordingly refused to make an award in the claimant's favour on the ground that it had not been proved that lead had been used in the employment within twelve months before the date of the claimant's disablement, and that there was no evidence that the lead poisoning arose from the nature of the

The claimant appealed, but the Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal, holding that the judge was right, inasmuch as there was no evidence of the use of lead within twelve months.—Houghton v. Peter Stubbs, Ltd., Court of Appeal, April 1st, 1908.

"AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS": BASIS OF COMPUTATION.

Where compensation is payable to a workman in respect of an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, the amount of such compensation depends upon the "average weekly earnings" of the workman before the accident. Average weekly earnings are to be computed in such manner as is best calculated to give the rate per week at which the workman was being

A seaman was employed upon a ship and met with an accident while the ship was in dock, which admittedly entitled him to compensation. His claim came before the County Court judge, and the only question to be decided was the basis upon which his average weekly earnings should be estimated. It was proved that the workman received 21s. a week in cash and also his board and lodging on the ship. Evidence was given that on shore food and lodging would have cost him 16s. a week, and he maintained that his average weekly earnings should be reckoned at 37s. Evidence, his average weekly earnings should be reckoned at 37s. Evidence, however, was given on behalf of the employers that the cost to them of supplying the men with board and lodging amounted to 1s. 7d. a day, or 11s. 1d. a week. The judge awarded compensation on the footing that the seaman's wages, board and lodging, were worth 32s. 1d. a week. The seaman appealed.

It was contended on behalf of the appellant that the true test was not what the hoard and lodging executions are appealed.

was not what the board and lodging cost the employers, but the value of it to the workman, i.e., what it would have cost him to have fed and lodged himself. The Court of Appeal, however, held that the County Court judge was right, and that in measuring the value of the board and lodging in order to compute the average weekly earnings in the case of a man employed on a ship, though not necessarily in all cases, the cost to the employer was the only practicable test.—Rosenqvist v. Bowring & Company, Limited, Court of Appeal, April 11th, 1908.

REVIEW OF COMPENSATION: PARTIAL RECOVERY OF CAPACITY: REFUSAL OF WORK: RIGHT OF EMPLOYER TO HAVE PAYMENT DIMINISHED.

Any weekly payment made by way of compensation under the Act may be reviewed at the request either of the employer or of the workman, and on such review may be ended, diminished or increased. In fixing the amount of weekly payment regard must be had to the average weekly amount, if any, which the injured workman is able to earn.

A workman, employed as a boiler-maker's labourer by a shipbuilding company, met with an accident by which he lost portions of two of the fingers of his left hand. By agreement with his employers he was paid half wages as being totally incapacitated for some months. This agreement was duly recorded. After a time, according to a medical report, the man was said to be almost fit to eturn to work. Later, the company asked him to return to work and offered him the same wages that he had been earning before the accident, with a declaration of continued liability on their behalf. The workman, however, refused to return to work, or to make any attempt to see what he could do at his old employment.

In these circumstances the company applied to the County Court judge to review, and diminish, or end the weekly payment under the agreement. The judge, however, refused to make any order on the ground that he did not consider that the claimant was fitted in all respects to resume the work at which he was employed when he met with the accident, and he declined to consider his present earning capacity. The judge also refused to send the matter to a medical referee.

The company appealed, and the Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, and sent the matter back for decision to the judge on the ground that he ought to have considered how far the earning capacity of the workman was impaired by reason of the accident. and whether he was sufficiently recovered to do some kind of work, —Platt v. Cammell, Laird & Co., Ltd., Court of Appeal, April 1st, 1908.

#### (2) Trade Union Acts.

STRIKE: CONSPIRACY: PICKETING: PERSONAL LIABILITY OF STRIKERS.

It is provided by the Trade Disputes Act, 1906, that it is lawful for one or more persons, acting on their own behalf or on behalf of a Trade Union, or of an individual employer or firm, in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute, to attend at or near a house or place where a person resides or works, or carries on business, or happens to be, if they so attend merely for the purpose of peacefully obtaining or communicating information, or of peacefully persuading any person to work or abstain from

A company, carrying on business as printers in London and Birmingham, had in their employ both union and non-union workmen. Some of the men worked under contract, subject to a month's notice on either side; others were entitled to three weeks' notice; and others to a fortnight's notice. Up to July 26th, 1907, there was no dispute between the company and their workmen as to wages or otherwise. On that day the secretary of a London Trade Union to which some of the men belonged, called upon the managing director of the company, and told him that all his men had joined the London Union. The employer pointed out that the men could not leave without notice, and that he would have to consult his directors and customers before deciding what to do. On July 27th the secretary wrote that if the company were prepared to adopt the London scale of wages, he would allow matters to stand over for a month. The managing director replied that he could not negotiate until he had had time to consult his customers. The secretary wrote back that his committee would not insist on the scale being adopted at once, provided a date could be fixed upon. On July 30th, 1907, an article appeared in a morning paper stating that the company's men had joined the Union, and that if the company accepted the terms it would be unnecessary to serve

notices. On July 31st, in the afternoon, one of the foremen informed the managing director that the men might stop work at any time unless something was arranged. The director then had an interview with the men, at which some rather strong language seems to have been used. Immediately afterwards a number of the men walked out of the office and never came back. On August 2nd the foreman mentioned and some other men left without notice. With considerable difficulty men were obtained from Birmingham and elsewhere to carry on the business; but the works were picketed, and the men who had left their employment without notice were engaged in picketing. It was also found that some machinery had been injured and a quantity of type hidden away before the men left.

The company then brought an action against the foreman and the other men who had left without notice for damages for conspiracy and for breaches of the defendants' contracts to faithfully serve the plaintiffs, and not to leave the plaintiffs' service without giving previous notice. The defendants denied the conspiracy, and alleged that they left their employment by the leave and license of the plaintiffs. Alternatively, they alleged that

they had been wrongfully dismissed, and counter-claimed damages.

At the trial there was a conflict of evidence as to what had passed at the interview between the managing director and the men on July 31st. On the defendants' part it was alleged that the director told them they might clear out, but this was denied. It was admitted that advertisements for men were inserted in newspapers by the plaintiffs on July 29th, but no men seemed to have been engaged by means of those advertisements. Evidence was given of serious interference with business owing to the defendants' conduct, and that the defendants were personally engaged in picketing. It was also proved that the men who had oined the Union were admitted members without entrance fee, and that after leaving their employment they were paid full wages by the Union. As to the allegation that the men had been dismissed, it was shown that they had never asked for wages, or alleged that they had been dismissed, until this action was brought; also that the journal of the Union published a statement that the men had come out on strike as a protest against the unfair conditions of their employment.

On behalf of the defendants it was argued that with regard to the

charge of failing to faithfully serve the plaintiffs they were protected by the Act which justified them in picketing. For the plaintiffs it was argued that picketing by a servant who had broken his contract and left without notice was a breach of the servant's obligation to faithfully serve his employer. The judge decided that picketing was a substantive offence, and that there was evidence for the jury on this head. The jury found a verdict for the plaintiffs and assessed the damages at £600. Judgment was

entered in accordance with such finding.

In this case the Union undertook to defend the action on behalf of their members.—Hammond & Co. v. Self and Others, King's Bench Division, April 8th, 9th and 10th, 1908.

#### (3) Friendly Societies Acts.

INSANE MEMBER OF SOCIETY: DISPUTE: MEMBER ACTING FOR INSANE: COSTS: POWER OF SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION.

It is provided by the Friendly Societies Act, 1896, that every dispute between a member of a friendly society and the society shall be decided in the manner directed by the rules of the society, and application for the enforcement of a decision so given may be made to a County Court.

A father and son were members of the same lodge of a friendly society, the former having been a member for over thirty years, and never having been fined for the infringement of any rule. The son became mentally afflicted, and had to be sent to a public asylum. Under the rules of the society, when a member becomes insane the sick allowance is paid to his friends for his use, unless he is maintained in any institution at the public expense. The father, in order that his son should not become a pauper, paid the expenses of his maintenance at the asylum, which were more than the amount of sick pay payable under the rules, and applied to the society for sick pay on behalf of his son. His application being refused, the matter in question came before the arbitrators of the lodge, who decided in favour of the son. Against this award the court of the lodge appealed to the District Arbitration Committee, who also decided in favour of the son. The court then appealed to the final tribunal of appeal of the society, and again the decision was the same. When payment was demanded, the court refused to pay from the date of the son's insanity, maintaining that by the rules they were only obliged to pay from the date of the insanity being duly certified to them, and the certificate was dated some five weeks later than the actual insanity. This dispute as to the date from which the payments were to be made led to a further submission by the father on behalf of the son to the District Arbitration Committee, who made an award in favour of the lodge's view, and ordered the father to pay the costs of the proceedings. The father refused to pay, on the ground that he was merely acting on his son's behalf. He was thereupon suspended. By the rules, in such a case neglect or refusal to comply with an order for twelve months had effect, so that the member in default could only rejoin the society as a new member, and on compliance with the order. The father for twelve months continued his refusal, and so, under the operation of the rule, became practically expelled from the society.

He then brought an action in the High Court against the officers of the society and the society for an injunction to restrain the defendants from depriving him of his benefits as a member of the society, and refusing to receive his subscriptions. It was contended on the plaintiff's behalf that the society had no power to suspend or expel him for refusing to pay the costs, as the proceedings were the son's not the plaintiff's, that the plaintiff was not acting in these proceedings as a member but as representing his son; and that any rule giving such power was ultra vires, and the proper mode of enforcing the order of the society was through the County Court as provided by the Act, and not otherwise. At the trial the judge decided in favour of the defendants and refused the

May, 1908.

judge decided in favour of the defendants and refused the injunction. The plaintiff appealed.

The Court of Appeal held that the judge was right in deciding that in substance, though not in form, the proceedings taken by the plaintiff for sick pay were taken on his own behalf rather than on his son's, and to recoup himself the money he had paid to the asylum; that a rule suspending or expelling a member for refusal to obey an order of the society is within the powers of a friendly society, and necessary for the working of such society; and that the exclusion or expulsion of the plaintiff was not a proceeding the exclusion or expulsion of the plaintiff was not a proceeding to enforce an order or decision but a penalty for refusing to obey the rules. The appeal was therefore dismissed.—Catt v. Wood and others, Court of Appeal, February 19th and April 10th, 1908.

#### (4) Miscellaneous.

DANGEROUS EMPLOYMENT: YOUNG PERSONS: OBLIGATION TO INSTRUCT: COMMON EMPLOYMENT: NEGLIGENCE.

A boy of twelve, a half-timer, was employed in a printing works. He was put by the foreman under the direction of a back-tenter. He was not employed in connection with the machinery when it was in motion, though it appears to have been part of his duty to clean portions of a certain machine when at rest. This machine was fenced as far as reasonably possible. On May 12th, 1907, when the boy was only in the second week of his employment, the back-tenter in the course of his duty went under the machine while it was in motion, holding a light. The boy, of his own accord, followed him, and sat down with his head under the rollers. In a few minutes he got frightened, and in getting out his hand was caught by the rollers, in consequence of which he lost three of his fingers.

The boy then brought an action at common law for damages in respect of his injuries against the printing company who employed him, alleging negligence on their part. In his evidence he said that he thought it was his duty to follow the back-tenter under the machine, and that nobody had warned him of the danger. Evidence was, however, given on the other side that the strictest orders had been given to all the defendant's forester that orders had been given to all the defendant's foremen to warn the boys under them, and that it was a common practice in the trade to employ young boys to help to clean the machines while at rest. The judge left the following questions to the jury which the jury answered as follows :-

Was it negligence on the part of the defendants to employ boys in the printing room, even though the machinery was not in motion?—Answer. Yes.

Were the defendants negligent in not taking proper precautions to have instructions given to the plaintiff?—Answer. No.

Were either of these acts of negligence the cause of the accident?

Was the plaintiff guilty of contributory negligence? - Answer. No

The jury assessed the damages at £225.

Notwithstanding this finding of the jury, the judge after consideration gave judgment for the defendants. He held that there was no question as to the competency of either the foreman or the back-tenter under whom the plaintiff was placed. He was not employed to work on the machine when in motion. If there was any negligence on the part of the back-tenter it was a case of common employment, and the defendants were not liable. He further held there was no evidence to support the finding of the jury that it was negligent on the defendants' part to employ boys in the printing room even when the machinery was at rest; and that if he was to uphold the finding of the jury he would have to affirm that it was negligent to employ boys in a position in which being mischievous they may get injured.—Stones v. Steiner & Co., Ltd., Manchester Assizes, February 28th, March 19th, and April 3rd, 1908.

APPRENTICESHIP: RETURN OF PREMIUM.

The Jewish Board of Guardians find the necessary money for apprenticing to trades a certain number of children in poor circumstances. They paid a premium of for a boy to a master who signed an indenture covenanting that he would, to the best of his power and ability, teach the apprentice his trade. The indenture also contained the following words: "And it is hereby agreed that, if the apprentice shall absent himself from work without just cause, the master will, on the request of the chairman, take all such proceedings at law or otherwise to compel the take all such proceedings at law or otherwise to compel the attendance of the apprentice as the chairman may require." The indenture continued: "And further that, in case of the breach, non-performance, or non-observance by the master of any of the covenants and provisions herein contained, or if it shall appear to the chairman that from any cause whatever either the master or the apprentice is unable to fulfil the conditions on his part herein contained, then the master shall on demand repay to the chairman a proportionate part of the premium paid." Before the time of apprenticeship had expired, the boy was taken to America by his father, and the guardians demanded a return of a proportionate part of the premium paid by them. The judge of the City of ondon Court, however, refused to order any repayment, and decided in favour of the master.

The guardians appealed, and it was contended on their behalf that under the indenture, as the master was "unable" to carry out his contract, the guardians were entitled to be repaid a part of the premium, which they proposed to use for the purpose of apprenticing other boys. It was argued for the master, on the other hand, that as he was able, ready and willing to carry out his undertaking, he was not bound to make any return of premium.

The High Court dismissed the appeal. They held that the premium was repayable only where the contract was broken by the master. If it was broken by the apprentice that breach was dealt with only by the earlier clause.—Morley v. Baumgart, King's Bench Division, April 10th, 1908.

### FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM. Summary for April.

IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL MERCHANDISE.

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

- <u></u> -	April.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in April, 1908, compared with		
	1906.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1905.	
	f	f	ſ	1	ſ	
IFood, Drink, and						
II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanu- factured*	16,482,728	23,061,635	14,637,231	-8,424,404	- 1,845,497	
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured+	12,569,563	13,901,170	12,623,824	-1,277,346	+ 54,261	
IV.—Miscellaneous and Un- classified (including Parcel Post)	193,308	188,852	161,274	- 27,578	- 32,034	
Total value of Imports	47,059,310	56,782,704	47,099,912	-9,682,792	+ 46,602	

#### EXPORTS OF PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

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

	April.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in April 1908, compared with		
	1906.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1906.	
IFood, Drink, and	£ 1,315,209	£ 1,475,293	£ 1,471,890	- £	+ £ 156,681	
II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanu- factured?	3,344.917	4,344,655	4,198,953	- 145,702	+ 854,036	
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured§	21,917,784	28,101,207	24,535,748	-3,565,459	+ 2,617,964	
IV.—Miscellaneous and Un- classified (including Parcel Post)	454,396	495,711	498,747	+ 3,036	+ 44,351	
Total value of Exports of British produce.	27,032,306	34,416,866	30,705,338	-3,711,528	+ 3,673,032	

to £7,332,086 in April, 1906; £9,669,898 in April, 1907, and £6,773,228 in April, 1908.

#### RAILWAY GOODS AND MINERAL TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

The goods and mineral traffic receipts of twenty of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the five weeks ended May 2nd 1908, amounted to £5,214,501, a decrease of £186,949 (or 3.5 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1907.

During the eighteen weeks ended May 2nd 1908, the receipts amounted to £18,992,639, a decrease of £618,805 (or 3.4 per cent.) as compared with the first four months of 1907.

		s ended nd, 1908.	18 weeks ended May 2nd, 1908.		
	Amount.	Increase(+) or Decrease (-) as compared with 1907.	Amount.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as com- pared with 1907.	
English Lines:	ſ	1	1	ſ	
L. & N. W., Midland, Gt. Central, N. London and N. Staffs.	1,930,356	- 81,828	7,190,203	- 251,611	
Gt. Northern, Gt. Eastern, and London & Tilbury	557,677	- 25,247	2,078,839	- 73.473	
Lancs. and Yorks., and N. Eastern	953,678	- 40,461	3,490,819	- 92,731	
L. & S.W., and Gt. Western	775,700	- 12,200	2,837,700	- 22,800	
L. B. & S. C., and S. E. & C. Scottish Lines:	173,265	- 6,861	634,798	- 29.391	
Glasgow & S. Western, N. British, and Caledonian  [rish Lines:—	666,147	- 24,360	2,240,291	- 148,270	
Gt. Southern and Western, Midland G.W., and Gt. Northern	157,678	+ 4,008	519,989	- 529	
Total	5,214,501	-186,949	18,992,639	- 618,805	

<sup>\*</sup> Raw cotton, wool, wood and timber, metallic ores, oils and oil-seeds, hides and skins, &c.
† Yarns and textile fabrics, manufactures of metal and leather, chemicals, &c.
† Coal, wool, oil seeds, &c., hides and skins.
§ Yarns, textile fabrics and apparel, metal manufactures, chemicals, &c.

#### FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN APRIL.

(Based on information supplied by the Home Office and the Board of Trade.) Exclusive of seamen, the number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during April, 1908, was 222, a decrease of 71 as compared with a month ago, and of 6 as compared with

The mean number for April in the years 1903-1907 was 215, the maximum year being 1906 with 236 deaths, and the minimum year 1905 with 180 deaths.

The total number of fatal accidents at mines and

quarries in April, 1908, was 95, as compared with 145 in March, and 98 a year ago. The total number of fatal accidents reported under the Factory and Workshop Act during April, 1908, was 91, as compared with 104 in the previous month, and 90 a year ago. The corresponding figures for workpeople employed in

the railway service were 34, 43, and 36 respectively.

The number of fatal accidents to seamen reported during April, 1908, was 133, as compared with 117 in

both March, 1908, and April, 1907.

During the four months ended April, 1908, the total number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment (exclusive of seamen) was 1,064, as compared with 988 in the corresponding period of 1907. The total number of seamen killed during the same period was 486 in 1908, and 542 in 1907.

Trade.	Numb	er of Work killed durin	speople ig	Decreas April,	e (+) or e (-) in 1908, as ed with a
	April,	March, 1908.	April, 1907.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Railway Service—					
Brakesmen and Goods Guards Engine Drivers	3 2	8 3	5 2	- 5 - 1	- 2
Firemen	3	4	4	- I + I	- I + I
Guards (Passenger) Permanent Way Men (not	3	8	6	T 5	- 3
including Labourers)		1		+ 3	+ 1
Porters Shunters	4 3	7	3 1	- 4	+ 2
Miscellaneous	13	II	15	+ 2 + 1	- 2 + 2
Contractors' Servants	2				
Total, Railway Service	34	43	36	- 9	_ 2
Mines-			8r	- 40	- 6
Underground Surface	<b>75</b> 15	20	10	- 5	+ 5
Total, Mines	90	135	91	- 45	- 1
Quarries over 20 feet deep	5	10	7	— в	- 2
Factories (including Workshops)					
Textile-	4	8	4	- 4	
Wool and Worsted	3	I	2	+ 2	+ 1
Wool and Worsted Other Textiles		•	3	***	- 3
Extraction of Metals Founding and Conversion	4 3	4	14	8	+ 4
of Metals  Marine and Locomotive	ī	3	5	- 2	- 4
Engineering		2012		+ 2	+ 8
Ship and Boat Building Wood	15	13	7 3	- i	- 3
Chemicals	2	4	4	- 2	- 2
Laundries	34	1 41	26	+ 1	+ 2 + 8
OtherNon-Textile Industries	68	87	68	- 19	
Total, Factories	- 08	01	- 40		•••
Accidents reported under					
Factory Act, Ss. 103-5— Docks, Wharves and Quays	11	8	14	+ 3	- 3 - 1
Warehouses Buildings to which Act applies	I	2 7	6	+ 4	+ 5
Diminings to which riot approx	No.				
Total under Factory Act, Ss. 103-5	23	17	22	+ 6	+ 1
Accidents reported under	2	1	4	+ 1	- 2
Notice of Accidents Act, 1894	4/1/1/1/1/1/1				
Total, exclusive of Seamen	222	293	228	- 71	- 6
Seamen-		V 44 44		1000	
On Trading Vessels— Sailing	71	42	30	+ 29	+ 41
	52	61	62	- 9	- 10
Steam				PROPERTY AND PERSONS IN	
Steam On Fishing Vessels—	3	3	S		+ 3
Steam	3 7	3	25	-"4	+ 3 - 18
Steam On Fishing Vessels— Sailing	3 7 133		25 117	- <sup>4</sup> + 16	+ 3 - 18 + 16

#### DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

THE total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshops Act during April was 61, consisting of 53 cases of lead poisoning, 2 of arsenic poisoning, and 6 of anthrax. In addition to the above, 13 cases of lead poisoning (including 2 deaths) were reported during April among house painters and plumbers.

During the four months ended April, 1908, the total number of cases of poisoning and anthrax was 235, as compared with 161 in 1907. The number of deaths during the same period was 11, as against 14 in 1907. In addition there were 62 cases of lead poisoning (including 11 deaths) among house painters and plumbers during the first four months of 1908, as compared with 47 cases (including 13 deaths) in the first four months of 1907.

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

		CASES		E	EATHS	
Industry,	Month of April, 1908.		nths led	Month of April, 1908.	Mor end Apr	led
	1900.	1908.	1907.	29001	1908.	1907
		L	ad Po	isonin	g.	
Smelting of Metals	9	24	3	ı	1	1
Smelting of Metals Brass Works	1	2 7	至			
Plumbing and Soldering	2 2	7 7	5 7	_		
Printing	ī	5 5	2	-	-	-
File Cutting	-	I	10	-	-	
White Lead Works	3	22	17	-	-	-
	16*	5 41	3 22	3	5	5
Litho-Transfer Works	-	-	I		-	-
Glass Cutting and Polishing Enamelling of Iron Plates		1 2				
Electrical Accumulator Works	4	II	3 6	7	I	=
Paint and Colour Works	4 6	9 24	16	_	_	-
Shipbuilding	-	3	10		=	=
Paint used in other Industries Other Industries	3 2	22	9		1	_
Total in Factories and Workshops	53	203	131	4	8	6
House Painting and Plumbing	13	62	47	2	II	13
	0	ther I	forms	of Poi	soning	g.
Mercurial Poisoning-						
Barometer and Thermometer Making Furriers' Processes		7-	2		-	-
Other Industries	-	1	-	-		-
Total	_	1	2	_		_
	2000000		I			1
Phosphorus Poisoning—	500 E 60		GROUP STREET		STATE OF THE PARTY NAMED IN	_
Lucifer Match Works	=		_	_	-	
Other Industries	=	-			_	1
Control Match Works	Ξ	-	1	_	-	1
Other Industries  Total  irrenic Poisoning— Paints. Colours, and Extraction of		_ _ _	1 2	1		1 -
Cotal				1 1		1 - -
Other Industries  Total  Arcenic Poisoning— Paints, Colours, and Extraction of Arcenic						1 - -
Other Industries	-	9	2			1 - - - 1
Contier Match Works Other Industries  Total  Trenic Poisoning— Paints, Colours, and Extraction of Arsenic Other Industries		9 - 9	2 - 2 5	- - - - -		
Total	2 2	9 10	2 - 2 8 Ansi	nrax.		- - - 1
Total		9 - 9	2 — 2 5 Ansi			1 1
Total	2 2	9 - 9 10	2 - 2 - 5 Ansi	arax.	1 - 1	- - 1
Total	2 2	9 9 10	2 — 2 5 Ansi	nrax.	1 2	1 1
Cother Industries	2 2	9 9 10	2 - 2 5 Anst		=	1

Libraries, Mercantile Marine Offices, and Sailors' Homes throughout the country.

\* Of the 16 persons affected in the China and Earthenware Industry, 9 were

#### TRADE DISPUTES IN APRIL.\*

Number and Magnitude.—Twenty-six disputes began in April, 1908, as compared with 23 in March, 1908, and 39 in April, 1907. By the 26 disputes, 4,062 workpeople were directly and 1,628 indirectly affected; and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople affected by old disputes which began before April, and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 36,786 workpeople involved in trade disputes during April, 1908, compared with 39,178 in March, 1908, and 15,586 in April, 1907

New Disputes in April, 1908.—In the following Table the new disputes in April are summarised by

	Trades.					No. of Workpeople affected				
Т	rades				No. of Disputes.	Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
Building Mining and Quar					7 6	913 1,286	172	1,085		
Metal, Engineer			ipbuile		3	310	236	546		
Textile Trades	***	***	•••	•••	3 3	714	•••	714		
Clothing		***			2	133		133		
Dock Labour	•••		•••	***	I	400	100	500		
Other Trades	***		•••	•••	4	306		306		
Total, April,	1908				26	4,062	1,628	5,690		
Total, March	, 1908			•••	23	4,027	1,097	5,124		
Total, April,	1907				39	8,024	1,706	9,730		

Causes.—Of the 26 new disputes, 9 arose on demands for increased wages, 3 on objections to reduction in wages, 5 on other wages questions, 1 for reduction in hours of labour, 3 on details of working arrangements, and 5 on questions of the employment of particular classes or persons.

Results.-Definite results were reported in the case of 14 new disputes, directly affecting 1,995 persons, and 9 old disputes, directly affecting 799 persons. Of these 23 new and old disputes, 6, directly involving 556 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 11,

the employers; and 6, directly involving 949 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 3 other disputes, work has been resumed pending further consideration.

Aggregate Duration.— The aggregate duration in April of disputes that started or were settled in that month was 65,600 working days. In addition, 700,200 working days were lost during April owing to disputes which began before that month and were still in progress where the description. at the end of the month. Thus the total duration in April of all disputes, new and old, was 765,800 working days, as compared with 791,400 in the previous month, and 148,500 in the corresponding month of 1907.

Summary for the First Four Months of 1907 and 1908.†—Summarised by trades, the number of disputes, the workpeople affected, and the aggregate duration in working days, for the four months January-April, 1907 and 1908, respectively, were as follows:-

	J	anApril,	1907.	JanApril, 1908.				
Groups of Trades.	No. of Dis- putes.	Number of Work- people affected,	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Work- people affected.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.		
Building	II	. 483	6,400	9	2,121	48,600		
Mining and Quarrying	33	14,931	173,900	26	11,791	412,200		
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	29	5,863	146,600	20	32,661	1,773,100		
Textile	73	20,729	202,200	28	8,624	254,600		
Clothing	13	2,123	14,100	16	1,442	35,250		
Transport	8	2,101	7,900	7	1,843	15,000		
Other Trades	22	1,893	37,500	19	1,793	31,700		
Total	189	48,123	588,600	125	60,275	2,570,400		

Principal Disputes .- Particulars of the principal disputes which began, or were settled, in April are given below. The details of the other disputes in progress during April are not separately stated in this Table, directly involving 1,289 persons, were decided in favour of but they are included in the preceding statistics.

Principal Trade Disputes

		STATE OF THE PARTY	STATE OF THE PARTY	The same of the sa	Charles of the latest of the l		
Occupations.‡	Locality.	Work	ber of people cted.	Date when Dispute	Dura- tion in Work-	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.‡
		Di- rectly.	Indi- rectly.‡	began			
Building Trades—				1908			
Painters and Decorators	Blackburn	200		ı April	15	For advance in wages from 8½d. to gd. per hour.	Dispute referred to arbitration.
Painters	Oldham	350		ı April		For advance in wages from 8½d. to gd. per hour.	No settlement reported.
Bricklayers' Labourers  and Bricklayers  Cotton Manufacture—	Wallasey	60	132	r April	14	Against proposed increase in number of bricks to be carried	Number of bricks carried remain unchanged; wages be advanced ½d. per hour af two months.
Cotton Spinners and Card and Blowing Room Operatives	Blackburn	450		23 April	6	Alleged bad material	Material inspected and found ba satisfactory.
Dock Labour— Coal Trimmers, Shippers, Weighmen, &c.	Newport, Mon.	400	100	ı April	3	Against adoption of Cardiff coal- trimming tariff, involving re-	Compromise effected.

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

In making up the totals for the several months of the year, the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information.

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

## REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES ON CHECKWEIGHING IN CHALK AND LIMESTONE QUARRIES AND IN CEMENT AND LIME WORKS.

Chalk Quarries and Cement Works, and in Limestone Quarries and Lime Works, have presented their Reports to the Home Office. §

The Committees recommend that the workmen should be granted facilities for verifying the weight or measurement of the chalk, limestor, cement, &c., according to which they are paid. Various methods for doing this are recommended according to circumstances: for example, the appointment of a checkweighman to test the weight or to verify the tare of wagons; or a requirement that wagon-loads should be weighed or measured in cases where disputes arise; or in certain cases the

§ Cd. 4,002 : Wyman & Sons, Ltd., price 4d.

THE Departmental Committees on Checkweighing in | right to appoint a representative to examine the

employers' books.

The Committee recommend that the checkweighman or other representative of the workmen should be appointed by the men, in the same manner as checkweighmen under the Coal Mines Regulation Act; that he should be paid by the men; and that in any legislation on the subject provisions similar to those contained in the Coal Mines Regulation Act should be inserted for removing a checkweighman who abuses his powers, or for prohibiting such person from again acting in that capacity. They also recommend the insertion of provisions making it a criminal offence for checkweighmen to use their knowledge of trade secrets obtained in the course of their employment, to the detriment of the employers.

#### CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.\*

Changes taking effect in April.—The net result of all the changes taking effect in April, 1908, was a decrease of £10,571 per week, as compared with a decrease of £731 per week in March, 1908, and an increase of £11,852 per week in April, 1907. The number of workpeople affected was 204,255, of whom 1,102 received advances amounting to £82 per week, and 203,153 sustained decreases amounting to £10,653 per week. The total number affected in the preceding month was 22,650, and in April, 1907, 215,257.

Two changes, affecting 2,019 workpeople, were

Two changes, affecting 2,019 workpeople, were settled by arbitration; four changes, affecting 134,260 workpeople, were arranged by Conciliation Boards; one change, affecting 400 workpeople, was settled by mediation; and nineteen changes affecting 28 075 mediation; and nineteen changes, affecting 38,975 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting 28,601 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives. In two of the above cases, affecting 1,919 workpeople, the changes were preceded

by disputes causing stoppage of work.

Summary for the four completed months of 1908.— The total number of workpeople (separate individuals) whose wages were changed, so far as reported, in the four months ended April 30th, 1908, was 804,487, as compared with 887 887 in the corresponding period of 1907. pared with 985,987 in the corresponding period of 1907. The changes arranged gave 513,612 workpeople a net increase of £21,965 per week, and 284,875 workpeople a net decrease of £17,481 per week, whilst the remaining 6,000 had upward and downward changes, which left their wages at the same level as at the beginning of the year. The net effect of the changes was thus an increase of £4,484 per week, as compared | statistics.

with an increase of £66,625 per week in the correspond-

Groups of Trades.	January—April.							
Groups of Trades.	19	07.	1908.					
Building	No. 222 805,150 11,314 2,396 15,301 44,532 8,521	£ + 12 + 57,154 + 799 + 126 + 937 + 2,753 + 440	No. 253 631,500 8,543 2,190 15,933 49,293 71,610	+ 27 +10,946 - 868 - 218 - 1,611 - 3,014 - 2,639				
Other Metal Trades Textile Trades Printing, &c., Trades Glass, &c., Trades Cher Trades Employees of Local Authorities  Total	 89,168 4,011 3,788 894 684 985,987	+ 1 + 3,685 + 228 + 386 + 63 + 41 + 66,628	2,519 6,087 7,210 5,045 2,580 1,724 804,487	- 271 + 828 + 679 + 354 + 103 + 168				

#### Hours.

The only change in hours of labour taking effect in April, 1908, affected 12 workpeople, whose aggregate working time was reduced by 18 hours per week. The total number of workpeople reported as affected by changes in hours of labour in the four months ended April 30th, 1908, was 3,641, the net decrease in their working hours being 5,854 per week.

Principal Changes in Wages in April.

Particulars of the principal changes in rates of wages taking effect in April are given below. The details of the other changes reported are not separately stated in the Table, but they are included in the preceding

		F	RINCIPAL CHANGES IN RAT	res o	F WAG	ES IN APRIL.
Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change takes	Occupation.	Nun	ximate ber of people ted by	Particulars of Change, (Decreases in italics.)
		effect in 1908.		In- crease.	De- crease.	
	Northumberland	6 & 13 April	Underground Workers and Banks- men (except Deputies, Mechanics, Enginemen and Firemen) Other Surface Workers	}	38,000	Decrease of 1½ per cent., leaving wages 46½ per cent. above the standard of November, 1879.  Decrease of 1 per cent., leaving wages 37 per cent. above the
Coal Mining	Cumberland	13 April	Hewers and other Underground Workers		6,000	standard of November, 1879.  Decrease of 2\frac{1}{2} per cent., leaving wages of Hewers 55 per cent.  and of other Underground Workers 45 per cent. above the standard of 1879.
	Scotland	27 Apl.	Underground Workers		90,000	Decrease of 6½ per cent., leaving wages 81½ per cent. above the standard of 1838.
Iron Mining	Cleveland	27 April	Surfacemen, Mechanics and Firemen Ironstone Miners		7,500	Decrease of 1d. per shift.  Decrease of 5 per cent., leaving wages 28\frac{3}{2} per cent. above the standard of 1879.
Quarrying	Weardale	27 April	Limestone Quarrymen		1,700	Decrease of 5 per cent., leaving wages 282 per cent. above the standard of 1879.
1,1,1,2	Cleveland and Durham	4 April	Blastfurnacemen	•	5,500	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 5 per cent., leaving wages 22\frac{3}{4} per cent. above the standard of 1879.
	West Cumberland	ı April	Blastfurnacemen	•••	1,400	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 11 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>4</sub> per cent., leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard of 1889.
Pig Iron Manufacture	North Staffordshire	6 April	Blastfurnacemen		600	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 4\frac{3}{2} per cent., leaving wages 24\frac{1}{2} per cent. above the standard.  Decrease, under sliding scale, of 2\frac{3}{2} per cent.
	South Staffordshire South Wales and	1 April	Blastfurnacemen		1,000	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 6½ per cent., leaving wages
	Monmouthshire Consett, Jarrow	1 April	Steel Millmen		1,184	214 per cent, above the standard of 1895.  Decrease, under sliding scale, of 24 per cent., leaving wages
	and Newburn Workington	4 April	Steel Melters, Millmen, Enginemen,		1,519	15 per cent. above the standard. Decrease of 10 per cent.
Iron and Steel Mannfacture	Midlands(including parts of S. Yorks and S. Lancs.)	6 Apl. {	&c.  Iron Puddlers  Iron Millmen	}	20,000	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 3d. per ton (9s. 6d. to 9s. 3d.) Decrease, under sliding scale, of 2½ per cent.
	South Wales and	1 April	Iron and Steel Workers and Mechanics		5,000	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 6½ per cent., leaving wages 2½ per cent. above the standard of 1895.
	Monmouthshire	6 April	Iron Puddlers, Iron & Steel Millmen, Enginemen, &c.		1,611	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 21 per cent.
Boot and Shoe	Northampton	11 April	Lasters and Finishers	500		Advance of is. per week in minimum rate of wages (28s. to

Note.—Coal Mining.—Early in May it was arranged that the rates of wages of miners in Durham should be reduced by 2½ per cent., and those of deputies, mechanics, and enginemen in Northumberland by 1d. per day, and of firemen by 1 per cent.

Pig Iron Wanufacture.—Reductions of 2½ per cent. took place early in May in the rates of wages of blastfurnacemen in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, and in Scotland.

and in Scotland.

Iron and Steel Manufacture.—Under the sliding scale arrangement, steel melters and pitmen in Great Britain sustained a reduction of 32 per cent. early in May. It is also reported that steel millmen, &c., in Scotland sustained a reduction of 22 per cent. on May 17th.

\*\* Based on information obtained from all available sources, verified and corrected by direct application to the Employers, Trade Unions, and other parties concerned. In making up the totals for the several months of the year, the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information. The following kinds of changes are not included in the statistics:—(1) Changes in wages affecting agricultural labourers, seamen, and railway servants; (2) Increments according under scales of pay, as in the case of policemen, some municipal employees, &c. (3) Changes in pay of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c.

#### PAUPERISM IN APRIL.

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

THE number of paupers relieved on one day in April, 1908, in the 35 selected urban districts named below, corresponded to a rate of 221 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Compared with March, 1908, the total number of paupers relieved decreased by 10,904 (2.7 per cent.), and the rate per 10,000 by 6. The number of indoor paupers showed a decrease of 5,230 (2.9 per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers a decrease of 5,674 (2.6 per cent.). There were increases in 3 districts, the greatest being in the Galway district (21 per 10,000). In 32 districts there were decreases, most marked in the Leicester district and in the Cork, Waterford and Limerick district (26 and 14 per 10,000 respectively).

Compared with April, 1907, the rate per 10,000 increased by 5. The number of indoor paupers increased by 8,836 (5.2 per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers by 4,800 (2.3 per cent.). Increases occurred in 21 districts, the most marked being in the Stockton and Tees district (83 per 10,000). In 14 districts there were decreases.

	Pa second	week of	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in			
Selected Urban Districts.	In- door.	Out-door.	Total.	Rate per 10,000 of Esti-	rate per of Popul comp wi	ation as ared th
				mated Popula- tion.	month ago.	year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.*		4				
West District	12,011	3,335	15,346	180	- 7	- 1
North District	16,667	9.953	26,620	245	- 12	+ 7
Central District	7,128	2,539	9,667	521 337	- 10	- 6
East District	27,286	7,998	47,322	248	- 4 - II	+ 22 + 8
	79,480	43,861	123,341	259	- 10	+ 7
West Ham	4,273	12,294	16,567	227	- 11	- 4
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District	2,675	6,141	8,816	195	- 3	+ 16
Stockton & Tees District	1,412	6,024	7,436	335 132	- 2 - 1	+ 83
Bolton, Oldham, &c Wigan District	2,274	5,946	8,220	202	- 4	- 3 - 3
Manchester District	10,653	8,958	19,611	202	- 5	+ 12
Liverpool District	12,915	11,340	24,255	229	+ 1	+ 15
Bradford District	1,982	2,524	4,606	124	- 4	+ 2
Halifax & Huddersfield	1,326 2,979	4,131	5,457 8,101	149	- 3	+ 1
Leeds District Barnsley District	761	2,978	3,739	147	- 5 - 4	- 9 - 7
Sheffield District	3,340	3,614	6,954	153	- 3	+ 6
Hull District	1,719	5,623	7,342	258	- 4	+ 8
North Staffordshire	2,330	7,098	9,428	244	- 12	- 17
Nottingham District	2,288 1,636	6,134	8,422	198	- 4 - 26	- 1
Leicester District Wolverhampton District	3,883	3,957	5,593	236 236	- 4	- 23 - 1
Birmingham District	5,498	3,876	9,374	158	- 7	+ 10
Bristol District	3,038	6,437	9,475	237	- 5	- 4
Cardiff & Swansea	2,340	7,805	10,145	259	- 4	+ 10
Total, "Other Districts"	67,301	115,744	183,045	199	- 4	+ 5
SCOTLAND.*				236	1	
Glasgow District Paisley & Greenock District	5,969	17,936	23,905	198	- 2 + 2	+ 11
Edinburgh & Leith District	1,857	5,483	7,340	176	- 7	+ 14
Dundee & Dunfermline	934	2,674	3,608	179	- 6	+ 3
Aberdeen	756	3,229	3,985	228	- 5	- 14
Coatbridge & Airdrie	400	1,525	1,925	196	- 4	+ 1
Total for the above Scottish Districts	10,788	33,559	44,347	213	- 3	+ 5
IRELAND.†	W. C. C.					
Dublin District	7,362	5,430	12,792	319	- 8	+ 3
Belfast District	3,951	734	4,685	111	- 5	+ 13
Cork, Waterford & Limerick District	4,677	4,902	9,579	393	- 14	+ 9
Galway District	284	502	786	225	+ 21	+ 29
Total for the above Irish Districts	16,274	11,568	27,842	253	- 7	+ 8
Total for above 35 Dis- tricts in April, 1908	178,116	217,026	395,142	221	- 6	+ 5

\* 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.

#### DISTRESS COMMITTEES IN APRIL.

Note.—Labour Bureaux which are identical with Distress (Committies are included in this Table. For particulars of other Labour Bureaux see page 162.

THE following Table shows the number of applicants to Distress Committees returned as "known to be com of work" at the end of April, by those Committees whose registers were still open at that date. The registers of the London Distress Committees were closed for the receipt of new applications on April 4th, except for emigration, special "colony" cases, and (for the present) women's work. Other Committees closed there registers for new applications on March 31st, or at various dates during the month of April. None of these Committees are included in the following Table :-

			ARREST DESCRIPTION OF THE PERSON AND ADDRESS OF THE PERSON ADDRESS OF THE PERSON AND ADDRESS OF THE PERSON AND ADDRESS OF
Distress Committees.	No. returned as "known to be out of work" in April, 1908.	Distress Committees,	No. returned as "known to the out of work "ion April, 1906.
Outer London:—		South Shields	
0	160	Ctoolston	2,342
	A SUSCIONARY STREET, S	C11	1215
	1,032		2,996
Leyton Tottenham	1,244	Tynemouth (North	350
West Ham	2,332	Shields)	
west nam	3,206	Wolverhampton	307
Dawn in Frances		Yarmouth	
Barrow-in-Furness	932	York	3745
Birkenhead	394	Other Towns (17)	A端鹤
Birmingham	842		Service Control of the Control of th
Bolton	396	Total, England and	27,938
Bradford	960	Wales	
Devonport	337		
Erith	450	Aberdeen	
Halifax	237	Edinburgh	T;640
Hull	1,632	Glasgow	2,600
Leeds	541	Govan	420
Leicester	945	Other towns (4)	441
Liverpool	1,159		
Manchester	138*	Total, Scotland	5,394
Middlesbrough	434		
Norwich	1,331	Ireland (Dublin only)	2,963
Sheffield	1,486		
Southampton	221	Total, United Kingdom	36,266

The following Table shows the amount of employment-relief provided by all Committees, including those whose registers were not open for the receipt of new

Distress Committees.	No. given Employment- relief. ‡	Aggregate duration of Employment-relief.	Amountal Wagesgaid
London (Central Body): At Hollesley Bay In Women's Workrooms In Parks, &c At Alexandra Palace By arrangement with Borough Councils	284 129 1,869 443 63	Days. 6,456 3,184 28,668 9,165 1,350	736 305 6,026 2,742 200
Total, London Outer London (8 Committees)	2,788 3,434	48,763 23, <b>82</b> 1	10,29E 4,557
Barrow Bristol Erith Hull Leeds Leicester Liverpool Manchester Newcastle-on-Tyne Northampton Norwich Plymouth and Devonport Reading South Shields Sunderland Wolverhampton Varmouth Other Towns (12)  Total, England and Wales	Not stated 245 250 590 85\$ 147 137 105 387 85 252 264 98 670 1,658 209 80 535	2,212 1,755 1,046 1,426 1,426 1,572 2,615 962 3,773 1,215 2,942 2,589 1,055 3,304 9,748 745 1,288 4,734	390 330 2135 454 215 215 215 390 435 435 435 436 176 178 178 178 178 178 178 178 178 178 178
Aberdeen	303 829 1,218 63 264 46   45	3,200 15,331 23,963 1,175 3,682 3671 927 48,645	400 1,760 2,580 2,580 431 482 2285 5,545
Total, United Kingdom	14,926	168,592	28,118

The average number of days' relief given was between 11 and 12, and the average amount of wages paid was about 37s. 7d., or 3s. 4d. per day.

\* This is the number on the register of the Distress Committee proper; the umber on the "unemployed register" was 636.
† Number accertained to be out of work at Census taken during April.
† Including some not registered by the Distress Committees.
§ Including 38 on piecework, the aggregate duration of whose employment

Including 12 on piecework, the aggregate duration of whose employment

#### LABOUR BUREAUX IN APRIL.\*

Note.—Labour bureaux whose registers are identical with those of Distress Committees are excluded from this Table. For statistics of the work of Distress Committees in April see page 161.

RETURNS were received relating to the work of 47 Labour Bureaux during April; of these Bureaux 29 299; other trades, men and boys, 352; women and girls, Labour Bureaux during April; of these Bureaux 29 were in London (including West Ham), and 18 in the provinces. Of the 29 London Bureaux, 26 are affiliated to the Central Employment Exchange, and are under the control of the Central (Unemployed) Body for London.

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The total number of applications for work during the month was 14,604, of which 12,065 were in London, and 2,539 in the provinces. The number of situations offered by employers was 4,120, and the number of situations filled through the Bureaux was 2,973, or 20'4 per cent. of the applications received, and 72.2 per cent. of the situations offered. The number of permanent situations filled was 1,624 (or 54.6 per cent.), and temporary 1,349 (or 45.4 per cent). The majority of situations found were in unskilled occupations. The persons for whom situations were found through the London Bureaux affiliated to the Central Exchange were divided by trades as follows: building trades (artisans and labourers), 324; wood-working trades, 47; metal and engineering trades,

438. The figures for the non-affiliated Bureaux are as follows: building trades, 106; metal and engineering trades, 56; carters and stablemen, clerks, warehousemen, porters and messengers, 356; general labourers 35; bill distributors, 281; employees of local authorities, 35; charwomen and domestic servants, 164; other occupations, 189. In addition, the Salvation Army authorities found work for 112 men.

At 42 of the Bureaux mentioned below, figures for 1907 are available. The number of applicants registered at these Bureaux was 14,305 in April, 1908, as compared with 9,916 in April, 1907. Employers offered 3,954 situations during April, 1908, of which 2,854 were filled. In April, 1907, 4,485 situations were offered, and 2,932 filled. The number of workpeople on the registers at the end of April, 1908, was 12,049, as compared with 13,747 in April, 1907.

WORK DONE BY EACH BUREAU DURING APRIL

		WOR	K DO	NE BY	EAC	H BUI	REAU	DURI.	NG AI	PRIL,	1908.					
			- p		S	ituation	s Fille	1.			Appli	cants R	emainin	g on t	he Regi	sters.
Name of Bureau.	New Appli- cants.		Build- ing Trades.	Metal and En- gineer- ing Trades.	and	pations Men &				Total	Build- ing Trades	gineer-	and	Other Occu- pations Men & Boys.		Total
									1	1		1				1
London Bureaux affiliated to the Central Exchange.	100000000000000000000000000000000000000			2	15	10	16	34	9	43	14	15	63	32	20	144
Battersea (332, Park Rd., S.W. Bermondsey (3, Fort Buildings, Southwark Park Rd.)	353	49	3	4	9	10	14	39	I	40	4	14	67	42	16	143
Bethnal Green (11, Green St., E.) Camberwell(131PeckhamRd.S.E)	725 591	84	2 8	6 2	28	39 6	23 44 8	108	8	53	21 73	25 27	191	201	109	547 372
Chelsea (91, Church St., S.W.) City of London (78, Temple	712	51	8 25	4	6 4	6 19	16	20 51	17	28 68	14	3	35	24	17	93
Chambers, Temple Aven, E.C.) Deptford (13, Deptford Bridge) Finsbury and Holborn (48)	The state of the s	90	23	8 4	4 19	36 22	11 24	73 52	9 18	82	20 8	18	27 57	44 50	19 52	128
Myddleton St.) Fulham(Effie Rd., Walham Green)	388	66	8	4	21	22	10	53	12	65	16	21	41	79	14	171
Greenwich (10, Nelson St.) Hackney & Stoke Newington (24, Amburst Rd.)	300	39 86	13		6 7	9 24	15	37 54		37 64	34	18	129	123	16	99 331
Hammersmith(20, Queen St., W.) Hampstead (210, West End Lane)	168	92 64	15	13	29 13	28	7 10	66 27	19	92 46	37 16	7	61 24	86 26	7 21	94 478
Kensington (155, Clarendon Rd.)	379	94	73 2 5	2 2	24 17 12	30 17	11 21 12	79 31 45	43 39 3	70 48	95 14 18	50 4 26	203 54 90	93 33 67 62	37 29 18	134 219
Lambeth (120A, Lambeth Rd.) Lewisham (246, High St.) Paddington (303, Harrow Rd., W.)	395	93 156	36	2	3 2	16	5 33	45 58 57	4	68	18	17	97	65	28 78	222
Poplar (127, East India Dock Rd.) St. Pancras (19, Crowndale Rd.)	285 418	57 36	7	3 3	5 5	9	29	40 20 61	9	60	59	68	97	94 65	75 29 6	393 229 62
St., Marylebone (25, Paddington St., W.)		148	13		30	25	28	56	35	96	. 3	16	31 61	63	17	160
Shoreditch (134F, Kingsland Rd.) Southwark (23, New Kent Rd.) Stepney (463, Commercial Rd. E.)	478	73 66 75			12 8	21 18	28 15	60	1 39	61 52	3 2 35	8 21	69 190	51 93	41 54	171 393
Wandsworth (213, Garratt Lane) Woolwich (20, Albion Rd.)	315	49 86	7 10	35	7 2	6 12	9	68 		68 	18	56	46 82	46 41	7 18	139 215
Central Exchange  Total of above	9,291	2,161	324	100	299	478	438	1,278	361	1,639	597	517	2,027	1,656	780	5,577
Other London Bureaux.	0.160	602	10		7	585		7	595	602	59	35	220	197		511
Salvation Army (20-22, White- chapel Rd., E.) West Ham (29, Broadway, Strat-		602	2	***		5	•••	4	3	7	17	14	55	58	17	161
ford) Westminster (Caxton Hall, S.W.)	154	79	2		22	17	21	30	32	62	10	6	106	101	69	292
Total, "Other London"	2,774	704	14		29	607	21	41	630	671	86	55	381	356	86	954
Provincial Bureaux. Birmingham (144, Gt. Charles St.)	161	8	2		ı	5	•••	2	6	8	34	234	147	101	r	517
Coventry (3, Market Hall Arcade) Croydon (Town Hall)	156 221	56 128 6	4 21	30	4 3 1	94	2	31	91	52 122 6	34 114 20	269 16 42	42 26 150	103 · 32 38	6	194
Dudley (Stone St.) Ipswich (135, Fore St.) Liverpool (Municipal Buildings,	16 33 45	16	I II 2			4 1 6	I	3 1 6	12	13	12	<sub>I</sub>	4	6	5 53	250 27 61
Dale Street) Manchester (King St., West	358	181	17	1, 15	24	7	75	74	64	138	37	91	232	116	210	686
Deansgate) Newcastle-on-Tyne (22, Royal	215	14	•••		ı	I	9	4	7	11	18	128	1,093	154	38	1,431
Arcade) Nottingham (Shakespeare Villas) Plymouth (Municipal Buildings)	46 81	2I 34	14	2	4 20	2 4		18	3 17	2I 29	12 25	35 4	8 <sub>3</sub> 54	41 24	11	182
Reading (Abattoirs Rd.) Salford (Town Hall)	12 38	6	3		2	2	<sub>I</sub>	2 2	4	6	II	15	12 27	5 7	18	78
Warrington (Bank House, San- key St.) Aberdeen (41A, Castle St.)	160 80	96	2		29	3 2	II	15	30	15	17 62	52	165	93	125	327
Dundee(DunhopePkorTownHall Edinburgh (25, North Bridge St.)	12 45	4 51	1 2		2 10	19	20	I 20	3	51	16 90	105	206	8 161	16	284 38 578 565
Glasgow (15-17, Duke St.) Govan (Town Hall)	732 128	609	7		34	23	65	60	• 70	130	52 12	60 189	178	95 10	180	565 438
Total, Provincial Bureaux	2,539	1,255	gr	51	147	188 *	186	305	358	663	567	1,262	2,701	1,020	681	6,231
Grand Total	14,604	4,120	429	151	475	1,273	645	1,624	1,349	2,973	1,250	1,834	5,109	3,032	1,547	12,772

\*The figures for the London Bureaux affiliated to the Central Employment Exchange relate to the 4 weeks ended April 24th, 1908; for the other Bureaux the paniculars relate to work done during the calendar month.

May, 1908.

#### WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN APRIL.

DURING April 762 fresh applications (399 from domestic servants, &c.) for work were registered by 9 Bureaux furnishing returns, and 780 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 255 persons, of whom 149 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 255 situations found for applicants, 177 were of a more or less permanent character, while 78 were temporary only.

The demand for cooks and parlourmaids was greatly in excess of the supply; the supply of ladies' maids and companions was greatly in excess of the demand; supply and demand were fairly well balanced in the case of housemaids and children's nurses.

The work done by the Bureaux during April is shown in the following Table:—

	by W	ations ork-	Situa	d by	Number of Workpeople engaged by Employers					
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	dur	ple	Emple		Perinen			em- arily.		
	April,	April, 1907.	April, 1908.	April, 1907.	April, 1908.	April, 1907.	April, 1908.	April, 1907.		
		Artists.	Sum	mary	by Bu	reaux.				
Gentral Bureau 9, Southampton Street, High Holborn.	87	94	66	58	24	10	6	12		
26, George Street (1) Hanover Sq., W. (2) Dublin:—		415	465 114	508	69 41	74 31	36 17	2I 7		
30, Molesworth Street Other Bureaux (Liverpool Manchester, Watford		72	31	40	4	19	-	4		
Edinburgh and Glasgow	124	122	104	100	39	29	19	15		
Total of g Bureaux	762	816	780	876	177	163	78	59		
			Summ	ary b	y Occu	pation	ns.			
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc Shop Assistants Dressmakers, Milliners, etc Secretaries, Clerks, Typist Apprentices and Learners Domestic Servants Miscallaneous Total	59 60 10 399 127	70 23 68 87 3 433 132	23 8 81 33 24 550 61	33 5 135 20 32 590 61	10 1 37 11 6 98 14	11 1 29 9 4 91 18	1 10 14 2 51 -	1 11 8 1 35 3		

In addition to the above registered applications, the returns show that in London 139 women were referred to other Agencies, and 25 were given advice as to training, &c., but were not registered.

#### WORKMEN'S INSURANCE IN GERMANY.

A RETURN\* has recently been issued, giving the latest available statistics with regard to workmen's insurance

in Germany.

The total number of persons insured against sickness in 1905 was 11,903,000. The number of "cases" compensated during the same year (persons who received compensation more than once being counted as a separate "case" each time), was 4,848,000; the average amount of compensation per case was £2 11s. 11d. Employers contributed £4,595,000, and workpeople £8,806,000 during the year. No contribution was made by the State. The total receipts (including cash balances in hand at the beginning of the year, interest on investments accrued during the year, withdrawals from reserve fund, and sums realised from the sale drawals from reserve fund, and sums realised from the sale of securities) amounted in the aggregate to £16,742,000. The total expenses were £14,029,000; and the accumulated funds amounted to £11,117,000 at the end of the

The figures for old age and invalidity insurance relate to the year 1906. The estimated number of persons insured in that year was 14,000,000. The number of new pensions granted was 134,056: 110,969 for old age, 12,421 for permanent invalidity, and 10,666 for "provisional invalidity." The total number of pensions in course of payment on January 1st, 1907, was 962,277; 125,603 for old age, 814,575 for permanent invalidity,

\* H.C. 102 of Session 1908. Price ad.

and 22,099 for "provisional invalidity." Employers and workpeople each contributed £4,182,500 during the year. In addition, the State granted £2,397,000 (being £2 10s. per annum for each pension) direct to the pensioners, this grant not being paid into the insurance funds. The total receipts (excluding the State grants) were £10,550,000; total expenses, £6,569,000; accumulated funds, £65,078,000. The average payment per case was £7 18s. Id. for old age, £8 os. 2d. for permanent invalidity, and £8 os. 7d. for "provisional invalidity."

#### INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED DURING APRIL.

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

(1) REGISTERED.

The total number of Industrial Unions and Societies registered in April was as follows:-Under the Trade Union Acts, 3; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 32; under the Friendly Societies Act, 53 (including 35 Branches); under the Building Societies Acts, nil; in all, 88.

Among the new Societies registered in April were the following:

Trade Unions.—England.—2, viz., Liverpool and District Brick-layers Labourers Soc., 57, Hunter Street, Liverpool; Trade Movement Soc. of Carpenters and Joiners, 205, High Road, Tottenham, N. Scotland.—Nil. Ireland.—1, viz., Hand Loom Weavers Soc. of Ireland, Ballylough, Lurgan.

Neavers Soc. of Ireland,—Nil. Ireland.—I, viz., Hand Loom Weavers Soc. of Ireland, Ballylough, Lurgan.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—England.—24, viz., Cooperative Productive Society: (2) Leicester Ideal Basket Makers, Ltd., 56, Bedford Street, Leicester; Colne Valley Co-op. Bakery, Ltd., Market Street, Milnsbridge, Huddersfield; (1) Cooperative Distributive Society: Alton and Dist. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 21, Normanby Street, Alton. Co-operative Agricultural Society: (1) Clitheroe and Dist. Dairy, Ltd., 38, King Street, Clitheroe. Working Men's Clubs: (6) Togston Terrace Social Club, Ltd., 4, Togston Terrace, Broomhill, Ashington, Morpeth; Marsden Socialist Inst., Ltd., Warehouse Hill, Marsden, Huddersfield; Brislington and St. Anne's Constitutional Club, Ltd., Wick Road, Brislington, Bristol; Maldon and Dist. Constitutional Club, Ltd., 52, High Street, Maldon, Essex; Empire Workmen's Club and Inst., Ltd., Club House, Front Street, Stanley SO; Spittal Tongues and Dist. Working Men's Club and Inst., Ltd., Leazes View House, Spittal Tongues, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Miscellaneous: (14) (including II Small Holdings and Allotments Societies). Scotland.—(3) Co-operative Distributive Society: (1) Wishaw Independent Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Main Street, Wishaw. Miscellaneous (2). Ireland.—(5) Co-operative Productive Societies (3) Cloncannon Co-op. Creamery, Ltd., Cloncannon, co. Tipperary; Tipperary Co-op. Creamery, Ltd., Knockbrandon, co. Wexford. Co-operative Agricultural Society: (1) Islandeady Co-op. Agric. Soc., Islandeady, Castlebar, co. Mayo. Miscellaneous: (1).

Mayo. Miscellaneous: (1).

Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—16, viz., West Street Social Club and Inst., Boston, Lincs.; Hungarian Working Men's Club and Inst., Dewsbury; Bargoed Socialist Working Men's Club and Inst., Dewsbury; Bargoed Socialist Working Men's Club and Inst., Dewsbury; Bargoed Socialist Working Men's Club and Inst., Bargoed, Cardiff; High Wycombe Credit Soc., High Wycombe; Wellesley Provident Loan Soc., Gray's Inn Road, W.C.; Albion Friendly Soc. Credit Club, Batley; Wallasey Urban District Council Superannuation Fund Scheme, Birkenhead; Derby Cycling Club Tontine Soc., Liverpool; Prestwich Dist. Juvenile Oddfellows, Prestwich, Manchester; Original Workmen's National Provident Benefit Soc., Limehouse, E.; Campsbourne Sick and Provident Soc., Hornsey, N.; South Norwood Tradesmen's Club, Croydon; Pride of Guildford Total Abstinent Sons of the Phænix Friendly Soc., Guildford; Swan Sick and Dividend Soc., Washwood Heath, Birmingham; South Wales Celtic Friendly Collecting Soc., Cardiff. Scotland.—Nil. Ireland.—2, viz., Emmet Friendly Soc., Dublin; Saint Agatha's Loan Fund, Dublin.

(2) SOCIETIES AND UNIONS CEASING TO EXIST.

#### (2) SOCIETIES AND UNIONS CEASING TO EXIST.

	Notices Received in April of		
	Commence- ment of Dissolution or Winding-up.	Termination of Dissolution or Winding-up.	Registry Cancelled.
Trade Unions Industrial and Provident Societies		2	2
Friendly Societies Building Branches	 	15 17 5	3

### **PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR** RECEIVED DURING APRIL,

#### UNITED KINGDOM.

(MI the United Kingdom Official Reports may be obtained from Wyman & Sans, Limited, Fetter Lane, London, E.C., direct, or through any bookseller.)

Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops. Supplement to the Annual Report for 1906. I. Returns of persons employed in 1904 in Non-Textile Factories. II. Summary of Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health for 1906. Home Office. [Cd. 3986: 29 39 : price 21d.]

Ruilway Accidents. Returns of Accidents and Casualties during Three Months ended September 30th, 1907. Part II. Reports on Accidents. [Cd. 3971: pp. 150: price 1s. 7d.] During Three Months ended Desember 31st, 1907. Part I. Returns of Accidents. Board of Trade. [Cd. 4009: pp. 35: price 3½d.].

Mercantile Marine. Returns showing the legal obligations of Owners of Merchant Vessels in certain Foreign Countries with

regard to Old Age Pensions, Accident Compensation, &c. Board

Coal Exports. Return for 1907 showing Export of Coal from

Coal Exports. Return for 1907 showing Export of Coal from each Port in the United Kingdom to each Country Abroad, &c. Board of Trade. [H.C. 100: pp. 37: price 4d.]

Brisso of Exported Coal. Return giving the quantities of coal exported from each of the Ports of the United Kingdom in 1907 at wavious prices. Treasury. [H.C. 97: pp. 19: price 2\frac{1}{2}d.]

Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies. Report for 1906. Part B. Endustrial and Provident Societies. [H.C. 49-XIII: pp. 239: price

List of Societies with Branches.

Part A. Appendix (N). Section VI.—Staffordshire to Wiltshire.

[H.C. 49-vi.: pp. viii. + 112: price 1s.] Section VII. Worcestershire and Yorkshire.

[H.C. 49-vii: pp. viii + 106: price 1s.]

Report from the Select Committee on Infant Life Protection, with

Evidence and Appendix.

[H.C. 99: pp. viii. + 99: price 10.]

Seneral Abstract of the Marriages, Births and Deaths registered in

Faceland and Wales in the way 1007. Registrar, General.

England and Wales in the year 1907. Registrar-General. [Cd.

England and Wales in the year 1907. Registrar-General. [Cd. 2075: pp. 5: price 1d.]

53rd Annual Report of the Registrar-General on the Births, Deaths, and Marriages registered in Scotland during 1907. [Cd. 4015: pp. 2007]

Buturn showing the Housing Conditions of the People of Scotland. [Ed. 4016: pp. 12: price 2d]. Report of the Crofters' Commission for 1907. Small holdings, for rents fixed, &c. Secretary for Scotland. [Cd. 4021: pp. 2017]

Fiftieth Annual Report of H.M. Inspector of Constabulary for Scotland, poor. Strength of the forces, rates of pay, &c.; census of vagrants of lune 25rd and December 22nd, 1907; analysis of the returns of census of vagrants, 1898-1907. [Cd. 4020: pp. ix. + 208: price, pd.]

#### BRITISH COLONIES.

Canada. The Labour Gazette, March, 1908. Proceedings under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act during February; Existation with regard to Female and Child Labour in Canada, &c.

Report of the Department of Labour for the Fiscal Year

1906-07. Strikes and lock-outs and industrial accidents in Canada during 1906. conciliation and arbitration for warms.

charing 1906, conciliation and arbitration, fair wages on public contract work, the Alien Labour Law, &c. [Ottawa: S. E. Dawson,

King's Printer: pp. 170.]

New South Wales. Industrial Arbitration Reports and Records, 1907.

Vol. VI. Part III. Reports of 11 cases. [Sydney: W. A. Gullick:

New Zealand. Journal of the Department of Labour, March, 1908.

Cases under the Workers' Compensation for Accidents Act; persons assisted by the Department of Labour during February, &c.

#### FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Entited States Department of Commerce and Labour. Bulletin of the Employment. No. 73. November, 1907. Laws relating to the Employment of Women and Children. Factory Inspection HAWIS.

State of New York. Sixth General Report of the State Department of Labour for the year ended September 30th, 1906. 2 volumes. Comprising 6th Annual Report of the Commissioner of Labour. Reports of certain Bureaus, Labour Laws in force at October 1st, 1906, Sc. [pp. 280]. 21st Annual Report on Factory Inspection [pp. 275]. 20th Annual Report of the Board of Mediation and Arbitration [pp. 487]. 24th Annual Report of the Bureau of Labour Statistics, Employment and wages in 1906, trade and labour unions, health conditions in the printing trades, &c. [pp. 894]. [Albany: J. B. Exon Co., State Printers ]

Massachusetts. Labour Bulletin, March-April, 1908. Labour Legislation in the United States, 1907; Massachusetts Labour Legislation, 1907; legal hours of labour in the United States, &c.

Twenty-First Annual Report of the Bureau of Industrial and Labour Statistics for the State of Maine, 1907. Trade Unions, strikes, women and children wage workers, factory inspection, labour laws of Maine, &c. [Augusta: Kennebec Journal Print: pp. 520.]

The Law of Labour in Wisconsin, by W. J. Hagenah. Compiled for the Wisconsin Bureau of Labour and Industrial Statistics.

Madison: Democrat Printing Co., State Printers: pp. 235.]

fournal of the French Labour Department, March, 1908. Statistics of friendly societies in 1903, and accidents in mines and quarries in 1906. [Paris: Berger-Levrault et Cie.: price 2d.]

Tariff Agreements in Munich. Their historical development, legal structure and economic basis. Dr. Adolph Günther, Statistical Office of Munich, 1908. [Munich: J. Lindauersche Buchhandlung: pp. vi. + 136.]

Wages, Hours of Labour and Organisation of Carpenters in Germany, Central Federation of German Carpenters. Hamburg, 1908. [F.

Schraft Federation of German Carpenters. Hamburg, 1908. [F. Schrader, Besenbinderhof, 57-66, 3 Et: pp. cxxiv. + 206.]

Prussian Factory Inspection Reports for 1907. [Berlin: R. V. Deckers Verlag: pp. lxvii. + 820.]

Statistical Yearbook of Dresden, 1906, with administrative statistics for 1904, 1905 and 1906. Statistical Office of Dresden, 1908. [Dresden: V. Zahn & Jaensch: pp. 203 + 62.]

Austria-Hungary.

Proceedings of the Austrian Permanent Council for Labour relating to the amendment and extension of industrial insurance. Two Vols. Austrian Labour Department. 1908. [Vienna: K. K. Hof-und

Staatsdruckerei: pp. 430 + 647.]

Annual Report of the "Franz Joseph I. Jubilee Foundation" for the Housing, &c., of workpeople. 1908. [Vienna: Selbstverlag der Stiftung: pp. 40.]

Statistical Journal of Hungary. March, 1908. Miners' sick funds, and railway accidents in 1906. [Vienna: A. Hölder.]

Journal of the Belgian Labour Department, March 31st and April 15th, 1908. Labour disputes in February and employment in March. [Brussels: F. Vanbuggenhoudt: price 1d.]

Industrial Monographs, VI.—The india-rubber and asbestos industries of Belgium. Belgian Labour and Factory Inspection Departments. 1907.

[Brussels: J. Lebègue & Cie, rue de la Madeleine, 46: pp. 237.]

Holland. Journal of the Dutch Central Statistical Office, March, 1908. Employment and labour disputes in February. [The Hague:

Gebroeder Belinfante: price 2d.]

Employers' Organisations II.—England. The Committee for the study of employers' organisations, 1908. [The Hague: Mouton & Co.: pp. 165.]

Report for 1907 of The Hague Federation of Co-operative Stores. [The Hague: pp. 59.]

Journal of the Portuguese Labour Department. Nos. 17, 18 and 19, 1907. Reports of industrial inspection in certain districts. Switzerland.

Report of the Federation of Swiss Co-operative Societies for distribution for 1907. [Basle: G. Krebs: pp. 50.]

Statistical Yearbook of Switzerland, 1907. Results of industrial census of August 9th, 1905; statistics of population, prices, &c. Swiss Federal Statistical Office. [Berne: A. Francke: pp. 392.]

Swiss Industrial Census of August 9th, 1905. Vol. 1. Number of establishments and workpeople. Part 7. Cantons of Vaud, Valais, Neufchâtel and Geneva. Swiss Federal Statistical Office, 1908.

[Berne A Francke: pp. 8vi. 4-303: price 25.]

[Berne, A. Francke: pp. xvi. + 393: price 2s.]

Report relating to changes in organisation of the General Postal Department and wages regulations for postal servants, 1908. [P. A. Norstedt & Söner: pp. 40.]

Report on changes in pensions of persons employed on State Railways, 1908. [Stockholm: K. L. Beckman: pp. 203.]

Report and Bill relating to amendment of the industrial accident compensation law of July 5th, 1901. 1908. [Stockholm: Ivor Haeggstroms Boktryckeri-Aktiebolag: pp. 100.]

Statistical Reports on (1) Elections, 1900: (2) Local finance and public Sweden.

Statistical Reports on (1) Elections, 1900; (2) Local finance and public relief, 1905; (3) Agriculture, 1906; (4) Savings Banks, 1906. [Stockholm, 1908: P. A. Norstedt & Söner.]

Journal of the Italian Labour Department. March, 1908. Law prohibiting night work in bakeries and confectionery works. Seamen's wages in 1907. [Rome: Officina Poligrafica Italiana: Journal of the Italian Emigration Department. Nos. 4 and 5. [Rome: Via di Porta Salaria, 23-A: price 3d. each.]

Journal of the Spanish Labour Department, March, 1908. Law of February 27th, 1908, providing for establishment of National Department of Thrift. [Madrid, Calle Mayor 93: price 2½d.]

Twenty-third Statistical Report of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce of Japan. Wages of various classes of workpeople in 1906. [Tokio, 1908; pp. 657.]

#### CONSULAR REPORTS.

CONSULAR REPORTS.

(The Consular Reports may be obtained from Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, London, E.C., direct or through any bookseller.)

Consular Reports. Annual Series. No. 3967. Finances of Denmark for the years 1905-6 and 1906-7. Profit sharing on State Railways, old age pensions, State contributions to sick clubs and seamen's insurance, &c. [Cd. 3727-50: pp. 57: price 3d.]

No. 3968. Shipping and Navigation of the Port of Antwerp for the year 1907. Seamen and dock labourers' strikes; transmission of British and other seamen's wages, &c. [Cd. 3727-51: pp. 40: price 2dd.]

wages, &c. [Cd. 3727-51: pp. 40: price 2½d.] No, 3969. States for the year 1907. Statistics of industries, state of the labour market, &c. [Cd. 3727-52: pp. 57: price 3d.]

Printed for His Majesty's Stationery Office by Veale, Chifferell & Co., Ltd., 31-37, Cursitor Street, London, E.C.; and to be purchased, either directly or through any Newsagent, from Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., or Oliver & Boyd, Tweedale Court, Edinburgh; or E. Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.—Price 1d.—May, 1908.