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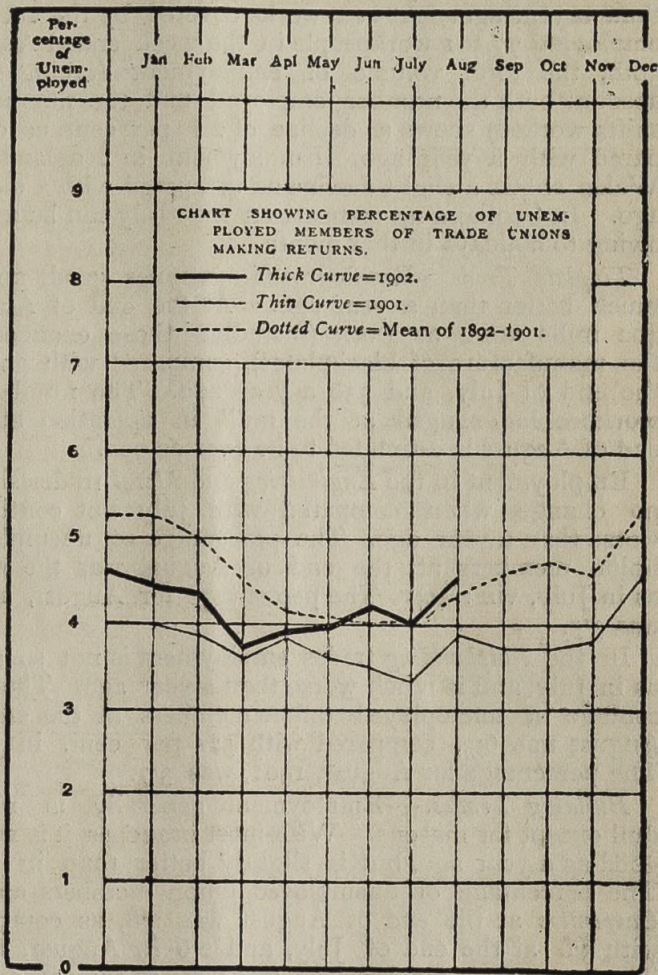
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EMPLOYMENT CHART.



STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN AUGUST.

[Based on 2,291 returns, viz.: 1,162 from Employers, 566 from Trade Unions, and 563 from other sources.]

On the whole employment shows some falling off compared with a year ago, though there is an improvement in the Woollen and Worsted industries and in some branches of the Iron trade. Compared with July there has been a decline in employment in the Shipbuilding and Cotton trades, but some improvement in Coal Mining.

In the 222 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 551,565, making returns, 24,549 (or 4.5 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of August, as compared with 4.0 per cent. in July, and 3.9 per cent. in the 216 unions, with a membership of 543,971, from which returns were received for August, 1901. The mean percentage of unemployed returned at the end of August during the 10 years 1892-1901 was 4.4.

Employment in various Industries.—Coal Mining.—Employment in the four weeks ended August 23rd continued good, and was better than in the previous month, and about the same as a year ago. At collieries at which 481,906 workpeople were employed, the pits worked on an average 4.94 days per week during the four weeks ended August 23rd, as against 4.82 days in the four weeks ended July 26th, and 4.91 days in the four weeks ended August 24th, 1901. The number employed at the pits was 1.8 per cent. greater than a year ago.

Iron Mining.—Employment continues good in this industry. In the 130 mines and open works covered by the returns, employing 15,634 workpeople, the average number of days worked by the mines in the four weeks ended August 23rd was 5'69 per week, as against 5'68 in the four weeks ended July 26th and 5'62 a year ago. The number of workpeople employed was 3'8 per cent. greater than a year ago.

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment again shows a slight improvement as compared with a month ago, and is better than a year ago. Returns relating to the works of 115 ironmasters show that 327 furnaces, employing about 22,500 workpeople, were in blast at the end of August, compared with 325 at the end of July, and 317 a year ago.

Iron and Steel Manufacture.—Employment is slightly worse than a year ago. At 202 works covered by the returns employing 77,561 workpeople in the week ended August 30th, the total volume of employment (taking into account both the number employed and the number of shifts worked) shows a decline of 2'7 per cent. as compared with a year ago. Employment in England and Wales shows a slight decline as compared with a month ago. In Scotland no comparison with July can be made, owing to holidays in that month.

Tinplate Trade.—Employment continues good, and is much better than a year ago. At the end of August 402 mills were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of blackplates), compared with 399 at the end of July, and 350 a year ago. The number of workpeople engaged at the mills in operation at the end of August is estimated to be over 20,000.

Employment in the **Engineering and Metal** trades shows no change when compared with July but continues worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of August was the same as in July, viz: 4'4. The percentage for August, 1901, was 3'5.

In the **Shipbuilding** trades employment is not so good as in July and is much worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of August was 6'3, compared with 5'6 per cent. in July. The percentage for August, 1901, was 3'7.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is rather dull except for masons. With most branches it is not so good as a year ago, but is slightly better than in July. The percentage of unemployed union members among **Carpenters** at the end of August was 2'8, as compared with 3'0 at the end of July, and 2'6 in August, 1901. The percentage for **Plumbers** was 6'1, as compared with 6'5 in July, and 5'8 a year ago.

In the **Furnishing** trades employment is slightly better than in July, but not so good as a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of August was 3'9, compared with 4'2 per cent. in July, and 3'5 per cent. in August of last year.

Employment in the **Printing and Bookbinding** trades (particularly in the former) has fallen off, as is usual at this season, but is better than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of August was 6'0, compared with 4'4 per cent. in July. The percentage for August, 1901, was 6'5.

Employment in the **Paper** trades has declined, and is not so good as a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of August was 3'1, compared with 2'2 per cent. in July, and 2'7 per cent. in August 1901.

In the **Leather** trades employment has still further declined in all branches, and is much worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of August was 5'2, compared with 3'6 per cent. in July, and 2'9 per cent. in August of last year.

Employment in the **Glass** trades is slightly better than in July, and is about the same as a year ago.

Employment in the **Coachbuilding** trades has continued to fall off, and is not so good as a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of August was 3'0, compared with 2'6 per cent. in July, and 2'4 per cent. in August, 1901.

Employment in the **Boot and Shoe** trade continues bad in most centres.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the **Tailoring** trade continues bad; in the ready-made branch it shows a further decline, although still fair in some centres.

Employment in the **Hat-making** trade is not so good as in July, but is slightly better than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of August was 3'7, compared with 3'4 per cent. in July, and 4'1 per cent. in August, 1901.

Employment in the **Spinning** branch of the **Cotton** trade is fair, but shows a decline compared with July. In the **Weaving** branch it has fallen off, and is only moderate.

Information respecting cotton factories employing about 86,000 women and girls shows that 85 per cent. of those in spinning mills were working in mills giving full employment during the whole month, compared with 89 per cent. during July, and 80 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding percentage of full time for those employed in weaving factories was 72 during August, compared with 81 per cent. during July and 64 per cent. a year ago.

Employment in the **Woollen and Worsted** trades continues fairly good. In the **Hosiery** trade it shows a decline, but is fair on the whole.

Agricultural Labourers have been well employed on the whole, but many casual labourers have been in irregular work owing to wet weather. The storms, however, by laying the crops have increased the demand for extra labour in harvesting.

Dock and Riverside Labour in London.—During the five weeks ended August 30th, the number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves averaged 14,153, as compared with 15,097 in the preceding four weeks and 16,490 in August, 1901.

Trade Disputes.—Fifteen fresh disputes began in August, involving 4,703 workpeople, of whom 3,947 were directly, and 756 indirectly affected. The corresponding number of disputes in July was 25, affecting 104,642 workpeople, and in August, 1901, 32, affecting 10,129 workpeople. Of the 15 new disputes in August, 1902, 6 took place in the mining industry, 5 in the metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades, and 4 in other trades. Of the 21 new and old disputes, affecting 3,703 workpeople, of which definite results were reported, 4, affecting 2,031 workpeople, were decided in favour of the workpeople, 10, affecting 1,089 workpeople, in favour of the employers, and 7, affecting 583 workpeople, were compromised.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes in rates of wages reported during August affected 112,158 workpeople, mostly coal miners, and the net effect of all the changes was a decrease averaging 6d. weekly per head of those affected. Of the total number, 953 received advances and 111,205 sustained decreases. The changes of the previous month affected 293,911 workpeople, the net result being a decrease averaging 7½d. weekly per head. During August, 1901, the number affected was 103,419, and the net weekly result was a decrease of 2s. 2d. per head.

The principal decrease of the month, viz., that sustained by 107,500 coal miners in Durham, was arranged by a Conciliation Board. One change was arranged by arbitration after a strike affecting 315 workpeople, and one, affecting 570 workpeople, took effect under a sliding scale. The remainder, affecting 3,773 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives.

CHILE—WARNING TO EMIGRANTS.

The Board of Trade have been requested by the Committee of the Emigrants' Information Office to warn all persons, more especially fishermen at Grimsby, against emigrating to Chile on representations with regard to employment there. Those who have lately gone in reliance on such representations have suffered great hardships and disappointments.

REPORT ON THE STRIKES AND LOCK-OUTS OF 1901, AND ON CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION BOARDS.*

IN the January issue of the *Labour Gazette* an article was published containing a preliminary summary of the statistics of the trade disputes of 1901. The Fourteenth Annual Report on Strikes and Lock-outs and on Conciliation and Arbitration Boards* has now been issued, and contains information not available for the preliminary summary.

General Comparison, 1897-1901.

The report shows that the number of disputes recorded as beginning in 1901 was 642, involving 179,546 workpeople, and that the aggregate duration of all the disputes in progress in that year was 4,142,287 working days. The disputes of 1901 were not remarkable either for number or magnitude, and they included no stoppage of sufficient importance to overshadow all the others, as in some recent years. The aggregate duration of all disputes in progress during the year, though below the average, was somewhat greater than in 1900, chiefly owing to an increase of stoppages in the mining industry, which, though all of a purely local description, were in some cases very prolonged. The only dispute beginning in 1901 which attracted general public attention was that in the Grimsby fishing trade. The following table summarizes the figures for the years 1897-1901:—

Year.	No. of Disputes beginning in each year.	No. of Workpeople affected by Disputes beginning in each year.			Aggregate duration in Working Days of all Disputes in each year.†
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.	
1897 ...	864	167,453	62,814	230,267	10,345,523
1898 ...	711	200,769	53,138	253,907	15,289,478
1899 ...	719	138,058	42,159	180,217	2,516,416
1900 ...	648	135,145	53,393	188,538	3,152,694
1901 ...	642	111,437	68,109	179,546	4,142,287

Proportion of Workpeople affected.

The mining and quarrying industries account for 112,981, or nearly 63 per cent. of the 179,546 workpeople affected by disputes in 1901. This number also constitutes a larger proportion (12'4 per cent.) of the total number employed in those industries than is the case in any other group of trades. The proportion of the total number employed in the case of the building trades was 1'2 per cent., in the metal, engineering and shipbuilding group 1'8 per cent. The proportion for all trades, excluding agricultural labourers, seamen and fishermen, was 2'0 per cent., and, as the latter classes were scarcely touched by trade disputes, the proportion of the working population concerned in disputes would present a still lower figure if the numbers so employed were included.

Magnitude of Disputes.

The aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in 1901 was 4,142,287, computed to be an average loss of about half a day's work in the year per head of the industrial population. The following Table gives the aggregate duration by groups of trades, during each of the years 1897-1901.

Groups of Trades.	Aggregate duration in Working Days of Disputes.†				
	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
Building ...	353,348	379,170	854,207	726,626	573,848
Mining and Quarrying ...	1,445,843	12,876,334	504,428	552,932	2,086,113
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	7,141,289	1,370,764	420,660	349,130	601,553
Textile ...	677,615	273,564	552,485	411,368	276,363
Clothing ...	301,082	69,900	42,154	60,121	87,384
Transport (Dock Labour, Railway Men, &c.)	76,497	46,771	62,450	393,780	38,312
Employees of Public Authorities	1,390	5,260	6,787	8,465	7,811
Miscellaneous Trades ...	348,459	267,715	73,245	740,272	469,903
Total ...	10,345,523	15,289,478	2,516,416	3,152,694	4,142,287

Causes of Dispute.

The most frequent causes of disputes, as is usual, were questions of remuneration. Under this head are included

* Cd. 1236. Price 6½d. The Report can be obtained through any bookseller, or direct from the publishers, Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, E.C.

† The days lost being credited to the year in which they fell.

62'6 per cent. of the disputes and 52'8 per cent. of the total persons directly engaged in all the disputes of the year. Trade was not generally so good as in the previous year, and disputes having an increase of wages as their object were accordingly not so common as in the previous years of the period covered. On the other hand there was a striking increase in the number of disputes arising out of resistance to reductions of wages.

Results of Disputes.

The balance of results in 1901 was in favour of the employers rather than of the workpeople. The following comparative Table shows the proportions of workpeople directly affected by all disputes, in each of the years 1897-1901, the results of which were in favour of the workpeople or of the employers, or were compromised:—

Results.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
In favour of the Workpeople ...	24'2	22'6	26'7	30'05	27'45
In favour of the Employers ...	40'7	60'1	43'7	24'79	33'81
Compromised ...	34'0	17'2	29'1	41'72	36'75
Indefinite or unsettled ...	1'1	0'1	0'5	3'44	1'99

Methods of Settlement.

As is natural, the great bulk of the disputes of the year were ultimately settled by negotiation between the parties directly concerned or their representatives. Thus, of the total of 642 disputes, nearly three-fourths were so arranged, and these embraced 80 per cent. of all the persons concerned in the disputes of the year, as against 82 per cent. for the previous year.

The number of disputes settled by arbitration, conciliation or mediation was 41, as compared with 32 in 1900.

Work of Permanent Conciliation Boards.

Included in the volume is a section dealing with the work of Permanent Boards of Conciliation and Arbitration. The total number of cases known to have been considered by 58 permanent boards in 1901 was 1,405, very few of which involved a stoppage of work. Of these, 681 cases are reported to have been withdrawn or settled independently of the Boards, and 39 as still under consideration at the end of the year. The remaining 685 cases were settled, 503 by the boards or committees, and 182 by arbitrators or umpires.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

Report of Committee.

THE Joint Select Committee of the House of Lords and the House of Commons on housing of the working classes in their report,* submit two model clauses and three corresponding Standing Orders which they recommend in place of the present model clauses and Standing Orders 38 and 111 [H.L.], 38 and 138a [H.C.], dealing with London and all places outside London respectively. They suggest that the model clauses be embodied in a Public General Act of Parliament. The Committee consider that, in London, it is desirable that every case in which houses of the labouring class are proposed to be taken should be notified to the Central Authority, while, outside London, it is sufficient that the attention of the Central Authority should be called to cases in which thirty persons belonging to the labouring class are displaced in one borough, urban district, or rural parish, as the case may be. In settling schemes for providing new houses in place of those demolished, they think it advisable that the Central Authority should exercise a full discretion. They recommend that the new houses to be provided be suitable for persons of the labouring class, and not too ambitious in character and design, and they attach much importance to those conditions. The area within which the new houses may be provided under a scheme is left by the committee wholly to the discretion of the Central Authority. They think it will be found expedient in some cases to erect the new houses at some considerable distance from the houses demolished, and not necessarily within the jurisdiction of the same local authority. By six votes to three the committee recommend that in London

*Parliamentary Paper No. 325 of 1902 (Eyre & Spottiswoode). Price 2d.

the Central Authority be empowered to fix all rents for the new houses. So far as the committee can judge, their recommendations for places outside London are, with the necessary alterations, suitable for Ireland and Scotland.

THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS.

THE thirty-fifth annual Congress of the Trade Unions of the United Kingdom was held in the Holborn Town Hall, London, on Monday, September 1st and five following days. The Congress was presided over by the Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee, Mr. W. C. Steadman, L.C.C., secretary of the Barge Builders' Trade Union.

The Congress consists of representatives of trade unions, who are actually engaged at their trade at the time of appointment, or are permanent paid working officials of their unions. Unions may send one delegate for every 2,000 members or fraction thereof. Voting on important questions is by card, on the principle of one vote for every 1,000 members represented, but many of the larger societies do not send the full number of delegates to which they are entitled.

The analysis given below shows the composition of the Congress and the trade groups represented, compared with the corresponding figures for the Congress of 1901.—

Groups of Trades.	1901.			1902.		
	No. of Organi- sations.	No. of Dele- gates.	No. of Mem- bers.	No. of Organi- sations.	No. of Dele- gates.	No. of Mem- bers.
Building	12	30	196,801	12	32	195,972
Mining and Quarrying	7	72	256,962	8	94	373,827
Engineering	12	17	40,282	13	19	41,334
Shipbuilding (including Boiler Making)	3	20	66,926	3	21	68,745
Other Metal Trades	25	43	61,227	22	43	56,922
Textile Trades	13	29	150,071	15	32	157,175
Clothing	8	22	54,786	10	39	55,902
Transport (including Railway Workers, Seamen, Fire- men, and Dock Labourers)	14	31	120,458	18	42	135,819
Chemical, Gas and General Labourers	10	35	92,949	10	34	92,324
Printing, Bookbinding, etc.	10	18	44,310	16	26	49,541
Pottery and Glass	4	5	8,346	4	5	7,250
Woodworking and Furnish- ing Trades, etc.	7	9	27,113	9	11	30,480
Baking and Cigar Making	3	6	7,150	2	5	7,000
Enginemn	5	11	19,418	6	12	24,127
Post Office Employees	4	7	34,450	4	7	36,563
Miscellaneous Trades	3	4	14,220	11	13	30,311
Total	140	409	1,195,469	163	487	1,363,292

NOTE.—Societies forming parts or branches of a general federation or amalga- mation are not counted in this table as separate organisations, and double entries arising in this way have been deducted.

The number of organisations accounted for in the above statement is 163, but allowing for the number of distinct societies included in federations, about 231 separate unions sent delegates to the Congress this year out of a total of about 1,272 unions known to be in existence. The membership represented, however, comprised 72 per cent. of the total membership of those 1,272 unions. Among the principal unions not represented in any way were the Durham Miners, the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, and the Iron Founders' Society. The considerable increase in membership represented (167,823), as compared with the previous year, is chiefly due to the reappearance of the Northumberland Miners, and to the growth of the Miners' Federation.

The principal industrial subjects on which resolutions were passed by the Congress were:—Restriction of the hours to eight per day for miners and for workmen generally; regulation of the hours of labour in shops; raising to fifteen the age at which children may begin to work; amendment of Mines Regulation Act; amendment and extension of Factory Acts; enforce- ment of the House of Commons resolution on wages and other conditions in Government con- tracts; amendment of Workmen's Compensation Act; general old age pensions; amendment of the laws affecting trade unions and industrial disputes; the Penrhyn Quarry dispute; improved means of housing and transit for the working classes; conditions of work of postal employees; State-aid for the indigent blind; the administration of docks and river traffic of the Port of

London; trusts; liability of foreign shipowners to pay compensation for accidents to workmen; and compulsory weighing or measuring when work is paid for by weight or measure.

A resolution in favour of compulsory arbitration in trade disputes was rejected by 961,000 to 303,000 votes. Delegates representing the National Federation of Labour of the United States, the Co-operative Union, and the General Federation of Trade Unions, attended the Congress, and delivered addresses. Two English delegates were elected to attend the annual conference of the American Federation of Labour, to be held in December next.

For the Parliamentary Committee for the ensuing year representatives of the following combinations were elected: London Society of Compositors, Gas Workers and General Labourers, Miners' Federation, Boot and Shoe Operatives, Northern Counties Weavers, Barge Builders, Boiler Makers and Iron Shipbuilders, Railway Servants, Amalgamated Carpenters and Joiners, Associ- ated Shipwrights, Card and Blowing Room Operatives, and National Dock Labourers.

The balance-sheet presented showed a total income of £3,461 1s. 5d. (inclusive of a balance of £1,450 2s. 4d. from the Swansea Congress), and an expenditure of £2,070 17s., leaving a balance in hand of £1,390 4s. 5d. Leicester was selected as the place of next year's Congress.

PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE WORKMEN'S COM- PENSATION ACTS AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACT IN 1901.

THE official Statistics of proceedings under these Acts in 1901* have just been issued, the Tables being accompanied by an Introductory Note, in which it is pointed out that these Statutes contain no provision for the making of returns to show the working of the systems of compensation which they respectively established, and that the only available information (derived from the officials of County Courts and a few other sources) leaves untouched the great body of cases of compensation to workmen. It is also stated that as the Scottish statistics show, in points of importance, results different from the English, while in Ireland the number of cases is com- paratively so small that they would not in any case materially affect the general totals, the chief results to be obtained from the Tables for England and Wales are summarised separately. The same course will be followed in this article.

Workmen's Compensation Acts.—The total number of cases, which came before County Courts in England and Wales in 1901 was 1,918 (as against 1,552 in 1900). It is, however, stated that the cases which come before the County Courts do not represent more than a small proportion of those in which compensation is paid under the Acts. The great majority of claims are settled by agreement, and only a small percentage are carried to formal arbitration.

Out of the total of 1,918 cases, which came before the County Courts in 1901, 1,370 (as compared with 1,145 in 1900) were dealt with by County Court Judges and County Court Arbitrators (by the decision of the Judge in 1,289 cases, by that of an Arbitrator in 9 cases, 72 cases being settled by acceptance of money paid into Court). The remaining 548 cases were withdrawn, settled out of Court, or otherwise disposed of in such a manner as not to make it possible for the officials of the Court to state definitely the results. Out of the total of 1,370 cases dealt with by County Court Judges and Arbitrators, 11 only were cases under the Act of 1900, which extends the Act of 1897 to agriculture.

With respect to the claims for compensation finally settled within the cognisance of the County Courts, the decision in 1,007 cases was in favour of the applicant, and in 167 in favour of the respondent, the proportion of cases in which the applicant was successful, rising from 81 per cent. in 1900 to 86 per cent. in 1901. In

* Statistics of Proceedings under the Workmen's Compensation Acts, 1897 and 1900, and the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, during the year 1901. (Cd. 1210, 1902. Price 4d.) The Report can be obtained from any bookseller, or direct from the publishers, Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, E.C.

regard to cases in which compensation was awarded after a fatal accident to the dependants of a deceased workman, the average amount of such compensation in 1901 was £188 7s. 7d., as against £163 8s. 9d. in 1900. With respect to the grants of compensation awarded for non-fatal injury, in those cases in which these grants took the form of lump sums, the average was £32 5s. 1d., as against £39 3s. 11d. in 1900, while with respect to those cases in which a weekly sum was assigned there was an increase as against 1900 from 11s. 6d. to 11s. 10d. in cases of total, and a decrease from 10s. 9d. to 9s. 8d. in cases of partial incapacity.

The number of cases carried to the Court of Appeal was 61, or a little more than 3 per cent. of the cases that came before the County Courts. This is a considerable decrease as compared with 1900, when the figure was 90, or nearly 6 per cent. Of the 61 appeals, 22 were appeals by workmen and 39 by employers. Of the former 6, of the latter 7, were successful. There were 3 appeals to the House of Lords, in each of which the workman was the appellant; only 1 was actually carried to a hearing.

Employers' Liability Act.—The number of cases under the Employers' Liability Act in England and Wales was 590 in 1901, as compared with 511 in 1900. The average amount of damages in case of death was £89 15s. The average amount of solicitors' costs was £21 5s. (as against £10 13s. 1d. under the Workmen's Compensation Acts).

Workmen's Compensation Acts in Scotland.—The number of cases which were brought before the Sheriff Courts in Scotland under the Workmen's Compensation Acts in 1901 was 311,* of which 203 were decided by the Sheriff, and 108 were otherwise disposed of. Of the 203 cases settled within the cognisance of the Court, 123 were decided in favour of the pursuer, and 66 in favour of the defender (the other 14 cases being applications for apportionment of compensation, declaration of liability, or with reference to weekly allowances already granted).

The average amount of compensation awarded to dependants in respect of fatal accidents was £174 5s. (exclusive of 1 case, in which an allowance of 2s. a week was awarded), while as to compensation for non-fatal injuries, where a lump sum was paid, the amount averaged £22 16s. 6d., and where weekly payments were awarded, the average allowance was 11s. 7d. The average amount of solicitors' costs awarded in Scotland in respect of arbitration in Sheriff Courts was £8 os. 2d. The number of appeal cases carried to the Court of Session was 23, of which 8 were appeals by workmen and 15 appeals by employers. The workmen won 3 out of their 8 appeal cases, while of the employers' 15 appeals 6 were successful.

Workmen's Compensation Acts in Ireland.—In all, 126 cases came before the Irish County Courts in 1901, of which 104 were decided by the County Court Judge, 3 were settled by the acceptance of money paid into Court, and 19 were withdrawn, settled out of Court, &c. Of the 107 cases finally settled within the cognisance of the Courts, 82 were decided in favour of the applicants, and 25 in favour of the respondents.

The average amount of compensation paid after fatal accidents to dependants of the deceased workmen was, in 1901, £125 4s. 7d.; the average lump sum awarded for non-fatal accidents was £13 10s. 5d.; and the average weekly allowance awarded in respect of non-fatal accidents was 8s. 2d. The solicitors' costs awarded in Ireland in respect of arbitrations in County Courts averaged £5 10s. 3d. per case. Three cases were taken to the Irish Court of Appeal, 1 by a workman, and 2 by employers; all these appeals were dismissed.

Contracting-out Schemes.—Only 3 additional schemes of compensation were certified in 1901, and these affected only a small number of workpeople. The statistics furnished by the Registrar of Friendly Societies, which relate to all the schemes in operation on 30th June 1901, including 2 out of the 3 new schemes of 1901, show that the total number of the workmen affected by the 50 schemes referred to on June 30th, 1901, was 133,592.

* In addition to these there were 6 cases withdrawn, and of which there are no Records of Proceedings.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR IN 1901.*

THE Ninth Annual Report of the Labour Department of the Board of Trade on Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour in the United Kingdom, dealing with the changes which took place in 1901, has recently been issued.

The Report states that for the first time since 1895, a decline in wages has to be recorded. In 1896 an upward movement began which culminated in 1900, when the general level of wages stood higher than in any other year for which statistics exist. During 1901 the increases failed to balance the decreases, although the resulting fall in that year bears but a small proportion to the total rise of the five preceding years. In the industries for which it is possible to obtain definite statistics, it is shown that 429,715 workpeople received advances during 1901, amounting to £40,789 per week, while 492,518 sustained decreases amounting to £118,132 per week. The net weekly decrease for the year was accordingly £77,343, which compares with *increases* of £209,373 in 1900, and £90,905 in 1899. These figures are exclusive of agricultural labourers, seamen, and railway servants, with regard to whom the numbers cannot be precisely stated.

The proportion of the working population affected by wages-changes varied considerably in the different groups of trades. In coal mining 92 per cent. were affected, while in the building trades the proportion was about 5 per cent., in the metal, engineering and shipbuilding industries about 8 per cent., and in the textile trades only 0.3 per cent. The different groups of trades during 1901 are shown in the following Table, which also gives for comparison the numbers affected in the two previous years.

Groups of Trades.	Number of Workpeople affected in 1901.			Corresponding Totals in	
	By Increases	By Decreases	Total.†	1900.	1899.
Building Trades	29,598	10,089	39,687	78,600	66,242
Mining and Quarrying	325,249	392,023	725,750	705,437	666,388
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	14,467	87,469	103,216	95,285	156,621
Textile Trades	2,911	187	3,098	125,089	232,654
Clothing Trades	5,265	9	5,409	8,481	3,204
Miscellaneous Trades‡	24,610	2,728	27,338	91,151	30,743
Employees of Public Authorities	27,615	13	27,628	31,743	19,544
Total†	429,715	492,518	932,126	1,135,796	1,175,576

It will be seen from the Table that in 1901, more than three-fourths of the workpeople whose wages were changed were employed in the mining and quarrying industries. Coal mining accounted for most of the work- people included in this group, the numbers affected at other mines and at quarries being comparatively small. The 103,216 affected in the metal, engineering and ship- building group includes 70,009 workpeople employed at blastfurnaces and in the manufacture of iron and steel.

The decline, which was the net result of the changes of 1901, is accounted for mainly by the fall in miners' wages, the rise in which was the predominant feature of the statistics for 1898-1900. Over 80 per cent. of the total weekly decrease in 1901 was in this industry. During the years 1898-1900 practically all the coal miners in Great Britain received in each year advances of wages. The increases given in 1900 were very large, and averaged 4s. 3d. weekly per head of all the coal miners employed. In 1901 wages declined in sympathy with the fall in the selling price of coal, the average weekly decrease in wages being 1s. 5½d. per head of all coal miners employed.

The following Table shows for each group of trades

* Cd. 1204, price 8½d. The Report can be obtained through any bookseller, or direct from the publishers, Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, E.C.

† Including 9,893 workpeople whose wages were changed during the year, but at the end of the year stood at the same level as at the beginning.

‡ Excluding agricultural labourers, railway servants and seamen.

the net increase or decrease per week and the average per head of those affected:—

Table with columns: Groups of Trades, Net amount of Increase (+) or Decrease (-) per week in wages, Total, Average per head of those affected.

As is seen from the Table, the groups of trades in which the net result for the year was a decrease were the mining and quarrying, and the metal, engineering and shipbuilding groups.

During the first half of 1902 the fall in wages in the mining industry has continued and become even more widespread, the total number of miners affected by reductions in this period having been no less than 625,000.

As regards the methods by which the changes have been arranged, the Report states that it is satisfactory to note the increased tendency to settle changes in wages by conciliation or arbitration.

The changes in hours of labour recorded in 1901 were unimportant, the aggregate reduction in hours per week being less than in any of the preceding eight years.

In addition to the report and the statistical tables, the volume contains a reference to piece price lists, and wages agreements of other kinds adopted or revised in 1901.

The minor changes reported which neither altered the current rates of wages or hours of labour, nor affected large bodies of workpeople, are omitted from the detailed tables, but are duly taken into account in the statistical summaries and the Report.

* Excluding agricultural labourers, railway servants and seamen.

IRISH MIGRATORY AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS IN 1902.

RETURNS furnished by the courtesy of the under-mentioned Railway Companies, and the Glasgow, Dublin and Londonderry Steam Packet Company, Ltd., show that the number of migratory labourers booked from the Province of Connaught by rail and sea for farm work in England and Scotland this year was less than in any of the four preceding years.

Particulars as to the counties in England and Scotland in which the Irish labourers are mostly employed, and also as to their conditions of employment, are given in the Report, issued by the Board of Trade, on the Wages of Agricultural Labourers in the United Kingdom.

The following Table shows the number of migratory labourers who left the Province of Connaught for England and Scotland up to the end of August in each of the years 1898 to 1902:—

Table showing the number of migratory labourers by rail and sea from 1898 to 1902, categorized by place of booking and mode of transport.

In addition to the above, a small number (58 in 1898, 99 in 1899, 109 in 1900, 79 in 1901, and 53 in 1902) were booked from stations on the Midland Great Western Railway in Provinces other than Connaught.

LEGAL CASE AFFECTING LABOUR.

Workmen's Compensation Acts.

COMPENSATION AWARDED FOR INJURY FOR WHICH STRANGER LIABLE: EMPLOYERS INDEMNIFIED.

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

A firm of brewers sent a van load of barrels to be conveyed by a railway company on "station to station" terms (i.e., they themselves did the loading and unloading of the barrels).

In making this total it is estimated that about half of the number booked from Collooney come from Mayo.

The difference between these figures and the corresponding figures for previous years is owing to the fact that through fares are now in operation from the Great Southern and Western Railway Company's stations to England via Collooney, and it is therefore not necessary to re-book at Collooney as in former years.

* A few of these go to Liverpool. † Based upon reports in newspapers.

van at one of the company's stations, claimed compensation from the company under the Act, and was awarded £78 11s. 3d. The company then brought an action against the brewers, in which they claimed a declaration that they were entitled to be indemnified by the brewers against the liability imposed upon them by this award.

The company's case was, that, for the purpose of effecting the unloading, the brewers' servants placed a plank in such a position that one end of it rested on the platform and the other rested upon an iron rod at the rear of the van, the plank not being secured to the iron rod. While the brewers' servants were engaged in rolling a barrel down the plank, the horses, which were unattended, started forward, causing the end of the plank which was resting on the van to slip and fall from the iron rod and the other end to spring up and strike this workman, causing him serious injuries.

On behalf of the brewers, evidence was given that the plan adopted in unloading the van on this occasion was the usual method employed, and that the horses never moved.

The Judge gave judgment in favour of the company for £78 11s. 3d., and also for £10 17s. 2d., the amount of the taxed costs which the company had paid in relation to the compensation proceedings.

THE PRICE OF BREAD.

IN continuance of the record of variations in the price of bread, published periodically in the LABOUR GAZETTE, returns have again been collected from the principal Co-operative Societies in Great Britain, and local correspondents, showing the price of ordinary household bread per 4 lbs. on September 1st, 1902.

(i) Returns from Co-operative Societies.

The figures in the following Table are based on 242 returns from Co-operative Societies in England and Wales, and 133 from Scotland, and give the highest, lowest and mean prices for each of the districts specified, and for the whole of Great Britain:—

Table showing the price of bread per 4 lbs. by district, including present price, price last quarter, and price a year ago.

As compared with 2nd June the mean district prices for September show little change. For Great Britain the average mean price at 1st September was 5'09d., as compared with 5'10d. three months ago.

* Kincardine, Forfar, Fife, Clackmannan, and the Lothians.

(ii) Returns from Local Correspondents.

The returns furnished by local correspondents relate to London and 24 large provincial towns at the beginning of September, and of each of the six preceding months. The figures for each place are comparable over the whole period, and are believed to represent the prices most generally paid by workpeople for ordinary household bread of average quality.

As compared with a month ago, the price has remained unchanged in all the towns, but as compared with the 1st March it has increased at eight of the towns included in the Table.

Table showing the price of 4 lbs. of ordinary household bread in various towns from March to September 1902.

(iii) Imports of Wheat and Wheat Meal and Flour.

The imports of wheat from foreign countries and the colonies from September 1st, 1901, to August 31st, 1902, amounted to 74,701,839 cwts. (equivalent to 17,430,429 quarters), compared with 71,180,630 cwts. (16,608,814 quarters) in the corresponding 12 months of 1900-1.

(iv) Price of British Wheat.

The mean London Gazette price of British wheat for the week ended 30th August, 1902, was 31s. 7d. per quarter, compared with 31s. 6d. for the corresponding week 3 months ago.

RECENT CONCILIATION & ARBITRATION CASES

UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

Colliery Workpeople at Clydach Vale.

Mr. T. Bell, the arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade in connection with certain differences between the Cambrian Collieries, Limited, and their workpeople, published his awards on August 11th.

Two separate matters were referred to the arbitrator's decision: (1) One of these was the cutting price per ton for large clean coal and for brush coal in a certain seam, and the amount to be paid for the clod over the coal in the same seam.

With regard to (1), the arbitrator decided that the standard prices should be those set forth in the schedule attached to his award, and that these prices should come into operation on August 18th.

wage, the additional remuneration to commence on and from the day on which the services of the door-boys in accompanying and assisting the hauliers should be dispensed with and discontinued.

Carpenters and Joiners at Bradford.

Mr. G. R. Askwith, the arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade in this case (see GAZETTE for August, p. 219), issued his award on August 21st. After a prolonged strike lasting from May, 1901, all the points in dispute, other than the rate of wages, were settled between the parties with the assistance of the Mayor of Bradford. One of the terms of settlement, dated August 7th, was that the question of wages should be referred to an arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade, and that in this arbitration the employers should not offer less than 8½d. or the employees demand more than 9d. (lower and higher amounts having respectively been offered and demanded in the course of the dispute).

Mr. Askwith decided that the standard rate of wages should be 8½d per hour. The rate before the dispute was 9d.

Grimsby Fishing Trade.

With reference to Mr. Askwith's award on the Grimsby Fishery Box and Appliances question (see GAZETTE for August, p. 219), a joint application was made to the arbitrator on behalf of the parties as to the construction of the clause of the award reading "I award and declare that the Grimsby Fishing Owners shall be entitled to use a larger fish trunk than is used at present on the Grimsby Fish Pontoon . . ." The men contended that the words "a larger fish trunk" left the question of the size of the box open for further negotiation.

The following question was referred to the arbitrator: "By your Award did you mean that the Owners were to be at liberty to use the box you saw and handled, i.e., the 'Federation Box'?" Mr. Askwith replied that the answer to this question was in the affirmative.

Up to the present (September 13th) the men have declined to act upon the award.

NUMBERS EMPLOYED AND ACCIDENTS AT MINES AND QUARRIES IN 1901.*

THE total number of persons employed at mines and at the quarries under the Quarries Act in the United Kingdom and the Isle of Man during the year 1901 was 933,366, as compared with 908,412 in 1900.

These persons were distributed as follows:—

Class of Mine or Quarry.	Employed underground or inside quarries.	Employed above ground or outside quarries.	Total.	Comparison of 1901 with 1900.
Coal Mines	636,400	156,248	792,648	+25,747
Iron Mines	12,229	4,280	16,509	- 207
Other Mines	17,997	12,024	30,021	- 879
Other Mines	59,968	34,220	94,188	+ 293
Total for 1901... ..	726,594	206,772	933,366	+24,954
Total for 1900... ..	704,873	203,539	908,412	-

Of the 933,366 persons employed, 5,631 were women and girls, of whom 5,588 were employed above ground at mines, 4 inside and 39 outside quarries.

In the LABOUR GAZETTE for March last (p. 67), preliminary figures were given of the number of deaths from accidents at mines and quarries. The following are the revised figures:—In and about mines and quarries 1,075 separate fatal accidents occurred, causing the loss of 1,220 lives. Of these 978, causing the loss of 1,131 lives, happened at mines, and 97, causing the loss of 98 lives, happened at quarries. These figures correspond to a death rate of 1.348 per 1,000 employed at mines, and of 1.04 per 1,000 employed at quarries. The death rate from accidents among underground workers in mines was 1.467 per 1,000 persons employed, and among above-ground workers 0.887 per 1,000, the average rates for the ten years from 1892 to 1901 being 1.565 and 0.804 respectively per 1,000 employed. The death rate per 1,000 persons employed inside the quarries was 1.43.

* Mines and Quarries: General Report and Statistics for 1901. Part II.—Labour. (Cd. 1227. Price 9d.)

LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.

(Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 31, Broadway, Westminster, from official and other reports, newspapers, etc., mostly dated July and August last.)

Canada.—Work has been plentiful in Canada during the past summer, and wages have risen in many trades. Manufacturing has been very active, and reports from the larger centres tell almost uniformly of full time being worked in factories. In British Columbia the saw-milling and shingle industry has been especially busy, but gold mining at Rossland and coal mining at Nanaimo continue to be depressed. In the Yukon Territory the labour market is congested. It is now too late in the year for the ordinary emigrant to go to Canada, unless he has friends to go to, or has means of his own.

New South Wales.—The shearers are demanding that their pay should be raised from 20s. per 100 sheep to 25s. There is no demand for labour anywhere.

Victoria.—There is no actual demand for more labour, and in Melbourne there is a considerable number of unemployed persons. But a good mechanic or experienced farm labourer, if he has money enough to live on for a few weeks after arrival, can generally find employment, at all events during the summer months (December to February). For persons without a trade there is no demand whatever. Mining is depressed through the drought and other causes, and the production of gold for the first six months of this year was considerably less than for the corresponding period of 1901.

Queensland.—The last report, just received, from the Government Labour Bureau shows that in the north there was no demand for anyone except female servants and some general labourers; that in the central districts there was practically no demand for anyone, and that in the south there was a good demand for agricultural labourers and general labourers only. More mechanics, station hands, miners, or married couples on farms and stations were not wanted in any part of Queensland. The drought is causing great losses.

Western Australia.—There is a good demand for farm labourers and female servants, but not for miners, mechanics, or general labourers.

New Zealand.—The last reports from New Zealand show that employment was general in all trades, but that owing to its being the winter season work had somewhat fallen off, and there was no demand for outside labour; this was especially the case amongst general labourers. With the approaching spring and summer work is likely to improve. In Taranaki there is a good demand for farm and general labourers, station hands, and female servants.

Cape Colony.—There is a demand for skilled mechanics only; there is no opening for ordinary labourers. Permits to land are still required.

Natal.—The following persons are required for the Government railways; application must be made to the Agent-General of Natal, at 26, Victoria-street, London, S.W.; free passages are provided, and half pay during the voyage:—Good platelayers between 25 and 40 years of age, with 5 years' experience, wages £11 to £15 a month; carriage and waggon examiners, with 5 years' experience, wages 9s. a day; boiler makers, with 3 years' experience. Signalmen, having at least one year's experience and knowledge of telegraphy, are also wanted; they must be under 30 years of age, and over 5 ft. 7 in. in height; wages £10 a month; cost of passage will be advanced, to be repaid by monthly deductions. With these exceptions no one should emigrate to Natal in search of work, unless he has ample means; large numbers of persons have recently arrived, and the market is full. Permits to land are required.

Transvaal and Orange River Colony.—There will be no opening for school teachers from England during the next six months, and no announcement of vacancies is likely to be made before January, 1903. There continues to be a fair demand for really skilled mechanics, especially carpenters, bricklayers, masons, painters, plumbers, sign writers, decorators, fitters, turners, and

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

engine drivers. Wages average rather over £1 a day, but the cost of living is at least double that in England. There is no demand for general labourers, as there is a large supply on the spot. It is reported that an experiment is being made on the Rand Mines of employing general white labour at 5s. a day and food, being equivalent to about 8s. 10d. a day, but it is too early to judge of its success. Female servants are in demand at about £5 a month, but they are warned against going at present, unless they go to friends, or in charge of some Women's Society; permits are necessary for all emigrants. Men who can ride, including a few farriers, are wanted for the South African Constabulary in both these colonies; they should apply at the Recruiting Office in King's Yard, Broadway, Westminster.

LABOUR ABROAD.

FRANCE.

Employment in August.*—Out of 108,000 members of 933 trade unions (including that of the miners in the Pas-de-Calais department) which made returns as to the state of employment in August, 16,480, or about 8 per cent., were reported out of work. By excluding the return for the Pas-de-Calais Miners' Union, the percentage of unemployed in August would be increased to 11 per cent. approximately, i.e., to the proportion reported for July, which was calculated on this basis.

Coal Mining in July.†—The average number of days worked per week by those employed underground in coal mines in July was 5.77, as compared with 5.80 in the preceding month and 5.62 in July, 1901. During the month full time (6 days and over per week) was worked by 54 per cent., and from 5 to 6 days by 45 per cent. of all employed in and about the mines, the corresponding percentages for the previous month being 72 and 22 respectively. The foregoing particulars were supplied to the French Labour Department by the Committee of Coalowners, and relate to 140,000 workpeople, or about three-fourths of all employed in and about the mines in July, 1902.

Labour Disputes in July.†—Thirty-four disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in July, the number of workpeople known to have taken part in 32 of these being 6,420. In the preceding month there were 56 disputes, in 55 of which 5,905 workpeople were involved, while in July, 1901, there were 31 disputes, in which 5,489 workpeople took part. Of the 34 disputes in July last, 9 occurred in the building trades, 3 in mining, 5 in the metal trades, 9 in the textile and 3 in the transport trades, the remaining 5 being in trades not included within any of the foregoing groups. Thirty disputes came to an end in July, 7 terminating in favour of the workpeople, 10 in favour of the employers and 13 being compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in July.†—Five cases of recourse to the Conciliation and Arbitration Law were reported to the French Labour Department in July, the initiative being taken in 3 cases by the workpeople and in 2 by the Justices of the Peace. Committees of conciliation were formed in 4 cases, resulting in the settlement of 3 disputes, the fourth dispute being afterwards settled by a compromise between the employers and workpeople. In the remaining case the employers declined the proffered mediation, and the dispute eventually terminated in their favour.

Use of White Lead in House Painting: Special Rules.†—By a Presidential Decree, dated July 18th, 1902, it is forbidden

- (1) to use white lead in any form other than that of paste in the work rooms of house-painting establishments;
- (2) to use white lead compounds with the naked hand in any house-painting operations; or
- (3) to remove white-lead paint by dry scraping or pumice stoning.

For scraping or pumice stoning by the wet process, and for all operations of painting with white-lead compounds, employers are required to furnish overalls, to insist on their being worn during work, and to provide for their

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the French Labour Department. † Bulletin de l'Office du Travail. (Journal of the French Labour Department.)

being kept in good repair and frequently washed. All articles needed in the interests of cleanliness must be made available for the workmen at the place of work; and all appliances and tools must be kept clean, but must not be dry scraped for that purpose.

GERMANY.

Employment in August.—According to the Berlin journal *Der Arbeitsmarkt* the state of employment was slightly better than in the previous month, but not so favourable as in August, 1901, the number of applications for work per 100 situations offered at the public employment registries being 161.5 in August, 1902, as compared with 163.4 in the preceding month and 149.5 a year ago.

Labour Disputes in August.—The same journal reports 28 disputes as having begun in August, as compared with 24 in July. Seven of the new disputes occurred in the building trades, 6 in the metal and engineering trades, 2 in the textile trades, 2 in the clothing trades, 3 in the pottery, etc., trades, 3 in woodworking trades and 5 in trades not included within these groups.

Prussian Factory and Mine Inspectors' Reports for 1901.—The following particulars are based on the Report on Factory and Mine Inspection in Prussia in 1901, which has been recently issued.*

Extent of Inspection: The total number of establishments subject to inspection in 1901 was 137,612, the number of workpeople employed in those establishments being 3,001,790. The number of establishments inspected in the course of the year was 51,343, of which 38,661 were visited once, 8,070 twice, and 4,612 three times or oftener. The number of workpeople employed in the establishments visited was 2,400,038, or 80 per cent. of the number employed in all establishments subject to inspection. Of these 2,400,038 workpeople, 541,743 were employed in establishments coming under the supervision of the Mines Inspection Authorities, and represented over 99 per cent. of all workpeople employed in such establishments.

Employment of Children, Young Persons and Women: From the following Table it can be seen in what proportion children, young persons and women respectively were represented in 1901 in the total number of workpeople employed in the industrial establishments subject to inspection:—

	Workpeople employed in Establishments liable to inspection by					
	Factory Inspectors.		Mine Inspectors.		Either class of Inspectors.	
	Number.	Per cent. of total.	Number.	Per cent. of total.	Number.	Per cent. of total.
Children under 14:—						
Boys	1,568	0.06	91	0.02	1,662	0.06
Girls	730	0.03	2	...	732	0.02
Young Persons of 14 to 16:—						
Boys	127,824	5.21	18,154	3.33	145,978	4.86
Girls	47,150	1.92	806	0.15	47,956	1.60
Women:—						
Of 16 to 21	152,510	6.21	4,003	0.73	156,513	5.21
Of over 21	247,847	10.09	5,120	0.94	252,967	8.43
Adult Males (over 16)	1,878,474	76.48	547,508	94.83	2,395,982	79.82
Total	2,456,103	100.00	545,687	100.00	3,001,790	100.00

Owing to a new method having been applied in collecting the data on which the foregoing figures are based, no comparison can be made with the corresponding statistics for previous years.

Infractions of the Law in Respect of Employment of Women and Children: In respect of the employment of children and young persons of 14 to 16 years of age, infractions of the law were noticed by the factory and mine inspectors in the case of 6,798 establishments, and resulted in penalties being inflicted on 886 persons. As regards the employment of women (over 16 years of age), 1,764 establishments were reported to have infringed the law, and penalties were inflicted on 217 persons.

Overtime: In the sense in which it is here used, the expression "overtime" means all time worked in excess of 11 hours on ordinary week days or of 10 hours on Saturdays.

Permits to employ women on overtime on ordinary week-days were granted in 1901 to 577 establishments, and had reference to 37,848 women, who worked a total of 779,462 hours overtime. In addition, 117 establishments obtained permission to employ 5,402 women on overtime on Saturdays, the aggregate number of hours of overtime not being specified in this case.

* Jahres-Berichte der Kön. Preussischen Regierungs-und Gewerbeämter und Bergbehörden für 1901. Berlin 1902. R. v. Decker.

BELGIUM.

*Labour Disputes in July.**—Ten fresh disputes, involving 1,807 workpeople (835 strikers and 972 non-strikers), were reported to the Belgian Labour Department as having begun in July, while one other, begun in June, and involving 88 workpeople, continued through part of the month. There were 7 disputes in the preceding month affecting 1,193 workpeople (1,088 strikers and 105 non-strikers), while in July, 1901, there were 11 disputes, involving 2,020 workpeople.

Seven of the new disputes occurred in the textile trades, 2 in the glass and cement trades respectively, and 1 amongst coal miners.

Of the 8 disputes which came to an end in July, 5 were decided in favour of the employers, and 3 were comprised.

HOLLAND.

Chambers of Labour in 1901.—The responsibility for the administration of the law of May 2nd, 1897, regarding Chambers of Labour, originally assigned to the Minister of Dykes, Commerce and Industry, now rests with the Minister for Home Affairs, by whom the report on the operations of these Chambers in 1901 has recently been issued.†

The Report shows the number of Chambers in existence at the end of 1901 to have been 81, of which, however, only 74 were in actual operation, the remaining 7 not being fully constituted.

The Chambers of Labour are established on the recommendation of the responsible minister, wherever their establishment appears necessary and practicable. Their objects are to collect information on questions affecting labour, to advise Government Departments or Local Authorities on subjects relating to the interests of labour, to give advice and frame agreements and regulations at the request of the parties interested, and to prevent and adjust disputes in regard to questions affecting labour, and, if necessity should arise, to bring about the reference of such disputes to arbitration between the parties. (See LABOUR GAZETTE, August, 1897, p. 229). The Royal Decree establishing a Chamber fixes the number of its members, of whom one-half must be employers, elected by the employers concerned, and the other half workmen, elected by the workmen concerned. The members hold office for five years, and are eligible for re-election. Each Chamber has two chairmen, one an employer and the other a workman.

The volume under review contains reports from 70 chambers. An examination of these shows that 3 strikes were settled and 2 threatened strikes averted through the intervention of the Chambers in 1901. In 7 strikes the Chambers intervened without success.

The Report contains a Table intended to show what proportion of employers and workpeople respectively make use of their right to vote in the election of members to the Chambers of Labour. In the great majority of cases given the proportion is very small, both among the employers and the workpeople. It appears, for instance, that while 288 employers and 1,632 workpeople could have voted at an election of members to the Chamber for the Building Trades at Rotterdam, only 45 of the former and 184 of the latter actually voted. In the same town only 28 out of 297 employers, and 362 out of 2,955 workpeople, took part in an election of members to the Chamber for the Metal and Woodworking Trades.

AUSTRIA.

Employment in July.†—The returns of the Labour Registries (public and private) which furnished reports to the Austrian Labour Department for July, show that, on an average, there were 192 applicants for every 100 situations offered in that month—the same proportion as in June. Taking the sexes separately, there were, in the case of men, 250 applicants on an average for every 100 situations offered, as against 260 in the previous month, while in the case of women there were 93 applicants, as compared with 92 in June.

Labour Disputes in July.†—Twenty disputes were reported to the Austrian Labour Department as having begun in July, the number of workpeople involved being about 2,100. Two disputes occurred in the building trades, 5 in the metal and engineering trades, 3 in the textile trades, 2 in the clothing trades, 2 in transport, 2 in wood-working trades and 4 in trades not included in the foregoing groups. The results were reported in the case of 16 disputes; of these, 4 were decided in favour of the

* *Revue du Travail* (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department).
† *Verlagen der Kamers van Arbeid over 1901*. The Hague, Gebr. Belinfante, 1902.
Information supplied through the courtesy of the Austrian Labour Department.

workpeople, 5 in favour of the employers and 7 were compromised.

General Strike of Agricultural Labourers in Eastern Galicia.—In a despatch to the Foreign Office dated August 14th, Mr. Ralph Milbanke, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Vienna, reports the practical termination of a general strike of agricultural labourers in Eastern Galicia after it had lasted about a month. The termination of the strike is stated to be due to the police measures employed by the authorities, and also to a partial concession of the strikers' demands.

ITALY.

Strike at Florence.—Details relating to a general strike at Florence have been supplied to the Foreign Office by Sir R. Rodd, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Rome, in despatches dated September 2nd and 4th. From these it appears that the trouble originated in the discharge of a number of workmen at the Pignone foundry in Florence, on August 1st, on grounds of economy. The management refused to adopt the employees' suggestion that short time should be worked in order to make room for the men who had been discharged, and a strike was declared at the foundry. In the negotiations which followed, the manager of the foundry declined to treat with the Secretary of the Chamber of Labour (Trades' Council), and the strike was joined by all the other metal workers of Florence. The Chamber of Labour then proclaimed a general strike with the result that, by August 30th, the workmen (estimated at 20,000) in nearly every trade in Florence were involved. After two or three days' abstention from work, however, the men in the various trades began of their own accord to adopt resolutions in favour of a resumption of work. The Chamber of Labour then insisted on taking a "referendum" of the affiliated trades. A large majority voted in favour of resuming work, and the Chamber of Labour produced a manifesto in favour of its resumption in all branches except at the Pignone foundry. By September 4th the general strike had come to an end.

Payment of Wages: Royal Commission.—The *Bollettino Ufficiale del Ministero d'Agricoltura, Industria e Commercio* of August 6th, 1902, contains the text of a Royal Decree, dated June 5th, 1902, appointing a Commission to inquire into the forms and methods of payment in use with regard to workmen's wages, and to propose measures for regulating such payment.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Legal Eight Hours Day for Miners and Smelters in Montana.—The Bulletin of the (United States) Department of Labour for July, 1902, contains the text of an Act approved by the Governor of the State of Montana on February 4th, 1901, which provides that the period of employment of working men shall be eight hours per day in all underground mines or workings and in all institutions for the reduction of ores, and refining of ores and metals except in cases of emergency where life or property is in imminent danger. Infractions of this law are to be punished by a fine of not less than £20, or more than £100, or by imprisonment for a period of not less than one month, or more than six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

This Act has been in operation since May 4th, 1901.

Wages in the Tinsplate Trade.—In a despatch to the Foreign Office dated July 24th, Mr. T. Erskine, Acting British Consul at Chicago, reports that advances have been made by the manufacturers of tinsplate to the workers, asking the latter to agree to a reduction in wages of twenty-five per cent. to enable the manufacturer to compete with the British tinsplate trade in the United States.

The duty on tinsplate is $\frac{3}{4}$ of a penny per pound, but a rebate of 99 per cent. is returned on the tinsplate when exported containing United States products.

The Standard Oil Company has a contract to let at the present time for 1,500,000 boxes of tin plate, and to obtain this contract against the British manufacturer, a reduction of wages over all the plants in the United States of about 25 per cent. is said to be necessary, and

the men are informed that if they will agree to this reduction, new mills will be opened, but if not, many of the mills at present running will be closed.*

The meat packers also use imported tinsplate in their export trade, and a reduction in wages might affect that trade also. In Chicago alone in 1901, rebate was given on 2,880,412 lbs. of imported tinsplate containing meat.

REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

(a) EMPLOYMENT IN THE BUILDING TRADES IN AUGUST.

(Based upon information supplied by the Trade Correspondent for the Building Trades, Local Correspondents, Employers' Associations and Trade Unions.)

RETURNS supplied by 77 Employers' Associations, whose members are estimated to employ about 92,000 building operatives of all classes, and by Trade Unions with an aggregate membership of about 200,000, show that employment in the building trades generally improved slightly in August, though it was still rather dull, and worse than a year ago. Roughly speaking, returns from Employers' Associations covering half the number of workpeople show employment to have been dull; one quarter fair or moderate, one quarter good.

Employment with bricklayers has improved slightly, but is worse than in August, 1901. With masons it continues fairly good, and is better than a year ago. Carpenters and joiners report employment as moderate. The percentage of unemployed members among union carpenters and joiners was 2·8 at the end of August, as compared with 3·0 at the end of July, and 2·6 at the end of August, 1901. With painters employment generally is reported as quiet. Plasterers report employment as improving, but not so good as a year ago. With plumbers employment is moderate. The percentage of unemployed unionist plumbers was 6·1 at the end of August, as compared with 6·5 at the end of July, and 5·8 in August, 1901. Slaters and tilers report employment as slightly improved in England, and as fairly good in Scotland.

The following Table shows the state of employment in the principal districts for carpenters and joiners and plumbers, as indicated by the proportions of Trade Union members of these trades returned as unemployed at the end of the month:—

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of August, 1902.†	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage for August, 1902, as compared with a	
		August, 1902.	July, 1902.	August, 1901.	Month ago.	Year ago.
CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.						
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
London	7,284	4·6	5·5	1·7	-0·9	+2·9
Northern Counties and Middlesbro'	6,037	3·2	1·1	1·1	+2·1	+2·1
Lancashire and Cheshire	10,111	2·6	2·6	2·0	...	+0·6
Yorkshire	4,877	2·5	4·1	3·4	-1·6	-0·9
East Midlands	2,902	1·3	2·5	1·0	-1·2	+0·3
West Midlands	4,600	1·4	2·1	1·6	-0·7	-0·2
Eastern Counties	1,184	1·9	0·9	1·0	+1·0	+0·9
S. and S.W. Counties	5,643	2·5	2·4	2·3	+0·1	+0·2
Wales and Monmouth	1,696	3·2	3·4	4·3	-0·2	-1·1
SCOTLAND	4,645	1·4	1·4	5·8	...	-4·4
IRELAND	4,792	3·8	5·4	6·6	-1·6	-2·8
PLUMBERS.						
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
London	1,200	8·6	11·3	3·9	-2·7	+4·7
Northern Counties and Middlesbro'	1,485	4·9	4·6	1·9	+0·1	+3·0
Lancashire and Cheshire	2,424	7·5	6·5	5·5	+1·0	+2·0
Yorkshire	1,205	5·1	6·2	7·6	-1·1	-2·5
East Midlands	599	3·7	4·9	1·7	-1·2	+2·0
West Midlands	452	6·2	4·4	1·9	+1·8	+4·3
Eastern Counties	1,300	7·7	3·3	5·6	+1·4	+3·1
S. and S.W. Counties	470	3·2	4·6	6·6	-1·4	-2·4
Wales and Monmouth	255	8·6	8·5	15·5	+0·1	-6·9
SCOTLAND	1,712	5·4	4·9	8·2	+0·5	-2·8
IRELAND	409	4·6	11·2	8·7	-6·6	-4·1

London.—Employment generally is slack, though rather better than a month ago. Masons report it as

* According to newspaper reports, the official organ of the American tinsplate workers announces that the proposal of the American Tinsplate Company has been rejected by the Union lodges.
† Exclusive of Superannuated Members.

good. The supply of labour is stated to be abundant in all branches.

The returns received from employers by the Trade Correspondent show that 76 employers paid wages to 14,986 workpeople of all classes on the last pay day in August, as compared with 13,524 in July, and 14,919 in August, 1901.

Branches of carpenters and joiners with 7,284 members had 4·6 per cent. unemployed, as compared with 5·5 per cent. in July, and 1·7 per cent. in August, 1901. Branches of plumbers with 1,200 members had 8·6 per cent. unemployed, as compared with 11·3 per cent. in July, and 3·9 per cent. in August, 1901.

Northern Counties.—Employment continues fairly good. On the Tyne and Wear masons and house joiners are busy, plumbers and plasterers report employment as dull. At Hartlepool employment is dull.

Lancashire and Cheshire.—Employment generally is moderate. It is stated to be quiet at Altrincham, Blackpool, St. Anne's and Macclesfield; bad at Crewe and Middleton. At Manchester employment is bad with painters and plumbers, good with masons, who are in demand owing to railway and municipal work. A report from Birkenhead states that wet weather has interfered with out-door work. At Liverpool employment is reported as dull with all branches except masons, who are well employed.

Yorkshire.—Employment generally is quiet. It is fairly good at Wakefield and Normanton; moderate at Hull; bad at Dewsbury and Keighley. At Sheffield employment is moderate with masons, plasterers and plumbers. Some short time has been worked at Hull and Bridlington in consequence of wet weather.

East Midland Counties.—Employment generally is moderate. At Nottingham it is fair with carpenters and joiners, moderate with plumbers and builders' labourers, dull in other branches. At Northampton employment is reported as bad and worse than in July. At Loughborough it is fair. At Leicester bricklayers and plumbers report employment as moderate, slaters as good.

West Midland Counties.—Employment generally continues quiet. At Leamington and Walsall it is stated to be fairly good; at Wolverhampton it is moderate, except with painters, many of whom have worked short time. At Birmingham short time has been worked by bricklayers, masons and labourers, and the state of employment there is reported as depressed.

Eastern Counties.—Employment generally is dull, and not quite so good as in July. With masons it is fairly good. At Cambridge and Newmarket it is fair, except with bricklayers. At Norwich employment generally is bad, and many bricklayers are out of employment. At Ipswich employment is fair, and a big contract is about to be executed.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—Employment is moderate and much the same as a month ago. It continues fairly good at Chatham and Rochester, quiet at Maidstone. A return from Portsmouth states that employment is much better than in July and that some large contracts are about to be started. At Bournemouth it has been very fair, but some short time has been worked owing to rain. Employment generally has been dull at Plymouth, Bristol, Hereford, Stroud and Cheltenham, but jobbing work has been brisk in the latter town.

Wales and Monmouth.—Employment is fairly good in North Wales, and in the inland and colliery districts of South Wales. At Cardiff, Barry, and Newport it has been dull generally, and at the latter place wet weather has interfered with outdoor work. Masons generally have been well employed, and are in demand at Swansea.

Scotland.—Employment generally continues good, and better than a year ago. At Glasgow the building trades generally have been busy, but less overtime has been worked, and plasterers and plumbers report employment as bad. Painters report employment as quiet at Edinburgh, Aberdeen, and Dundee; plumbers as bad at Dundee.

EMPLOYMENT IN AUGUST—BUILDING TRADES; COAL AND IRON MINING.

Ireland.—Employment generally continues fair. At Cork it is dull, except with carpenters and joiners, who report it as fair. Plasterers report employment as good at Dublin; carpenters and joiners and painters as dull at Belfast.

(b) COAL MINING IN AUGUST.

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

EMPLOYMENT in this industry shows a recovery as compared with a month ago, and is about the same as a year ago. The number of workpeople employed is greater than a year ago.

The average number of days worked per week in the four weeks ended August 23rd was 4.94, as compared with 4.82 days in the four weeks ended July 26th, and 4.91 days in the four weeks ended August 24th, 1901. The average time lost by the collieries through holidays is estimated to have been 0.36 days per week compared with 0.13 days per week in the previous month and 0.35 days per week a year ago. Disputes account for the loss of 0.16 days per week in August and of 0.24 in July. The loss of time in August 1901 owing to disputes was very small.

The following Table, relating to 1,344 pits, at which 481,906 workpeople were employed, gives the figures for August 1902, in comparison with those for a month and a year ago:—

SUMMARY.				
District.	No. employed in Aug., 1902, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the pits in four weeks ended		
		23rd Aug., 1902.	24th Aug., 1901.	26th July, 1902.
England and Wales	439,998	4.99	4.87	4.84
Scotland	41,282	5.36	5.28	4.62
Ireland	626	4.83	5.22	4.91
United Kingdom	481,906	4.94	4.91	4.82

The number of workpeople employed at the pits from which returns have been received for both periods is 1.8 per cent. greater than a year ago.

In the next Table the workpeople are grouped according to the number of days worked at the pits at which they were employed. It will be seen that 68.0 per cent. were employed at pits working 5 or more days per week in the four weeks ended August 23rd, as compared with 58.4 per cent. in the four weeks ended July 26th, and 63.8 per cent. in the four weeks ended August 24th, 1901.

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

Number of days on which Coal was hewn and wound in four weeks.	August, 1902.		Corresponding percentages in	
	No. of Workpeople employed.	Percentage proportion to total.	August, 1901.	July, 1902.
24 days (full time)	16,105	3.3	5.1	11.0
20 and under 24 days	311,787	64.7	68.7	47.4
16 " " 20 " "	105,052	21.8	21.9	22.1
12 " " 16 " "	30,321	6.3	10.6	11.8
8 " " 12 " "	7,712	1.6	2.9	6.2
Under 8 days	10,929	2.3	0.8	1.6
Total	481,906	100.0	100.0	100.0

The next Table, which gives detailed particulars for the different mining districts, shows that the average number of days worked per week was greater than in the previous month in ten out of the sixteen districts, while in the other six districts it was less. These differences are chiefly accounted for by the incidence of holidays or disputes. As compared with a year ago there was an increase in eight districts, and a decrease in seven, Cumberland showing no change. The increase amounted to one-third of a day per week in Staffordshire and to about a quarter of a day per week in North Wales, Fife and Lancashire and Cheshire. The decrease was greatest in Ireland (.39 days per week) and in the Salop, Worcester and Warwick district (.29 days).

The highest averages during the month were worked in the Lothians (5.58 days), Fife (5.50 days), North Wales (5.31 days), Durham and Cumberland (5.29 days each), Northumberland (5.26 days), West Scotland (5.21 days) and South Wales and Monmouth (5.19 days). The lowest was worked in Staffordshire (4.36 days). In the remaining seven districts the average was from 4.2 to 5 days.

COMPARISON OF THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED BY COLLIERIES IN AUGUST, 1902 AND 1901, AND IN JULY, 1902.

District.	No. employed in Aug., 1902, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average No. of Days worked per week by the Collieries in four weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Aug., 1902, as compared with	
		23rd Aug., 1902.	24th Aug., 1901.	26th July, 1902.	A year ago.	A m'nth ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.		Days.	ays.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland	38,659	5.26	5.21	5.33	+ .05	- .07
Durham	94,717	5.29	5.34	5.37	- .05	- .08
Cumberland	7,092	5.29	5.29	5.80	...	- .51
Yorkshire	69,811	4.51	4.72	4.13	- .21	+ .38
Lancashire and Cheshire...	50,287	4.64	4.42	4.72	+ .22	- .0
Derbyshire	36,667	4.65	4.64	4.40	+ .01	+ .25
Nottingham and Leicester	25,251	4.62	4.60	3.60	+ .02	+ 1.02
Staffordshire	28,763	4.36	4.01	4.31	+ .35	+ .05
Salop, Worcester and Warwick	9,560	4.64	4.61	4.61	- .29	+ .03
Gloucester and Somerset...	8,885	4.81	4.98	4.48	- .17	+ .33
North Wales... ..	10,562	5.31	5.04	5.24	+ .27	+ .07
South Wales and Mon. ...	59,744	5.19	5.04	5.61	+ .15	- .42
SCOTLAND.		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
West Scotland	20,995	5.21	5.25	4.45	- .04	+ .76
The Lothians	4,189	5.58	5.62	5.01	- .04	+ .57
Fife	16,098	5.50	5.23	4.76	+ .27	+ .74
IRELAND.	626	4.83	5.22	4.91	- .39	- .08
Grand Total & Averages	481,906	4.94	4.91	4.82	+ .03	+ .12

The Exports of coal, coke, cinders, and patent fuel during August amounted to 3,711,528 tons, as compared with 4,132,743 tons in July, and 4,003,009 tons in August, 1901.

(c) IRON MINING IN AUGUST.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry continues good, showing practically no change as compared with a month ago. It is better than a year ago.

In the 130 mines and open works covered by the returns received, the average number of days worked in the four weeks ended August 23rd was 5.69 per week, as against 5.68 days in the four weeks ended July 26th, and 5.62 days a year ago. The time lost on account of holidays was about 0.15 of a day per week in each period.

The number of workpeople employed at the mines included in the returns was 15,634 (or 577 more than were employed at the same mines a year ago), and of these 84.1 per cent. were employed at mines working 22 or more days during the four weeks ended August 23rd, as compared with 84.9 per cent. in July and 81.5 per cent. a year ago.

The following Table summarises the returns received:—

District.	No. employed in Aug., 1902, at the Mines included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Mines in 4 weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in August, 1902, as compared with	
		23rd Aug., 1902.	24th Aug., 1901.	26th July, 1902.	A year ago.	month ago.
ENGLAND—		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cumberland and Lancashire	4,863	5.79	5.62	5.91	+ .17	- .12
Cleveland	6,676	5.83	5.77	5.71	+ .06	+ .12
Lincolnshire and Leicestershire...	832	5.92	5.16	5.71	+ .76	+ .21
Northamptonshire	601	5.85	5.74	5.91	+ .11	- .06
Staffordshire and Shropshire	1,242	4.71	4.89	5.17	- .18	- .46
Other places in England... ..	130	5.97	5.79	5.64	+ .18	+ .33
SCOTLAND	1,201	5.21	5.52	4.90	- .31	+ .31
IRELAND	89	5.94	5.75	6.00	+ .19	- .06
Total and Averages	15,634	5.69	5.62	5.68	+ .07	+ .01

EMPLOYMENT IN AUGUST—PIG-IRON; IRON AND STEEL AND TINPLATE WORKS.

(d) PIG-IRON INDUSTRY IN AUGUST.

EMPLOYMENT shows a further slight improvement, and is better than a year ago.

At the works of 115 ironmasters covered by the returns received, there were 327 furnaces in blast at the end of August, as compared with 325 at the end of July, and 317 at the end of August, 1901. During the month one furnace was re-lit in England and one in Scotland.

The estimated number of workpeople employed at the 327 furnaces in blast was 22,500.

The following Table shows the number of furnaces in blast in different districts at the three periods specified:—

Districts.	Present time compared with a year ago.		Present time compared with a month ago.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in August, 1902.
	Aug., 1902.	Aug., 1901.	Aug., 1902.	July, 1902.	
ENGLAND & WALES—					
Cleveland	79	84	- 5	79	79
Cumberland & Lancs. ...	43	43	...	43	43
S. and S.W. Yorks. ...	16	15	+ 1	16	16
Derby & Nottingham	38	34	+ 4	38	38
Leicester, Lincoln & Northampton)	26	22	+ 4	26	26
Stafford & Worcester	33	32	+ 1	33	33
S. Wales & Monmouth	14	14	...	14	13
Other districts	7	7	...	7	7
Total England and Wales...}	286	281	+ 5	286	285
SCOTLAND	71	66	+ 5	71	70
Total furnaces included in returns ...	327	317	+ 10	327	325

(e) EMPLOYMENT AT IRON AND STEEL WORKS* IN AUGUST.

As compared with July, the returns received show a slight decline in England and Wales in the number of persons employed, with no change in the average number of shifts worked per man. Owing to the inclusion of the annual holidays in the July returns for Scotland, the Scottish returns afford no indication of changes in the state of employment. As compared with a year ago, employment showed a decline in England and Wales, but was practically the same in Scotland.

At 202 works covered by the returns, 77,561 workpeople were employed in the week ended August 30th, as against 76,549 in the week ended July 26th, and 78,960 a year ago.

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

District.	Number employed in week ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Aug., 1902, as compared with	
	Aug. 30th, 1902.	Aug. 31st, 1901.	July 26th, 1902.	A year ago.	A month ago.
England and Wales	64,863	66,496	65,149	- 1,633	- 286
Scotland	12,698	12,464	11,400	+ 234	+ 1,298
Total	77,561	78,960	76,549	- 1,399	+ 1,012

Weekly Number of Shifts Worked.

Information as to the number of shifts worked has been received with respect to works employing 89.5 per cent. of these workpeople, and the particulars are summarised in the Table below.

The average number of shifts worked per man was 5.39 in the week ended August 30th, as against 5.44 in the corresponding week a year ago. The average in the week ended July 26th, was only 4.71 per man, owing to the annual holidays in Scotland.

* Including iron puddling and rolling, and steel making and rolling.

Number of Shifts worked.	Number employed in August, 1902, so far as returned.	Percentage proportion to Total.	Corresponding percentage in	
			August, 1901.	July, 1902.
Under 5 per week	8,533	12.3	11.0	22.8
5 per week	23,999	34.5	32.3	30.1
5 1/2 per week	952	1.4	1.9	0.8
6 per week	35,117	50.6	53.7	45.7
Over 6 per week	819	1.2	1.1	0.6
Total	69,420	100.0	100.0	100.0

Assuming that the workpeople not included in this Table worked the same average number of shifts per man as those who are included, the total number of shifts worked by all the workpeople included in the first Table may be estimated at 418,314 in the week ended August 30th, and 429,933 in the week ended August 31st, 1901. Thus the volume of employment at the works included in the returns was 2.7 per cent. less than a year ago.

As compared with a year ago there was a decline in the number employed, and the average number of shifts per man worked in the Northumberland and Durham district. In Yorkshire and in Wales and Monmouth there was a decline in the number employed, but an increase in the average number of shifts per man. In the Lancashire, Cumberland, and Cheshire district, and in Scotland there was a slight increase in the number employed, but a decline in the average number of shifts per man. In the Midlands there was practically no change.

As compared with a month ago there was a decline in both the number employed and the average shifts per man in Northumberland and Durham. In Yorkshire and Wales and Monmouth the average shifts per man remained the same, but there was a decline in the number employed. In Lancashire, Cumberland and Cheshire there was an increase in both respects. In the Midlands there was practically no change.

(f) EMPLOYMENT AT TINPLATE WORKS* IN AUGUST.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry continues good, and is much better than a year ago.

At the end of August 51 works with 248 mills had all their mills in operation, whilst 29 others had 154 at work out of a total of 209. Thus in all 402 mills were working, as compared with 399 at the end of July, and 350 a year ago. The number of workpeople at all the mills in operation at the end of August is estimated to be over 20,000.

Of the total number of mills at work, 390, employing about 19,500 workpeople, were in the South Wales, Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire districts, compared with 386 at the end of July and 337 a year ago.

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

	No. of Works open.	No. of Mills in such Works		
		Working.	Not Working.	Total.
Works giving full employment	51	248	...	248
Works giving partial employment	29	154	55	209
Total at end of August, 1902*	80	402	55	457
Corresponding Total for July, 1902*	80	399	58	457
Corresponding Total for Aug., 1901*	72	350	73	423

The Exports of tinplates and blackplates from the

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

EMPLOYMENT IN AUGUST—AGRICULTURAL LABOUR; DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR.

United Kingdom in the months covered by the above Table are summarised below:—

	Tinplates.			Blackplates.		
	Aug., 1902.	July, 1902.	Aug., 1901.	Aug., 1902.	July, 1902.	Aug., 1901.
To United States ...	Tons. 5,011	Tons. 3,405	Tons. 8,508	Tons. 5	Tons. ...	Tons. 55
„ Other Countries	22,632	23,810	12,245	2,887	5,295	4,896
Total ...	27,643	27,215	20,753	2,892	5,595	4,931

(g) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN AUGUST.*

EMPLOYMENT during August has been good on the whole with farm labourers, but many casual men have been in irregular work in consequence of rainy weather.

The hay harvest was not completed at the beginning of the month. Corn harvest was also late and in the Northern Counties it had scarcely commenced at the end of August. A good deal of the corn was laid by storms and had to be cut by hand, thus creating an unusually large demand for extra labour, which was also required for hoeing roots owing to the rapid growth of weeds. The supply of labour, however, has been generally about sufficient and better than a year ago, but a scarcity of men is reported in certain districts, especially in the South Western Counties. In the Northern Counties and Cheshire and parts of Warwick, Cambridge and Lincoln migratory labourers from Ireland assist with harvest.

Northern Counties.—Reports from *Durham*, *Cumberland*, and *Westmorland* state that farm labourers have been well employed on the whole, but that some interruption of work was caused by wet weather. Regularity of employment is reported in *Lancashire*. The hay harvest extended into August, and caused a demand for extra men in some districts. In *Yorkshire* many casual labourers have been in irregular employment owing to wet weather and the lateness of corn harvest, which was not commenced until the last week of the month. A report from the Selby Union states that applications for permanent work on farms have been made by men returned from the war and others returning from towns.

Midland Counties.—Farm labourers in *Derbyshire* and *Cheshire* have been fairly well employed. Some casual men, however, have lost time owing to wet weather. A correspondent in the Hayfield Union (Derby) states that this class of labour has been more plentiful than for several years past, the district being well supplied by Irishmen. Employment in *Nottinghamshire* and *Leicestershire* has been interrupted to some extent by rain. The supply of extra men is said to be about equal to the demand in these counties. In *Staffordshire* agricultural employment has been fairly regular, and the supply of labour has been generally sufficient. Irregularity of employment has been experienced by some farm labourers in *Shropshire* owing to unfavourable weather.

Agricultural employment in *Worcestershire* has been hindered somewhat by wet weather. At the end of the month there was a good demand for extra labour to assist with corn harvest and root hoeing. Farm labourers in *Warwickshire* have been well employed (except on wet days) completing the hay harvest, hoeing roots and cutting corn. In *Oxfordshire* work in the fields has been interrupted by rain. There has been a good demand for extra men, the crops being heavy and requiring to be cut by hand in some cases. Regularity of employment is reported in *Northamptonshire*. A correspondent in the Wellingborough Union writes as follows; "Heavy crops have caused a good demand for extra labour, so that although there has been a larger supply of casual labourers than for the last two or three years all have been fairly employed." Farm labourers in *Buckinghamshire*, *Hertfordshire* and *Bedfordshire* have had full employment during August, with the exception of casual men, some of whom have lost time through rainy weather. Extra hands have

* Based on 233 returns from correspondents in various parts of England

been in good demand, as much of the corn was laid and had to be cut with the scythe, and the supply of men has been insufficient in some districts.

Eastern Counties.—Agricultural employment in *Huntingdonshire* and *Cambridgeshire* has been interrupted to some extent by rain. Some of the corn has been beaten down, requiring hand labour to cut it, so that more extra men have been wanted than usual. Regularity of employment is reported in *Lincolnshire*. Some of the reports state that there has been a good supply of Irish labourers for the harvest. In *Norfolk* and *Suffolk* farm labourers have, for the most part, been well employed during August, but some casual labourers have lost time through wet weather. Harvesting operations were only commenced towards the end of the month. A good deal of the corn has been laid by storms and has to be cut by hand, thus giving more employment to extra men. The supply of harvestmen is stated to be sufficient in most of the districts reported on. Employment in *Essex* has been irregular with some of the farm labourers in consequence of rainy weather. The supply of labour has been generally sufficient, although more extra men have been required than usual for the harvest, much of the corn having to be cut by hand.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—In *Kent* employment has been good with farm labourers. Corn harvest provided work for more extra men than usual, as much of the corn could not be cut by machinery. In the *Elham*, *Faversham*, and *Tenterden* Unions the supply of casual labour is said to be short of the demand, but in seven other unions reported on there has been no scarcity of extra labour. Employment in *Surrey* and *Sussex* has been interrupted by rain, and some casual labourers have been in irregular work. There has been a good demand for extra men to assist with harvest, and in some districts the supply of labour fell short of the demand. Agricultural labourers in *Hampshire* have been, generally speaking, fully employed, but some casual men have lost time through showery weather. In *Berkshire* there has been a fairly good demand for extra men for harvesting, especially as some of the corn was laid by storms, and had to be cut by the scythe. Employment for these men, however, was not continuous, as wet weather delayed harvest operations. Reports from *Wiltshire* and *Dorsetshire* show that field work has been hindered a good deal by rain, which has also beaten down the corn so that much of it has to be cut by hand. A scarcity of men is referred to in some districts, though the supply of labour appears to have been better than a year or two ago.

Agricultural employment in *Somersetshire* has been good during August, though many casual labourers were not in constant employment owing to rain. The supply of extra men for harvest work has been insufficient. The harvest in *Herefordshire* and *Gloucestershire* has been delayed by unfavourable weather, and casual labourers have not been in regular employment. A correspondent in the Bromyard Union (*Hereford*) states that many men have only been able to work for three days, and in some cases not more than two days a week. A good deal of the corn cannot be cut by machinery, and consequently there has been an increased demand for labour, and the supply of men is short in some districts. Regularity of employment is reported in *Devonshire* and *Cornwall*, except in the case of some casual labourers who lost time in wet weather. The supply of extra men for harvest and root hoeing has been short of the demand in most districts.

(h) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN AUGUST.

EMPLOYMENT at the docks and wharves during August showed a considerable decline as compared both with a month and a year ago. The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves during the five weeks ended August 30th was 14,153, as compared with 15,097 in the preceding four weeks, and 16,490 in the corresponding period a year ago.

EMPLOYMENT IN AUGUST—DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR; TEXTILE TRADES; SEAMEN.

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

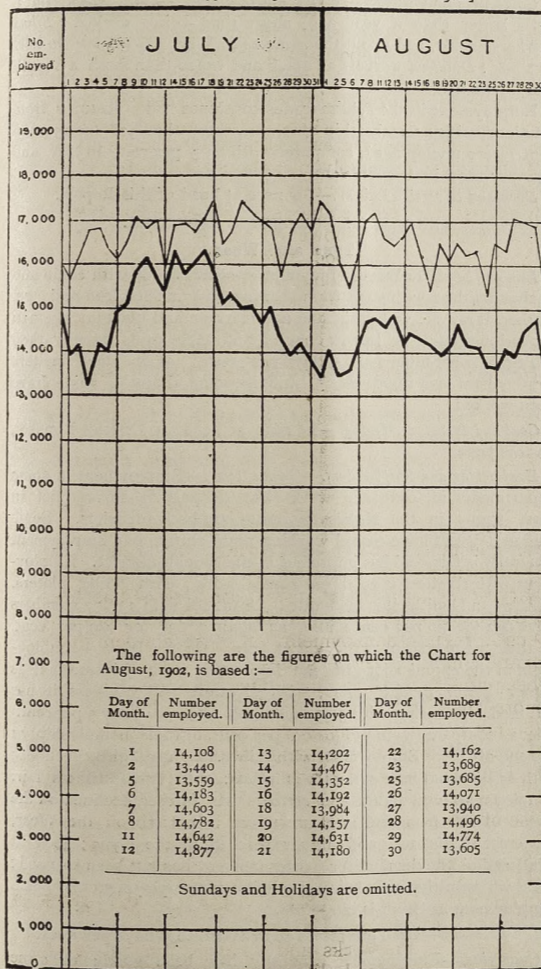
Period.	Labourers employed in Docks.			Labourers employed at 115 Wharves making Returns.	Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended Aug. 2	6,612	1,908	8,520	5,321	13,841
" " " 9	6,613	2,225	8,838	5,444	14,282
" " " 16	6,790	2,213	9,003	5,453	14,456
" " " 23	6,118	2,386	8,704	5,429	14,133
" " " 30	6,196	2,451	8,647	5,445	14,095
Average for 5 weeks ended Aug. 30th, 1902	6,455	2,280	8,735	5,418	14,153
Average for July, 1902	7,199	2,473	9,672	6,425	15,097
Average for Aug., 1901	8,043	2,846	10,889	6,601	16,490

(2) Daily Fluctuation.—The daily fluctuation in the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed by all the docks and principal wharves is shown on the chart below. The numbers in August ranged from 13,440 on the 2nd to 14,877 on the 12th.

During August, 1901, the total number of dock and wharf labourers employed varied from 17,458 on the 1st to 15,398 on the 24th.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 115 of the principal Wharves for each day during the months of July and August, 1902. The corresponding curve for July and August, 1901, is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1902, and the thin curve to 1901.]



The following are the figures on which the Chart for August, 1902, is based:—

Day of Month.	Number employed.	Day of Month.	Number employed.	Day of Month.	Number employed.
1	14,108	13	14,202	22	14,162
2	13,440	14	14,467	23	13,639
3	13,559	15	14,352	24	13,685
4	14,183	16	14,192	25	14,071
5	14,668	17	13,984	26	13,960
6	14,783	18	14,157	27	14,496
7	14,783	19	14,157	28	14,496
8	14,642	20	14,631	29	14,774
9	14,877	21	14,180	30	13,605

Sundays and Holidays are omitted.

Employment in mid-stream has been moderate. With stevedores, lumpers, deal porters and lightermen it has been fair; with coal porters, winchmen and corn porters moderate; with fruit porters in Thames-street it has been moderate, the average number employed being 273, compared with 295 in July and 389 a year ago.

(i) EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN THE TEXTILE TRADES IN AUGUST.

ACCORDING to returns from women correspondents, employment for women in August showed a decline in the spinning and weaving branches of the cotton trade, the falling off being especially marked in the latter branch. In the worsted trade employment showed an improvement. Information has been received with regard to 595 cotton, woollen and worsted mills, employing about 105,270 women and girls, and is summarised in the following Table, which also gives for comparison the corresponding figures for the previous month and for a year ago:—

Trade and Month.	Percentage ordinarily employed in Mills which were			
	Working full Time throughout the Month.*	Working Short Time during some part of the Month.	Closed during some part of the Month for repairs, bad trade, disputes, or other causes.	
Cotton Trade—Spinning—				
August, 1902	85	5	8	2
July, 1902	89	3	5	3
August, 1901	80	14	5	1
Cotton Trade—Weaving—				
August, 1902	72	19	5	4
July, 1902	81	15	2	2
August, 1901	64	23	12	1
Woollen and Worsted Trades—				
August, 1902	92	6	1	1
July, 1902	88	11	1	—
August, 1901	79	17	4	—
Total of above Trades—				
August, 1902	79	13	5	3
July, 1902	84	11	3	2
August, 1901	71	19	9	1

Cotton Trade.—Spinning.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the cotton spinning mills reported on is 26,230; of these, 85 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 89 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in July, and with 80 per cent. in August, 1901.

Cotton Trade.—Weaving.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the cotton weaving factories reported on is 59,720; of these, 72 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 81 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in July, and with 64 per cent. in August, 1901.

Woollen and Worsted Trades.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the woollen and worsted mills reported on is 19,320; of these, 92 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 88 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in July, and with 79 per cent. in August, 1901.

(j) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN AUGUST.

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

THE number of seamen shipped during August as the crews of foreign-going vessels from certain selected ports (at which about 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared) was 38,664, 2,339 more than during August, 1901. The supply of seamen at these ports is generally stated to be equal to or in excess of the demand.

During the eight completed months of 1902, 280,483† men were shipped, as compared with 282,727† in the corresponding period of 1901. A majority of the ports show decreases in the numbers shipped, the falling off being greatest in the cases of London and the Tyne Ports.

Of the total number of seamen shipped during the eight months, 46,031† (or 16.4 per cent.) were foreigners, the percentage for the corresponding period of 1901 being

* Excluding annual holidays.
† It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, not of separate individuals.

EMPLOYMENT IN AUGUST—DISTRICT REPORTS—LONDON; NORTHERN COUNTIES.

157. Lascars who are engaged in Asia are not included in these figures.

Table showing the number* of men, &c., shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom in August, 1902 and 1901, respectively, together with the number* shipped in the eight months ended August in each of these years:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Men, &c., shipped in August, 1902.*			Total in August, 1901.*	Total number shipped in eight months ended August*	
	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in August, 1902.		1902.	1901.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
East Coast.						
Tyne Ports ...	122	3,322	3,444	2,229	24,086	25,213
Sunderland ...	19	411	430	365	3,323	3,795
Middlesbrough ...	...	417	417	289	2,089	1,691
Hull ...	46	1,172	1,218	993	8,572	8,592
Grimsby ...	...	84	84	125	732	831
Bristol Channel.						
Bristol ...	...	603	603	748	4,332	4,763
Newport, Mon. ...	...	888	888	718	6,210	5,871
Cardiff ...	299	4,666	4,965	3,876	30,973	34,762
Swansea ...	73	684	757	616	4,207	4,863
Other Ports.						
Liverpool ...	183	12,913	13,096	12,841	93,114	91,593
London ...	392	6,078	6,470	6,410	80,400	82,466
Southampton ...	...	2,839	2,839	2,148	20,064	19,671
SCOTLAND.						
Leith, Kirkcaldy, Methil, & Grange-mouth ...						
Glasgow ...	98	2,675	2,773	3,106	19,497	20,687
IRELAND.						
Dublin ...	...	90	90	141	702	1,072
Belfast ...	...	195	195	198	1,643	2,265
Total, August, 1902	1,232	37,432	38,664	...	280,483	...
Ditto, August, 1901	1,314	35,011	...	36,325	...	282,727

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

DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

Note.—Employment in the principal districts of the United Kingdom in the Building Trades and for Coal Miners, Iron Miners, Tinplate Workers, Agricultural Labourers and for Dock Labour in London, is dealt with in Articles on pp. 255-259, and is not included in the District Reports which follow.

LONDON.

General.—Returns from 453 branches of 127 unions, having an aggregate membership of 77,692, show that 4,444 (or 5.7 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of August, compared with 5.1 per cent. in July, and also in August, 1901.

Employment in the Engineering, Metal, and Shipbuilding trades has fallen off, particularly in the last-mentioned trade. Returns from 166 branches of 29 unions, with a membership of 22,866, show that 1,006 (or 4.4 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.6 per cent. in July and 3.0 per cent. in August, 1901. Employment with sailmakers was slightly better than last month.

Building Trades.—See note at head of this Report.

Employment in the Furnishing trades has improved. Returns from 35 branches of 16 unions, with a membership of 6,134, show that 291 (or 4.7 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 6.4 per cent. in July and 4.1 per cent. in August of last year.

In the Woodworking trades employment is not so good. Returns from 9 branches of 5 unions, with a membership of 1,063, show that 38 (or 3.6 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.0 per cent. in July and 3.1 per cent. in August, 1901.

With Coopers employment has fallen off. Returns from 2 unions, with a membership of 1,068, show that 35 (or 3.3 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.6 per cent. in July, and 2.0 per cent. in August, 1901.

Coachbuilders and Wheelwrights are scarcely so well employed. Returns from 12 branches of 7 unions, with a membership of 1,544, show that 38 (or 2.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.2 per cent. in July. The percentage for August, 1901, was 1.9.

Employment in the Printing trade has continued to fall off, as is usual at this season, but the Bookbinding trade is better employed. Returns from 25 unions, with a membership of 24,925, show that 1,648 (or 6.6 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 5.0 per cent. in July. The percentage for August of last year was 7.4.

Employment in the Clothing trades remains bad. The West End bespoke tailors describe it as bad, and worse than a month and a year ago; the East End clothiers' cutters as also bad, and worse

than a month and a year ago; the tailors' machinists and pressers as slack, and worse than a year ago, short time being worked; with the East End military and uniform tailors and tailoresses it remains bad, and worse both than a month and a year ago; with ladies' tailors and mantle makers it is rather better, but still worse than a year ago; with silk hatters it is depressed, as is usual at this season, and though rather better than last month, is not so good as a year ago; with cap makers employment is fair; with fur skin dressers it is slack, and worse than a month and a year ago.

Boot and Shoe Trades.—Employment with the West End boot and shoe makers is fair, not so good as last month, but about the same as last year; with the East End sewround shoemakers it is bad, and worse both than a month and a year ago; with boot and shoe operatives it remains quiet, and is worse than a year ago; with boot and shoe clickers it continues bad, short time being general.

Employment in the Leather trades has continued to fall off. Returns from 10 branches of 10 unions, with a membership of 1,862, show that 88 (or 4.7 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.2 per cent. in July, and 2.9 per cent. in August, 1901.

In the Glass trades returns from 8 branches of 7 unions, with a membership of 985, show that 144 (or 14.6 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 13.6 per cent. in July, and 13.2 per cent. in August of last year.

Hair, Fibre and Cane Workers.—In these trades returns from 5 branches of 5 unions, with a membership of 962, show that 37 (or 3.8 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.0 per cent. in July and 2.7 per cent. in August 1901.

Goldsmiths and Jewellers report employment as still slack, but a little better than a year ago, short time being worked; Silver workers as fair, and about the same as in July; Electroplate workers as slack; Diamond workers as slack and worse than both a month and a year ago.

Employment in the Tobacco trades continues bad. Returns from 3 unions, with a membership of 2,084, show that 328 (or 15.7 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 13.3 per cent. in July, and 13.2 per cent. in August, 1901.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—See note at head of this Report.

ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES.

Tyne and Wear.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment continues good with chain and anchor smiths; with stern frame smiths and finished iron and steel workers it is dull; with forge and hammermen and blast furnacemen it continues fair. At Jarrow cogging and angle mills have worked full time, sheet mills 3 and 5 days per week. With steel smelters employment has improved, 5, and in some shops 6, shifts have been worked.

Coal and Ironstone Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, on this page.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—On the Tyne.—Employment in some departments of ordnance work has declined. It is quiet in most shops in the Newcastle and Gateshead districts. Some engine builders have ceased working night shifts, but employment generally is fair, and has improved in the Shields district. Employment with riveters is good on repair work; with boiler platers, flangers and smiths it is moderate. Branches with 13,077 members have 652 (or 5.0 per cent.) idle, as against 639 (or 4.9 per cent.) of their membership at the end of July. On the Wear.—Employment in the engine shops has not improved; with shipsmiths it is rather better though quiet; with riveters and caulkers it has declined. Branches with 5,432 members have 394 (or 7.3 per cent.) idle, as compared with 358 (or 6.6 per cent.) of their membership at the end of July. Employment with sailmakers has slightly declined; with drillers and hole cutters it is slack; with brassfinishers fair. Employment with smiths and strikers has further declined on the Tyne. With iron and steel moulders it is bad on the Wear, moderate in the lower and higher reaches of the Tyne; good at Wallsend. The demand for patternmakers has not been so good; with whitesmiths and heating engineers employment is good. Employment at Blyth is moderate.

Lead Mining.—Lead ore mines have averaged 5 days per week.

Quarrying.—Employment generally has been good; at some whinstone quarries it has been slack.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Tugboat and steam packet men report employment as fairly good; Tyne watermen as quiet; trimmers and teamers on the Tyne and at Blyth as good, at Sunderland as moderate. With quayside labourers, deal porters, pit prop carriers and lumpers and riggers it has improved. The demand for sailors and firemen has been good.

EMPLOYMENT IN AUGUST—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—NORTHERN COUNTIES; LANCASHIRE.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment generally is quiet.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Employment with mill-sawyers and wood cutters is moderate in ship yards, dull in cabinet shops; with upholsterers it is slack; with lathrenders and cabinet makers quiet; with coopers bad.

Chemical and Glass Trades.—Employment in the soda and bleaching departments in chemical factories has been fair; with copper workers and pressed glass makers it has declined; with white lead workers it is fair; with coke yard workers dull. Flint glass makers have averaged four shifts per week. Bottle makers at Seaham Harbour are working three-quarter time.

Fishing.—Trawl and line boats and herring boats have landed good supplies.—J. Ratcliffe.

Middlesbrough, Stockton and District.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment in the iron and steel works generally is reported as moderate; at the rail mills as fair. Employment is reported as good at blast furnaces, metal expansion works and pipe foundries; in bridge works at Darlington and Stockton as good, at Middlesbrough as moderate; at chair and general foundries as moderate.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment with engineers is fair at Middlesbrough; it has improved at Bishop Auckland; it is moderate at Darlington and South Bank; bad at Hartlepool and Stockton. With ironfounders it is moderate at Darlington and Middlesbrough; bad at Hartlepool and Stockton. With patternmakers employment is moderate at Stockton, fair elsewhere.

With enginemakers and crane men it is moderate; with smiths and strikers bad; with boilermakers it is good at Darlington, moderate elsewhere. Branches with 4,355 members have 276 (or 6.3 per cent.) unemployed, as against 272 (or 6.2 per cent.) of their membership at the end of July.

Shipbuilding.—Employment is reported as moderate at Middlesbrough and Stockton; as slack at Hartlepool. Shipwrights report employment as fair at Middlesbrough; as slack at Hartlepool and Stockton; employment with ship joiners is slack at Hartlepool, fair at Middlesbrough and Stockton; with smiths and strikers it is moderate.

Ironstone Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Sailors and firemen report employment as quiet at Hartlepool, moderate at Middlesbrough; dockers as moderate at Hartlepool, as slightly improved at Middlesbrough. Employment with riverside labourers has improved.

Miscellaneous.—Pulp workers report employment as good; cement and concrete workers as moderate; brick workers as fair; cabinet makers as quiet; wagon builders as good.—A. Main.

LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS.

Oldham and District.

Cotton Trade.—Spinning.—Employment in Oldham, Rochdale and Milnrow has been fair; in Stockport, Droylsden, Dukinfield, Ashton-under-Lyne and Stalybridge moderate; in Mossley slack. Ring frame spinners and cardroom workers report employment as fair; twiners as moderate. Weaving.—The weavers and powerloom over lookers report employment as good on velvets, moderate on calicoes, slack on fustians and calico sheetings. In the reeling, winding and beaming departments employment is reported as moderate.

Woolen and Silk Trades.—Woolen workers in Rochdale, Milnrow and Stockport districts continue well employed. Employment continues bad with the silk dressers of Rochdale.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment is reported as moderate at textile machine making works and engineering shops; as good with pattern makers; as fair with plate moulders, tool and roller makers; as moderate with brassfounders, machine workers, ironfounders, boiler makers, grinders, glazers, tinplate workers, gas meter makers, file cutters, core makers, spindle makers, and iron and steel dressers.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with bakers and confectioners, railway workers and electrical workers is reported as good; with mill-sawyers, boot and shoe makers and tailors as fair; with letterpress printers, brush makers, cloggers, skip makers, gasworkers and general labourers as moderate.—T. Ashton.

Bolton and District.

Cotton Trade.—Spinning.—Employment in Bolton is more irregular. In Chorley some firms are working short time; in Heywood employment is not good. Card room operatives at many mills are irregularly employed. Weaving.—Employment is irregular in Bolton, Moses Gate and Farnworth; in Wigan, Bury and Chorley it is only moderate.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment with engineers is slightly irregular at most firms; with steam engine makers it is moderate; with iron grinders, spindle makers and roller makers it is not good; brassfinishers and metal workers are moderately employed. In Bury, Chorley, Wigan and Hindley employment with ironworkers generally is not good.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with tailors, printers, carters, shoemakers and cloggers, and in the leather trades is reported as moderate.—R. Tootill.

Blackburn, Burnley and District.

Cotton Trade.—Weaving.—Employment in the Blackburn and Burnley districts shows a slight improvement; in Colne and Nelson it has declined; in Darwen all the mills are working full time, but a large number of looms are waiting for warps; in Preston employment continues bad. In the coloured goods weaving trade there is no improvement, but in the hard waste weaving trade employment has improved; with loomers, drawers, tape sizers, winders and warpers it is only moderate. Spinning.—Employment in Blackburn and Burnley is only moderate; at Accrington fair; at Darwen bad. Card room workers are fairly well employed. Employment with ring spinners is good throughout the district. Branches of spinners, twisters, and drawers and warp dressers with 3,358 members have 107 (or 3.2 per cent.) unemployed, the same number as at the end of July.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—Engineers at Todmorden and Colne report employment as slack; ironfounders at Blackburn as bad; Employment in the machine shops has further improved.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with cabinet makers is moderate; with tailors and letterpress printers slack; with calico printers fair; with woollen block printers it has improved; with brick makers and quarrymen it continues fairly good.—W. H. Wilkinson.

Manchester and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 25,100 members have 1,107 (or 4.4 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 1,151 (or 4.6 per cent.) of their membership at the end of July.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineers, sheet metal workers and boiler makers report employment as moderate, except at Northwich, where it is bad. Employment with brassworkers is fairly good; with ironfounders slack; with machine workers it has improved. At Warrington employment with wire drawers and weavers is moderate; with smiths and strikers good in Manchester, moderate elsewhere.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Coachmakers in railway shops report employment as quiet, in private works as fair; french polishers and wheelwrights as moderate; other branches of the furnishing trades as bad.

Clothing Trades.—Bespoke tailors, readymade tailoring operatives, capmakers, boot and shoe makers, felt hat makers and trimmers report employment as quiet; shirt, jacket and umbrella makers and jacket cutters as good.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as depressed; lithographic artists and stereotypers as moderate; lithographic printers as bad; bookbinders as quiet; pattern card makers as good.

Textile Trades.—Cotton spinners report employment as moderate in Manchester. In Macclesfield cotton operatives are slack. Dyers report employment as slack in Manchester, moderate in Macclesfield. In the silk trade it is bad.—G. D. Kelley.

Liverpool and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering Trades.—Boilermakers and iron shipbuilders, brass and iron foundries, iron and steel dressers, hammermen, coopers, smiths, shipwrights and joiners report employment as bad; pattern makers, fitters and turners as slack; ship painters as dull.

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

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Coopers report employment as good; mill sawyers and woodcutting machinists, cabinet makers, french polishers, upholsterers and packing box makers as quiet; coachmakers as rather slacker.

Transport Trades.—Seamen, firemen and dock labourers report employment as bad; flatmen and quay and railway carters as dull; coal and salt heavers as slack.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress and lithographic printers report employment as bad; bookbinders as slack; stereotypers as fair.

Clothing Trades.—Employment is reported as dull in all branches of clothing trades. Boot and shoe makers continue quiet.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Glass and Chemical Trades.—Glass bottle makers report employment as not so good; glass makers and sheet glass flatteners as fair; decorative glass workers as improved. With chemical workers employment continues dull.

Quarrying.—Employment with quarrymen is moderate.—C. Rouse.

A report from Winsford states that employment in the salt trade has improved. It is reported as fair with chemical workers at Middlewich and with moulders at Winsford; as good with fustian cutters and with shipwrights, fitters, boiler-smiths, gunsmiths, and brass workers.

YORKSHIRE.

Hull and District.

Shipbuilding, Engineering and Metal Trades.—At Hull the pattern makers report employment as good; engineers, steam engine makers, blacksmiths, machine workers, ironfounders, iron and steel dressers, braziers and sheet metal workers, brass founders and finishers, boiler-makers, drillers and hole cutters, shipwrights, sail-makers, and general engineering and shipyard labourers as moderate; smiths and strikers as bad. At Doncaster the brass-workers report employment as good; boiler-makers as moderate; engineers as bad. At Grimsby the engineers, steam engine makers, smiths and strikers, boiler-makers and general labourers report employment as moderate; shipwrights as bad.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Transport Trades.—At Hull the timber workers report employment as good; seamen and firemen, dock labourers, coal porters and railway workers as moderate; at Goole seamen and firemen, dock labourers and railway workers as moderate; at Grimsby dock, deal yard, and general workers as good; seamen and firemen and coal workers as moderate.

Fishing Industry.—At Hull and Grimsby the steam fishing vessel engineers and firemen, curing house workers and general labourers report employment as moderate.

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

Seed Crushing, Oil, Paint and Colour Trades.—The seed crushing, oil refinery, and paint and colour workers report employment as moderate.

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—The coopers report employment as good; mill sawyers and wood cutting machinists as quiet; cabinet makers and coach builders as moderate.

Miscellaneous.—The bakers and confectioners report employment as good; leather workers, boot and shoe makers, enginemen and cranemen as moderate; tailors and brushmakers as bad; the carriers at Doncaster as good.—W. G. Millington.

Leeds and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 8,919 members have 479 (or 5.4 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 432 (or 4.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment in the engineering trade in Leeds has been moderate. With ironfounders it is quiet; with steelworkers good; with steam engine makers, boiler makers, machine workers and wool comb hackle and gill makers moderate; with pattern makers, spindle and flyer makers, stove grate workers and sheet-metal workers slack; with brass workers it has improved. At Stanningley employment with engineers and boiler makers is moderate; at Wakefield in the engineering and iron trades it has improved.

Clothing Trades.—Employment with ready-made tailoring operatives in Leeds has been fair, some firms working overtime; with bespoke tailors it is slack. Employment with boot and shoe operatives has considerably improved; at Bramley and Heckmond-wike it is fairly good.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the Leeds mills has been fair; with blanket raisers employment is good; with willeys and fettlers and linen workers fair; with warp dressers and twisters moderate; with cloth dyers it is good; with worsted and blue dyers moderate. At Wakefield employment in the worsted and cloth mills is slack.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Leather Trades.—Employment with tanners, saddlers and harness makers has been quiet; with carriers slack; with leather shavers fair.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment generally is quiet.

Glass Trades.—Employment in the glass trade in Leeds is slack; in Wakefield moderate.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Employment with brush makers, wheelwrights and smiths is moderate; with coachmakers slack; with cabinet makers fairly good; with polishers and upholsterers quiet.—O. Connellan.

Bradford, Huddersfield and District.

Worsted Trade.—Employment in Bradford is fairly good; in Halifax moderate; in Huddersfield not quite so good; in Keighley it has slightly improved, spinners being fully employed. Wool-combers and woollsorters are only moderately employed.

Woollen Trade.—Employment in the Huddersfield district is fairly good; in the Colne valley overtime and night work continue. In the heavy woollen trade of Dewsbury and Batley employment is not quite so good.

Other Textile Trades.—Employment in the silk trade is fair, full time being worked. In the cotton trade it is moderate; dyers in Bradford and Huddersfield are only moderately employed.

Metal Trades.—Engineers in Bradford report employment as moderate; in Huddersfield and Dewsbury as quiet; in Keighley as bad. Ironfounders at Bradford report employment as moderate; in Huddersfield and Keighley as good; in Dewsbury as quiet.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with lithographic and letterpress printers is quiet; with bookbinders fair; with cabinet makers moderate.—A. Gee.

Sheffield, Barnsley, and Rotherham District.

General.—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners), with 11,174 members have 441 (or 3.9 per cent.) unemployed, as against 445 (or 4.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

Iron and Steel Industries.—Branches with 5,880 members have 208 (or 3.5 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 277 (or 4.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July. Employment in the engineering trades has improved and is now moderate. Ironfounders report employment as bad; engine and crane men, boiler firemen, Siemens steel smelters, locomotive engine drivers as moderate; boiler-makers, machine workers, wire drawers, Bessemer steel workers, core makers, iron and steel dressers and spring smiths and strikers as quiet; stove grate workers as slack. At Barnsley employment with engineers and ironfounders is good; at Parkgate with steel workers fairly good; with iron workers slack. At Rotherham employment with steel workers and makers of railway springs and axles has slightly improved. At Masbro' with ironworkers it is moderate; with bath makers quiet.

Cutlery and Tool Trades.—Employment is reported as good with table and butcher blade forgers and strikers; as fair in other branches.

Other Metal Trades.—Silver platers and gilders report employment as good; silversmiths as quiet; braziers and sheet metal workers as fairly good; other branches as slack. At Rotherham employment in the brass trade is good.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress and lithographic printers and bookbinders and machine rulers report employment as moderate.

Linen Trade.—Employment is moderate.

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—Woodsawyers and machinists report employment as slack, cabinet makers as moderate, coachmakers as quiet; at Barnsley cabinet and box makers report it as bad; bobbin makers as moderate. Wagon builders at Masbro' as quiet.

Clothing Trades.—Bespoke tailors report employment as moderate at Barnsley; with ready-made tailoring operatives it is moderate; with boot and shoe operatives bad.

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

Glass Trades.—The mineral water bottle makers report employment as bad; makers of medicine bottles at Barnsley, and flint glass workers as moderate.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with bakers and confectioners, railway workers, electrical workers, and street masons and paviors is moderate; with gasworkers and colliery surfacemen slack. At Barnsley employment with quarrymen is good; with upholsterers and down quilt and paper makers moderate; with general labourers slack. At Normanton with brickmakers and chemical workers it is good; with quarrymen and general labourers slack. At Rotherham potters report employment as moderate.—S. Uttley.

ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Derbyshire District.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineers report employment at Derby as dull, elsewhere as moderate; ironfounders as moderate; boiler makers as good; lace machine builders as moderate; cycle makers as bad; wire drawers as good; stove grate workers and electric wire and cable makers as fair; brass moulders and finishers as quiet. Branches with 2,067 members have 31 (or 1.5 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 25 (or 1.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Quarrying.—Employment with limestone quarrymen has improved; with chert quarrymen it is rather dull.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Coachbuilding and Woodworking Trades.—Employment with railway carriage and wagon builders in Long Eaton is reported as good; in Derby as slack. With coopers at Burton-on-Trent it is dull.

Textile Trades.—Cotton weavers report employment as bad; calico printers and engravers as good; elastic weavers and surgical bandage makers as rather dull; lace makers and hosiery workers as moderate; gimp and trimming makers as fairly good.

Clothing Trades.—Employment with bespoke tailors is reported as dull; with ready-made tailoring operatives as fairly good; with boot and shoe operatives in Derby and Chesterfield it is quiet.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment generally is dull.

Miscellaneous.—Pit mechanics, stationary engine drivers and firemen and gas workers report employment as good; general labourers and railway workers as fair.—C. White Deacon.

Nottingham and District.

Lace Trade.—Employment generally is not so good. It is reported as fair in the levers and plain net sections; as moderate in the curtain and warp lace branches, and with warpers, curtain readers and correctors and auxiliary lace workers; as slacker in finishing departments; as moderate with dyers at Nottingham; fairly good with bleachers at Basford. Employment has declined at Beeston, Stapleford, Kimberley and Bulwell.

Hosiery Trade.—Employment is not so good.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment is reported as moderate with general machinists, fitters and mechanics, tool makers, engine builders, tin plate workers, cycle makers, boiler makers, smiths and strikers, wheelwrights and blacksmiths and electric workers; as quiet with ironfounders and fettlers; as good with pattern makers, machine workers, farriers, brassworkers, bobbin and carriage makers, carriage straighteners and blastfurnacemen. Employment is fairly good with lace and hosiery machine builders. Branches with 3,435 members have 117 (or 3.4 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 135 (or 3.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Employment is reported as quiet with cabinet makers, upholsterers, brush makers and coachmakers; as fair with coopers, mill sawyers, packing-case makers, basket makers and french polishers; it is fair at Newark, Grantham, Worksoop and Mansfield.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment is reported as slack with letterpress printers; as bad with lithographic printers; as fair with printers' cutters; as moderate with lithographic artists and bookbinders.

Clothing Trades.—Employment is quiet with bespoke tailors; good with ready made tailoring operatives and mantle makers; slack with boot and shoe operatives, fair at Mansfield.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is fairly good with railway workers; moderate with colliery engine drivers and firemen; good with engine and crane men and stationary engine drivers; fair with silk dressers and saddle and harness makers; quiet with bakers and confectioners; slack with female cigar makers. It has improved with gas workers.—W. L. Hardstaff.

Leicester and Northampton District.

Boot and Shoe Trade.—Employment is slack at Leicester, Northampton, Kettering, Rushden and Hinckley. The men engaged in making hand stitched army boots are fairly well employed.

Other Clothing Trades.—Employment with ready-made tailoring operatives has declined. It is good with corset makers and cap makers; quiet with silk and felt hatters, milliners and dressmakers.

Hosiery and Woolspinning Trades.—Employment is good in the shirt, pant, glove, and fancy hosiery departments; in other branches of the hosiery trade it has declined. Wool spinners are fully employed. Dyers and trimmers report a slight decline.

Elastic Web Trade.—Employment is fairly good with makers of cord, braid, and shoe webbings; with makers of narrow goods it has declined.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment is good with general engineers at Rugby; moderate at Leicester and Northampton. It is fairly good with boiler makers, typefounders, smiths, fitters, tool makers and needle makers; improving with ironfounders; slack with shoe machinery makers; fair with electrical workers at Loughborough.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Stone and Ironstone Quarrying.—Stone quarrymen are fully employed. Employment is rather slacker with lime and cement getters at Barrow.

Printing and allied Trades.—With letterpress printers employment is less regular, except at Kettering. It has improved with bookbinders and machine rulers; it is slack with lithographic printers.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Leather Trades.—Employment is reported as slack.

Woodworking and Coachmaking Trades.—Tram and road car builders are well employed; coachmakers report a slight decline at Leicester and Northampton. Employment is slack with mill sawyers and woodcutting machinists; bad with cabinet makers, furniture makers and upholsterers.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with railway workers is improving at Northampton; slack at Kettering. It is good with bakers; fair with farriers and saddlers; slack with brick, tile and sanitary ware makers; bad with cigar makers.—T. Smith.

Potteries District.

Pottery Trades.—Employment is slack in most branches, short time being general. Sanitary pressers and printers and transferrers report an improvement.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment in the mills and forges has improved. Blast furnacemen are working regularly.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—In the Potteries employment with engineers has improved; with moulders it is slack; with boiler-makers good. At Crewe all branches are busy. At Uttoxeter agricultural engineers are busy. At Oakamoor and Froghall employment with brass and copper workers in the tubing branches is good; in the wire departments short time is being worked.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Quarrying.—Stone quarrymen at Alton and Hollington are fully employed.

Textile Trades.—Employment in most branches of the silk trade at Leek is good. At Congleton dyers, pickers and throwsters are well employed. Employment with fustian cutters is good; with towel weavers it has declined. At Cheadle and Tean silk and tape workers are well employed.

Clothing Trades.—In the Potteries, Leek and Stafford employment with tailors is slack; at Crewe it is good; with boot and shoe makers at Stafford and Stone it is slack, short time being worked.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment with letterpress printers has improved; with lithographic artists and printers, and bookbinders it is moderate.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with brush makers and gas workers has improved; with railway workers it is good.—I. S. Harvey.

Wolverhampton and District.

Iron and Steel Trades.—In South Staffordshire employment with steel smelters is reported as improved; in the mills and forges it is quiet, short time being worked. In Shropshire employment is good.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Employment with electrical and general engineers is quiet; with moulders bad; in all branches of the boiler trade good; with cycle makers quiet; with motor makers good. In the malleable iron trade at Walsall employment is slack. At Madeley and Coalbrook Dale it is reported as fairly good.

EMPLOYMENT IN AUGUST—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—MID., E. AND S.W. COUNTIES.

Hardware Trades.—Employment is good with makers of nuts and bolts, iron fences, hurdles, agricultural implements, safes, locks, keys and latches, and with stampers and piercers; fair with makers of Brazil and plantation hoes, tips, cut nails, tacks, builders' ironmongery, tubes, steel toys, gas and electrical fittings, best gunlocks, spikes, rivets, wrought nails, and traps, and with cable chain-makers and strikers, anchor smiths, file smiths, galvanisers, japanners and tinplate and brass workers; quiet with makers of edgetools, malleable nails and protectors, and black castings, and with spade finishers, fork drawers, hollow tinner and turners and light hollow ware makers; quiet with makers of railway axles and coach iron work and in the iron and steel forging departments at Wednesbury; slack with makers of spectacle frames and block and dollied chains and in the iron plate trade at Wolverhampton, Bilston and the Lye. At Dudley employment in the anvil trade is fair; in the vice trade it is slack.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Glass Trades.—At Stourbridge, Brettle Lane and Wordsley glass makers, cutters, intaglio workers and bevellers report employment as slack; engravers as moderate.

Leather Trades.—Employment with new brown saddlers is good; with buckle, chain, cart gear, case hame, spring hook, and bit and stirrup makers it is moderate; with harness makers, harness stitchers, horse collar makers, gig saddlers and bridle cutters quiet.

Textile Trades.—At Kidderminster weavers and spinners report employment as quiet; at Bridgnorth as good.

Clothing Trades.—Employment with bespoke tailors and ready-made tailoring operatives is good; with boot and shoe operatives quiet.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment with letterpress printers is bad; in other branches it is quiet.—C. Anthony.

Birmingham and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 18,266 members have 579 (or 3.2 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 498 (or 2.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Engineers, toolmakers, ironfounders and pattern makers report employment as moderate; smiths and strikers and electrical engineers as good. At West Bromwich, Coventry and Redditch, engineers and tool makers report employment as moderate. Employment in the cycle industry is reported as quiet; in the motor industry as fair.

Brass and Copper Trades.—Employment in the brass trade is reported as moderate; with wire, metal and tube workers as fairly good; with brass tube makers as fair. Fender and fire brass makers report employment as quiet. At Dudley employment in the fender trade has improved.

Jewellers, Silversmiths and Electro-platers.—Jewellers report employment on best gold work as bad, on other work as improved. Silversmiths and electro-platers report employment as quiet; Britannia metal workers, plate-glass bevellers and silversmiths as fair.

Other Metal Trades.—Makers of nuts and bolts, wrought-iron and steel hinges, stove grates, kitchen ranges, hollow-ware, heating apparatus, steel pens and constructional ironwork report employment as good; makers of bedsteads, cut and wire nails, axles, light and heavy steel toys, spades, shovels, nails and odd-side casters and tinplate workers report employment as fair; iron plate workers as slack; file cutters as bad. At Redditch employment in the needle trade is reported as fair; in the fish hook trade as good. At West Bromwich employment generally is reported as fair; with spring makers as good.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Glass Trades.—Flint glass makers report employment as moderate; flint glass cutters as quiet. At West Bromwich, employment is reported as moderate.

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoe makers report employment as quiet; bespoke tailors and Jewish workers as bad.

Woodworking Trades.—Coopers and packing case makers report employment as good; coachmakers as moderate; millsawyers, woodworking machinists, cabinet makers and carvers as quiet. In the railway and wagon shops employment is fairly good.

Miscellaneous.—Ammunition makers and military gun workers report employment as good; sporting gun makers, gas fitters, saddlers, harness makers, bridle cutters, letterpress printers, as fair; gas workers and general labourers as quiet. Employment at Redditch in the fishing tackle and fancy case trades is reported as fair; at Coventry, in the watch trade, as fair; in the weaving trade as moderate. With general labourers employment is quiet.—A. R. Jephcott.

ENGLAND: EASTERN COUNTIES.

Norfolk and Neighbouring Districts.

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoe operatives at Norwich report employment on double sole work as dull, on turn shoe work and with clickers as fair. Employment with ready-made tailoring operatives is fair; with bespoke tailors at Lynn and Yarmouth fair, at Norwich dull. Dress and blouse makers are not so busy. Shirt makers and corset makers are fairly well employed.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Employment with engineers and boiler makers at Norwich, Yarmouth and Lowestoft is fairly good; at Thetford and Lynn good. Shipwrights are well employed.

Textile Trades.—Silk and crape factories are not busy. Mat and matting weavers at Diss report employment as fair.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment generally is dull.

Fishing Industry.—Trawl fishing is fair.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with tinplate workers is fair; with brush makers it is slack; with railway workers, mineral water workers, confectioners, horticultural builders and steam flour, oil cake, saw mill and steam joinery workers good. Fitters, smiths and electric light workers are not busy.—G. Cleverley.

Suffolk and Essex District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades.—Engineers report employment as fair at Bury St. Edmunds and Chelmsford; as moderate at Ipswich and Colchester. Employment is good with boiler makers, fair with shipwrights.

Clothing Trades.—Employment is slack in the boot and shoe trade, fair in the tailoring trades. Corset makers, dressmakers and milliners are well employed.

Textile Trades.—Mat and matting weavers report employment as good. It is quiet at Sudbury with hand loom weavers, good with power loom weavers; quiet at Braintree; horse hair workers are busy.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment is good with letterpress printers at Chelmsford, fair at Beccles, moderate at Ipswich, dull at Bungay and Colchester; moderate with lithographers and bookbinders.

Miscellaneous.—Shipping and dock labour is reported as good at Harwich; moderate at Ipswich. Employment is good with horticultural builders; moderate with brickmakers and carriers.

R. W. Mather.

ENGLAND: SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES.

Bristol and District.

General.—Societies with 10,102 members return 420 (or 4.2 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 360 (or 3.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment is dull with ironfounders, smiths and strikers, and brass workers; bad with pattern makers and shipwrights; fair with tool makers; moderate with coachmakers, tinplate workers, galvanizers and wheelwrights; good with wire workers. The engineers report employment as dull at Gloucester, Bristol and Devizes; moderate at Swindon, Bath and Highbridge. With boiler makers it is good at Swindon, slack at Bristol.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment is good with lithographic printers and artists; slack with bookbinders; good with letterpress printers at Hereford and Gloucester, slack at Bath and Bristol.

Clothing Trades.—Employment is slack with silk hatters; good with glovers; moderate with bespoke tailors; good with ready-made tailoring operatives at Stroud and Bristol; boot and shoe operatives at Bristol and Kingswood report a slight improvement.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—The cabinet makers report employment as moderate; woodcutting machinists and upholsterers as dull; coopers and french polishers as fair; lath renders as improved.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the silk trade at Tiverton is dull, short time being worked. In the Stroud valley cloth mills it is reported as fair; in the West Somerset serge mills as moderate.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is dull with basket makers, bakers and harness makers; fair with brush makers, cocoa and chocolate workers, glass bevellers, stone quarrymen and quayside labourers; moderate with glass bottle makers, earthenware potters and general labourers. Carriers report employment as improved.—J. Currie.

EMPLOYMENT IN AUGUST—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—S.W. COUNTIES; WALES; SCOTLAND.

Plymouth and South Western District.

Mining, Quarrying, and China Clay Industries.—Employment in tin and copper mines is dull; in granite and limestone quarries it continues good; in slate quarries fair; china clay workers are moderately employed.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Employment in the government yards with engineers, boilermakers, iron and steel shipbuilders, ironfounders and shipwrights is moderate; on work for private firms engineers, ironfounders and shipwrights are quiet. Pattern-makers, iron caulkers and brass and tinplate workers are fairly employed. In drill and tool making shops employment is moderate. Branches with 3,278 members have 58 (or 1.8 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 33 (or 1.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Clothing Trades.—Employment with tailors is quiet; with shirt and collar makers it has declined; with boot and shoe makers it is dull; with lace makers quiet.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment with letterpress printers is fair in Plymouth, quiet in Exeter; with lithographic printers, paper rulers and bookbinders it is quiet.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Mill-sawyers and wood working machinists report employment as dull; french polishers and upholsterers as quiet; in cabinet factories it continues bad; with coach builders it is quiet.

Transport Trades.—Employment with coal lumpers and grain carriers is fair; with fish carters and packers it is moderate in Plymouth and has slightly improved at the western stations.

Fishing Industry.—Trawlers and hookers have had fair catches; drifters have been quiet; hook and line whiting boats have done well.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with navvies and excavators has further declined; in artificial manure works employment is fair; in brickyards moderate; in market and fruit gardens dull.—W. Hedge.

WALES.

North Wales.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineers report employment as fair; steelworkers, blastfurnacemen and enginemen as good; ironfounders and coachmakers as fair; wagon builders as slack.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Lead Mining.—Employment is quiet.

Quarrying.—Employment continues good.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Clothing and Textile Trades.—Employment in the woollen and tweed industries is good; with bespoke tailors it is quiet.

Printing Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as good.

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

South Wales and District.

Ship-repairing and Engineering.—Employment generally is reported as moderate; at engineering works and foundries in the inland and colliery districts as good. Branches of engineers and iron foundries with 3,450 members, return 142 (or 4.1 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 143 (or 4.2 per cent. of their membership), at the end of July.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Employment with iron ore, pitwood, timber and deal workers is good; with general cargo workers moderate; with general hoblors and dock labourers fairly good; with corn porters slack. The shipment of crews has been moderate.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment is good.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with metallurgical workers is moderate; with chemical workers dull; with wagon builders and lifters good; with lithographic and letterpress printers and bookbinders it has declined; with patent fuel workers it is moderate generally, good at Swansea.—T. Davies.

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 13,045 members have 411 (or 3.2 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 445 (or 3.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Shale Mining.—At the 26 mines covered by the returns, the average number of days worked during the four weeks ended August 23rd was 5.7 per week, compared with 5.6 in July and 5.8

in August, 1901. The number of workpeople employed in August, 1902, was 2,700, compared with 2,675 in July, and 3,038 a year ago.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Branches with 2,170 members have 118 (or 5.4 per cent.) idle, as against 105 (or 4.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July. The tinsmiths report employment as good; engineers, pattern makers, blacksmiths, brass-founders, horse shoers and hammermen as quiet; ironmoulders as bad. Branches in Falkirk with 4,050 members have 65 (or 1.6 per cent.) idle, as against 63 (or 1.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July. The pattern makers and range and stove fitters report employment as good; ironmoulders as fair.

Shipbuilding.—Branches with 573 members have 73 (or 12.7 per cent.) idle, as against 102 (or 17.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July. The shipwrights report employment as fair; boilermakers as bad.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the woollen industry in Selkirk, Hawick and Galashiels continues good; the hosiery workers are fairly well employed; narrow loom carpet weavers in Midlothian are fully employed; broad loom weavers are working only five days per week.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Branches with 1,100 members have 70 (or 6.4 per cent.) idle, as against 81 (or 7.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July. The lathsplitters report employment as good; coachmakers, sawmillers, French polishers, upholsterers and cabinet makers as fair; coopers as bad.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Employment with seamen and firemen, dock labourers and coal porters is quiet.

Printing and allied Trades.—Branches with 2,438 members have 30 (or 1.2 per cent.) idle, as against 39 (or 1.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July. The bookbinders and stereotypers report employment as good; compositors, press and machine men as fair; typefounders, lithographic printers and lithographic artists as bad.

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

Glasgow and West of Scotland.

Shipbuilding.—Employment has been fairly good. Branches of boiler makers, shipwrights, ship joiners, riggers and sail makers with 13,205 members return 467 (or 3.5 per cent.) as idle, as against 416 (or 3.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July. Shipyard helpers report employment as dull.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment continues fairly good. Branches with 23,438 members return 1,079 (or 4.6 per cent.) as idle, as against 1,264 (or 5.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Coal and Iron Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Clothing Trades.—Employment with bespoke tailors is reported as quiet; with ready-made tailoring operatives as fair; with boot and shoe operatives, slipper makers and knee boot and shoe makers as dull.

Textile Trades.—Employment in Glasgow has improved slightly; in New Mills it is steadily improving in all branches; in Kilbirnie, Greenock and Port Glasgow it is good.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment with letterpress and lithographic printers, stereotypers, electrotypers, bookbinders and lithographic artists is dull.

Glass Trades.—Employment with glass bottle makers is fair; with medical bottle makers still dull; with flint glass makers good; with flint glass cutters improving.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Employment continues good.

Transport Trades.—Employment with dock labourers, sailors, and firemen, railway men, tramway men, carters, and hackney carriage drivers is fairly good.

Miscellaneous.—Tobacco pipe makers and finishers, sett makers, paviors, brush makers, labourers, french polishers, calendermen, calico engravers, stoneware throwers, basket makers, rope spinners, scale beam makers, cork cutters and potters report employment as fair; curriers, bakers, saddlers, dyers, warpers, spindle makers and mattress makers as dull.—A. J. Hunter.

Dundee and District.

Textile Trades.—Employment has been good in the jute and flax industries; with carpet weavers it has improved; with calender workers it is fair.

EMPLOYMENT IN AUGUST—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—SCOTLAND; IRELAND.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Engineers, boiler makers and iron shipbuilders report employment as bad; iron moulders as moderate; blacksmiths as fair; shipwrights as slack; pattern makers and brass moulders and finishers as good. Branches of societies with 2,382 members report 215 (or 9.0 per cent.) as idle, the same number as at the end of July.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.
Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Cabinet makers report employment as good; french polishers and upholsterers as moderate; sawmillers and wood machine men as fair.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.
Dock Labour.—Employment at the docks has been quiet.
Fishing Industry.—135 trawlers landed at Dundee 9,572 boxes of fish and 170 score of cod. The coast line boats have had average success.

Miscellaneous.—Letterpress printers, bookbinders and lithographers report employment as fair; boot and shoe makers as bad; bakers as quiet; tailors as dull; bleachfield workers and tinplate workers as good.—J. Mann.

Aberdeen and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 3,287 members, have 79 (or 2.4 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 67 (or 2.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

Quarrying.—The masons, sett makers and granite polishers report employment as good.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Transport Trades.—The railway workers, carters and hackney carriage drivers report employment as good; dock labourers as moderate.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—The boiler makers, iron and steel shipbuilders, and engineers report employment as moderate; blacksmiths, ironmoulders, pattern makers and horse shoers as fair; shipwrights, tinplate workers and brassfinishers as good. Branches of societies with 1,239 members, have 20 (or 1.6 per cent.) idle, as against 15 (or 1.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

Clothing and Textile Trades.—The tailors and boot and shoe operatives report employment as quiet; boot and shoe makers and ready-made tailoring operatives as good.

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

Fishing.—At the port of Aberdeen in August, trawl and line boats landed 99,595 cwts., valued at £48,975, a decrease in quantity, but an increase in value as compared with the previous month.

Miscellaneous.—The upholsterers report employment as quiet; saddlers, comb makers and saw millers as good; cabinet makers, gas workers and general labourers as fair; enginemens and firemen as dull; bakers as bad.—W. Johnston.

IRELAND.

Dublin and District.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Trades.—Boiler makers, hammermen and farriers report employment as good; steam engine makers and tinsmiths as fair; engineers and smiths as moderate; shipwrights and brassfounders as dull; electric workers, ironfounders and whitemiths as bad. Branches of societies with 1,417 members have 78 (or 5.5 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 79 (or 5.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Employment in all branches, except with upholsterers, is reported as fair.

Printing and allied Trades.—Dispatch assistants are busy. Employment in other branches is dull. Branches of societies with 1,412 members, have 134 (or 9.5 per cent.) unemployed, as against 104 (or 7.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July.

Clothing and Textile Trades.—Tailors report employment as fair; silk weavers as good; bootmakers as dull.

Miscellaneous.—Bakers, butchers, confectioners and mineral water operatives report employment as fair; purveyors' assistants as bad; with bottle makers, hairdressers, stationary engine drivers, railwaymen, tramwaymen and labourers, it is fair.

E. L. Richardson.

Belfast District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering Trades.—Branches of societies with 8,993 members, have 186 (or 2.1 per cent.) unemployed, as against 260 (or 2.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July. The carpenters and joiners and sailmakers report employment as quiet; blacksmiths and engineers as moderate; blacksmiths' helpers and strikers, brassfounders, drillers, the furnishing trades, machine workers, steam engine makers, ship riggers, enginemens, cranemen

and firemen, general labourers, platers' helpers, and sheet metal workers as fair; boiler makers and iron shipbuilders, iron moulders, pattern makers and shipwrights as good.

Linen Trades.—Societies with 3,674 members have 114 (or 3.1 per cent.) unemployed, as against 120 (or 3.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July. The beetlers report employment as quiet; flax dressers and flax roughers as dull; hackle and gill makers, powerloom tenters and women workers as improved; linen lappers, powerloom yarn dressers and yarn bundlers as fair.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Branches of societies with 986 members have 43 (or 4.4 per cent.) unemployed, as against 49 (or 5.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July. The coachbuilders and packing case makers report employment as moderate; upholsterers as quiet; cabinet makers and french polishers as fair.

Printing and allied Trades.—Branches of societies with 884 members have 72 (or 8.1 per cent.) unemployed, as against 85 (or 9.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July. The lithographic printers report employment as bad; letterpress printers as dull; lithographic artists as moderate.

Clothing Trades.—The tailors and boot and shoe operatives report employment as dull.

Miscellaneous.—Societies with 1,777 members have 46 (or 2.6 per cent.) unemployed, as against 36 (or 2.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of July. The municipal employees report employment as dull; butchers as quiet; bakers and square sett makers as fair; carters, locomotive engine drivers, and railway workers as good.—R. Sheldon.

Cork and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Employment with boiler makers and iron shipbuilders in Haulbowline, Rushbrooke and Passage West, is reported as good; in Cork as fair. Employment with shipwrights, shipjoiners, sailmakers, and block and pump makers is fair.

Building Trades.—See note at head of District Reports, page 260.

Clothing Trades.—Employment with flax, tweed and feather operatives is fair; with tailors and boot and shoe operatives moderate in Cork and Limerick, dull in Waterford.

Woodworking Trades.—Mill sawyers, woodworking machinists, packing case makers, coopers and bellows and brush makers report employment as fair; coachmakers as good.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers and machine rulers report employment as quiet.

Miscellaneous.—Railway, tramway, harbour and brewery workmen report employment as good; gas workers and coal and quay labourers as dull.—P. O'Shea.

EMPLOYMENT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN IN IRELAND.

THE inter-departmental committee, appointed to inquire into the question of the employment of children during school age, especially in street trading in the large centres of population in Ireland, in their report [Cd. 1,144. Price 1s. 8d.] make the following recommendations:—

1. Street trading for both girls and boys to be regulated by local authorities, and licences issued on the lines of the system in force in Liverpool.
2. The making of the by-laws not to be compulsory on the local authorities.
3. The age for street trading for both boys and girls to be fixed at eleven to sixteen.
4. Street trading by girls to be discouraged as far as practicable, but not absolutely prohibited.
5. Street trading on Sundays for both boys and girls to be prohibited by Act of Parliament.
6. Day industrial schools to be established in the large centres of population.
7. The Councils to be empowered to apply money out of the rates towards providing clothes, and if necessary, homes or lodgings for street trading children.
8. A penalty on pawnbrokers receiving pledges from persons apparently under the age of sixteen.
9. The creation of a 'child's court' apart from the police court, for the disposal of cases of children brought up for breaches of the by-laws or other offences.
10. The maximum penalty for breach of an attendance order under Section 4 of the Irish Education Act, 1892, to be increased from five to twenty shillings.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN AUGUST.

(Based on information supplied by the Home Office and the Board of Trade.)
THE total number of workpeople reported as killed by accidents during August was 355, or 48 more than in July and 39 more than in August, 1901.

In the first group of industries shown in the following summary Table, including railways, mines, quarries, shipping, and factories, and employing 5,678,104 persons (according to the latest available figures), 328 persons were reported killed and 7,362 injured by accidents in August, 1902, as compared with 298 reported killed and 7,510 injured in August, 1901. These figures give one death in August, 1902, for every 17,311 persons employed in those industries. During the first eight completed months of the year, 2,637 persons were reported killed and 63,995 injured, as against 2,756 reported killed and 61,130 injured in the corresponding period of 1901.

In the remaining occupations included in the Tables, 27 persons were reported killed and 1,063 injured in August, 1902, as compared with 18 reported killed and 1,015 injured in August, 1901.

SUMMARY TABLE.

	Killed.		Injured.		Number Employed according to latest returns.
	August, 1902.	August, 1901.	August, 1902.	August, 1901.	
Railway Service—					
Accidents connected with movement of vehicles	35	37	284	334	575,834
Other Accidents	2	4	740	808	
Total Railway Service	37	41	1,024	1,142	575,834
Mines	73	95	308	304	839,178
Quarries (over 20 feet deep)	6	8	78	82	94,188
Shipping	160	99	224	196	239,691*
Factories	52	55	5,723	5,786	3,929,213
Total of above	328	298	7,362	7,510	5,678,104
Workshops	1	—	15	14	
Under Factory Act, 1901, Ss. 103-5	17	8	920	835	Cannot be stated.
Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894	7	8	123	153	
Railway Contractors' Servants	2	2	5	13	
Grand Total	355	316	8,425	8,525	

DETAILED TABLES.

	Killed.		Injured.		Total.
	By Accidents connected with Movement of Vehicles.	By other Accidents on the Companies' Premises.	Killed.	Injured.	
Railway Service—					
Brakemen and Goods Guards	2	50	—	24	74
Engine Drivers	1	16	—	45	61
Firemen	1	36	—	38	94
Guards (Passenger)	—	8	—	12	20
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	6	11	—	106	117
Porters	—	—	—	—	—
Shunters	3	37	—	160	197
Miscellaneous	4	49	—	11	60
Contractors' Servants	18	77	2	324	401
Total for August, 1902	37	284	2	745	1,029
Total for August, 1901	39	340	4	815	1,155
Mines—					
Explosions of Firedamp	8	23	—	—	8
Falls of ground	31	136	—	—	31
Shaft accidents	4	8	—	—	4
Miscellaneous	24	109	6	32	141
Total for August, 1902	67	276	6	32	308
Total for August, 1901	86	276	9	28	304
Quarries over 20 feet deep.					
Explosives or Blasting	2	3	—	—	2
Falls of ground	3	14	—	—	3
During Ascent or Descent	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	—	51	1	10	1
Total for August, 1902	5	68	1	10	78
Total for August, 1901	8	61	—	21	82

	Killed.		Injured.		Total.
	By Wreck or Casualty.	By other Accidents.	Killed.	Injured.	
Shipping*					
On Trading Vessels—					
Sailing	22	—	19	29	29
Steam	79	7	37	180	187
On Fishing Vessels—					
Sailing	—	—	—	1	1
Steam	—	—	3	7	7
Total for August, 1902	101	7	59	217	224
Total for 8 months, June to August, 1902	205	13	165	786	749
Total for 8 months, June to August, 1901	115	8	168	629	637

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
Factories—					
(a) Accidents reportable by Certifying Surgeons—					
Adults	41	1,263	2	211	43
Young Persons	8	400	1	116	9
Children	—	12	—	1	—
Total	49	1,675	3	328	52
(b) Other Accidents—					
Adults	—	3,157	—	75	—
Young Persons	—	451	—	34	—
Children	—	6	—	2	—
Total	—	3,614	—	111	—
Total Factories—					
August, 1902	49	5,289	3	439	52
August, 1901	53	5,297	2	489	55
Workshops—					
Adults	1	9	—	2	1
Young Persons	—	4	—	—	—
Children	—	—	—	—	—
Total Workshops—					
August, 1902	1	13	—	2	1
August, 1901	—	10	—	4	—

	Killed.		Injured.		Total.
	By Accidents connected with Movement of Vehicles.	By other Accidents on the Companies' Premises.	Killed.	Injured.	
Factories & Workshops (classified by trades).					
Textiles—					
Cotton	—	182	—	120	—
Wool and Worsted	1	77	1	55	2
Other Textiles	1	60	—	45	1
Non-Textiles—					
Extraction of Metals	4	131	—	—	4
Founding and Conversion of Metals	13	794	—	8	13
Marine and Locomotive Engineering	2	607	—	—	2
Ship and Boat Building	8	773	—	—	8
Wood	3	234	—	1	3
Chemicals, &c.	—	157	—	4	—
Other Non-Textile Industries	18	2,287	2	208	20
Total for August, 1902	50	5,302	3	441	53
Total for August, 1901	53	5,307	2	493	55

	Killed.		Injured.		Total.
	By Accidents connected with Movement of Vehicles.	By other Accidents on the Companies' Premises.	Killed.	Injured.	
Under Factory Act, 1901, Ss. 103-5					
Docks, Wharves and Quays	6	387	—	—	6
Warehouses	1	310	—	1	1
Buildings to which Act applies	10	194	—	1	10
Laundries	—	5	—	22	—
Total for August, 1902	17	896	—	24	17
Total for August, 1901	8	808	—	27	8

	Construction or Repair.		Use or Working.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
Under the Notice of Accidents Act, 1894—					
Bridge	—	4	—	—	4
Canal	—	2	—	—	2
Railway	6	49	—	—	6
Tramroad	—	—	—	—	—
Tramway	—	4	—	23	—
Tunnel	—	18	—	—	18
Other Works	1	21	—	—	1
Traction Engines	—	—	—	—	—
Total for August, 1902	7	98	—	25	7
Total for August, 1901	7	121	1	32	8

* The figures relate to seamen who have been reported during the month to have been killed or injured by accidents at sea, or in rivers and harbours, whilst they were members of the crews of sea-going vessels (except yachts) registered in the British Islands under Part I. of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894 (this includes all trading vessels and about a half, say 3,000, of the fishing vessels of 15 tons and upwards). Injuries to members of the crews of fishing vessels employed in and out of Scottish ports and of vessels trading exclusively between Scottish ports, or to Asiatics serving under Asiatic articles of agreement, are not included. With these exceptions, injuries, however trivial, are included. The number of persons stated to be employed is the sum of the number of persons engaged for the first crew of each vessel employed during 1901, and remaining on the Register at the end of that year.

† Accidents during the working of railways, being reportable under other Acts, are not notified under the Act of 1894.

‡ Authorised by any local or personal Act of Parliament.

§ Or other steam engine or machine in the open air.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN AUGUST, 1902.

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

Summary.—The net effect of all the changes in rates of wages reported during August was a decrease averaging 6d. weekly per head in the wages of the 112,158 workpeople affected.

The principal change reported during the month was a decrease affecting 107,500 coal miners in Durham.

Methods of Arrangement.—One change, affecting 107,500 workpeople, was arranged by a Conciliation Board. One change was arranged by arbitration, following on a strike involving 315 workpeople, and one, affecting 570 workpeople, took effect under a sliding scale.

Summary for First Eight Months of 1902.—For the eight months, January to August, 1902, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) known to have received advances or sustained decreases is 796,505, as compared with 867,942 for the corresponding period of 1901.

NOTE.—It will be understood that increments accruing under scales of pay, as in the case of policemen, some municipal employees, and many railway servants, &c., are not recorded here.

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which Change takes effect in 1902, Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week.

* Exclusive of Overtime. Where the winter and summer hours are known to differ in any trade, the weekly rate given in the Table is the result of averaging the wages for the summer and winter periods.

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN AUGUST, 1902.

ONLY two changes in hours of labour were reported in August. One affected 280 wheelwrights at Liverpool whose working time was reduced on 9th August by 1 hour per week (54 to 53 hours).

* See Table of Changes in Wages above.

EXAMINATION FOR MINING MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.

Midland District.—An examination for Certificates of Competency as manager or under manager of a mine will be held for this district on Thursday, Friday and Saturday the 23rd, 24th and 25th October 1902.

PAUPERISM IN AUGUST.

(Data supplied by the Local Government Boards in England, Scotland and Ireland.) THE number of paupers relieved in 35 selected Urban Districts of the United Kingdom on one day in August was 334,445, corresponding to a rate of 201 per 10,000 of the estimated population of those districts in 1902.

Compared with July, 1902, there was an increase of 2,731 and of 2 in the rate per 10,000 of the population. Increases are shown in 19 districts, the largest being in Central London (12 per 10,000), and in Leicester district (8 per 10,000).

Compared with August, 1901, the number of persons relieved has increased by 8,746, and the rate per 10,000 of the population by 4. Twenty-one of the districts show increased rates, the greatest being in Central London (20 per 10,000), Cork, Waterford and Limerick district (18), North Staffordshire (16), Galway (14), Sheffield (11) and East London (10).

Table with columns: Selected Urban Districts, Paupers on one day in second week of August, 1902, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with.

Table with columns: ENGLAND & WALES, Metropolitan Districts, Other Districts, Total "Other Districts", SCOTLAND, IRELAND.

Table with columns: Glasgow District, Paisley & Greenock District, Edinburgh & Leith District, Dundee & Dunfermline, Aberdeen, Coatbridge & Airdrie, Total for the above Scottish Districts, IRELAND, Dublin District, Belfast District, Cork, Waterford & Limerick District, Galway District, Total for the above Irish Districts, Total for above 35 Districts in August, 1902.

* The rates for August and July, 1902, are computed on the estimated populations in 1902, and the rate for August, 1901, upon the population in 1901.

† Exclusive of Vagrants; of Patients in the Fever and Small Pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards; and of Lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses.

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

LABOUR BUREAUX IN AUGUST.

DURING August the six Bureaux furnishing returns registered 1,677 fresh applications for work, as compared with 1,466 registered in August, 1901, an increase of 211. Work was found by these Bureaux for 848 workpeople, of whom 714 (566 males and 148 females) were engaged by private employers, and 131 by the Salvation Army.

The number of workpeople remaining on the registers at the end of August was 830, as against 590 a year ago.

(I.) Work done in August.

Table with columns: Name of Labour Bureau, No. of Fresh Applications by Workpeople during, No. of Situations offered by Employers during, No. of Workpeople found Work by Bureau, Engaged by Private Employers, Engaged by Local Authorities.

(II.) Employment found for Workpeople during August, 1902.

Table with columns: Engaged by Private Employers, Engaged by Local Authorities, Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities, Grand Total for 6 Bureaux.

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

Table with columns: Occupation, No. on Registers at end of August, 1902, August, 1901.

* Engaged by Salvation Army.

TRADE DISPUTES IN AUGUST.

Number and Magnitude.—Fifteen disputes began in August, compared with 25 in July and 32 in the corresponding month of the previous year.

Trades affected.—In the following Table the new disputes in August are classified by trades affected:—

Summary of all New Disputes in August. Table with columns: Group of Trades, No. of Disputes, No. of Workpeople affected (Directly, Indirectly, Total).

Causes.—Of the 15 new disputes, 6 arose on demands for advances in wages, 1 on an objection to a reduction, 1 on another wages question, 2 on questions of hours of labour, 2 on questions of employment of particular classes or persons, 2 on details of working arrangements, and 1 on a question of trade unionism.

Principal Trade Disputes.

Table with columns: Occupation, Locality, Number of Workpeople Affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

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

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The number of passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during August was 43,147, as compared with 37,302 in August, 1901.

British and Irish.—Of the 43,147 passengers in August, 25,565 were of British or Irish origin, an increase of 2,927 as compared with a year ago.

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

Table with columns: Destination (Country in which passengers contracted to land), Aug., 1902, Aug., 1901, Total for eight months ended (Aug., 1902, Aug., 1901).

Results.—Nine new disputes affecting 2,233 workpeople and 12 old disputes affecting 1,470 workpeople were reported as having terminated.

Aggregate Duration.—The aggregate duration in August of all disputes, new and old, amounted to 586,200 working days, as compared with 803,000 days in the previous month and 310,000 days in the corresponding month of last year.

Summary for the First Eight Months of 1902.—For the eight completed months of 1902 the aggregate number of workpeople involved in the 282 disputes which commenced in these months was 200,629, as compared with 127,771 in the 426 disputes reported in the corresponding period of 1901.

Principal Disputes.—Particulars of the four principal disputes which began or were settled during August are given below.

Foreign.—The remainder of the 43,147 passengers in August, viz., 17,582, were foreigners or other persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being 2,918 more than in August, 1901.

Alien Immigration.—During August 18,345 aliens arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent. Of these 10,311 were stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to places out of the United Kingdom, an increase of 3,864 as compared with August, 1901.

Table with columns: August, 1902, August, 1901, Total for eight months ended (August, 1902, August, 1901).

FOREIGN TRADE OF UNITED KINGDOM.

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

Summary for August.

The trade returns for August 1902, show a decrease in the values as compared with the corresponding month of 1901 of the Imports into the United Kingdom, an increase in the value of the Exports of British produce and a decrease in the value of the Exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

The value of the Imports in August, 1902, was £40,412,571, a decrease of £524,569, or 1.3 per cent., as compared with those in August, 1901, whilst the total Exports amounted to £29,998,466, showing a net decrease of £10,414,105.

Imports.—The following Table shows the value of the Imports for August, 1902, as compared with the corresponding month of 1901 and 1900, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

Table with columns: Month ended 31st August (1900, 1901, 1902), Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1902 as compared with 1901, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1902 as compared with 1900.

Exports.—The following Table shows the value of the exports of British produce for the month of August, 1902, as compared with the corresponding period of 1901 and 1900, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

Table with columns: Month ended 31st August (1900, 1901, 1902), Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1902 as compared with 1901, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1902 as compared with 1900.

Tonnage of Ships entered and cleared with Cargoes.—The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the month ended August, 1902, amounted to 3,412,226 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,918,934 tons, as against 3,259,595 tons entered and 3,905,028 tons cleared in the month of August, 1901.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CASES OF LEAD, MERCURIAL, PHOSPHORUS, AND ARSENIC POISONING AND OF ANTHRAX REPORTED TO THE HOME OFFICE UNDER THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, DURING THE UNDERMENTIONED PERIODS.

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

Table with columns: Disease and Industry, 8 months ended August (1902, 1901), 8 months ended August (1902, 1901).

HOME OFFICE ORDER.

MANUFACTURE OF FELT HATS.

The Home Secretary has made an Order, dated August 12th, 1902, under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, applying to all factories and workshops in which any inflammable solvent is used in the manufacture of felt hats.

* Of the 6 cases in the china and earthenware industry in August, 3 were females. † House Painters and Plumbers.—In addition to the cases included in the Table, 10 cases of lead poisoning (including 2 deaths) were reported during August among house painters and plumbers.

suitable apparatus for condensation of the solvent. Smoking is prohibited in any room or place where inflammable solvent is exposed to the air.

The regulations come into force on October 1st, 1902.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN AUGUST.

DURING August 564 fresh applications for work were registered by seven Bureaux furnishing returns, and 520 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 101 persons, of whom 64 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps).

The number of fresh applications for domestic servants fell from 502 to 417, and the number of servants applying from 352 to 285; the number permanently engaged fell from 77 to 42. The demand for dress-makers, milliners, etc., fell from 63 to 17, and the number requiring such situations fell from 52 to 44; the number engaged through the Bureaux was 6, compared with 32 in July.

The Returns for the Manchester, Liverpool and Edinburgh Bureaux are for the present grouped together in the following Table, which shows the work done by the seven Bureaux during August:—

WORK DONE IN AUGUST.

	No. of Fresh Situations offered by Employers.	No. of Fresh Applications of Workpeople seeking Situations.	No. of Workpeople engaged by Employers.	
			Permanently.	Temporarily.
Summary by Bureaux.				
Central Bureau— 9, Southampton-street, W.C. ...	62	77	10	7
Society for Promoting Training and Employment— 22, Berners-street, W. ...	5	44	—	2
Y.W.C.A.— 26, George-street (1) ...	389	301	35	18
Hanover-square, W. (2) ...	22	58	2	5
Other Bureaux ...	42	84	16	6
Total of 7 Bureaux ...	520	564	63	38
Summary by Occupations.				
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc. ...	23	51	5	2
Shop Assistants ...	—	4	—	—
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc. ...	17	44	2	4
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists ...	21	47	5	6
Apprentices and Learners ...	6	11	1	4
Domestic Servants ...	417	285	42	22
Miscellaneous ...	36	122	8	—
Total Number in August, 1902 ...	520	564	63	38
Total Number in July, 1902 ...	687	661	117	71
Total Number in August, 1901 ...	470	580	53	37

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Cotton Statistics.—The following Table shows the number of bales of cotton imported, forwarded from ports to inland towns, and exported during the month of August and also during the eight completed months of 1902, with comparative figures for 1901 and 1900:—

	Month of August.			Eight months ended August.		
	1902.	1901.	1900.	1902.	1901.	1900.
Imported... ..	Bales. 66,276	Bales. 82,320	Bales. 136,618	Bales. 2,154,562	Bales. 1,988,917	Bales. 1,950,082
Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns...	178,459	206,799	139,182	2,069,345	2,001,065	2,125,070
Exported... ..	37,184	31,800	26,498	320,082	215,530	241,725

The decline in imports during August as compared with a year ago is more than accounted for by a falling off of 34,027 bales in the importation of American cotton. During the last five months the number of bales of American cotton imported was 442,638, or 343,476 less than in the corresponding period of 1901. Taking, however, the twelve months ended August, there is an increase of 5,569 bales compared with the year ended August, 1901, and of 728,278 bales compared with the corresponding period ended August, 1900.

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 20 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the five weeks ended

September 6th amounted to £10,351,791, an increase of £192,752 (or 1.9 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of last year. The receipts from passenger traffic were £5,636,375, an increase of £77,749, and those from goods and mineral traffic £4,715,416, an increase of £115,003.

Bankruptcies.—The bankruptcies gazetted during August numbered 341, being 15 more than in August, 1901, 30 less than in August, 1900, and 8 more than in August, 1899.

Fishery Statistics.—The total value of the fish (including shell fish) landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom during July was £984,412, an increase of £121,084 as compared with July, 1901. In England and Wales there was a decrease of £37,923, while in Scotland and Ireland there were increases of £154,508 and £4,499 respectively.

INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN AUGUST.

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

UNIONS AND SOCIETIES REGISTERED.

THE total number of Industrial Societies registered in August was as follows: Under the Trade Union Acts, 1; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 9; under the Friendly Societies Act, 25 (including 12 branches of existing societies); in all, 35.

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

Trade Unions.—*England*—1, viz.:—Liverpool Wholesale Fruit and Potato Merchants' Association, 12, Great Charlotte-street, Liverpool. *Scotland*.—None. *Ireland*.—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—*England*.—*Co-operative Societies mainly for Distribution*, 3, viz., St. Blazey and Dist. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., St. Blazey, Par Station, Cornwall; St. Albans Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 25, Clifton-street, St. Albans; Kentish Town Indus. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 33, Warden-road N.W. *Co-operative Societies mainly for Production*, 1, viz., Amal. Builders, Ltd., 95, Brunswick-street, Ardwick-green, Manchester. *Scotland*.—None. *Ireland*.—*Co-operative Societies mainly for Distribution*, 3, viz., Sugar Loaf Co-op. Beekeepers' Soc., Ltd., Trafrack, Adrigole, co. Cork; Doohamlet Co-op. Poultry Soc., Ltd., Doohamlet, co. Monaghan; Ulster Egg Exporters, Ltd., Ballymoney, co. Antrim. *Co-operative Societies mainly for Production*, 2, viz., Granard Co-op. Creamery Soc., Ltd., Granard, co. Longford; Kinvara Co-op. Lace Industry, Ltd., Kinvara, co. Galway.

UNIONS AND SOCIETIES DISSOLVED.

The total number of Industrial Unions and Societies reported as having commenced to "wind-up," or had registration cancelled in August was as follows:—Under the Trade Union Acts, 1; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 14; under the Friendly Societies Act, 30 (including 6 branches of Societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 5; in all 50. Among the organisations dissolved were the following:—

Trade Unions.—*England*.—1, viz., Cast Iron Hollowware Turners' Association, Union Mill Inn, Ettingshall, Bilston. *Scotland*.—None. *Ireland*.—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—*England*.—14, viz.:—La Vraie France, Ltd., 64, New Oxford-street, W.C.; Whitby Coffee Van Soc., Ltd., 88, Church-street, Whitby; Birmingham Central Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 14, Pershore-street, Birmingham; Walthamstow Dist. Coal Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 9, Helena-road, Walthamstow; News and Book Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 12, Temple-chambers, E.C.; National Secular Hall Soc., Ltd., 142, Old-street, E.C.; Workers' Co-op. Productive Soc., Ltd., 189, Shoreditch High-street, E.; Coal Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 115, Chancery-lane, W.C.; Upper Gornal Prov. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 23, Kent-street, Upper Gornal, Staffs.; Wigton Indus. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 53 and 53½, Water-street, Wigton, Cumberland; Manchester Labour Press Soc., Ltd., Arkwright Mills, Miller-street, Manchester; Lechlade Co-op. Soc., Ltd., High-street, Lechlade, Glos.; 1 Loan Society and 1 Land and Building Society.

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

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