

# THE LABOUR GAZETTE

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

PUBLISHED ON THE 15th OF EACH MONTH.

Vol. X.—No. 6.

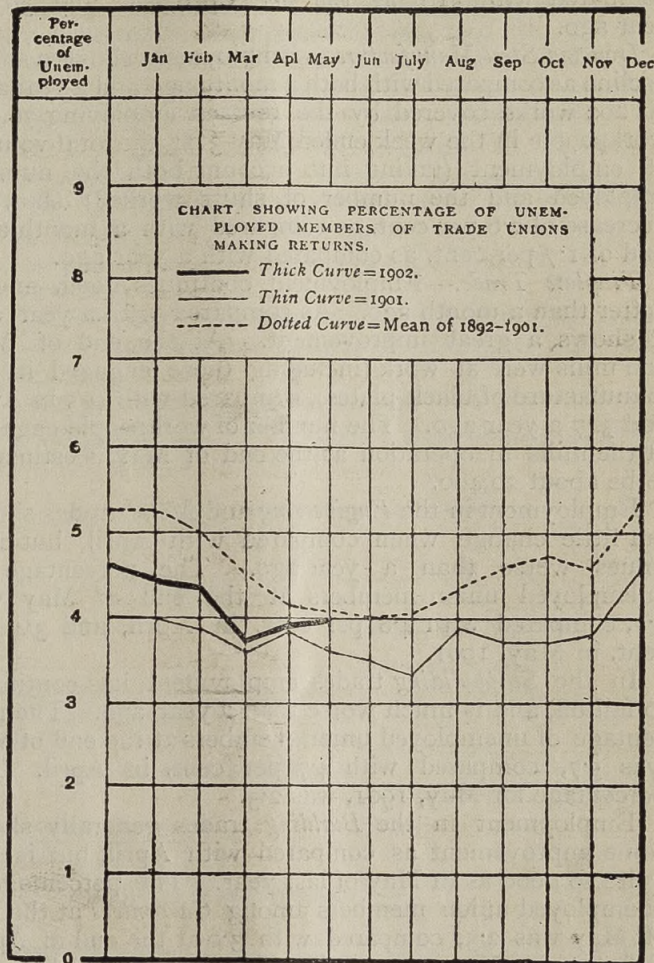
JUNE, 1902.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

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## EMPLOYMENT CHART.



## STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN MAY.

[Based on 2,347 returns, viz.: 1,185 from Employers, 581 from Trade Unions, and 581 from other sources.]

EMPLOYMENT in May showed little change on the whole as compared with April. As compared with a year ago there has been an improvement in the textile and pig iron industries, but a decline in the engineering and ship-building trades.

Decreases in wages affecting 250,000 coal miners were reported during the month.

In the 224 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 549,023, making returns, 21,926 (or 4.0 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of May, as compared with 3.9 per cent. in April and 3.6 per cent. in the 216 unions, with a membership of 544,460, from which returns were received for May, 1901. The mean percentage of unemployed returned at the end of May during the 10 years 1892-1901, was 4.1.

**Employment in various Industries.—Coal Mining.**—Employment in the four weeks ended May 24th continued good. At collieries at which 489,636 workpeople were employed, the pits worked on an average 4.89\* days per week during the four weeks ended May 24th, as compared with 4.90\* days in the four weeks ended April 19th, and 5.23 days in the four weeks ended

\* The average for May is reduced by the Whitsuntide Holidays, and that for April by the Easter Holidays.

May 25th, 1901. The number employed at the pits was 0.9 per cent. greater than a year ago.

**Iron Mining.**—Employment continues good in this industry and is better than a year ago. In the 125 mines and open works covered by the returns, employing 15,384 workpeople, the average number of days worked by the mines in the four weeks ended May 24th was 5.72\* per week, as against 5.67\* per week in the four weeks ended April 19th, and 5.65 days a year ago. There is a slight decrease in the number of workpeople employed as compared with 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 321 furnaces, employing about 22,200 workpeople, were in blast at the end of May, compared with 319 at the end of April, and 303 a year ago.

**Iron and Steel Manufacture.**—Employment shows a slight decline as compared with both a month ago and a year ago. At 202 works covered by the returns, employing 76,948 workpeople in the week ended May 31st, the total volume of employment (taking into account both the number employed and the number of shifts worked) shows a decrease of 2.6 per cent. as compared with a month ago, and of 1.7 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

**Tinplate Trade.**—Employment continues good, and is better than a month ago. As compared with a year ago it shows a great improvement. At the end of May 409 mills were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of black plates), compared with 405 in April and 347 a year ago. The number of workpeople engaged at the mills in operation at the end of May is estimated to be about 20,400.

Employment in the **Engineering and Metal** trades shows but little change when compared with April, but continues worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of May was 4.7, compared with 4.8 per cent. in April, and 3.4 per cent. in May, 1901.

In the **Shipbuilding** trades employment has continued to fall off, and is much worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of May was 5.7, compared with 4.7 per cent. in April. The percentage for May, 1901, was 2.3.

Employment in the **Building** trades generally shows some improvement as compared with April, but is not quite so good as in May of last year. The percentage of unemployed union members among **Carpenters** at the end of May was 2.5, compared with 3.0 at the end of April, and 2.9 for May, 1901. The **Plumbers** returned 6.0 per cent. as unemployed at the end of May, as compared with 5.6 per cent. in April, and 5.4 per cent. in May, 1901.

In the **Furnishing** trades employment remains good. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of May was 1.9, compared with 1.7 per cent. in April, and 2.2 per cent. in May, 1901.

Employment in the **Printing and Bookbinding** trades shows a further decline, but is a little better than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of May was 4.7, compared with 4.1 per cent. in April. The percentage for May, 1901, was 5.2.

Employment in the **Paper** trades shows a slight decline, but is better than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of May was 2.4, compared with 2.0 per cent. in April, and 3.2 per cent. in May of last year.

In the **Leather** trades employment continues fairly good but is not so brisk as a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of May was 2.5, compared with 2.7 per cent. in April. The percentage for May, 1901, was 1.5.

Employment in the **Glass** trades has fallen off when compared with April, but is slightly better than a year ago.

Employment in the **Coachbuilding** trade is good, but scarcely so good as a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of May was 2.0, compared with the same percentage in April, and with 1.6 per cent. in May, 1901.

\* The average for May is reduced by the Whitsuntide Holidays, and that for April by the Easter Holidays.

Employment in the **Boot and Shoe** trade shows a general decline, and is dull.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the **Tailoring** trade has declined, and is only moderate in London and fairly good in the provinces; in the ready-made branch it is good.

Employment in the **Hat-making** trade has continued to decline to some extent, and is not so good as a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of May was 3.5, compared with 3.4 per cent. in April and 2.1 per cent. a year ago.

Employment has slightly improved in the **Spinning** branch of the **Cotton** trade, and is fair generally, although still slack in the Oldham district; in the **Weaving** branch it again shows a slight improvement, and is fairly good.

Information respecting cotton factories employing about 89,000 women and girls shows that 83 per cent. of those in spinning mills were working in mills giving full employment during the whole month, compared with 80 per cent. during April and with 75 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding percentage of full time for those employed in weaving factories was 86 during May, compared with 84 per cent. during April and 62 per cent. a year ago.

Employment has improved and is good in both the **Woollen** and the **Worsted** trades. In the **Hosiery** trade also employment is good.

**Agricultural Labourers** were, generally speaking, in regular employment during May. In several districts, however, some casual labourers were not in constant work, there being but little demand for their services for hoeing and weeding until the last week of the month.

**Dock and Riverside Labour in London.**—During the five weeks ended May 31st, the number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves averaged 14,618, as compared with 13,937 in the preceding four weeks and 15,981 in May, 1901.

**Trade Disputes.**—Twenty-three fresh disputes began in May, involving 7,385 workpeople, of whom 6,623 were directly, and 762 indirectly affected. The corresponding number of disputes in April was 32, affecting 3,635 workpeople, and in May, 1901, 64, affecting 8,039 workpeople. Of the new disputes in May, 1902, 7 took place in the building trades, 9 in the mining industry, 3 in the metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades, 2 in the textile trades, and 2 in transport trades. Of the 21 new and old disputes, affecting 11,818 workpeople, of which definite results were reported, 5 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 10 in favour of the employers, and 6 were compromised.

**Changes in Rates of Wages.**—The changes in rates of wages, reported during May, affected 259,442 workpeople, and the net effect of all the changes was a decrease averaging 8½d. weekly per head of those affected. Of the total number, 2,647 received advances, and 256,795 sustained decreases. The changes of the previous month affected 12,947 workpeople, the net result being an increase averaging 4½d. weekly per head. During May, 1901, the number affected was 375,756, and the net weekly result was a decrease of 1s. 5d. per head.

The principal decreases were those sustained by 242,500 coal miners in Durham, South Wales and Monmouthshire. One change, affecting 107,500 workpeople, was arranged by a Conciliation Board, one affecting 1,000 workpeople was arranged by arbitration, and 3 changes, affecting 136,810 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. Two changes, affecting 155 workpeople only, were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work, and the remainder, affecting 13,977 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives.

EXPLOSIVES IN COAL MINES.

The Home Secretary has made an Order,\* dated March 24th, 1902, under the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896, with respect to the use of explosives in coal mines. This Order adds two new explosives, viz: Albionite and Arkite, to the existing list of permitted explosives (see GAZETTE, October, 1901, p. 319, and January, 1902, p. 5). Both explosives have passed the Special Test.

\* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1902; No. 277 (Eyre & Spottiswoode). Price 1d.

THE DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

(Notes communicated by the Home Office on Statistics of Lead and Other Forms of Poisoning for the years 1899-1901.)

THE returns furnished by the Home Office are the outcome of section 73 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901 (previously section 29 of the Act of 1895), which requires "every medical practitioner attending on or called in to visit a patient whom he believes to be suffering from lead, phosphorus, arsenical or mercurial poisoning or anthrax contracted in a factory or workshop," to notify the case to the Chief Inspector of Factories. By the same section the duty is imposed on the occupier of sending written notice of every such case to the inspector and certifying surgeon of the district. On receipt of the notice the certifying surgeon must see the patient and visit the place where the poisoning was contracted and report thereon to the Factory Department. Further, by arrangement with the Registrar General, district registrars of deaths are enjoined to furnish the Chief Inspector of Factories with copies of certificates of death in which lead, phosphorus, or arsenic is stated to have been directly or indirectly the cause.

Lead poisoning in industries, therefore, outside the Factory Act, as in house painting, or if contracted from contaminated drinking water, is not notifiable. As, however, lead poisoning among house painters and plumbers is common and industrial in origin, many such cases are notified, notwithstanding the limitation of the section. This necessitates separate classification, and the number of notifications so received is published month by month, but it should be borne in mind that remedial measures are not possible in their case as in those contracted in a factory or workshop.

The figures for the three years are strictly comparable, except that in 1899 a certain number of house painters are included under the term "Other Industries." The number of cases is the same as the number of persons attacked. Second notifications of persons already included in a return within the preceding twelve months have not been regarded as fresh cases. They numbered 52 in 1899, 53 in 1900, and 39 in 1901.

The following Table as arranged represents roughly the source of lead poisoning. In (1) it is mainly from fumes, in (2) to (5) from metallic lead, in (6) to (12) from salts of lead in the form of dust, and in (13) to (15) from salts of lead in the form of paint and dust:—

I.—Lead Poisoning.\*

Industry.	CASES.			DEATHS.		
	1899.	1900.	1901.	1899.	1900.	1901.
1. Smelting of Metals ... ..	61	34	54	1	1	3
2. Sheet Lead and Lead Piping ...	26	17	17	—	1	1
3. Printing ... ..	26	18	23	1	2	1
4. File Cutting ... ..	41	40	46	1	3	7
5. Tinning and Enamelling of Iron Hollow-ware	15	5	10	—	—	—
6. White Lead Works ... ..	399	358	189	5	6	7
7. Red and Yellow Lead Works ...	23	19	14	—	—	—
8. China and Earthenware ... ..	249	200	106	16	8	5
8a. Litho-transfer Works ... ..	11	10	7	—	—	—
9. Glass Cutting and Polishing ...	8	7	11	1	—	3
10. Enamelling of Iron Plates ... ..	9	11	9	—	—	—
11. Electrical Accumulator Works ...	32	33	49	1	—	1
12. Paints and Colours ... ..	75	56	56	1	1	—
13. Coach Making ... ..	65	70	65	1	5	4
14. Shipbuilding ... ..	33	32	28	—	2	1
15. Paint used in other Industries ...	54	50	61	1	5	—
16. Other Industries ... ..	131	98	118	2	4	2
<b>Total Lead Poisoning ... ..</b>	<b>1,258</b>	<b>1,058</b>	<b>863</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>34</b>

The principal safeguard against poisoning from fumes and salts of lead as dust is to be found in mechanical arrangements for the removal of the dust at the point where it is produced, and in that from metallic lead and paint, in facilities being given and made use of for securing scrupulous personal cleanliness.

The diminution in the figures in 1901, as compared with those for 1899, in (6), (7) and (8), is due mainly to lessened exposure of the workers to lead dust; partly also to elimination of susceptible workers by periodical

\* In addition to the cases included in the Table, 199 cases of lead poisoning (including 38 deaths) were reported among house painters and plumbers in the year 1900, and 169 cases (including 41 deaths) in 1901.

medical examination, and probably to greater care being observed by the workers themselves. The improvement that has taken place in (8a), attributable to the same reasons, would be more noticeable, could the figures for 1898 and previous years be given. In (9), the improved conditions of work which have resulted from the introduction of fans are masked, owing to the continued notification of persons in whom the poisoning was contracted at this industry in previous years. Most of the cases included under (10) were contracted, not in the enamelling of plates for advertisement signs, but in the enamelling of plates for gas stoves—a different process. Substitution of practically leadless colours for those containing lead which formerly caused many cases of poisoning, have in great measure removed the danger from enamelling of iron plates proper.

Similar improvement in the figures for industries where poisoning from metallic lead, and from lead salts used in paint, is not noticeable. Where lead in these forms is used, the onset of the symptoms of poisoning is more insidious than in the others described, and where dust is created it cannot so easily be controlled by mechanical ventilation. Increase in the number of cases in the manufacture of electrical accumulators is due to the development of the industry and consequent increased exposure of workers to dust from red lead and to lead fumes.

Details of the severity and symptoms of the cases are given in the Annual Reports of the Chief Inspector of Factories.

The following Table summarises the statistics of mercurial, phosphorus and arsenic poisoning in each of the years 1899, 1900 and 1901:—

II.—Other Forms of Poisoning.

Disease and Industry.	Cases.			Deaths.		
	1899.	1900.	1901.	1899.	1900.	1901.
<b>Mercurial Poisoning*—</b>						
Barometer and Thermometer making...	3	1	6	—	—	—
Furriers' processes ... ..	1	2	4	—	—	—
Other Industries ... ..	6	6	8	—	—	—
<b>Total Mercurial Poisoning ...</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Phosphorus Poisoning—</b>						
Lucifer Match Works ... ..	7	3	4	1	—	—
Other Industries ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total Phosphorus Poisoning...</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Arsenic Poisoning—</b>						
Paints, Colours, and Extraction of Arsenic	—	7	3	—	—	—
Other Industries ... ..	—	15	9	—	3	1
<b>Total Arsenic Poisoning ...</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>

The "other industries" in which mercurial poisoning have been reported in small numbers are the manufacture of electrical meters, of mercurial compounds such as the red oxide, perchloride, etc., in electro-gilding, and the use of fulminate of mercury in powder factories. "Furriers' processes" is the term applied to the treatment of rabbit skins with a solution of nitrate of mercury—an early process in the manufacture of felt hats.

Phosphorus poisoning means phosphorus necrosis of the jaw. One case reported in 1901 was contracted in a previous year. The fumes from the phosphorus paste are now removed at the point where they are produced, and persons exposed to the paste in a moist condition are required to have decayed teeth either stopped or extracted.

Among industries giving rise to arsenical poisoning are the manufacture of white arsenic and of emerald green. Irritation of the skin is the principal symptom. Only very rarely are nervous symptoms produced such as were common in the recent epidemic due to arsenic in beer. The very poisonous gas arseniuretted hydrogen accounted for the 15 cases in "Other Industries" in 1900 (with 3 deaths) and for 7 of the 9 cases in 1901. These occurred in chemical works. The symptoms bore no resemblance to poisoning from white arsenic.

\* The 1899 figures for Mercurial Poisoning date from May 1st, 1899.

The following Table deals with the number of cases of Anthrax in each of the last three years:—

Industry.	Anthrax.					
	Cases.			Deaths.		
	1899.	1900.	1901.	1899.	1900.	1901.
Wool Sorting ... ..	18	9	3	5	2	2
Wool Combing ... ..	17	12	3	4	3	1
Handling of Horsehair ... ..	16	9	20	3	1	1
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.)	4	7	4	2	1	—
Other Industries ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total Anthrax</b> ... ..	<b>55</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>

Anthrax is a fatal disease affecting certain animals which may be conveyed from them to man, especially to those who, with cuts or scratches on their face or arms, handle hides, wool, or hair of animals that have died of the disease. Infected material generally in the case of wool comes from Asia Minor or Persia, and in that of horsehair and hides from China. In each of the three years 1899 to 1901 from 20 to 25 per cent. of the cases proved fatal. Too much importance should not be attached to the diminution noticeable in the figures for wool and horsehair, as anthrax is notoriously prone to occur with greater frequency in one year than in another. Danger in wool sorting, in wool combing, and manipulation of horsehair, has been lessened by removal of the dust (to which the anthrax spores adhere) at the point where it is produced. Destruction of the spores by steam in the material before manipulation is difficult of attainment and is not practicable in the case of all kinds of wool and hair.

Early treatment of the disease surgically diminishes the risk to life, and it is most desirable therefore that the usual initial symptoms—an inflamed swelling like a pimple or boil, which in a day or two becomes black in the centre and surrounded by other "pimples" should be known to all those exposed to risk.

THE PRICE OF BREAD.

IN continuation 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, showing the price of ordinary household bread per four pounds, on June 2nd, 1902. The figures in the following Table are based on 240 returns from England and Wales and 127 from Scotland, and give the highest, lowest, and mean price for each of the districts specified, and for the whole of Great Britain:—

District.	Present Price. (2nd June, 1902.)			Price last quarter. (3rd Mar., 1902.)			Price a year ago. (3rd June, 1901.)		
	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>									
N. Counties and Yorkshire	6½	4½	5.54	6	4½	5.87	6	4½	5.46
Lanes. & Cheshire	6	4	5.18	6	4	5.08	6	4	5.12
N. Mid. Counties...	5½	4	4.62	5½	4	4.80	5½	4	4.54
W. do. do. ...	5½	4½	4.98	5½	4	4.82	5½	4½	5.00
S. do. do. ...	5½	4	4.68	5½	4	4.80	5½	4	4.64
Eastern Counties...	5½	5	5.19	5½	4½	5.04	5½	4½	5.15
London ...	5½	5	5.27	5½	5	5.08	5½	5	5.25
S.E. Counties ...	6	5	5.40	5½	4½	5.29	6	5	5.42
S.W. Counties, (Wales & Mon.)	6	4½	4.97	5½	4½	4.88	5½	4½	4.94
<b>England and Wales</b> ... ..	<b>6½</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5.06</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4.95</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5.01</b>
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>									
N. Counties ...	6	4½	5.14	6	4½	5.16	6	4½	5.22
Eastern Counties*	6	4	5.00	6	4	5.00	6	4	5.08
Lanarkshire ...	5½	5	5.07	5½	5	5.09	5½	5	5.15
Other Southern Counties...	6	5	5.45	6	5	5.41	6	5	5.59
<b>Scotland</b> ... ..	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5.17</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5.15</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5.26</b>
<b>Great Britain</b> ... ..	<b>6½</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5.10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5.02</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5.10</b>

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

It will be seen that the average district prices in England and Wales are generally higher than those at March 3rd, and also a little higher than those for a year ago. In Scotland, however, the average price is but slightly in excess of that at March 3rd, and is lower than the price at June 3rd, 1901. As compared with March 3rd, the greatest average rise is shown in London, where it amounts to 22d. per 4-lb. loaf. There were also increases of 18d., 15d., and 12d. in the South Midland Counties, the Eastern Counties and the North Midland Counties respectively. In the Northern Counties of England and Yorkshire, and in the Northern Counties of Scotland, and in Lanarkshire there were slight decreases in the average prices charged for the 4-lb. loaf. The mean price in Great Britain is the same as at June 3rd, 1901, but 08d. in excess of the price at March 3rd, 1902.

The mean London Gazette price of British wheat for the week ended May 31st, 1902, was 31s. 6d. per quarter, compared with 27s. 1d. for the corresponding week 3 months ago. The price for the corresponding week three months ago was 27s. 7d.

The imports of wheat from foreign countries and the colonies from September 1st, 1901, to May 31st, 1902, amounted to 52,093,249 cwts. (equivalent to 12,155,092 quarters), compared with 50,914,430 cwts. (11,880,034 quarters) in the corresponding 9 months of 1900-1901. The imports of wheat meal and flour for the same periods amounted to 14,536,554 cwts. and 17,203,542 cwts. respectively.

RECENT CONCILIATION & ARBITRATION CASES, AND COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS.

(a) CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

Carpenters and Joiners at Edinburgh.

Mr. G. R. Askwith, the arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade in connection with the question of the wages of house carpenters and joiners at Edinburgh and Leith (see GAZETTE for May, page 129), heard the parties on May 31st, and issued his award on June 3rd. The employers had proposed a reduction of wages. The arbitrator decided that wages should remain unchanged, at 9d. per hour.

Building Trade, Reading.

Sir W. Markby, K.C.I.E., the arbitrator appointed in this case (see GAZETTE for May, page 129), issued his award on June 2nd.

The Reading and District Building Trades Employees' Association had given notice for an alteration in their working rules, the effect of which would be to raise the wages of bricklayers from 8½d. to 9d. per hour, and the Reading and District Building Trades Masters' Association had given notice claiming to reduce the radius within which the rules of the Conciliation Board and the working rules are in force to four miles from the Market Place, Reading, instead of seven. The Conciliation Board for the Building Trades of Reading and Neighbourhood discussed the proposed alterations, and, not being able to agree, requested the Board of Trade to appoint an arbitrator.

Sir W. Markby decided that neither of the proposed alterations should be made.

Building Trade, Bristol.

On May 30th, an application for the appointment of a conciliator in connection with certain matters in dispute in the building trade at Bristol was forwarded to the Board of Trade by the Bristol Master Builders' Association, the Bristol United Trade Committee of Carpenters and Joiners, the City of Bristol Operative Painters' Society, and the local branches of the Bristol, West of England and S. Wales Operatives' Society, of the United Operative Plumbers' Association, of the National Association of Operative Plasterers, of the Amalgamated Society of House Decorators and Painters, and of the National Union of Gasworkers and General Labourers.

The Board of Trade have appointed Mr. A. A. Hudson, barrister-at-law, to act as conciliator.

Painters at Harrogate.

On April 1st, the painters at Harrogate struck work for an advance of wages from 7½d. to 8½d. per hour, about 150 men being affected. The rules respecting the working hours and notices for alterations of rules were also in dispute. Work was resumed on April 14th, and on May 17th a joint application for the appointment of an arbitrator was forwarded to the Board of Trade by the secretary of the Harrogate Master Painters' Association and, on behalf of the operatives, by the secretary of the local branch of the National Amalgamated Society of Operative House and Ship Painters. The Board of Trade on May 24th, appointed Mr. A. A. Hudson, barrister-at-law, to act as arbitrator.

Mr. Hudson issued his award on June 9th. He decided that the rate of wages should remain unaltered, at 7½d. per hour. With regard to working hours he decided that, as proposed by the employers, the usual hours should be from 7.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. on five days of the week, and 7.30 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturdays. (The operatives desired that from March 1st to October 1st the hours should be 6.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m., with an hour and a-half for mealtimes, Saturdays 6.30 a.m. to 12 noon, with half-an-hour for breakfast; and that from October 1st to March 1st they should be 8 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., light permitting.) Mr. Hudson further decided that the six months' notice for alteration of rules should expire in December. (The employers had proposed that such notices should expire on June 30th).

(b) OTHER CASES.

Saw Mill Labourers at Hartlepool.

On February 3rd, the Hartlepool Saw Mills Association gave notice for a reduction in the wages of saw mill labourers from 25s. 5d. per week to 23s. per week, to take effect after March 1st. On March 3rd, 150 labourers struck work against the proposed reduction, about 470 joiners and machinists being indirectly affected. Work was resumed at the old rate on March 17th, the matter being referred to two arbitrators, one appointed by each side. The arbitrators being unable to agree, the matter was referred to Dr. Spence Watson, as umpire, who issued his award on May 10th, deciding that the existing rate of 25s. 5d. per week of 53 hours should continue.

Scottish Coal Trade Conciliation Board.

An agreement for the regulation of coal miners' wages in Scotland was entered into between the representatives of the masters and the miners at a meeting in Glasgow, on May 26th. This agreement, by which about 75,000 miners are affected, provides for the continuation of the Conciliation Board as previously constituted, subject to three months' notice on either side for its termination, and contains the following terms:—

1. That the present minimum and maximum in miners' wages, being 37½ per cent. and 100 per cent. over 1888 basis rates respectively, shall remain binding on both parties on the Board; provided always that this obligation shall be terminable by either party on giving three months' notice.

2. That the net average realised value of coal at the pit bank for the time being, taken in conjunction with the state of trade and the prospects thereof, is to be considered in fixing miners' wages between the minimum and maximum for the time being, and that in current ordinary circumstances a rise or fall of 6¼ per cent. in wages on 1888 basis for each 4½d. per ton of rise or fall in the value of coal is reasonable.

3. That the present wage shall meanwhile be taken as corresponding to a value of one penny per ton above the net average realised value of coal at the pit bank in Scotland for the three months of December, January and February last, and for any average value 2½d. per ton over the same, and 2½d. per ton under the same.

4. The employers shall, by the machinery presently arranged with the Lanarkshire, the Fifeshire, and the Ayrshire Coal Masters' Associations, collect, and have tabulated by their

accountants, the tonnage of the total miners' output of coal from the associated collieries, for the above three months of December, January, and February, and the total net money received for the same at the pit bank; and the net average receipts per ton, as shown by these figures, shall be accepted as the net average realised value of coal at the pit bank in Scotland, referred to in Article 3 hereof—provided always that the miners' representatives shall be at liberty, at their own expense, to appoint accountants (to be approved of by the Conciliation Board, and pledged to secrecy) to verify the aforesaid figures from the employers' books, or from any of them.

5. When the employers, in any subsequent discussion, quote net average realised values for coal, the figures so quoted shall be accepted by the miners' representatives as correct—provided always that the miners' representatives shall be at liberty to verify the same from the employers' books, by their own accountants (as provided for in Article 4 hereof), who shall report within one week from the date of the meeting at which the quotations are made.

6. While employers and workmen are confirmed in their freedom of employment and their rights at law, both parties will endeavour to insure regular working at the colliery; and the Miners' Federation will not be parties to throwing idle any colliery without adequate warning.

PRICES OF COAL AND IRON.

The results of the last ascertainment of the selling prices of coal and iron are given in the Table below. Compared with the previous ascertainment the prices of coal in South Wales and of manufactured iron in the North of England and in the West of Scotland each show a further fall, which in the case of South Wales carries with it a decrease of 5 per cent. on standard in miners' wages. The prices of West of Scotland pig iron and of manufactured iron in the Midlands show slight advances. The figures for Northumberland coal and Cumberland and Cleveland pig iron have already been reported (see p. 101, April LABOUR GAZETTE).

Compared with a year ago the fall in ascertained prices will be seen to have been most considerable in the case of South Wales coal, and in that of manufactured iron in the North of England and the Midlands, amounting to about 19 per cent. in South Wales and to 12½ per cent. and 6½ per cent. in the North of England and Midlands respectively.

Product and District.	Period covered by last Audit.	Ascertained average selling price per ton.			Increase (+) or Decrease (−) of last Audit as compared with	
		Last Audit.*	Previous Audit.	A Year ago.	Previous Audit.	A Year ago.
<b>Coal.</b>						
Northumberland:— (Average for all classes of coal at pit's mouth)	Dec.-Feb.	s. d. 7 8.19	s. d. 8 1.74	s. d. 9 9.63	s. d. −0 5.55	s. d. −2 1.44
South Wales and Monmouth:— (Average for certain classes of coal free on board)	Mar., Apr.	13 5.14 to 13 6.86	14 0.00 to 14 1.71	16 6.86 to 16 8.57	−0 6.855	−3 1.715
<b>Pig Iron.</b>						
Cumberland ...	Jan.-Mar.	57 6.82	58 0.00	59 1.77	−0 5.18	−1 6.95
Cleveland ...	Mar.	44 0.13	44 10.57	50 10.49	−0 10.44	−6 10.36
West of Scotland...	Feb.-Apr.	52 8.57	51 11.27	53 8.5	+0 9.30	−0 11.93
<b>Manufact'd Iron.</b>						
North of England:— (Rails, plates, bars and angles)		123 9.00	125 2.23	141 7.08	−1 5.23	−17 10.08
Midlands:— (Bars, angles, tees, hoops, sheets, plates, and strips, &c.)	Mar., Apr.	137 10.39	137 10.14	147 8.17	+0 9.25	−9 9.78
West of Scotland:— (Rounds, squares, flats, angles, tees, hoops and rods)		123 7.78	125 0.18	125 4.86	−1 4.40	−1 9.08

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

† Exclusive of export duty.  
‡ This is the difference between the limits within which the average values fell. The exact amount of the difference in value cannot be stated.

## LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

## (1) Workmen's Compensation Acts.

## CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION UNDER ACT DISMISSED: SUBSEQUENT ACTION FOR DAMAGES.

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

A workman, who had been injured, claimed compensation under the Act from the firm by whom he was employed. His claim was dismissed. He then brought an action against the firm, claiming damages for negligence. The firm pleaded that the workman, having exercised his option by claiming compensation under the Act, was debarred by the provision of the Act cited above from bringing the action. The Judge at Nisi Prius entered judgment for the firm. The workman appealed to the King's Bench Division, and that Court decided in his favour. On appeal, the Court of Appeal upheld the decision of the King's Bench Division.—*Court of Appeal (Ireland) reported May 17th (see Buckley v. Scott, LABOUR GAZETTE, February, 1902, p. 42).*

## AWARD OF COMPENSATION AGAINST CONTRACTORS: LIABILITY OF SUB-CONTRACTOR TO INDEMNIFY CONTRACTORS.

The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, provides that "where, in an employment to which this Act applies, the undertakers as hereinafter defined contract with any person for the execution by or under such contractor of any work, and the undertakers would, if such work were executed by workmen immediately employed by them, be liable to pay compensation under this Act to those workmen in respect of any accident arising out of and in the course of their employment, the undertakers shall be liable to pay to any workman employed in the execution of the work any compensation which is payable to the workman . . . by such contractor, or would be so payable if such contractor were an employer to whom this Act applies, provided that the undertakers shall be entitled to be indemnified by any other person who would have been liable independently of this Section.

This Section shall not apply to any contract with any person for the execution by or under such contractor of any work which is merely ancillary or incidental to, and is no part of, or process in, the trade or business carried on by such undertakers respectively."

The Act applies only to certain classes of employment, including "employment by the undertakers as hereinafter defined on or about any building which exceeds 30 ft. in height, and is being constructed by means of a scaffolding, . . . or on which machinery driven by steam, water, or other mechanical power, is being used for the purpose of the construction . . . thereof."

In the Act "undertakers" in the case of a building "means the persons undertaking the construction."

A firm of builders contracted to erect a building. They arranged with a sub-contractor to do the slating work. A labourer in the employment of this sub-contractor was killed by an accident, and compensation was awarded to his widow against the contractors, who claimed to be indemnified by the sub-contractor. The County Court Judge held the contractors entitled to be so indemnified; but this decision was reversed by the Court of Appeal. On appeal to the House of Lords, that House reversed the decision of the Court of Appeal.—*Cooper & Crane v. Wright, House of Lords, May 16th.*

## (2) Employers' Liability.

## DANGEROUS CONDITION OF MACHINERY: LIABILITY OF EMPLOYER.

A boy, who had been injured while working a lift, sued (by his father as next friend) his employers to recover damages. The action was brought under the common law, and not under the Employers' Liability Act. The accident, which caused the injury, took place on March 2nd, 1901. A few days before that date this boy was called upon by his employers' foreman to work the lift in question. According to his case, he was given no instructions as to how the lift should be worked, and had had no experience of such machines. The lift was alleged to have been in a dangerous condition owing to the fact that it had a parquet floor, which it was part of the boy's duty to polish daily with oil, so that it became smooth and slippery. On the day of the accident the boy was down in the basement, and was told to take the lift to a higher storey. He pulled the rope, and his left leg slipped on the floor, with the result that, on the lift's rising, the leg was hanging outside, and was in consequence so severely injured that it became necessary to amputate it. On the other hand, evidence was given on behalf of the employers to the effect that the boy had had previous experience in the working of lifts, and had worked the

lift in question for some days before the accident. He received instruction from the engineer as to how the lift should be worked. The floor of the lift was not of such a nature as had been described by the boy, and there had been no negligence on the part of the employers or their servants.

The Judge left the following questions to the jury; he also asked the jury to assess the damages, whatever their answers to the questions left to them might be:—1. Was there any defect in the lift or in the construction of the lift that contributed to or caused the accident? 2. Did the cleaning with the oil cause the lift to be dangerous? If it did, did the danger arise from the orders of the superintendent of lifts, and, if so, were those orders given on his own authority or by the direction of the defendants? 3. If there was any such danger as in the last question mentioned, was it known to the defendants? 3a. Or to the defendants' representatives? 4. Had the plaintiff before and at the time of the accident full knowledge of the nature of the work he was to do and the danger, if any, attendant upon it? 5. Was the accident occasioned by any neglect on the part of the defendants or their superintendent to take due and reasonable care in giving the plaintiff proper directions or instructions as to the working of the lift?

In answer to question 1 the jury said the lift was defective through the absence of an inner gate. The answer to both parts of question 2 was "Yes." In answer to 3 and 3a they said there was no evidence that the danger was known to the defendants or to their representatives. "No" in answer to number 4, and "Yes" to number 5. They assessed the damages at £450.

It was contended on behalf of the employers that there was no evidence to support the finding of the jury with regard to the defective condition of the lift. But the Judge held that, although no evidence was given by witnesses on that point, it was open to the jury, upon the plan of the lift being put in evidence and submitted to them, to form their own opinion on the construction of the lift. The Judge gave judgment for the plaintiff for £450.—*Lloyd v. Woolland Brothers, King's Bench Division, April 11th and May 3rd.*

## (3) Trade Union Acts.

## INDUCING EMPLOYERS TO BREAK CONTRACT OF APPRENTICESHIP: ACTION AGAINST TRADE UNION.

By a deed of apprenticeship entered into on June 1st, 1900, a workman, employed as a labourer by a firm of stonemasons, covenanted with this firm to serve them for three years at a weekly salary, and they covenanted to teach him the trade. The workman was the son of a stonemason, and at this date was 25 years of age. The firm and the men in their employment were members of a stonemasons' Trade Union. Rules had been drawn up between employers and employed, which this firm had agreed to and signed, and which included the following:—"Apprentices.—That boys entering the trade shall not work more than three months without being legally bound apprentice, and in no case to be more than 16 years of age, except masons' sons and stepsons. Employers to have one apprentice to every four masons on an average." At a lodge meeting of the Trade Union on August 13th, 1900, it was resolved that, if this workman started work for this firm as a mason, one of their employees was to report the fact in two hours. Owing to the action of the Trade Union, from August 13th, 1900 to May 20th, 1901, the firm in question did not employ this workman as a stonemason or teach him the trade, but he continued to do labourer's work. On the last-named date the secretary of the Trade Union wrote to the firm that they had placed themselves in a difficult position, but the members of the Union considered the firm's action a direct infringement of the rule, and if this workman started working at the trade, they were bound to protest against the firm for introducing an individual not of the trade, and in accordance with their general rule the Union had empowered their members working for the firm to take prompt action in the matter.

The workman brought an action against the Trade Union and the secretary of its local branch for damages for their wrongfully and maliciously procuring to be broken the contract of apprenticeship referred to above, and for unlawfully conspiring to procure that contract to be broken, and to injure and molest him in his trade or calling. He also claimed an injunction. In answer to interrogatories the Union admitted that "prompt action" in their letter of May 20th, 1901, meant that the masons in the firm's employ should give 2 hours' notice and leave their employ if they thought fit.

The County Court Judge held that the evidence disclosed no cause of action against the Trade Union or its branch secretary. The workman appealed; and the King's Bench Division allowed the appeal, and gave judgment for a new trial. Leave to appeal was given.—*Read v. The Friendly Society of Operative Stonemasons and Others, King's Bench Division, April 16th and May 3rd.*

## THE LABOUR COMMISSIONERS OF NEW SOUTH WALES.—MONTHLY LABOUR BULLETIN.

The first number of the *Labour Bulletin*, published monthly by the Labour Commissioners of New South Wales, was issued in March. The returns of the number of unemployed registered at bureaux show that 399 men were assisted and sent to Government work in January, and 198 in February; 57 were sent to private work in January and 43 in February. The *Bulletin* contains an account of the Industrial Arbitration Act of 1901 by the Registrar under the Act, and gives information as to the state of the labour market in the Australasian Colonies, Great Britain and foreign countries.

## LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.

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

**Canada.**—Speaking generally men are well employed at this time both in towns and in country districts, but the labour market is unsettled in many parts owing to numerous strikes for higher wages and shorter hours, and the increasing cost of living. The most serious of these strikes was that of the longshoremen at Halifax; this has now been settled, and wages have been fixed at 20 cents an hour, and 25 cents at night.

A report from Montreal states that there is a large demand for good farm hands, general labourers, navvies, and for female domestic servants, especially general servants and cooks. Reports from Battleford, Prince Albert and other places in the North-West state that there is a good demand for farm and general labourers, female servants, and a few carpenters. In British Columbia there is exceptional activity in the logging, lumbering, and shingle industries, but at the important mining town of Rossland there are "plenty of labourers of all kinds at present," and at the large coal mines of Nanaimo, though the mines are working steadily, many men are idle, and prospects are very unsettled.

**New South Wales.**—A report from Cooma states that the supply of labour—with the exception of female servants—is in excess of the demand. Country districts are suffering severely from the long drought, though rain has fallen in parts; miners are very slack at the Broken Hill silver mines, and many are out of work.

**Victoria.**—The supply of labour is sufficient—except in the case of female servants and competent farm labourers and milking hands.

**Queensland.**—There is a demand for ploughmen and farm labourers in the South. There is no demand for more miners anywhere, and very little for mechanics. Female servants are wanted.

**Western Australia.**—There is a good demand in the South for farm labourers and female servants, and for a few mechanics in the building trades; there is no demand for miners anywhere.

**Tasmania.**—The only demand is for skilled farm hands, and for a few mechanics, such as fitters, on the West Coast.

**New Zealand.**—The building trades are busy except at Wellington; work in the engineering trades is general, except at Wellington and Invercargill; the clothing trade is fairly brisk, especially at Dunedin; the boot trade is moderately busy; coal miners at Westport have been busy; there has been plenty of work in the flax mills; more general labourers are not wanted during the slack season.

**Cape Colony.**—There is a good demand for mechanics, especially men in the building trades; but no one can land without first obtaining a permit from the Permit Office, 47, Victoria Street, London, S.W. The General Manager of the Railways reports that a limited number of engine fitters, boilermakers, coach builders, coach painters, firemen and waggon builders, and a few ironmoulders, iron turners, coppersmiths, blacksmiths and trimmers would probably secure employment by applying at the Government workshops in Cape Town; the contract would be for at least one year at 9s. to 11s. a day; applicants must pay their own passages. Railway clerks, shunters and train foremen also are wanted; the cost of their passages will be advanced, if necessary, and be recovered out of wages; clerks begin at £120 or £132 a year, according to qualifications; application must be made by letter only to the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope, 100, Victoria Street, London, S.W. Recruiting in this country for the Cape Mounted Rifles has re-commenced; apply to the Agent-General as above.

**Natal.**—There is a good demand at the present time for skilled artisans, more especially for carpenters and those in the building trades, but they cannot land without permits, which may be obtained at the Permit Office,

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

47, Victoria Street, London, S.W. The carpenters' strike is now settled, the men agreeing to accept an increase of 1s. a day (bringing their wages up to 15s. a day) instead of 2s. as at first demanded.

The following persons are wanted for the Government railways; free passages to Natal are provided; engagements are for three years; candidates must apply to the Agent-General for Natal, 26, Victoria Street, London, S.W., enclosing particulars as to age, height, whether married or single, with medical certificates and testimonials; good platelayers between 25 and 40 years of age, with five years' experience, wages £11 to £15 a month; carriage and waggon examiners, having three years' experience, wages 9s. a day; machine-men, with five years' experience in shaping, planing, and slotting machines, wages 10s. 6d. per day, first year, afterwards 11s. 6d. per day; sawyers, or machine-men, between 24 and 35 years of age, to be able to work circular band, or long saw, wages 11s. 6d., rising to 12s. 6d. per day; holders-up accustomed to locomotive boiler work, wages 9s. per day, rising to 10s. per day after 12 months satisfactory service; fitters and erectors, turners, coppersmiths, brassfinishers, coach-makers, and wood machinemen able to do general joiner work, wages 12s., rising to 13s. per day after 12 months' satisfactory service; wood waggon builders, 11s. 6d., rising to 12s. per day; sheet-iron workers, 11s., rising to 12s. per day; saw doctors to braze hammer saws and cut teeth, 12s. 6d. per day; signalmen having one year's experience, wages £10 per month, must be under 30 years of age and over 5 feet 7 inches in height; cost of passage outwards will be advanced to signalmen to be repaid by monthly deductions.

**Transvaal.**—No one can land in South Africa without a permit (see Cape Colony above), and none but refugees, Government employees, and persons engaged in a service of a public nature, will be permitted to move up into the Transvaal. There is a good demand for mechanics, especially those in the building trades; wages are high, carpenters receiving 20s. to 22s. 6d. a day, but the cost of rent and food is at least twice as much as in England.

**South African Constabulary.**—Candidates for the South African Constabulary in the Transvaal and Orange River Colony should apply to the S.A.C. Recruiting Officer, King's Court, Broadway, Westminster, S.W. They must be good riders, good shots, single, strictly sober, and from 20 to 35 years of age; they will be given free passages to South Africa.

## LABOUR ABROAD.

## FRANCE.

*Restriction of Hours of Labour of Adult Males: Special Exemptions.*—In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated May 21st, Sir E. Monson, H.M. Ambassador at Paris, transmits a copy of a Presidential Decree, dated March 28th, providing for special exemptions from the provisions of the laws restricting the hours of labour of adult males.

Prior to the Act of March 30th, 1900 (see GAZETTE, April, 1900, p. 101), the hours of labour of adult workmen in France were subject only to the restriction contained in the Law of September 9th, 1848, fixing a limit of 12 hours for establishments using power-driven machinery, or having fires kept up day and night, and for all workshops in which more than 20 operatives were employed. The Law of 1900 provided that, where workmen were employed in the same workrooms with women, young persons or children, their hours of labour should be subject to the same limitations as those of the other operatives, viz., 11 hours until April 1st, 1902, then 10½ hours, and finally 10 hours per day from April 1st, 1904.

The new Decree enumerates certain occupations and trades, in regard to which employers, on giving previous notice to the Factory Inspector, will be allowed to extend the hours of labour of their adult workmen beyond the general limits imposed by the law. The extent, to which the ordinary legal hours may be exceeded, varies according to the occupation or trade concerned. For

the following kinds of work it is fixed at 1½ hours (or 2 hours for a day following any day on which the establishment has been idle):—(1) Attending to ovens, furnaces, stoves, drying rooms or boilers, heating of vats, etc., so far as such work is merely incidental to processes of preparation or finishing, and is not the main business of the establishment; and (2) the work of enginemen and stokers in connection with the production of motive power.

Workpeople employed in repairing and cleaning machines, which it is impossible to stop while the rest of the mill is running, may be employed for 30 minutes after the works have been closed down. For workpeople engaged in processes which cannot be suspended (for example, rolling a large girder, etc.), and which it has not been possible to complete within the prescribed limits of time, those limits may be exceeded by 2 hours (or on any day preceding a day on which the works will be idle by 6).

In (1) printing, lithographing and engraving works and (2) corn mills run by wind or water power 14 hours a day may be worked, but in the former case not more than 100 extra hours (in excess of 12 per day) may be worked in any year. Special provision is made for time in excess of the ordinary limits to be worked in changing weekly shifts, in breakdowns, etc., and for work required for National defence.

**Employment in May.\***—Reports as to the state of employment made to the French Labour Department by 767 Trade Unions, with an aggregate membership of 130,000, show that 13,700, or about 10.5 per cent. of their members, were out of work in May, as compared with 11 per cent. in the preceding month. The unions of miners in the Nord and Pas-de-Calais Departments are not included in these figures.

**Coal Mining in April.†**—The average number of days worked per week by those employed underground in coal mines in April was the same as in March, viz., 5.84, the corresponding average for April, 1901, being 5.71. During the month full time (6 days and over per week) was worked by 74 per cent., and from 5 to 6 days by 25 per cent. of all employed in and about the mines, the corresponding percentages for the previous month being 74 and 21 respectively. The foregoing particulars were supplied to the French Labour Department by the Committee of Coal Owners, and relate to about 143,000 workpeople, or more than three-fourths of all employed in and about the mines.

**Labour Disputes in April.†**—The disputes reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in April numbered 107, a figure considerably in excess of that reported for any other month in the previous 12 years, with the exception of April and May, 1893 (with 112 and 122 disputes respectively), and July, 1899 (with 123 disputes). The number of workpeople involved in 104 of the disputes of April last was 26,941, as against 9,541 involved in 43 disputes in March. Three of the disputes of April last occurred in mining, 29 in the metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades, 59 in the textile trades, 3 in boot and shoe making, 7 in the chemical, glass, and pottery trades, 1 in transport (a strike of 1,780 cabmen in Paris), 2 in the printing and paper trades, and 3 in trades not included in any of the foregoing groups.

Thirty-eight of the strikes begun in April were against reductions in wages consequent upon the reduction of the legal working day from 11 to 10½ hours, which took place on April 1st by virtue of the Law of March 30th, 1900. (See GAZETTE, May, 1902, p. 133.)

Ninety-seven disputes came to an end in April, 35 terminating in favour of the employers, 31 in favour of the workpeople, and 31 being compromised.

**Conciliation and Arbitration in April.†**—Eleven cases of recourse to the Conciliation and Arbitration Law were reported to the French Labour Department during April, the Justice of the Peace taking the initiative in 5 cases, the workpeople in 4 cases, the employers in 1 case, and the employers and workpeople jointly in 1 case. In 7 cases committees of conciliation were formed, resulting in

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

the settlement of 4 disputes; in the 3 cases in which the conciliation committees did not succeed in putting an end to the disputes, the workpeople eventually resumed work on the employers' terms. In 3 of the 4 cases, in which committees of conciliation were not formed, the offer of mediation was either declined or ignored by the employers.

#### GERMANY.

**Employment in May.**—According to the Berlin journal *Der Arbeitsmarkt*, the state of employment was worse than either a month ago or a year ago, the number of applications for work per 100 situations offered at the public employment registries which furnished returns in May being 172.0, as compared with 147.5 in the preceding month and 145.1 in May, 1901.

**Labour Disputes in May.**—The same journal reports 50 disputes as having begun in May, as compared with 36 in April. Twenty-four of the new disputes occurred in the building trades, 4 in the metal and engineering trades, 2 in the textile trades, 2 in the clothing trades, 5 in the pottery, etc., trades, 6 in the woodworking trades, 3 in the food preparation trades, and 4 in trades not included within any of the foregoing groups.

**Law Regulating Registry Offices for Seamen.**—Under a law dated June 2nd, 1902, which is to come into operation on April 1st, 1903, the following (among other) provisions are enacted respecting registry offices for seamen carried on for gain.

Persons desirous of carrying on a registry office must obtain a licence. No lodging-house or "doss-house" keeper, hotel or bar keeper, retail dealer in spirits, dealer in seamen's outfits, money changer or pawnbroker will be granted the requisite licence. The keeper of a seamen's registry office is prohibited from entering into relations with any of the foregoing classes of persons such as would entail their paying or promising him compensation of any kind in respect of his services as an employment agent.

The Government is to fix the scale of fees chargeable by keepers of seamen's registry offices; and of the fee charged one-half is to be paid by the shipowner and one-half by the seaman, but if a seaman fails to present himself for duty at the stipulated time, the registry keeper forfeits his claim on the shipowner.

Captains of vessels are forbidden to allow unauthorised persons to come on board their vessels in order to engage seamen.

Infractions of the provisions of the present law or of the rules enacted in pursuance thereof are punishable by fine (up to £7 10s., or as to certain offences up to £15) or imprisonment.—*Deutscher Reichs-Anzeiger*.

**Improved Dwellings for Government Workmen in Prussia.**—The *Deutscher Reichs-Anzeiger* of May 7th, 1902, contains the text of a Law dated April 16th, 1902, under which a sum of £600,000 is to be placed at the disposal of the Prussian Government for the purpose of providing dwelling accommodation for the workmen and subordinate officials in its employ, who reside in places where housing accommodation is dear.

Since 1895, sums amounting in the aggregate to £1,000,000 have already been voted for the same purpose by the Prussian Legislature, of which all but about £1,500 had already been spent or allotted by October 1st, 1901. About two-thirds of the amount has been applied to the erection of small dwellings, which remain the property of the Government, while one-third has been invested in loans to Building Societies. The rents charged by the State for the dwellings, which it lets to its workmen and subordinate officials, are fixed on a basis providing an amount equivalent to about 3 per cent. on the capital outlay, and in addition another 1 per cent. on such outlay required to cover cost of administration, repairs and sinking fund.

In respect of localities in which it is not found possible to let the dwellings erected by the State for its employees at rentals sufficient to yield the prescribed percentage on capital outlay, and in which the provision of better accommodation for Government servants is requisite in the interest of the public service, the deficit is to be included in the estimates in relation to the department concerned. The total number of houses erected, or to be erected, under the legislation here referred to prior to the passing of the new law is 3,030, of which 3,014 were for the use of persons employed on Government railways.

#### SWITZERLAND.

**Law of Neuchâtel regulating the Employment of Women and Girls.**—The first issue (for January—March, 1902) of the Bulletin of the International Labour Office at Basle (see GAZETTE, August, 1901, p. 238), contains the text of a law passed last year by the Canton of Neuchâtel, by which the previous law of 1896 is repealed, and the following (among other) provisions are made.

This law applies to (1) establishments and workshops of all kinds (except domestic workshops) not subject to the Federal Factory Law, (2) to shops and offices, and (3) to hotels, restaurants, and clubs; but not to agriculture or to domestic service in private houses. The employment of girls under 14 is forbidden, except in the case of those possessing certificates showing that they have passed the school standard for primary education, whose employment may commence at 13. The employment of females for more than 11 hours, or, in the case of girls under 15, 10 hours in the day is prohibited. All female employees must be allowed at least 1 hour in the middle of each day for dinner. The time, which any girl is bound to devote to her education, is to be counted as part of the hours of labour allowed by the law. With respect to night work (8 p.m.—6 a.m.) and to work on Sundays and public holidays, this is forbidden for all female employees, with the following exceptions:—(1) Saleswomen in shops, etc., may be employed up to 9 p.m., but must have 1 hour allowed for supper, and must have not less than 10 hours for sleep, their total weekly hours of labour not being permitted in any case to exceed 65. (2) Barmaids, &c., may work up to midnight, but must be allowed at least 9 consecutive hours for rest. (Special exemptions may be granted by the local authority.) No female under 18, except a daughter of the landlord, may serve the public. Barmaids, &c., may be employed on Sundays, but must have at least 24 hours off duty in each week, including at least two Sunday mornings and two Sunday afternoons in each month. In bakers' and confectioners' shops female assistants may be employed in selling up to 9 a.m. on Sundays.

Special permission to employ women or girls after 8 p.m. or before 6 a.m. to perform work of absolute necessity may be granted as a temporary measure, and permission for such employees to work overtime at periods of seasonal pressure may be given, provided that the number of days, in relation to which such permission is granted, shall not exceed 50 in any year, the employees being entitled to be paid for such overtime work at rates exceeding their regular pay by not less than 25 per cent.

#### BELGIUM.

**Labour Disputes in April.\***—Seven new disputes affecting 961 workpeople (873 strikers and 88 non-strikers) were reported to the Belgian Labour Department as having begun in April. The number of disputes in the preceding month was 9, the total number of workpeople affected being 1,428, while in April, 1901, there were 11 disputes, by 10 of which 1,088 workpeople were affected. Four of the disputes of April last occurred in mining and quarrying, 2 in the textile trades, and 1 in shipbuilding. Of seven disputes which came to an end in April, 5 (involving 511 workpeople) ended in favour of the employers, and 2 (involving 219 workpeople) in favour of the workpeople.

#### AUSTRIA.†

**Employment in April.**—The returns of the Labour Registries (public and private) furnishing reports to the Austrian Labour Department show that for every 100 situations offered in April there were, on an average, 166 applicants, as against 167 in March. Taking the sexes separately, we find that in the case of men there were 231 applicants on an average for every 100 situations offered, as compared with 245 in March, while in the case of women there were 85 applicants, as against 89 in the preceding month.

**Labour Disputes in April.**—Eighteen labour disputes were reported to the Austrian Labour Department as having begun in April, the number of workpeople known to have taken part in 16 of these disputes being 1,076. Four of the new disputes occurred in the building trades, 2 in the engineering trades, 2 in the textile trades, 3 in the clothing trades, 2 in the printing trades, and 5 in trades not included within the foregoing groups. Of 14 cases, in which the results of the disputes were known, 2 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 7 in favour of the employers, and 5 were compromised.

#### ITALY.

**Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Mines.**—According to the Official Report for 1899 and 1900 on Mine and Factory Inspection, a summary of which is given in *Bollettino Ufficiale del Ministero d'Agricoltura, Industria e Commercio*, the visits paid by the inspectors to factories, workshops and mines in Italy, with the view of ensuring

\* *Revue du Travail* (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department).  
† Information supplied through the courtesy of the Austrian Labour Department.

the observance of the Law of February 11th, 1886, regulating the employment of children and young persons in such establishments, numbered 32,508 in 1900, as compared with 21,938 the year before. The proportion of contraventions discovered (whether followed by convictions or not) per 100 inspections has decreased each year since 1893 (when it was 11.07) as follows:—1894, 9.71; 1895, 8.59; 1896, 4.00; 1897, 2.93; 1898, 2.69; 1899, 1.60; and 1900, 0.94.

**Strikes in 1900.**—The same journal contains an abstract of the official statistics of strikes in Italy in 1900. Strikes in that year were more frequent than in any of the other years (1892-1899) for which complete statistics on the subject are available, the number reported in 1900 being 410, as against 268 the year before, and 191 per annum on an average during the period 1892-1899. The number of workpeople who took part in strikes in 1900 was 93,375, more than twice the number (45,089) returned the year before, but fewer than in 1896 or 1897, when the corresponding figures were exceptionally large (96,151 and 100,705 respectively) owing to the great strikes of straw plaiters in the Florence district, which took place in those years. The largest number involved in strikes in any of the other years since 1892 was 44,499 (in 1893).

The working days lost by strikers in 1900 amounted to 573,093, the average annual loss of working days through the same cause in the period 1892-1899 being 528,528, an average which would have been much lower but for the strikes of straw plaiters already referred to.

The trades most affected by strikes in 1900 were those belonging to the textile group, in which 144,037 working days were lost by 18,172 strikers engaged in 125 strikes. Next in this respect were the metal trades, with 90,086 working days lost by 4,837 strikers in 474 strikes, while 80,000 days were lost by 12,517 strikers engaged in 27 agricultural strikes.

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

##### PHILADELPHIA CONSULAR DISTRICT.

**Strike of Coalminers in Pennsylvania.**—The following particulars with regard to a strike of the miners in the Anthracite Coal Fields of Pennsylvania, which began on May 12th, are based on despatches dated May 16th and 22nd, addressed to the Foreign Office by Mr. Wilfred Powell, H.M. Consul at Philadelphia, and Mr. Arthur S. Raikes, Secretary of H.M. Embassy at Washington, respectively.

The strike, which affects 145,000 mine workers, together with, it is stated, 60,000 railway employees, was the outcome of the mine owners' refusal to concede the demands of the miners. The precise nature of these demands has not been made public; but they included an increase in wages above present rates (these rates being 10 per cent. above those in force up to the autumn of 1900) and a shortening of hours. It is also stated that the miners demanded that coal mined shall be weighed wherever practicable, that 2,240 pounds shall constitute a ton, and that the men shall have a representative to check the weights; that a minimum wage-scale for day-labourers at the mines shall be established similar to the scale that exists in the bituminous coal fields; and that the United Mine Workers' Union shall be recognised.

In this dispute there is, on the one hand, the United Mine Workers' Union, in which are enrolled not only practically all the anthracite workmen, but also thousands of workers in the bituminous coal and other mines. The miners have opposed to them some six railway companies and other mine owners, who are banded together. When the miners' delegates came to vote as to whether the strike should be declared, there were 451 in favour of a strike and 349 against. The mine owners have refused to refer the matters in dispute to arbitration.

The States of Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey will be the most seriously affected by the strike, so far as the shutting off of the supply of hard coal is concerned. In 1901 these three States consumed 65.25 per cent., or nearly 35,000,000 tons of the entire production of 54,000,000 tons. The New England States consumed 15 per cent., or over 8,000,000 tons; the Western States 11.96 per cent., or 6,500,000 tons; the Southern States 4 per cent., or over 2,000,000 tons; the Dominion of Canada 3.61 per cent., or 1,933,000 tons; foreign ports 0.14 per cent., or 75,540 tons; and the Pacific Coast 0.04 per cent., or 20,000 tons.

All this coal came from the 3 fields in the anthracite region of North-Eastern Pennsylvania, with an area of slightly less than 475 square miles.

## REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

## (a) EMPLOYMENT IN THE BUILDING TRADES IN MAY.

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

RETURNS supplied by 58 Employers' Associations and 23 Trade Unions show that employment in the building trades generally was moderate in May, and was not so good as a year ago. Compared with April it showed a slight improvement. Outdoor work was frequently interrupted by wet weather.

Employment with bricklayers is reported as bad or dull, but is improving. With masons it is moderate for the time of year, but, in Scotland, shows some improvement as compared with both a month ago and May, 1901. Slaters and tilers report employment as dull, and rather worse than in the corresponding month of last year. Employment with plasterers is reported to have been bad generally, except in Scotland. With painters and decorators it has been fairly good, and shows the usual seasonal improvement. With carpenters and joiners employment has been dull generally, but fairly good in Scotland. The percentage of unemployed members among union carpenters was 2.5 at the end of May, as compared with 3.0 in April, and 2.9 in May, 1901. Plumbers report employment as bad in some districts, moderate in others. The percentage of unemployed members among plumbers was 6.0 at the end of May, as compared with 5.6 in April and 5.4 in May, 1901.

London.—The general state of employment continues quiet, but is somewhat better than in May, 1901. The improvement is stated to be attributable to the special house decoration and stand construction work incidental to the London season and to preparations for the Coronation. The returns received from employers by the Trade Correspondent show that 58 employers paid wages to 12,624 workpeople of all classes in the last week of May, as compared with 12,536 in April and 11,122 in May, 1901. Branches of Trade Unions of carpenters and joiners with 7,701 members have 201 (or 2.6 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 235 (or 3.1 per cent. of their membership) in April, and 366 (or 4.8 per cent. of their membership) in May, 1901. Branches of plumbers with 1,225 members have 124 (or 10.1 per cent. unemployed, compared with 74 (or 6.0 per cent. of their membership) in April, and 105 (or 8.7 per cent.) in May, 1901.

The demand for painters, carpenters and labourers continues, but the supply of labour is more than sufficient for all requirements. With bricklayers employment is reported as improving, with plasterers as bad, with stonemasons good. Employment has been bad with plumbers.

Northern Counties.—Employment generally in the Northern counties is good. At Newcastle it is stated to be very good owing to several large contracts, but bricklayers and plasterers generally report employment as dull, painters as brisk. In the Stockton and Middlesbrough district employment generally is fairly good. With carpenters and joiners it is better. In this district branches of carpenters and joiners with 5,994 members have 70 (or 1.2 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 107 (or 1.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April, and 142 (or 2.6 per cent.) at the end of May, 1901. Branches of plumbers with 1,511 members have 53 (or 3.5 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 46 (or 3.0 per cent. of their membership) in April, and 34 (or 2.4 per cent.) in May, 1901.

Lancashire and Cheshire.—Employment in most towns is fairly good. It is rather worse than a year ago, but shows a slight improvement as compared with April. At Lancaster and in the Burnley, Bury, Stockport and Altrincham districts employment is reported as slack. At Liverpool employment in the building trades was affected by the masons' dispute. Painters throughout the district are busy, and are working overtime in some towns. Branches of carpenters and joiners with 10,135 members have 324 (or 3.2 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 400 (or 4.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April, and 302 (or 3.1 per cent.) in May,

1901. Branches of plumbers with 2,676 members have 196 (or 7.3 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 170 (or 6.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April, and 150 (or 5.5 per cent. in May, 1901.

Yorkshire.—Employment generally in Yorkshire is moderate and in most towns is worse than a year ago, though much the same as in April. Painters are well employed. At Leeds joiners and plumbers report an improvement, and employment generally is stated to be fair and better than in April. At Huddersfield it is good and is better than a year ago. At Keighley and Dewsbury it is bad and some short time is being worked at the latter place. At Halifax employment is quiet, at Wakefield it is fairly good. At Sheffield there is a slight improvement with bricklayers, but other branches report employment as slack. Branches of carpenters and joiners with 5,077 members have 162 (or 3.2 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 189 (or 3.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April, and 198 (or 3.9 per cent.) in May, 1901. Branches of plumbers with 1,257 members have 82 (or 6.5 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 80 (or 6.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April, and 84 (or 6.4 per cent.) in May, 1901.

East Midland Counties.—Employment generally in this district is dull. At Nottingham and Derby employment generally is fairly good, except with carpenters and joiners and with masons. At Leicester it is bad, and at Northampton very quiet. Branches of carpenters and joiners with 2,939 members, have 101 (or 3.4 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 88 (or 3.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April, and 30 (or 1.0 per cent.) in May, 1901. Branches of plumbers with 668 members, have 25 (or 3.7 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 17 (or 2.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April, and 38 (or 6.0 per cent.) in May, 1901.

West Midland Counties.—Employment generally in Staffordshire, Warwickshire, and Worcestershire is quiet. Throughout the Potteries district it is reported as very quiet. At Burton-on-Trent it is very slack and joiners there are working short time. At Wolverhampton employment is moderate with bricklayers and painters, dull with other branches. At Walsall and Dudley it is fair, and better than in April; at West Bromwich very bad. At Birmingham employment is quiet, and worse than in last month; at Coventry and Redditch it is fairly good. At Leamington it is moderate; at Stratford-on-Avon very fair, and carpenters and painters are working overtime. Branches of carpenters and joiners with 4,810 members have 122 (or 2.5 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 124 (or 2.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April, and 86 (or 1.7 per cent.) in May, 1901. Branches of plumbers with 499 members have 15 (or 3.0 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 26 (or 5.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April, and 12 (or 2.9 per cent.) in May, 1901.

Eastern Counties.—Employment generally in the Eastern Counties is fair. In Norwich employment is stated to be slack; at Ipswich and Felixstowe it is moderate, and better than in April. Employment with bricklayers is dull at Norwich and Chelmsford; with carpenters and joiners it is dull at Yarmouth and at Cambridge. Branches of carpenters, with 1,192 members, have 10 (or 0.8 per cent. unemployed, compared with 14 (or 1.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April, and 9 (or 0.8 per cent.) in May, 1901. Branches of plumbers with 138 members have 3 (or 2.2 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 9 (or 6.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Southern and South Western Counties.—Employment in the Chatham and Rochester districts is stated to be good, and better than a year ago. At Maidstone it is very slack. At Portsmouth painters are very busy, but employment generally is quiet.

In the Bristol district employment is better than a month ago. Employment generally is good at Bristol, fair at Cheltenham, quiet at Bridgwater, poor at Stroud, and bad at Taunton.

In Plymouth and Exeter employment is quiet; at Bideford, Barnstaple and Dartmouth it is good. Reports

## EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—BUILDING TRADES; COAL MINING.

from these and other towns in the surrounding district show that employment has been fair with masons and carpenters and joiners, dull with bricklayers. Plasterers and plumbers report an improvement, and painters and decorators continue well employed.

Branches of carpenters and joiners with 5,705 members have 78 (or 1.4 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 99 (or 1.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April, and 95 (or 1.7 per cent. in May, 1901. Branches of plumbers with 529 members have 28 (or 5.3 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 28 (or 5.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April and 27 (or 4.8 per cent.) in May, 1901.

Wales.—Employment generally in North Wales is fair, but plasterers are slack. In South Wales and Monmouth employment is reported as moderate in the inland districts, but at Swansea, Cardiff, Barry and Newport it is bad. Masons and painters, however, report employment as good. Branches of carpenters and joiners with 1,665 members have 45 (or 2.7 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 47 (or 2.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April, and 106 (or 6.5 per cent. in May, 1901. Branches of plumbers with 287 members have 21 (or 7.3 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 21 (or 7.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April, and 30 (or 9.8 per cent.) in May, 1901.

Scotland.—Employment generally is fairly good. Painters are busy. In Edinburgh and district masons, bricklayers, and carpenters and joiners report employment as good, plumbers as fair, plasterers as quiet. In Glasgow and the West of Scotland employment is reported as fair with carpenters and joiners, slaters and bricklayers; dull with plasterers; good with masons; bad with one society of plumbers, fair with another. At Dundee carpenters and joiners report employment as quiet, masons as improving. At Aberdeen it is fair with carpenters and joiners, moderate with plumbers, bad with plasterers. With masons it is good, and better than a year ago, large numbers of men having gone to America and South Africa during the spring.

Branches of carpenters and joiners with 4,830 members have 37 (or 0.8 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 27 (or 0.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April, and 133 (or 2.9 per cent.) in May, 1901. Branches of plumbers with 1,715 members have 70 (or 4.1 per cent. unemployed, as compared with 82 (or 4.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April, and 82 (or 4.9 per cent.) in May, 1901.

Ireland.—Employment in most branches of the building trade in Ireland is dull. With bricklayers it is reported as bad, with painters and masons as fair, with plumbers as moderate. Branches of carpenters and joiners with 4,913 members have 239 (or 4.9 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 307 (or 6.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April, and 91 (or 1.9 per cent.) in May, 1901. Branches of plumbers with 623 members have 51 (or 8.2 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 70 (or 11.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April, and 38 (or 6.2 per cent.) in May, 1901.

## (b) COAL MINING IN MAY.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry remained practically the same as in April and (making allowance for holidays) as a year ago. The number of workpeople employed was greater than a year ago.

The average number of days worked per week in the four weeks ended May 24th was 4.89, as compared with 4.90 in the four weeks ended April 19th, and 5.23 in May, 1901. The figures for May, 1902, include the Whitsuntide holidays, the time lost averaging 0.44 days per week, compared with 0.63 days per week lost in the April period through Easter holidays.

The following Table, relating to 1,368 pits, at which 489,636 workpeople were employed, gives the figures

for May, 1902, in comparison with those for a month and a year ago:—

District.	No. employed in May, 1902, at the Collieries included in the Table.	SUMMARY.		
		Average number of days worked per week by the pits in four weeks ended		
		24th May, 1902.*	25th May, 1901.*	19th April, 1902.*
England and Wales ... ..	447,534	4.84	5.22	4.87
Scotland ... ..	41,475	5.37	5.33	5.22
Ireland ... ..	627	4.62	5.13	4.73
<b>United Kingdom ... ..</b>	<b>489,636</b>	<b>4.89</b>	<b>5.23</b>	<b>4.90</b>

The number of workpeople employed at the pits from which returns have been received for both periods was 0.9 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 58.9 per cent. were employed at pits working 5 or more days per week in the four weeks ended May 24th, as compared with 59.1 per cent. in the four weeks ended April 19th.

## 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.	May, 1902.*		Corresponding percentages in	
	No. of Workpeople employed.	Percentage proportion to total.	May, 1901.*	April, 1902.*
24 days (full time) ... ..	13,919	2.8	16.2	0.9
20 and under 24 days ... ..	274,930	56.2	58.2	58.2
16 " " 20 " " ... ..	140,907	28.8	17.5	33.4
12 " " 16 " " ... ..	51,232	10.5	5.0	5.9
8 " " 12 " " ... ..	6,269	1.3	0.9	1.2
Under 8 days ... ..	2,379	0.5	1.2	0.4
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>489,636</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The next Table, which gives detailed particulars for the different mining districts, shows that the average number of days worked per week was greater in seven districts than a month ago, the increase being greatest in the Lothians and Fife (both unaffected by general holidays in any of the three periods). In Cumberland there was no change; in eight districts there was a decline, which was most marked in Derbyshire.

The highest averages during the month were worked in Fife (5.60 days per week), the Lothians (5.48 days), South Wales and Monmouth (5.29 days), Durham (5.24 days), Northumberland (5.19 days), West Scotland (5.17 days), and North Wales (5.13 days). The lowest averages were worked in the Nottingham and Leicester district (4.08 days), and in Derbyshire (4.34 days).

## COMPARISON OF THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED BY COLLIERIES IN MAY, 1902 AND 1901, AND IN APRIL, 1902.

District.	No. employed in May, 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 May, 1902, as compared with	
		24th May, 1902.*	25th May, 1901.*	19th April, 1902.*	A year ago.	A m'th ago.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.</b>						
Northumberland ... ..	38,574	5.19	5.39	5.04	- .20	+ .15
Durham ... ..	93,869	5.24	5.45	5.15	- .21	+ .09
Cumberland ... ..	7,077	4.86	5.29	4.86	- .43	...
Yorkshire ... ..	71,025	4.60	5.33	4.68	- .73	- .08
Lancashire and Cheshire... ..	50,010	4.60	5.06	4.75	- .46	- .15
Derbyshire ... ..	38,735	4.34	5.14	4.68	- .80	- .34
Nottingham and Leicester	26,371	4.08	4.44	4.24	- .36	- .16
Staffordshire ... ..	29,363	4.55	4.83	4.74	- .28	- .19
Salop, Worcester and Warwick ... ..	9,713	4.60	5.12	4.66	- .52	- .06
Gloucester and Somerset...	8,854	4.77	4.94	4.92	- .17	- .15
North Wales... ..	12,382	5.13	5.34	4.99	- .21	+ .14
South Wales and Mon. ... ..	61,551	5.29	5.36	5.12	- .07	+ .17
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
West Scotland ... ..	21,640	5.17	5.25	5.15	- .08	+ .02
The Lothians ... ..	4,165	5.48	5.51	5.28	- .03	+ .20
Fife ... ..	15,672	5.60	5.41	5.30	+ .19	+ .30
<b>IRELAND.</b> ... ..	<b>627</b>	<b>4.62</b>	<b>5.13</b>	<b>4.73</b>	<b>- .51</b>	<b>- .11</b>
<b>Grand Total &amp; Averages</b>	<b>489,636</b>	<b>4.89</b>	<b>5.23</b>	<b>4.90</b>	<b>- .34</b>	<b>- .01</b>

\* General Holidays are included in the four weeks ended 24th May, 1902, and 19th April, 1902, viz., Whitsun and Easter respectively. In the four weeks ended 25th May, 1901, there were no general holidays.

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

The Exports of coal, coke, cinders, and patent fuel during May amounted to 3,865,311 tons, as compared with 3,661,691 tons in April, and 4,282,939 tons in May, 1901.

(c) IRON MINING IN MAY.

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

In the 125 mines and open works covered by the returns, the average number of days worked in the four weeks ended May 24th was 5.72, as against 5.67 days in the four weeks ended April 19th, and 5.65 days a year ago. It is to be noted, when considering these averages, that those for April and May, 1902, are affected by the Easter and Whitsuntide holidays respectively.

The number of workpeople employed at the mines covered by the returns was 15,384 (or 145 less than were employed at the same mines a year ago), and of these 85.2 per cent. were employed at mines working 22 or more days during the four weeks ended May 24th, as compared with 79.8 per cent. a year ago.

The following Table summarises the returns received:—

District.	No. employed in May, 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 May, 1902, as compared with	
		24th May, 1902.*	25th May, 1901.	19th April, 1902.†	A year ago.	A month ago.
ENGLAND—		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	4,871	5.75	5.73	5.75	+ .02	...
Cleveland ...	6,449	5.77	5.66	5.70	+ .11	+ .07
Lincolnshire and Leicestershire ...	798	5.69	4.95	5.77	+ .74	- .08
Northamptonshire and Staffordshire and Shropshire ...	590	5.75	5.77	5.59	- .02	+ .16
Other places in England ...	1,225	5.08	5.63	5.05	- .55	+ .03
Scotland ...	100	5.44	5.86	5.23	- .42	+ .21
IRELAND ...	1,275	5.95	5.59	5.86	+ .36	+ .09
Total and Averages	76	6.00	5.91	5.92	+ .09	+ .08
Total and Averages	18,384	5.72	5.68	5.67	+ .07	+ .08

(d) PIG-IRON INDUSTRY IN MAY.

EMPLOYMENT shows a slight improvement as compared with April, and is considerably better than a year ago.

At the works of 115 ironmasters covered by the returns received, there were 321 furnaces in blast at the end of May, as compared with 319 at the end of April, and 303 at the end of May, 1901. During the month six furnaces were re-lit in England and Wales, and three were blown out. In Scotland one furnace was re-lit and two were blown out.

The estimated number of workpeople employed at the 321 furnaces in blast was 22,200.

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.		
	May, 1902.	May, 1901.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in May, 1902.	May, 1902.	April, 1902.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in May, 1902.
ENGLAND & WALES—						
Cleveland ...	78	81	- 3	78	77	+ 1
Cumberland & Lancs.	41	40	+ 1	41	40	+ 1
S. and S.W. Yorks...	16	15	+ 1	16	15	+ 1
Derby & Nottingham	37	31	+ 6	37	37	...
Leicester, Lincoln and Northampton	26	20	+ 6	26	26	...
Stafford & Worcester	33	30	+ 3	33	33	...
S. Wales & Monmouth	13	15	- 2	13	14	- 1
Other districts ...	7	6	+ 1	7	6	+ 1
Total England and Wales...	251	238	+ 13	251	248	+ 3
SCOTLAND ...	70	65	+ 5	70	71	- 1
Total furnaces included in returns ...	321	303	+ 18	321	319	+ 2

\* Whitsuntide holidays are included in this period.  
† Easter holidays are included in this period.

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

THE returns received relating to this industry show a very slight increase in the number of workpeople employed as compared with a month and a year ago, but a decrease in the average number of shifts worked per man in the last week of the month in both cases.

At 202 works covered by the returns, 76,948 workpeople were employed in the week ended May 31st, compared with 76,722 in the week ended April 26th, and 76,838 a year ago.

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

District.	Numbers employed in week ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in May, 1902, as compared with	
	May 31st, 1902.	May 25th, 1901.	Apr. 26th, 1902.	A year ago.	A month ago.
England and Wales ...	64,438	64,810	64,163	- 372	+ 275
Scotland ...	12,510	12,028	12,559	+ 482	- 49
Total ...	76,948	76,838	76,722	+ 110	+ 226

Information as to the number of shifts worked has been received with respect to works employing 88 per cent. of these workpeople, and the particulars are summarised in the Table below:—

Number of Shifts worked.	Number employed in May, 1902, so far as returned.	Percentage proportion to Total.	Corresponding percentage in	
			May, 1901.	April, 1902.
Under 5 per week ...	8,828	13.0	9.2	7.6
5 per week ...	24,354	35.9	36.4	35.1
5 1/2 per week ...	562	0.8	1.0	1.5
6 per week ...	33,576	49.5	52.0	55.0
Over 6 per week ...	517	0.8	1.4	0.8
Total ...	67,837	100.0	100.0	100.0

The average number of shifts worked per man was 5.32 in the week ended May 31st, as compared with 5.47 in the week ended April 26th, and 5.42 in the week ended May 25th, 1901.

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 409,240 in the week ended May 31st, 419,956 in the week ended April 26th, and 416,428 in the week ended May 25th, 1901. Thus the volume of employment at the works included in the returns was 2.6 per cent. less than a month ago, and 1.7 per cent. less than a year ago.

As compared with a year ago the returns received show an improvement in the volume of employment in Northumberland and Durham, and in Scotland; in the other districts there was a decline, which was, however, very slight in Yorkshire and the Midlands. As compared with a month ago there was an improvement in the volume of employment in Northumberland and Durham, Yorkshire and the Midlands; in the other districts there was a decline.

(f) EMPLOYMENT AT TINPLATE WORKS\* IN MAY.

EMPLOYMENT continues good and shows a slight improvement as compared with the previous month. As compared with a year ago it shows a great improvement.

At the end of May 51 works with 253 mills had all their mills in operation, whilst 30 others had 156 mills at work out of a total of 209. Thus in all 409 mills were working, as compared with 405 at the end of April, and 347 a year ago. The number of workpeople employed at all the mills in operation at the end of April is estimated to be about 20,400.

Of the total number of mills at work, 396, employing

\* Including iron puddling and rolling, and steel making and rolling.  
† The figures relate not only to the manufacture of tinplates, but also to the manufacture of blackplates.

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—TINPLATE WORKS; AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

about 19,800 workpeople, were in the South Wales, Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire districts, compared with 393 at the end of April, and 334 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	253	...	253
Works giving partial employment ...	30	156	53	209
Total at end of May, 1902* ...	81	409	53	462
Corresponding Total for April, 1902* ...	81	405	55	460
Corresponding Total for May, 1901*†	68	347	44	391

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

	Tinplates.			Blackplates.		
	May, 1902.	April, 1902.	May, 1901.	May, 1902.	April, 1902.	May, 1901.
To United States ...	Tons. 6,540	Tons. 5,896	Tons. 4,886	Tons. 37	Tons. 37	Tons. 37
Other Countries ...	20,056	20,423	14,250	3,550	5,066	4,547
Total ...	26,596	26,319	19,136	3,587	5,103	4,584

(g) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN MAY.†

FARM labourers were, generally speaking, in regular employment during May. In several districts, however, some casual labourers were not in constant work, particularly in the early part of the month, owing chiefly to the growth of crops being retarded by cold weather, with consequent delay of hoeing and weeding. Towards the end of the month the weather was more favourable to the growth of corn crops and roots, and the demand for extra men increased somewhat.

**Northern Counties.**—Reports from Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland and Westmorland state that farm labourers have been, with few exceptions, in full employment during May. In Lancashire employment has been regular. The supply of labour has been equal to the demand in most of the districts reported on. In Yorkshire the demand for extra men was small during the greater part of the month, and some casual men were not in constant employment, but towards the end of May hoeing and weeding began to afford a good deal of work. A report from the Darlington Union (Yorks., N.R., and Durham) states that "there are more men to be had now than twelve months ago."

**Midland Counties.**—Agricultural employment has been regular in Derbyshire and Cheshire. The supply of extra men has been sufficient in most districts, but skilled farm labourers are stated to be increasingly scarce. In Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire, some casual labourers have been in irregular work, owing partly to the backward state of crops. Milkers, waggons, and shepherds are difficult to obtain, and a report from the Southwell Union (Notts) states that at the May hirings "Boys and young men were difficult to deal with, high wages being asked." Employment has been generally regular with farm labourers in Staffordshire. Field work is said to be well forward in most of the districts reported on and the supply of casual labourers is equal to the demand. In the Leek Union, however, new railway construction works have absorbed a good deal of labour

\* 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.  
† Amended figures.  
‡ Based on 231 returns from correspondents in various parts of England.

that would otherwise have been available for farmers. Regularity of employment is reported in Shropshire. There has been no great demand for extra men. A correspondent in the Wellington Union states that labour is not so scarce as it has been during the past two seasons.

In Worcestershire and Warwickshire some casual men have lost a little time, but the regular farm hands have been fully employed, and skilled men to attend to stock continue to be scarce. Farm labourers in Oxfordshire have been, for the most part, in regular employment, particularly towards the end of the month when there was a good deal of hoeing to be done. Regularity of employment is reported in Northamptonshire, and the supply of labour has been quite equal to the demand in most of the districts reported on. In Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire some casual labourers have been in irregular employment, partly caused by the backward state of the crops which required but little hoeing until about the end of the month.

**Eastern Counties.**—Farm labourers in Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire have been in regular employment, with the exception of a few casual men in certain districts. The weather was dry and cold in the early part of the month, retarding the growth of crops and of weeds, so that there was not much hoeing. In the last week, however, growth was more rapid, and labour was in greater demand. The supply of agricultural labour in Lincolnshire has been, generally speaking, equal to the demand, and there has been a surplus of casual men, some of whom have not been in full employment. The weather was unfavourable to the growth of crops during the greater part of the month and, in consequence, hoeing and weeding were delayed. In Norfolk and Suffolk cold weather during May kept crops backward, and caused loss of work to some casual men, as there was but little hoeing and weeding to be done. Their employment was also interrupted in many cases by rainy days. A correspondent in the Docking Union (Norfolk) writes as follows: "There are more casuals looking for work in this Union than has been the case for several years." Farm labourers in Essex have been, on the whole, in regular employment during the month. The supply of extra men has been in excess of the demand, but skilled men for permanent situations on farms are somewhat difficult to obtain.

**Southern and South Western Counties.**—Farm labourers in Kent have been in regular employment, with the exception of a few casual men in certain districts. The demand for this class of labour has been small, and has been more than equalled by the supply. Regularity of employment is reported in Surrey and Sussex. A few casual labourers, however, have not been in full work, owing chiefly to the small demand for extra labour. With reference to skilled labour, a correspondent in the Newhaven Union states that: "There are more men for permanent situations than twelve months back in this parish. A carter who had gone to be a builder's man two years since has come back to a farm, and I have heard of others doing the same." Employment has been regular with agricultural labourers in Hampshire. There has been no scarcity of unskilled labour in May, as much of the root crop was not ready for hoeing, and other work was well forward. Skilled men for permanent situations on farms are, however, scarce in several districts. In Berkshire the regular farm labourers have been fully employed, but a few casual men have not been in full work. Regularity of employment is reported in Wiltshire. The weather has been favourable, and progress has been made in the weeding of corn and hoeing of mangolds. Farm labourers in Dorsetshire have been well employed during the month. A report from the Sturminster Union states that there have been more casual labourers seeking work than a year or two ago.

Agricultural labourers in Somersetshire have been in regular employment. Cold weather retarded the growth of vegetation in the early part of the month, but in the

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY—AGRICULTURAL; WOMEN IN TEXTILE TRADES; SEAMEN; DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR.

last week growth was rapid, and hoeing and weeding became more general. There appears to be a better supply of farm labour in this county than has been the case for several months. Regularity of employment is reported in Herefordshire. With reference to the supply of labour a report from the Bromyard Union states that farmers are not expending so much labour on hop culture as during last year, and therefore many workmen formerly employed on this work all the year round have become available for other farm work. In Gloucestershire some casual men have been in irregular employment, and the supply of this class of labour has been in excess of the demand in several districts. Carters, cowmen, and shepherds, however, continue to be in demand. Farm labourers in Devonshire and Cornwall have been, for the most part, in full employment. The demand for extra hands was small during the first two or three weeks of May, as the crops were not generally ready for hoeing. Towards the end of the month, however, there was more hoeing to be done, and there was some increase in the demand for labour.

(h) EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN THE TEXTILE TRADES IN MAY.

ACCORDING to returns from women correspondents, employment for women in May showed a slight improvement in both branches of the cotton trade and a further improvement in the woollen and worsted trades. Information has been received with regard to 624 cotton, woollen and worsted mills, employing about 107,300 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 Month for repairs, bad trade, disputes, or other causes.
	With Full Employment.	With Partial Employment.		
<b>Cotton Trade—Spinning—</b>				
May, 1902	83	7	9	1
April, 1902	80	7	10	3
May, 1901	75	20	4	1
<b>Cotton Trade—Weaving—</b>				
May, 1902	86	9	2	3
April, 1902	84	12	3	1
May, 1901	64	25	10	3
<b>Woollen and Worsted Trades—</b>				
May, 1902	97	2	1	—
April, 1902	93	5	2	—
May, 1901	87	8	5	—
<b>Total of above Trades—</b>				
May, 1902	87	7	4	2
April, 1902	85	9	4	2
May, 1901	70	21	8	1

**Cotton Trade.—Spinning.**—The number of women and girls usually employed in the cotton spinning mills reported on is 29,130; of these, 83 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 80 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in April, and with 75 per cent. in May, 1901.

**Cotton Trade.—Weaving.**—The number of women and girls usually employed in the cotton weaving factories reported on is 59,800; of these, 86 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 84 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in April, and with 62 per cent. in May, 1901.

**Woollen and Worsted Trades.**—The number of women and girls usually employed in the woollen and worsted mills reported on is 18,370; of these, 97 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 93 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in April, and with 87 per cent. in May, 1901.

\* Excluding the annual holidays.

(i) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN MAY.

(Data supplied by the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.) THE number of seamen shipped during May 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 36,769, or 329 less than during May, 1901. The supply of seamen at these ports is generally stated to be equal to or in excess of the demand.

During the five completed months of 1902, 164,161\* men have been shipped, as compared with 168,921\* in the corresponding period of 1901. Most of the ports show decreases in the numbers shipped, the falling off being greatest in the case of London.

Of the total number of seamen shipped during the five months, 26,517 (or 16.2 per cent.) were foreigners, the percentage for the corresponding period of 1901 being 15.7. 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 May, 1902 and 1901, respectively, together with the number\* shipped in the five months ended May in each of these years:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Men, &c., shipped in May, 1902.*			Total in May, 1901.*	Total number shipped in five months ended May.*	
	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in May, 1902.		1902.	1901.
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>						
<b>East Coast.</b>						
Tyne Ports	115	3,493	3,608	3,277	13,571	14,037
Sunderland	...	428	428	661	1,882	2,220
Middlesbrough	...	228	228	287	989	830
Hull	...	1,066	1,066	1,208	4,811	4,750
Grimsby	...	137	137	194	287	350
<b>Bristol Channel.</b>						
Bristol	...	626	626	480	2,488	2,320
Newport, Mon.	...	813	813	673	3,639	3,725
Cardiff	...	4,208	4,208	4,581	22,648	21,457
Swansea	...	454	454	557	2,116	2,305
<b>Other Ports.</b>						
Liverpool	...	175	12,276	12,451	11,895	55,688
London	...	305	6,173	6,477	6,566	29,523
Southampton	...	44	2,306	2,347	3,074	11,952
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
Leith, Kirkcaldy, Methil, & Grange-						
Glasgow	...	23	722	745	606	2,506
	...	75	2,488	2,563	2,775	11,034
<b>IRELAND.</b>						
Dublin	...	...	95	95	121	505
Belfast	...	...	172	177	878	1,535
<b>Total, May, 1902</b>	<b>1,085</b>	<b>35,684</b>	<b>36,769</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>164,161</b>	<b>...</b>
<b>Ditto, May, 1901</b>	<b>1,807</b>	<b>35,291</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>37,098</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>168,921</b>

(j) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR

EMPLOYMENT at the docks and wharves during May showed an improvement, but was much worse than a year ago. The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves during the five weeks ended May 31st was 14,618, as compared with 13,937 in the preceding four weeks, and 15,981 in the corresponding period of 1901.

(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.			Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.	
Week ended May 3	6,825	2,691	9,516	5,424
" " " 10	6,757	2,375	9,131	5,508
" " " 17	7,072	2,482	9,554	5,266
" " " 24	6,630	2,226	8,756	5,242
" " " 31	7,945	2,281	9,329	5,260
<b>Average for 5 weeks ended May 31st, 1902</b>	<b>6,868</b>	<b>2,404</b>	<b>9,272</b>	<b>5,346</b>
<b>Average for Apr., 1902</b>	<b>6,009</b>	<b>2,224</b>	<b>8,233</b>	<b>5,704</b>
<b>Average for May, 1901</b>	<b>7,471</b>	<b>2,689</b>	<b>10,100</b>	<b>5,881</b>

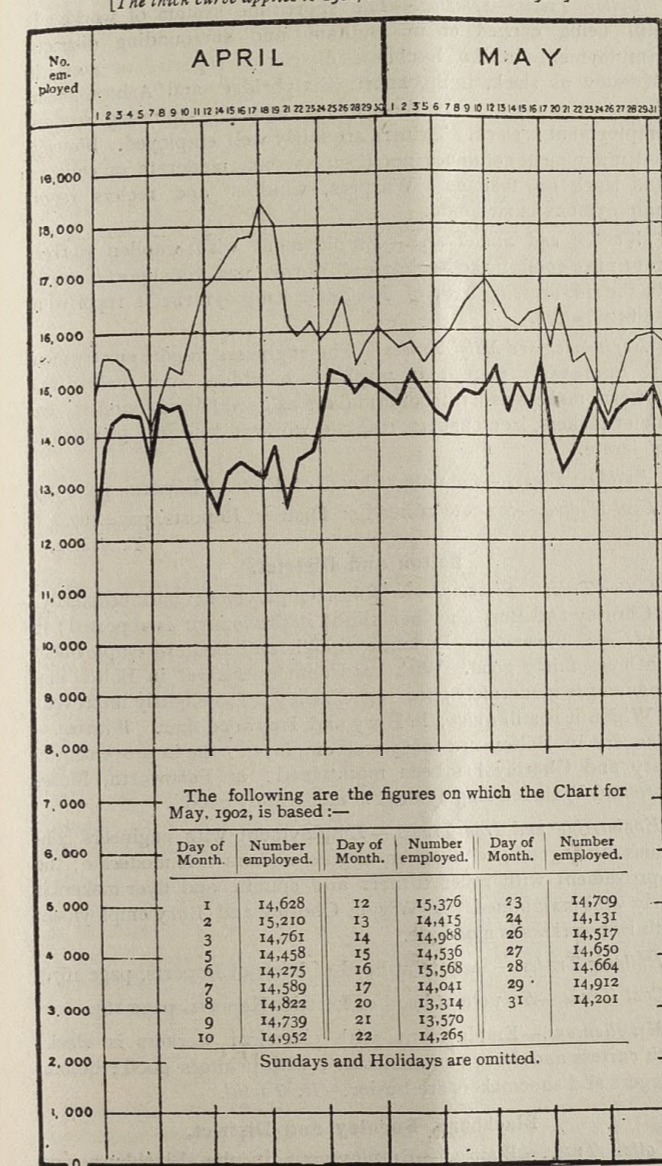
\* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, not of separate individuals.  
† Including Avonmouth and Portishead. ‡ Including Barry and Penarth.

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY.—DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR; LONDON; NORTHERN COUNTIES.

(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 May ranged from 15,568 on the 16th to 13,314 on the 20th.

During May, 1901, the total number of dock and wharf labourers employed varied from 16,989 on the 11th to 14,415 on the 25th.

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 April and May, 1902. The corresponding curve for April and May, 1901, is also given for comparison.



Employment in mid-stream was moderate during May; with corn porters it was dull; with stevedores, lumpers, coal porters, winchmen, deal porters, and lightermen moderate. Employment with fruit porters in Thames-street has been moderate, the average daily number employed being 287, compared with 326 in April, and 362 a year ago.

DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

NOTE.—Employment in the principal districts of the United Kingdom of 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. 162-7, and is not included in the District Reports which follow.

**LONDON.**  
**General.**—Returns from 455 branches of 130 unions, having an aggregate membership of 76,256, show that 3,023 (or 4.0 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of May, the same percentage as in April last, and also in May, 1901.

Employment in the **Engineering, Metal and Shipbuilding Trades** has continued to fall off slightly. Returns from 165 branches of 29 unions, with a membership of 22,552, show that 1,047 (or 4.6 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.4 per cent. in April.

The percentage for May, 1901, was 2.5. Employment with sail-makers remains fair on the whole.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports on this page. Employment in the **Furnishing** trades remains good. Returns from 35 branches of 17 unions, with a membership of 6,195, show that 91 (or 1.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.4 per cent. in April and 2.8 per cent. in May, 1901.

In the **Woodworking** trades employment has continued to improve. Returns from 9 branches of 5 unions, with a membership of 1,056, show that 26 (or 2.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.6 per cent. in April and 5.1 per cent. in May of last year.

With **Coopers** employment has still further improved. Returns from 4 unions, with a membership of 1,074, show that 35 (or 3.3 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.7 per cent. in April and 2.9 per cent. in May, 1901.

**Coachbuilders** and **Wheelwrights** still remain well employed. Returns from 12 branches of 7 unions, with a membership of 1,550, show that 30 (or 1.9 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.6 per cent. in April and 0.7 per cent. in May of last year.

Employment in the **Printing and Bookbinding** trades continues fairly good and shows no change. Returns from 25 unions, with a membership of 23,867, show that 868 (or 3.6 per cent.) were unemployed, the same percentage as in April. The percentage for May, 1901, was 5.5.

Employment in the **Clothing** trades is fairly good. The West End bespoke tailors describe it as moderate, but not as good as last month or a year ago; the East End clothiers' cutters as good in the contract, stock and bespoke departments, and better than a month and a year ago, overtime being worked; with the East End military and uniform tailors and tailoresses employment is fair and better both than a month and a year ago; with ladies' tailors and mantle makers employment remains about the same as last month; with hatters employment remains bad, though rather better than last month and a year ago, short time being worked; with cap-makers employment remains fair, but not so good either as last month or a year ago; with fur skin dressers employment is not so good.

**Boot and Shoe Trades.**—Employment with the West End boot and shoe makers remains good, and is about the same as a year ago; with the East End sew-round shoemakers it continues bad for time of year, and is worse than a year ago; with boot and shoe clickers it is still moderate, and about the same as a month and a year ago; with boot and shoe operatives it is also moderate.

Employment in the **Leather** trades shows little change. Returns from 10 branches of 10 unions, with a membership of 1,643, show that 41 (or 2.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.6 per cent. in April and 1.9 per cent. in May, 1901.

In the **Glass** trades, returns from 7 branches of 6 unions, with a membership of 1,025, show that 118 (or 11.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 7.6 per cent. in April and 6.9 per cent. in May of last year.

**Hair, Fibre and Cane Workers.**—In these trades returns from 5 branches of 5 unions, with a membership of 955, show that 4 (or 0.4 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.0 per cent. in April and 0.7 per cent. in May, 1901.

**Goldsmiths and Jewellers** report employment as slack and worse than a month and a year ago, short time being still worked; **Silver** workers as still fair and rather better than last month on the whole; **Electro-plate** workers as moderate; **Diamond** workers remain fairly well employed and better than a year ago.

Employment in the **Tobacco** trades still remains bad. Returns from 4 unions, with a membership of 2,174, show that 272 (or 12.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 12.1 per cent. in April. The percentage for May, 1901, was 5.8.

**Dock and Riverside Labour.**—See note at head of District Reports on this page.

ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES.

Tyne and Wear.

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—Bar mills in the Consett district have worked 4 days per week, and steel plate mills full time excluding holidays. Cogging and sheet mills at Jarrow have averaged 4 and 5 shifts per week; and at Newburn nearly full time has been worked. Steel smelters are still fairly employed. Furnacemen have had rather more slack time; forge and hammermen on both rivers have been generally well employed. With chain and anchor workers employment has been fair; at the finished steel and iron works moderate.

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



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

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—On the Tyne.—Shipsmiths are slack. The demand for turners and machinemen has not been quite so good. Outside fitters in the middle and upper reaches of the river remain fairly active. In some departments in the ordnance works employment has declined; in the boiler shops it has improved; with riveters and caulkers it is slightly worse, although still good. Branches with 13,131 members have 652 (or 5.0 per cent.) unemployed, as against 572 (or 4.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. On the Wear.—Employment at marine engine shops remains good; with shipsmiths it is quiet. Stern frame makers are fairly busy. Employment at boiler shops is rather better, with riveters not so good. Branches with 5,435 members have 259 (or 4.8 per cent.) unemployed, as against 184 (or 3.4 per cent. of their membership) in April. Sailmakers report slackness on the north side of the Tyne, improvement elsewhere. With the iron and steel moulders employment is bad in the Newcastle district; good in the middle reaches of the river, and moderate lower down and on the Wear. With drillers and hole cutters it is still bad on old work; on new it is moderate. With pattern makers it is fairly good; with brass finishers fair; with whitesmiths and heating engineers good. It has improved with farriers; with engine and firemen it continues fair.

**Lead Mining.**—Lead ore miners have worked five days per week.

**Quarrying.**—Limestone quarries at Stanhope, Westgate and Upper Wardale have averaged six days per week; at Ferryhill, Coxhoe and Haswell, five days. In the Gateshead district employment at the quarries continues good; at Blyth rather less time has been worked.

**Shipping and Dock Labour.**—Coal porters and shippers report little improvement. Employment with trimmers and teamers is fairly good; with Tyne watermen quiet; with tug-boat men on the Wear it has improved, and boats on dredging operations are now working double shifts. Pit prop carriers, lumpers and riggers and deal porters have been only moderately employed. Employment has been good with riverside labourers. Sailors and firemen have been in better demand.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Two or three paper mills are still working single shifts; others have worked full time. Employment has been fair with bookbinders; good with letterpress printers.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Employment with cabinet makers and upholsterers remains quiet; with lathrenders it is dull; with coopers fair; with mill-sawyers it has declined.

**Chemical and Glass Trades.**—Bottle makers at Seaham Harbour are working half time. On the Wear dark bottle workers continue slack. Employment with pressed glass makers continues bad; with flint glass makers moderate. Chemical workers in the bleaching departments have scarcely had full employment. Lead and cement workers have been fairly employed. With copper ore smelters employment is good; at coke yards dull, with a large number of men idle.

**Fishing.**—The weather has been unfavourable for the herring boats, and supplies were below the average. Trawl boats have landed fair catches, and good prices have been obtained.—J. Ratcliffe.

## Middlesbrough, Stockton and District.

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

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment with the engineers is fair at Middlesbrough; moderate at Bishop Auckland, Darlington and Stockton, bad at Hartlepool; with ironfounders it is moderate at Middlesbrough, bad elsewhere; with pattern-makers good at Darlington, fair at Middlesbrough and Stockton, moderate at Hartlepool; with boiler-makers good at Darlington, Middlesbrough and Stockton, declining at Hartlepool; with enginemen and crane-men fair; with smiths and strikers moderate. Branches of these trades with 4,418 members have 269 (or 6.1 per cent.) unemployed, as against 282 (or 6.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Shipbuilding.**—Employment is reported as moderate at Stockton; slack at Middlesbrough and Hartlepool. Shipwrights report employment as moderate at Stockton, slack at Hartlepool and Middlesbrough; ship joiners as fair at Stockton and Hartlepool moderate at Middlesbrough, slack at Whitby.

**Ironstone Mining.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Shipping and Dock Labour.**—Sailors and firemen report employment as quiet at Middlesbrough and Hartlepool; dockers as slack; riverside labourers as fairly good.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment with cement, concrete, brick and pulp workers, mill-sawyers and woodcutting machinists and cabinet makers is fair; with wagon builders it is good.—A. Main.

## LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS.

## Oldham and District.

**Cotton Trade.**—Spinning.—The short-time system of working is still being carried on in Oldham and surrounding districts. Employment in the Rochdale district is reported as good, in Mossley as slack, in Stockport, Stalybridge and Ashton-under-Lyne as moderate. In the carding and ring-spinning sections employment is slack. Twiners are fairly well employed. Weaving.—Employment continues good on velvets, moderate on calicoes, and slack on fustians. Warp-ers, winders and reelers report employment as moderate.

**Woollen and Silk Trades.**—Employment with woollen workers continues good in the Rochdale, Milnrow and Stockport districts. In the silk-dressing trade of Rochdale employment is reported as slightly better.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—The engineers report employment as improved; plate and machine moulders, tool makers and pattern makers as fair; boiler-makers as good; brassfounders, gas meter makers, ironfounders, tinplate workers and iron grinders as moderate.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Coal Mining.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

T. Ashton.

## Bolton and District.

**Cotton Trade.**—Spinning.—In Bolton employment continues steady; at Chorley and Bury a further slight improvement is reported; in Heywood, Farnworth, Radcliffe, Leigh and Bedford employment continues fairly good. With cardroom operatives in Bolton employment is moderately good; in Chorley it has slightly improved; in Wigan it is still quiet; in Bury and Heywood fair. Weaving.—Weavers in Bolton are fairly well employed; the improvement in Bury and Chorley has been maintained; at Farnworth, Moses Gate and Walkden employment is moderately good.

**Engineering and Iron Trades.**—Employment with engineers continues fairly good; with steam engine makers it is moderate; the improvement with roller turners and spindle and flyer makers is fairly well maintained. In Wigan, Chorley and Bury employment with ironworkers is moderate.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Coal Trade.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment with electrical workers is slack; with carters and lorry-men moderate; with printers good; tailors, cloggers and shoemakers are busier.—R. Toottill.

## Blackburn, Burnley and District.

**Cotton Trade.**—Weaving.—Employment in the Blackburn and Burnley districts is fairly good, in Nelson and Colne it is only fair, in Preston bad, in Darwen it continues good. Employment in the coloured goods weaving branch is worse, with more looms stopped for want of warps; twisters and drawers, winders, warp-ers, and tape sizers, remain fairly well employed. Warp dressers are not busy in the Colne, Nelson, and Burnley districts. Spinning.—Employment in Blackburn and Darwen is moderate; in Accrington good; in Burnley bad. Ring spinners report it as good. Card room workers are fully employed. Branches of spinners, twisters and drawers, and warp dressers, with 3,424 members have 71 (or 2.1 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 83 (or 2.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Engineers and Metal Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is fair with cabinet makers; moderate with letterpress printers and brickmakers; quiet with woollen block printers. Tailors are busy. Quarrymen are well employed. W. H. Wilkinson.

## Manchester and District.

**General.**—Branches of societies with 25,152 members, have 1,487 (or 5.9 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 1,418 (or 5.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

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

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment with engineers, boiler-makers, sheet metal workers, brassworkers and smiths and strikers is moderate; with ironfounders, wire drawers and wire weavers slack; with machine workers improving; with brassfounders and finishers quiet.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports page 167.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Coachmakers, wheelwrights, and French polishers report employment as moderate; cabinet makers and furnishing trades as quiet; coopers as dull.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment in both branches of the tailoring trades continues plentiful. Shirt and jacket cutters are busy; shirt-makers, bootmakers, cloth cap makers and umbrella makers describe employment as moderate. Felt hatters and trimmers are slack.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers report employment as bad in Manchester and fair in Macclesfield and Stockport; stereotypers and pattern card makers as fair; bookbinders as quiet, lithographic artists as moderate, lithographic printers as bad.

**Textile Trades.**—Spinners, weavers and overlookers report employment as moderate in Manchester, as good in Macclesfield; bleachers and dyers as slack in Manchester, moderate in Macclesfield. An improvement is reported in the silk trade.—G. D. Kelley.

## Liverpool and District.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades.**—Pattern makers report employment as improved; shipwrights, ship joiners and painters as fair; boiler-makers and iron ship builders, brass and iron founders, copper smiths, fitters, turners, hammermen and iron and steel dressers as dull.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Coachmakers report employment as good; cabinet makers and French polishers as quiet; upholsterers as fair but unsteady; mill-sawyers and coopers as dull.

**Transport Trades.**—Seamen and firemen report employment as rather quiet; dock labourers as fair; quay and railway carters and Mersey flatmen as dull.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Bookbinders report employment as quiet; letterpress printers as fairly good; lithographic printers as dull; electrotypers as good.

**Clothing Trades.**—All branches of the tailoring and boot and shoe trades report employment as fair.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Glass and Chemical Trades.**—Glass bottle makers, glass makers and flatteners report employment as good; decorative glass workers as bad; chemical workers continue dull.

**Quarrying.**—Employment is moderate.—C. Rouse.

A report from Winsford states that employment in the salt trade has improved, but salt workers generally are working half-time. In the chemical trade at Middlewich, and with moulders at Winsford, employment is moderate; it is regular with shipwrights, boiler-smiths and brassworkers. With fustian cutters employment is good.

## YORKSHIRE:

## Hull and District.

**Shipbuilding, Engineering and Metal Trades.**—The whitesmiths report employment as good; engineers, brassfounders and finishers, boiler-makers, shipwrights and sailmakers as moderate; machinists, smiths and strikers, sheet metal workers, pattern makers, ironfounders, drillers and hole cutters, platers' helpers, and general engineering labourers as bad. At Doncaster the brassworkers report employment as good, the engineers, brassfounders and finishers, and boiler-makers as moderate. At Goole employment is moderate. At Grimsby the smiths and strikers and sailmakers report employment as moderate; engineers and shipwrights as bad.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports page 167.

**Transport Trades.**—The seamen and firemen and dock labourers at Goole report employment as good. At Hull the seamen and firemen, coal workers, and railway workers report it as moderate; the dock labourers, timber workers and lightermen as bad; at Grimsby employment is moderate.

**Fishing Industry.**—The trawl fishermen, steam fishing vessel engineers and firemen, the curing house workers, and general fishing trade labourers at Hull and Grimsby report employment as moderate.

**Seed Crushing, Paint, Oil and Colour Trades.**—The seed crushing mill workers report employment as moderate; the paint, oil and colour workers as good.

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

**Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.**—The coopers, coach-builders and furnishing trades report employment as good; mill-sawyers and woodcutting machinists as quiet.

**Miscellaneous.**—The brushmakers, tailors, and enginemen, crane-men and firemen report employment as good.—W. G. Millington.

## Leeds and District.

**General.**—Branches of societies with 8,627 members have 428 (or 5.0 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 476 (or 5.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment with engineers and ironfounders is better; with steel workers and machine workers fair; with boiler-makers, brassfounders and finishers and steam engine makers moderate; with pattern makers and hackle and gill makers slightly improved; with sheet metal workers and stove grate workers very quiet. At Wakefield employment in the engineering and iron trades is moderate; at Stanningley it is quiet with engineers, improving with boiler-makers.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment in the ready-made tailoring factories in Leeds has been fair. Bespoke tailors are very busy. There is no improvement in the boot factories, most of which are on short time.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment in the Leeds mills has been only moderate, with some firms on short time; with willeys and fettlers and linen workers it is moderate; with blanket raisers slack; with warp-dressers and twisters fair in the worsted trade, very quiet in the cotton trade. At Wakefield employment is not so good; at Morley it is fair.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Coal Mining.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Leather Trades.**—Employment with tanners has been moderate; with curriers slack; with saddlers and harness makers fair.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers report employment as very quiet; lithographers, bookbinders and machine rulers as moderate. Paper mill workers are busy.

**Glass Trades.**—Employment with glass bottle makers in Leeds is very slack; at Wakefield and Castleford it is fair; flint glass makers are slack.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Employment with brush-makers is good; with coachmakers improving; with wheelwrights and smiths moderate; with polishers rather quiet; with cabinet makers fair.—O. Connellan.

## Bradford, Huddersfield and District.

**Worsteds Trade.**—The improvement at Bradford has been maintained. Employment at Halifax is fairly good; at Huddersfield, Keighley and in the Worth Valley it is very good. Woolsorters and woolcombers are very well employed.

**Woollen Trade.**—Employment is very good in Huddersfield and the Colne Valley, with overtime and night work. In the heavy woollen trade of Dewsbury and Batley it is fairly good.

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

**Metal Trades.**—Engineers in Huddersfield and Dewsbury report employment as quiet, in Keighley as fair, in Halifax as bad, in Bradford as declining; ironfounders in Huddersfield and Keighley as good, in Halifax as bad, in Dewsbury as quiet, in Bradford as improving.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment with blanket workers is good; with glass workers and bookbinders fair; with letterpress printers quiet. A. Gee.

## Sheffield, Barnsley, and Rotherham District.

**General.**—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with 10,112 members have 506 (or 5.0 per cent.) unemployed, as against 515 (or 5.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Iron and Steel Industries.**—Branches with 5,904 members have 363 (or 6.1 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 328 (or 5.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. Engineers, ironfounders, and machine workers report employment as bad, boiler and girder makers, Siemens-steel smelters, Bessemer-steel workers, iron and steel dressers as slack; locomotive drivers and stokers as very slack; some sections of the enginemen, crane-men and boiler firemen as slack, others as moderate; wire drawers, core makers and stovegrate workers as moderate. At Barnsley engineers and ironfounders report employment as fair; in the Rotherham district iron workers report it as moderate, steel workers as slack.

**Cutlery and Tool Trades.**—Engineers' tool makers, table blade forgers and strikers, grinders, and hafters, forgers of large files, and

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

handle and scale cutters report work as slack; saw makers and haft and scale pressers as fair; edge tool grinders, saw handle makers and machine file cutters as quiet; small file forgers, grinders and cutters, and some sections of the razor trade as moderate; pen and pocket blade forgers, grinders and cutlers continue well employed.

**Other Metal Trades.**—The silver and electro plate finishers report a slight improvement; otherwise employment is slack at Rotherham; it is fair in the brass trade.

**Coal Mining.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

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

**Linen Trade.**—Employment is good.

**Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.**—High class cabinet makers are busy, others quiet. Millsawyers and machinists report employment as fair; coachmakers as quiet. At Barnsley box and bobbin makers are busy.

**Clothing Trades.**—Bespoke tailors are busy. At Barnsley employment is moderate with bespoke tailors; good with ready made tailoring operatives; bad in the boot and shoe trade.

**Glass Trades.**—At Barnsley bottle makers are busy. Flint glass workers report employment as moderate. In the Mexbro' and Swinton district it is fairly good. At Rotherham makers of medicine bottles continue busy.

**Miscellaneous.**—Tram employees and gas workers are busy; paviors and street masons, electrical workers, and bakers and confectioners report employment as fair; saddlers and harness makers as quiet; farriers, railway workers, colliery surface men, general labourers and hackney carriage employees as slack. At Barnsley quarrymen and general labourers are busy; paper makers are moderately employed. At Normanton brickmakers, general labourers and quarrymen are busy; chemical workers are slack.—S. Uttley.

## ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

## Derbyshire District.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Engineers, brass moulders and finishers report employment as moderate; boiler-makers as good; ironfounders in Chesterfield as dull, in Derby as bad; wire drawers as fair; pipe moulders in Ilkeston as good, in Riddings and Butterley as moderate; electric wire and cable makers are fully employed. Branches with 2,082 members have 30 (or 1.4 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 46 (or 2.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Coal Mining.**—See note at the head of District Reports, page 167.

**Quarrying.**—Limestone and chert quarrymen are fairly well employed.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Coachbuilding and Woodworking Trades.**—Employment with railway carriage and wagon builders is reported as good in Long Eaton, very slack in Derby; with coopers it is bad.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment in the cotton trade is fair. Surgical bandage makers and elastic web weavers are slack. Hosiery workers report employment as rather slack; lace makers in the curtain trade as good, in the levers trade as not so good; gimp and trimming workers are fully employed.

**Clothing Trades.**—All branches are well employed, except boot and shoe operatives, who are rather slack.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment generally is good.

**Miscellaneous.**—Mechanics, stationary engine drivers and firemen, gas workers and general labourers report employment as fair; farriers as moderate; railway workers as rather slack.

C. White Deacon.

## Nottingham and District.

**Lace Trade.**—Employment is reported as fair with the levers, curtain and plain net sections; as good on warp lace and with warpers and female workers; as slack with card punchers; as not so brisk with auxiliary lace workers; as only moderate at Beeston, Stapleford and Bulwell. Dyers and bleachers report employment as moderate.

**Hosiery Trade.**—Employment generally is moderate.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment is reported as fair with lace machine builders, tool machinists and pattern makers; as moderate with hosiery machine builders, cycle makers, tinplate workers, fitters and mechanics, smiths and strikers, wheelwrights and blacksmiths, and iron and steel dressers; as good with brass-founders, bobbin and carriage makers, needle makers, electric workers and blast furnacemen; as bad with ironfounders. Branches

with 3,546 members have 125 (or 3.5 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 138 (or 4.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Coal Mining.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Employment is reported as good with millsawyers, coach makers, brush makers, coopers, and basket makers; as fair with upholsterers and French polishers; as dull with cabinet makers and packing case makers.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment is reported as not so good with letterpress printers; as moderate with lithographic printers and artists and bookbinders; as quiet with printers' cutters.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment generally is good in all branches.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is reported as fairly good with railway workers; as slack with gasworkers and general labourers; as fair with stationary engine drivers, engine and crane men, colliery engine drivers and firemen, and saddle and harness makers; as good with bakers and confectioners; as improved with female cigar makers.—W. L. Hardstaff.

## Leicester and Northampton District.

**Boot and Shoe Trade.**—At Leicester, Hinckley and Northampton employment is less satisfactory. It remains slack at Kettering and Rushden. The makers of army handsewn work continue fairly busy.

**Other Clothing Trades.**—Employment continues good in the bespoke and ready made tailoring trade. It is brisk with corset-makers, milliners and dressmakers. Hat and capmakers are better employed.

**Hosiery and Woolspinning Trades.**—Nearly all branches of the hosiery trade report employment as good at Leicester. Pant and shirt-makers are more fully employed at Loughborough. Work continues fairly regular with dyers and trimmers, and good with woolspinners.

**Elastic Web Trade.**—All departments report an improvement.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment is good with general engineers at Rugby, fairly good at Leicester and Northampton, slack in all branches at Loughborough. Work is good with type-founders and needle-makers; fair with smiths, fitters and tool-makers; slack with ironfounders; declining with shoe machinery makers. Cycle makers and repairers are fully employed.

**Quarrying.**—Stone quarrymen are fully employed in Leicestershire. Work is fairly regular with ironstone and limestone getters.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment is rather slacker with letterpress printers; moderate with lithographic printers; fair with bookbinders and machine rulers.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Leather Trades.**—Tanners, curriers, and leather workers report employment as slack.

**Woodworking and Coachmaking Trades.**—Coachmakers and tram-car builders continue busy. Employment is fair with cabinet-makers and upholsterers; slack with millsawyers and wood machinists at Leicester, moderate at Northampton.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is fairly good with cigar makers and bakers; improved with railway workers at Northampton, but slack at Leicester, Kettering and Wellingborough.—T. Smith.

## Potteries District.

**Pottery Trades.**—Employment in most branches has improved owing to the demand for coronation goods, 5 days per week being the average generally worked. Packers have several on short time; turners and throwers in the electrical trade are working full time.

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—Employment has declined slightly and most departments are on short time.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—There is a decline in all branches of the engineering trade in the Potteries, at Burslem three-quarter time is being worked. At Crewe engineers are well employed. At Stafford there is no improvement. At Uttoxeter and Rugeley agricultural engineers are busy. At Oakmoor and Frogghall copper and brass workers are well employed.

**Coal Mining.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Quarrying.**—Around Alton and Hollington stone quarrymen are regularly employed.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment in the silk trade at Leek is improving. At Congleton fustian cutters report a decline. At Cheadle and Tean silk and tape operatives are well employed.

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

**Clothing Trades.**—Tailors are busy. Boot and shoemakers at Stafford and Stone are working full time. Corset makers at Uttoxeter and Ashbourne are busy.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers in the Potteries report a decline. At Stafford employment is good, and at Crewe and Leek fairly brisk. Lithographic artists and printers are not so busy.

**Miscellaneous.**—Railway workers are well employed; brush-makers are busy; gas workers report a decline.—I. S. Harvey.

## Wolverhampton and District.

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—In South Staffordshire the steel smelters continue busy. In Shropshire the iron trade is unsettled; several mills are working part time. The steel rolling mills are working full time.

**Engineering and allied Trades.**—Employment is moderate with electrical and general engineers and moulders; good with boiler, bridge, girder, tank, gasometer, cycle and motor makers; improved in the malleable iron trade at Walsall. At Coalbrook Dale employment has slightly improved. At Madeley it has declined slightly.

**Hardware Trades.**—Employment is good with makers of nuts and bolts, iron fences and hurdles, electrical fittings and castings, best gun locks, cycle castings, agricultural implements, safes, edge tools, Brazil and plantation hoes and with stampers and piercers; fair with makers of locks, latches, keys, spades and forks, tips, cut nails, tacks and builders' ironmongery, and with hollow-ware tinner and turners; moderate with makers of common gunlocks, tinplate, brass and tube workers, filesmiths, galvanisers, japanners, cable chain makers and strikers and anchor smiths; quiet with makers of vermin traps, cast and light hollow-ware, railway axles, springs and coach ironwork, and with the iron and steel forging departments at Wednesbury; slack with makers of spectacle frames, block chains, spikes, rivets, wrought nails and dolly chains. Employment in the ironplate trade is moderate at the Lye, quiet at Wolverhampton and Bilston. At Dudley employment in the anvil trade has slightly improved; vice makers continue slack.

**Coal Mining.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Glass Trades.**—At Wordsley, Brettle Lane, and Stourbridge, employment generally is moderate. Glass cutters and engravers report an improvement.

**Leather Trades.**—Employment with military bridle cutters is brisk; with brown saddlers good; with harness makers fairly good; with buckle, case hame, cart gear, spring hook, bit and stirrup makers fair; with gig saddlers and harness stitchers improved; with collar makers quiet; with home and foreign bridle cutters bad.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment in the carpet trade is quiet at Kidderminster, good at Bridgnorth; with woolstaplers it is improving.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment with ready made tailoring operatives and bespoke tailors is good; in the boot and shoe trade it is fair.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment continues good.

C. Anthony.

## Birmingham and District.

**General.**—Branches of societies with 18,646 members have 564 (or 3.0 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 585 (or 3.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

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

**Brass and Copper Trades.**—Employment in the brass trades is reported as moderate; in the metal and tube trades as fairly good; with fender and fire brass makers it continues quiet.

**Jewellers, Silversmiths, and Electroplaters.**—Jewellers report employment as still quiet on gold work; moderate on silver, but fairly busy on coronation work; silversmiths and electroplaters as quiet; britannia metal workers as bad.

**Other Metal Trades.**—Makers of axles, nuts and bolts, spades, shovels, garden tools, wrought iron and steel hinges, hollow-ware and tinplate, iron and steel tube makers, wire drawers and ironworkers report employment as good; makers of bedsteads, cut and wire nails, machine made rivets, light and heavy steel toys and button and ironplate workers as moderate. At West Bromwich

spring makers, nut and bolt makers and general hardware operatives are fully employed; hollow-ware makers moderately so. At Redditch employment in the needle and fish-hook trades is good.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Glass Trades.**—Flint glass makers report employment as moderate; flint glass cutters as quiet; plate glass bevellers and silverers as fair.

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

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

**Miscellaneous.**—Military gun makers, saddlers on military work, ammunition makers and gas workers report employment as good; gas fitters, letterpress printers, general labourers as fair; sporting gun makers and saddlers on general work as quiet. At Coventry the watchmakers report employment as good; weavers as fair. Throughout the district general labourers are reported as fairly well employed.—A. R. Jephcott.

## ENGLAND: EASTERN COUNTIES.

## Norfolk and Neighbouring Districts.

**Clothing Trades.**—Boot and shoe operatives are not very busy, but employment has slightly improved in Norwich. Tailoring factories are on full time. Bespoke tailors, shirt and blouse makers, and corset and dress makers are fully employed.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Shipbuilding and Engineering.**—Shipwrights and boat builders are busy at Yarmouth, Gorleston, and Lowestoft. At Norwich electrical engineers are slack, and general engineers are not so busy. Elsewhere engineers and boiler makers are fully employed.

**Textile Trades.**—Silk and crape workers are very slack in Norwich. At Yarmouth employment is a little better, but is not good. Mat and matting weavers are fully employed. Guernsey, cardigan jacket and sweater makers are not busy.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Lithographic printers are not busy. At Norwich employment with letterpress printers is affected by a dispute, in other parts of the district it is fair. Bookbinders are fairly well employed.

**Fishing Industry.**—Fishing at Yarmouth and Lowestoft is fair.

**Miscellaneous.**—Steam flour mill and steam joinery workers are fairly well employed at Yarmouth, Lowestoft, and Lynn. Confectionery and mineral water operatives are better employed. Brick makers are fully employed.—G. Cleverley.

## Suffolk, Essex and District.

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

**Clothing Trades.**—The improvement in the boot and shoe trade has been maintained. Employment is good with tailoring operatives, corset-makers and dress and mantle makers.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment is good in the mat and matting industry and with horsehair weavers. Silk weavers report employment as good generally.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers and bookbinders report employment as fair; lithographers as improved.

**Miscellaneous.**—Shipping and dock labour is good at Harwich and Parkeston, slack at Ipswich. Employment is fair with general labourers; good with gas workers.—R. W. Mather.

## ENGLAND: SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES.

## Bristol and District.

**General.**—Branches of societies with 9,709 members have 369 (or 3.8 per cent.) unemployed, as against 425 (or 4.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment is dull with smiths and strikers, shipwrights, tool makers and brass finishers; moderate with tinplate workers and ironfounders; fair with wire workers and brass moulders; bad with pattern makers. Boiler-makers are busy at Swindon, slack in Bristol. Engineers at Bristol report employment as dull, at Swindon as moderate.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment is good with lithographic printers, moderate with bookbinders, and improving with paper-makers. Letterpress printers report employment as dull at Bristol, good elsewhere.

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

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment is good with wholesale tailoring operatives and glove makers; moderate with hatters and fair with bespoke tailors. In the Kingswood boot and shoe trade it continues bad. In Bristol employment has slackened at most of the factories, the average working time not exceeding four days per week.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—The upholsterers and cabinet makers report employment as fair; French polishers and box makers as good; wood-cutting machinists and turners as improving; coopers as dull; lathrenders as bad.

**Transport Trades.**—Employment for sea-going men is fair. With dock workers at Gloucester employment has been slack; at Bristol fair.

**Textile Trades.**—An improvement is reported at most of the factories in Trowbridge and the district.

**Coal Mining.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is good with tobacco workers, brick and tile makers, basket makers, oil and colour men, quarrymen and brush makers; fair with cocoa and chocolate workers, glass bevellers, bakers and general labourers; dull with saddle and harness makers and carriers.—*J. Curle.*

**Plymouth and South Western District.**

**Mining, Quarrying and China Clay Industries.**—Work amongst tin and copper miners is steadier, but continues bad in the districts where the lately stopped mines are situated. Employment continues good in the granite quarries. In slate and limestone quarries work is fair. China clay workers are moderately employed.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—Engineers report employment as moderate; pattern-makers, iron caulkers, brassworkers and tinplate workers as fair; boiler-makers, iron and steel shipbuilders, and ironfounders as good; shipwrights as good in the Government yards, as dull outside, but fair at Falmouth and Dartmouth. Branches with 3,236 members have 28 (or 0.9 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 18 (or 0.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Building Trades.**—See notes at head of District Reports page 167.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment is fairly good in bespoke and ready-made tailoring. In shirt and collar factories it is fair; with lace workers there has been a decline. Boot and shoe makers are quiet.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment generally is moderate.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—With French polishers and upholsterers employment is fair; in cabinet-making factories moderate. With mill-sawyers and woodworking machinists and carriage builders it is quiet.

**Transport Trades.**—Coal lumpers and grain carriers have been quiet; fish packers and carters quiet at Plymouth and Brixham, but well employed at Newlyn. At the clay and stone ports dock work has been good.

**Fishing Industry.**—At Brixham and Plymouth fishing has been light; at the Cornish stations and Scilly fair, with good catches of mackerel at intervals. Prices have been fair.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment with excavators and navvies is good; with brickyard workers and artificial manure workers fair; with explosive makers bad. In market, fruit and flower gardens work is good.—*W. Hedge.*

## WALES.

**North Wales.**

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—The engineers at Sandycroft report employment as bad; at Oswestry, Ruabon and Cefn as fair. Employment is good with steel workers, blast furnacemen, wagon-builders, spelter workers, tinplate workers and enginemen.

**Coal Mining.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Lead Mining.**—Employment is quiet.

**Quarrying.**—Employment continues good.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Textile and Clothing Trades.**—Employment in the tweed and flannel industries of Montgomeryshire has been fairly good. Bespoke tailors report employment as good.

**Printing Trade.**—The letterpress printers report employment as fair.

**Brick and Terra Cotta Trades.**—Employment continues steady.

**South Wales and District.**

**Ship Repairing and Engineering.**—Employment at Barry, Cardiff, and Newport is bad; at Swansea moderate. Branches of engineers and ironfounders, with 3,442 members, have 156 (or 4.5 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 145 (or 4.2 per cent.) at the end of April. General engineering works and foundries in the

colliery and inland districts report employment as good, at Newport as brisk.

**Shipping and Dock Labour.**—Employment shows a slight decline. Pitwood and iron ore workers have had moderate employment; with timber workers, corn porters, and general hoblors it has been irregular.

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—Employment is good throughout the district, except at one large works.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Coal Mining.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment with patent fuel workers is brisk at Swansea, moderate elsewhere; with wagon builders and lifters good; with chemical workers quiet. Metallurgical workers report employment as good; lithographers, letterpress printers and bookbinders as having declined.—*T. Davies.*

## SCOTLAND.

**Edinburgh and District.**

**General.**—Branches of societies with 13,074 members have 399 (or 3.1 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 425 (or 3.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Coal Mining.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Shale Mining.**—At the 25 mines covered by the returns, the average number of days worked during the four weeks ended May 24th was 5.59 per week, compared with 5.50 in April and 5.69 in May, 1901. The number of workpeople employed in May, 1902, was 2,688, compared with 2,712 in April, and 3,105 a year ago.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Branches with 2,189 members have 92 (or 4.2 per cent.) idle, as against 110 (or 5.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The iron moulders report employment as bad; engineers, pattern makers, blacksmiths, brassfounders, hammermen and horse shoers as quiet; tin smiths as fair. Branches in Falkirk with 3,847 members have 55 (or 1.4 per cent.) idle, as against 65 (or 1.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The iron moulders report employment as fair; pattern-makers and range and stove fitters as good.

**Shipbuilding.**—Branches with 587 members have 70 (or 11.9 per cent.) idle, as against 42 (or 6.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The boiler makers report employment as bad, the shipwrights as fair.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment in all branches of the woollen industry in Galashiels, Selkirk and Hawick continues good. The hosiery workers in Selkirk are fully employed; in Hawick the machine-made departments are busy, but the hand-made departments are quiet. The carpet weavers in Midlothian employed on narrow looms are fully employed; those on broad looms are working only five days per week.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Branches with 1,091 members have 70 (or 6.4 per cent.) idle, as against 83 (or 7.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The coopers report employment as bad; cabinet makers, sawmillers, coachmakers and lath splitters as fair; upholsterers and French polishers as good.

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

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Branches with 2,450 members have 50 (or 2.0 per cent.) idle, as against 42 (or 1.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The compositors, stereotypers, lithographic artists and bookbinders report employment as fair; lithographic printers and press and machinemen as quiet; typefounders as bad.

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

**Glasgow and West of Scotland.**

**Shipbuilding.**—Employment has been fairly good. Branches with 15,673 members, return 352 (or 2.2 per cent.) as idle as against 326 (or 2.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment generally is fairly good. Branches with 23,515 members, return 1,414 (or 6.0 per cent.) as idle as against 1,342 (or 5.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Coal and Iron Mining.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment in the tailoring trade is fair; boot and shoe operatives and slipper makers are still dull. Knee boot and shoe makers report employment as fair.

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

**Textile Trades.**—Employment in Glasgow is fairly good; in New Milns lace workers are slack; in Kilbirnie factories are running full time; in Greenock and Gourock textile workers are busy.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers are still quiet; lithographic printers and bookbinders report an improvement; electrotypers and stereotypers and lithographic artists are dull.

**Glass Trades.**—Glass bottle makers are still busy. Medical glass bottle makers are not so busy. Employment with flint glass makers and cutters has improved.

**Wood Working and Furnishing Trades.**—Employment continues to improve.

**Transport Trades.**—Dock labourers, sailors and firemen, railwaymen, tramwaymen and carters report employment as good; hackney carriage drivers as better.

**Miscellaneous.**—Gilders, settmakers, paviors, carriers, dyers, calico engravers, tobacco pipe makers and finishers, saddlers, rope spinners, basket makers, brush makers, scale beam makers, cork cutters and bakers report employment as good; stoneware throwers, potters, mattress makers and spindle makers as dull.—*A. J. Hunter.*

**Dundee and District.**

**Textile Trades.**—Mill and factory workers in the jute industry report employment as good. In the linen trade it shows further improvement, although full employment does not yet prevail.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades.**—Boiler-makers and iron-shipbuilders, blacksmiths and pattern-makers report employment as fair; engineers and ironmoulders as bad; shipwrights as good. Societies with 2,419 members have 150 (or 6.2 per cent.) idle, compared with 173 (or 7.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Employment is good with saw millers and wood machine men; fair with cabinet makers and upholsterers.

**Fishing Industry.**—At Dundee trawlers landed 104 catches during the month, with a total of 5,095 boxes. At Arbroath and Montrose line boats, while out most days, were only moderately successful.

**Dock Labour.**—Employment at the docks has been slack and irregular.

**Coal Mining.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is fair in the printing and allied trades; good with tailors; dull with boot and shoe makers; moderate with calender workers; improved with bleachfield workers and linoleum printers.—*J. Mann.*

**Aberdeen and District.**

**General.**—Branches of societies with 3,045 members have 97 (or 3.2 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 123 (or 4.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Quarrying.**—The settmakers and masons report employment as good; granite polishers as fair.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Transport Trades.**—Railway workers and carters report employment as good; dock labourers as bad; hackney carriage drivers as fair.

**Shipbuilding and Engineering.**—The boiler-makers, iron and steel shipbuilders, blacksmiths and horse shoers report employment as fair; shipwrights as very good; engineers as moderate; iron-moulders, tinplate workers, brass finishers and pattern makers as good. Branches of societies with 1,204 members have 26 (or 2.2 per cent.) idle, as against 31 (or 2.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

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

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment is good.

**Fishing.**—At the port of Aberdeen in May, trawl and line boats landed 111,409 cwts., valued at £65,854, an increase in quantity but a decrease in value as compared with the previous month.

**Miscellaneous.**—The upholsterers, saddlers, sawmillers, and general labourers report employment as fair; cabinet makers, gas workers, bobbin and shuttle turners as good; engine and firemen as dull; bakers and combmakers as bad.—*W. Johnston.*

## IRELAND.

**Dublin and District.**

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Boiler-makers, electric workers and farriers report employment as good; steam engine makers, tin-smiths and hammermen as fair; engineers as moderate; smiths,

brassfounders and ironfounders as dull; whitesmiths as bad. Branches of societies with 1,326 members have 60 (or 4.5 per cent.) unemployed, as against 62 (or 4.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Cabinet makers, carpet planners, brush makers and coopers report employment as good; coach makers, cart and wagon builders, shipwrights and upholsterers as fair; saddlers and basket makers as dull.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers report employment as fair; bookbinders and lithographic printers as bad. Branches with 1,406 members have 96 (or 6.8 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 73 (or 5.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

**Clothing and Textile Trades.**—Employment with tailors and silk-weavers is good; with boot and shoe makers improving.

**Miscellaneous.**—Bakers, butchers, bacon curers, mineral water operatives, bottle makers, hairdressers, stationary engine drivers and coal, dock and corporation labourers report employment as fair; job carriage drivers, railwaymen and tramway men as regular; general labourers as bad.—*E. L. Richardson.*

**Belfast and District.**

**Shipbuilding and Engineering Trades.**—Branches of societies with 8,622 members have 236 (or 2.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 244 (or 2.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The carpenters and joiners and furnishing trades report employment as quiet; blacksmiths, engineers, iron turners, and ironfounders as moderate; blacksmiths' helpers and strikers, machine workers, steam engine drivers, enginemen, cranemen, and firemen, and general labourers and platers' helpers as fair; boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders, brassfounders, pattern makers, shipwrights, sheet metal workers, and sail makers as good.

**Linen Trades.**—Societies with 3,959 members have 167 (or 4.2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 160 (or 3.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The flax-dressers, power loom yarn-dressers, and women workers report employment as dull; hackle and gill makers as moderate; yarn bundlers and linen lappers as fair; power loom tenters as improving.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Branches with 973 members have 34 (or 3.5 per cent.) unemployed, as against 36 (or 3.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The packing case makers report employment as dull; coopers as quiet; coach builders, French polishers and upholsterers as fair; cabinet makers and brush makers as good.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Branches with 881 members have 73 (or 8.3 per cent.) unemployed, as against 67 (or 7.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The letterpress printers and lithographic artists and designers report employment as bad; bookbinders as quiet; lithographic printers as moderate.

**Clothing Trades.**—The boot and shoe operatives report employment as moderate; tailors as good.

**Miscellaneous.**—Societies with 1,873 members have 45 (or 2.4 per cent.) unemployed, as against 48 (or 2.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The bakers and butchers report employment as middling; carters, municipal employees and square sett makers as fair; locomotive engine drivers and railway workers as good.—*R. Sheldon.*

**Cork and District.**

**Shipbuilding and Engineering.**—Boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders report employment as good, in Cork, Haulbowline and Passage West; all branches of the engineering trade as fair in these places, dull in Limerick and Waterford; shipwrights, ship joiners and sail makers as fair.

**Building Trades.**—See note at head of District Reports, page 167.

**Clothing Trades.**—Flax, tweed and feather operatives report employment as good in Blarney, Millfield, Cork and Douglas; bespoke tailors, ready made tailoring operatives and boot and shoe operatives as fair.

**Woodworking Trades.**—Coachmakers and packing case makers report employment as good throughout the district; cabinet makers and coopers as fair; mill-sawyers and woodworking machinists, brush makers and bellows makers as dull.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment generally is dull.

**Miscellaneous.**—Corporation and harbour employees, brewery and distillery workmen, railway and tramway employees report employment as good; the branches of the provision trade, coal and quay labourers and gas workers as fair.—*P. O'Shea.*

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN MAY, 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 May was a decrease averaging 8½d. weekly per head in the wages of the 259,442 workpeople affected. Of the total number, 2,647 received advances averaging 1s. 9½d. per head per week, and 256,795 sustained decreases averaging 9d. per head per week. The changes of the previous month affected 12,947 workpeople, the net result being an average increase of 4½d. weekly per head. During May, 1901, the net result of all the changes in wages was a decrease averaging 1s. 5d. per head in the weekly wages of 375,756 workpeople.

The principal decreases last month were those sustained by 242,500 coal miners in Durham, South Wales and Monmouthshire.

**Methods of Arrangement.**—One change affecting 107,500 workpeople was arranged by a Conciliation Board, one affecting 1,000 workpeople was arranged by arbitration, and three changes, affecting 136,810 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. Two changes, affecting 155 workpeople only, were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work, and the remainder, affecting 13,977 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives.

**Summary for First Five Months of 1902.**—For the five months, January to May, 1902, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) known to have received advances or sustained decreases is 353,630, as compared with 841,535 for the corresponding period of 1901. Of these, 18,529 have obtained a net increase averaging 1s. 8d. weekly per head, and 335,101 have sustained a net decrease averaging 1s. 10½d. weekly per head. The net effect of the changes in 1902 is a decrease averaging 1s. 8d. weekly per head in the wages of those (353,630) affected, as compared with a decrease of 8d. weekly per head of those (841,535) affected in 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. The same remark applies to the changes in pay of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c.

Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which Change takes effect in 1902.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in Italics.)	Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week.*		Increase or Decrease in full week.*	
					Before change.	After change.	Increase.	Decrease.
<b>6 Increases—1,608 Workpeople. BUILDING TRADES. Decreases—Nil.</b>								
Carlisle	Painters and Decorators	19 May	140	Advance of ½d. per hour (7½d. to 8d.)	s. d. 31 0	s. d. 31 6	2 1	...
Radcliffe and Dist.	Carpenters and Joiners†	1 May	70	Advance of ½d. per hour (9d. to 9½d.)	35 6	37 1	1 7	...
Potteries and Newcastle District	Labourers and Scaffolders	1 May	1,000	Advance of ½d. per hour (labourers 5½d. to 6d., scaffolders 6d. to 6½d.)	—	—	2 1	...
Long Eaton	Bricklayers	2 June	64	Advance of ½d. per hour (8½d. to 9d.)	36 2	38 4	2 1	...
Norwich	Stonemasons	3 May	84	Advance of ½d. per hour (7½d. to 8d.)	33 10	36 1	2 3	...
Bath	Painters and Decorators	31 May	250	Advance of ½d. per hour (6d. to 6½d.)	26 1	29 1	2 2	...
<b>Increases—Nil. COAL MINING. 5 Decreases—255,500 Workpeople.</b>								
Northumberland	Deputies	...	1,000	Decrease of 1d. per day (6s. 4d. to 6s. 3d.)	38 0	37 6	...	0 6
	Winding Enginemen	...	...	Decrease of 1d. per day (5s. 5d. to 5s. 4d.)	32 6	32 0	...	0 6
	Hauling and Pumping Enginemen	5 & 12 May	570	Decrease of 1d. per day (5s. 4d. to 5s. 3d.)	32 0	31 6	...	0 6
Durham	Colliery Mechanics	...	1,550	Decrease of 1d. per day (5s. 2d. to 5s. 1d.)	31 0	30 6	...	0 6
	Firemen	...	230	Decrease of 2 per cent., leaving wages 24 per cent. above the standard of November, 1879	—	—	...	—
Cumberland	Miners, Deputies, Banksmen, Cokemen, Enginemen, Mechanics, Other Surface Workers	12 & 19 May	107,500	Decrease of 2½ per cent., leaving wages 36½ per cent. above the standard of 1879	—	—	...	—
	Underground Workers...	19 May	6,000	Decrease of 10 per cent., leaving wages 50 per cent. above the standard	—	—	...	—
Bristol	Surface Workers (except Enginemen, Mechanics, &c.)	19 May	1,500	Decrease of 5 or 7½ per cent. ...	—	—	...	—
South Wales and Mon.	Underground and Surface Workers	Apr.-May	2,200	Decrease of 2½ per cent. ...	—	—	...	—
	Underground and Surface Workers	1 June	135,000	Decrease of 5 per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 48½ per cent. above the standard of December, 1879	—	—	...	—
<b>1 Increase—670 Workpeople. IRON AND STEEL TRADES. 1 Decrease—1,140 Workpeople.</b>								
Eston	Steel Workers	5 May	1,140	Decrease of 3 per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 16 per cent. above the standard	—	—	...	—
Workington	Steel Workers (except Enginemen, Cranemen and Firemen)	May	670	Advance of 2 per cent. under sliding scale, making wages 12½ per cent. above the standard	—	—	...	—
<b>1 Increase—100 Workpeople. TEXTILE TRADES. Decreases—Nil.</b>								
Hucknall Torkard	Fall Makers	1 June	100	Adoption of piece price list for making wool and silk falls, stated to have resulted in an average increase of about 10 per cent. on previous earnings	—	—	...	—

\* 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. When a change in wages is accompanied by a change in hours of labour, the weekly wages before and after change are computed on the basis of the old and new hours respectively.  
† See also under Changes in Hours of Labour.

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

Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which Change takes effect in 1902.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in Italics.)	Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week.*		Increase or Decrease in a full week.*	
					Before change.	After change.	Increase.	Decrease.
<b>3 Increases—84 Workpeople. CLOTHING TRADES. Decreases—Nil.</b>								
Neath	Tailors	May	24	Increase of ½d. per hour for day work and a corresponding increase on piece work	s. d. —	s. d. —	...	...
Hawick	Tailors	21 April	15	Advance in piece rates of about 8 per cent., stated to be equal to an increase in earnings of about 2s. per week	—	—	...	...
Berwick-on-Tweed	Tailors	5 May	45	Adoption of the Scottish time "log" stated to have resulted in an increase in piece rates of about 10 per cent.	—	—	...	...
<b>3 Increases—185 Workpeople. EMPLOYEES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES. Decreases—Nil.</b>								
Stockton-on-Tees	Gas Department—Excavators	14 May	17	Advance from a weekly rate of 25s. to an hourly rate of 6d.	25 0	26 6	1 6	...
	Labourers (Purifying House)	28 May	5	Advance from a weekly rate of 26s. to an hourly rate of 6d.	26 0	26 6	0 6	...
Halifax	Tramway Servants—Drivers	1 April	71	Maximum rate raised from 5s. per day to 7d. per hour...	30 0	31 6	1 6	...
	Conductors		92	Advance of ½d. per hour in the maximum rate (5d. to 5½d.)	22	25 10	3 4	...
<b>SEAMEN.</b>								
Switzerland	Able Seamen	May	64†	Decrease of 1s. 6d. per week (31s. 6d. to 30s.)	—	—	...	...
	Firemen	May	41†		—	—	...	...

\* Exclusive of overtime.  
† The number given is that of men shipped at the reduced rate during May on voyages for which the predominant rate has been changed.

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN MAY, 1902.

THE changes in hours of labour reported in May affected 1,001 workpeople, whose working time was reduced on the average by about 1 hour per head per week.

Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which change takes effect in 1902.	Approximate number of Workpeople affected.	Hours of labour in a full week.*		Extent of Decrease per week.
				Before change.	After change.	
Coventry	Bricklayers	1 April	150	52½	51½	1
	Carpenters and Joiners		270	52½	51½	1
	Plumbers and Painters		180	52½	51½	1
Radcliffe	Labourers	1 May	155	52½	51½	1
Macclesfield	Carpenters and Joiners†	5 May	70	47½	47	½
	Silk Dyers		176	56½	55	1½

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN MAY.

DURING May 602 fresh applications for work were registered by seven Bureaux furnishing returns, and 746 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 176 persons, of whom 106 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps).

The number of fresh applications for domestic servants fell from 626 to 533, and the number of servants applying rose from 314 to 346; the number permanently engaged fell from 90 to 83. The demand for dress-makers, milliners, etc., fell from 148 to 92, and the number requiring such situations fell from 33 to 29; the number engaged through the Bureaux was 22, compared with 31 in April.

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 May:—

WORK DONE IN MAY.

	No. of Fresh Situations offered by Employers.	No. of Fresh Applications of Workpeople seeking Situations.	No. of Workpeople engaged by Employers.	
			Permanently.	Temporarily.
<b>Summary by Bureaux.</b>				
Central Bureau—9, Southampton-street, W.C.	65	62	12	11
Society for Promoting Training and Employment—22, Berners-street, W.	28	28	4	22
Y.W.C.A.—26, George-street (1)	508	349	75	6
Hanover-square, W. (2)	92	65	6	6
Other Bureaux	53	98	14	6
<b>Total of 7 Bureaux</b>	<b>746</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>Summary by Occupations.</b>				
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc.	23	46	7	—
Shop Assistants	—	10	—	—
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc.	92	29	4	18
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists	29	55	5	14
Apprentices and Learners	12	4	1	2
Domestic Servants	533	346	83	23
Miscellaneous	57	112	11	8
<b>Total Number in May, 1902</b>	<b>746</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>Total Number in April, 1902</b>	<b>910</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>Total Number in May, 1901</b>	<b>890</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>68</b>

\* Exclusive of Overtime.  
† See also under Changes in Rates of Wages.

TRADE DISPUTES IN MAY.

**Number and Magnitude.**—Twenty-three disputes began in May, compared with 32 in April and 64 in the corresponding month of the previous year. By the 23 new disputes 6,623 workpeople were directly and 762 indirectly affected, and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople affected by disputes in progress at the beginning of May, give a total of 16,197 workpeople involved in trade disputes during the month, compared with 8,236 in April, and 23,698 in May, 1901.

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

Summary of all New Disputes in May.

Group of Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople affected.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Building ... ..	7	989	15	1,004
Mining ... ..	9	3,779	718	4,497
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	3	1,336	...	1,336
Textile ... ..	2	302	29	331
Transport ... ..	2	217	...	217
Total, May, 1902 ... ..	23	6,623	762	7,385
Ditto, April, 1902 ... ..	32	2,786	849	3,635
Ditto, May, 1901 ... ..	64	6,840	1,699	8,539

**Aggregate Duration.**—The aggregate duration in May of all disputes, new and old, amounted to 145,400 working days, as compared with 128,900 days in

the previous month and 390,000 days in the corresponding month of last year.

**Causes.**—Of the 23 new disputes, 6 arose on demands for advances in wages, 4 on objections to reductions, 8 on other wages questions, 2 on questions of employment of particular classes or persons, 1 on questions of working arrangements, and 2 on questions of trade-unionism.

**Results.**—Nineteen new disputes affecting 7,935 workpeople and 3 old disputes affecting 5,009 workpeople were reported as having terminated. Of these 22 new and old disputes, 5, involving 6,416 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople, 10, affecting 4,225 persons, were decided in favour of the employers, and 6, affecting 1,177 persons, were compromised. In the case of the remaining dispute, involving 226 workpeople, certain points are still under consideration.

**Summary for the First Five Months of 1902.**—For the five completed months of 1902 the aggregate number of workpeople involved in the 167 disputes which commenced in these months was 62,096, as compared with 92,801 in the 277 disputes reported in the corresponding period of 1901. The total aggregate duration in working days of all disputes was about 654,000, as compared with 1,939,000 in the corresponding period of last year.

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

Principal Trade Disputes.

Occupation.	Locality.	Number of Workpeople Affected.		Date when Dispute began in 1902.	Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
		Directly.	Indirectly.				
Stonemasons ... ..	Liverpool ...	200	...	16 May	19	Against proposed alteration of working rules ...	Modified alterations agreed to.
Plumbers ... ..	Glasgow ... ..	550	...	2 May	6	For payment as overtime for all time worked after the regular stopping time each day, instead of after a full week has been worked.	Such time to be paid for at overtime rates, provided a full working day has been worked.
Colliery Workpeople ...	Aberbeeg ...	1,540	...	30 Apr.	5	Dispute as to mode of working a certain seam ...	Amicable settlement effected.
Colliery Workpeople ...	Dowlais ... ..	3,400	26	30 Apr.	5	Refusal to work with non-unionists ... ..	Non-unionists joined the South Wales Miners' Federation.
Colliery Workpeople ...	Pontypridd (near)	1,400	50	12 May	7	Refusal to work with non-unionists ... ..	Non-unionists joined the South Wales Miners' Federation.
Tube Workers ... ..	Swansea ... ..	1,030	...	5 May	6	Against proposed method of recording time ...	Work resumed on employers' terms.

\* Disputes involving less than 100 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.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

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

	Month of May.		Five months ended May.	
	1902.	1901.	1902.	1901.
Imported ... ..	211,221	265,964	1,908,317	1,617,374
Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns ... ..	248,865	247,839	1,434,725	1,339,774
Exported ... ..	39,720	24,706	173,380	131,267

**Traffic Receipts.**—The total receipts of 20 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the five weeks ended June 7th, amounted to £8,892,061, an increase of £18,433 (or 0.2 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of last year. The receipts from passenger traffic were £4,174,738, and those from goods and mineral traffic £4,717,323, representing respectively a decrease of £165,965 and an increase of £184,398 on the figures for the corresponding period of 1901.

**Fishery Statistics.**—The total quantity of the fish (exclusive of shell fish) landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom during

May was 1,351,387 cwts., a decrease of 38,519 cwts. as compared with May, 1901. In England and Wales there was an increase of 78,381 cwts., in Scotland a decrease of 59,743 cwts., and in Ireland a decrease of 57,157 cwts.

**Bankruptcies.**—The bankruptcies gazetted during May numbered 369, being 1 more than in May, 1901, 3 less than in May, 1900, and 58 more than in May, 1899.

INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS OF MARYLAND (U.S.A.).

From the tenth annual report on the Industrial Statistics of Maryland—a State with an area of 9,860 square miles and a population of 1,190,050—it appears that strikes in 1901 were less, both in number and in cost, than in the previous year. There were altogether 16 strikes reported, of which 4 terminated in favour of the workpeople, 11 in favour of the employers, and one was compromised. The report contains several Tables relating to the earnings of ordinary mechanics and the cost of living. Agriculture is stated to have made great progress during the past decade. The coal mining industry of Western Maryland is reported to give employment to about 6,000 workpeople, and the output during 1901 was 4,481,500 tons, a large increase over 1900, in which year a prolonged strike took place.

Other chapters in the report deal with conciliation and arbitration in trade disputes, free and other employment bureaus, immigration, and new laws affecting employers and employed, &c.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN MAY.

(Based on information supplied by the Home Office and the Board of Trade.) THE total number of workpeople reported as killed by accidents during May was 363, or 2 more than in April, and 14 less than in May, 1901.

In the first group of industries shown in the following summary Table, including railways, mines, quarries, shipping, and factories, and employing 5,673,957 persons (according to the latest available figures), 337 persons were reported killed and 7,996 injured by accidents in May, 1902, as compared with 343 reported killed and 7,670 injured in May, 1901. These figures give one death in May, 1902, for every 16,837 persons employed in those industries. During the first five completed months of the year, 1,709 persons were reported killed and 41,179 injured, as against 1,903 reported killed and 38,596 injured in the corresponding period of 1901.

In the remaining occupations included in the Tables, 26 persons were reported killed and 1,077 injured in May, 1902, as compared with 34 reported killed and 976 injured in May, 1901.

SUMMARY TABLE.

	Killed.		Injured.		Number Employed according to latest Returns.
	May, 1902.	May, 1901.	May, 1902.	May, 1901.	
<b>Railway Service—</b>					
Accidents connected with movement of vehicles ... ..	28	34	285	309	575,834
Other Accidents ... ..	1	3	860	791	
Total Railway Service ... ..	29	37	1,145	1,100	575,834
<b>Mines ... ..</b>	86	157	322	319	839,178
<b>Quarries (over 20 feet deep) ... ..</b>	5	4	78	76	94,188
<b>Shipping ... ..</b>	151	96	187	215	235,544*
<b>Factories ... ..</b>	66	49	6,264	5,960	3,929,213
Total of above ... ..	337	343	7,996	7,670	5,673,957
<b>Workshops ... ..</b>	1	1	19	16	Cannot be stated.
<b>Under Factory Act, 1901, Ss. 103-5 ... ..</b>	19	24	916	767	
<b>Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894 ... ..</b>	3	8	127	185	
<b>Railway Contractors' Servants ... ..</b>	3	1	15	8	
<b>Grand Total ... ..</b>	363	377	9,073	8,646	

DETAILED TABLES.

	By Accidents connected with Movement of Vehicles.		By other Accidents on the Companies' Premises.		Total.
	Killed.	In-jured.	Killed.	In-jured.	
<b>Railway Service—</b>					
Brakemen and Goods Guards ... ..	5	55	—	21	5
Engine Drivers ... ..	1	25	—	44	1
Firemen ... ..	2	33	—	61	2
Guards (Passenger) ... ..	1	5	—	11	1
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers) ... ..	5	12	—	120	5
Porters ... ..	4	31	—	192	4
Shunters ... ..	2	46	—	14	2
Miscellaneous ... ..	8	78	—	397	9
Contractors' Servants ... ..	3	2	—	13	3
Total for May, 1902 ... ..	31	287	—	873	32
Total for May, 1901 ... ..	35	310	—	798	38

	Underground.		Surface.		Total.
	Killed.	In-jured.	Killed.	In-jured.	
<b>Mines—</b>					
Explosions of Firedamp ... ..	2	9	—	—	2
Falls of ground ... ..	48	133	—	—	48
Shaft accidents ... ..	8	31	—	—	8
Miscellaneous ... ..	17	109	11	40	28
Total for May, 1902 ... ..	75	282	11	40	86
Total for May, 1901 ... ..	151	286	6	33	157

	Inside.		Outside.		Total.
	Killed.	In-jured.	Killed.	In-jured.	
<b>Quarries over 20 feet deep.</b>					
Explosives or Blasting ... ..	1	9	—	—	1
Falls of ground ... ..	—	12	—	—	—
During Ascent or Descent ... ..	—	1	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ... ..	3	40	1	16	4
Total for May, 1902 ... ..	4	62	1	16	5
Total for May, 1901 ... ..	1	68	3	8	4

	Killed.		In-jured.		Total.	
	By Wreck or Casualty.	By other Accidents.	Killed.	In-jured.	Killed.	In-jured.
<b>Shipping*—</b>						
On Trading Vessels—						
Sailing ... ..	8	—	9	25	17	25
Steam ... ..	100	6	33	152	133	158
On Fishing Vessels—						
Sailing ... ..	—	—	1	1	—	1
Steam ... ..	—	2	1	1	—	3
Total for May, 1902 ... ..	108	8	43	179	151	187
Total for 3 months March, to May, 1902 ... ..	298	18	166	665	468	583
Total for 3 months March, to May, 1901 ... ..	394	12	175	633	569	645

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Killed.	In-jured.	Killed.	In-jured.	
<b>Factories—</b>					
(a) Accidents reportable by Certifying Surgeons—					
Adults ... ..	59	1,350	1	180	60
Young Persons ... ..	6	430	—	111	6
Children ... ..	—	8	—	—	—
Total ... ..	65	1,788	1	291	66
(b) Other Accidents—					
Adults ... ..	—	3,499	—	82	—
Young Persons ... ..	—	540	—	59	—
Children ... ..	—	5	—	—	—
Total ... ..	—	4,044	—	141	—
Total Factories—					
May, 1902 ... ..	65	5,832	1	432	66
May, 1901 ... ..	49	5,468	—	492	49

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Killed.	In-jured.	Killed.	In-jured.	
<b>Workshops—</b>					
Adults ... ..	—	16	1	—	1
Young Persons ... ..	—	2	—	1	—
Children ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Total Workshops—					
May, 1902 ... ..	—	18	1	1	19
May, 1901 ... ..	—	15	1	1	16

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Killed.	In-jured.	Killed.	In-jured.	
<b>Factories &amp; Workshops (classified by trades).</b>					
<b>Textiles—</b>					
Cotton ... ..	3	179	1	123	4
Wool and Worsted ... ..	1	82	—	41	1
Other Textiles ... ..	—	72	—	46	—
<b>Non-Textiles—</b>					
Extraction of Metals ... ..	3	126	—	—	3
Founding and Conversion of Metals ... ..	9	900	—	8	9
Marine and Locomotive Engineering ... ..	3	600	—	—	3
Ship and Boat Building ... ..	13	992	—	—	13
Wood ... ..	3	234	—	—	3
Chemicals, &c. ... ..	5	143	—	6	5
Other Non-Textile Industries ... ..	25	2,522	1	209	26
Total for May, 1902 ... ..	65	5,850	2	438	67
Total for May, 1901 ... ..	49	5,483	1	493	50

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Killed.	In-jured.	Killed.	In-jured.	
<b>Under Factory Act, 1901, Ss. 103-5—</b>					
Docks, Wharves and Quays ... ..	10	324	—	1	10
Warehouses ... ..	1	340	—	1	1
Buildings to which Act applies ... ..	8	217	—	4	8
Laundries ... ..	—	4	—	25	—
Total for May, 1902 ... ..	19	885	—	31	19
Total for May, 1901 ... ..	24	742	—	25	24

	Construction or Repair.		Use or Working.		Total.
	Killed.	In-jured.	Killed.	In-jured.	
<b>Under the Notice of Accidents Act, 1894—</b>					
Bridge ... ..	—	3	—	—	—
Canal ... ..	—	3	—	5	—
Railway ... ..	1	39	—	—	1
Tramroad ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Tramway ... ..	—	2	—	21	—
Tunnel ... ..	—	12	—	—	—
Other Works† ... ..	2	42	—	—	2
Traction Engines‡ ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Total for May, 1902 ... ..	3	101	—	26	3
Total for May, 1901 ... ..	7	143	1	42	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 1900, 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.

PAUPERISM IN MAY.

(Data supplied by the Local Government Boards in England, Scotland and Ireland.) THE number of paupers relieved in 35 selected Urban Districts of the United Kingdom on one day in May was 335,830, corresponding to a rate of 201 per 10,000 of the estimated population of those districts in 1902.

Compared with April, 1902, there was a decrease of 4,872 in the number relieved, and of 3 in the rate per 10,000 of the population. Decreases were shown in 30 districts, the falling off being most marked in North London, Aberdeen (7 each per 10,000), Central London and Dublin (6 each). Increases were shown in 2 districts, while in the remaining 3 districts the rate was the same as in the preceding month.

Compared with May, 1901, the number of persons relieved showed an increase of 7,961, and the rate per 10,000 of the population an increase of 2. Eighteen districts showed increases, the greatest being in Central London (21 per 10,000), Cork, &c. (17), Galway (13), East London (12) and West Ham (12). In 10 districts the rate decreased, the greatest falling off being in Stockton and Tees district (17 per 10,000). The rate remained unchanged in 7 districts.

Table with columns: Selected Urban Districts, Paupers on one day in second week of May, 1902 (In-door, Out-door, TOTAL), Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with (A month ago, A year ago).

Table showing pauperism data for ENGLAND & WALES, SCOTLAND, and IRELAND, broken down by district and metropolitan areas.

Table showing pauperism data for ENGLAND & WALES, SCOTLAND, and IRELAND, broken down by district and metropolitan areas.

\* The rates for May and April, 1902, are computed on the estimated populations in 1902, and the rate for May, 1901, upon the population in 1901. The 1901 census has been taken as the basis in the case of England and Scotland, but in the case of the Irish districts the population figures for 1901 are not yet available for Poor Law Unions, and the rates are therefore computed from the estimated populations based on the census of 1891.

LABOUR BUREAUX IN MAY.

DURING May the six Bureaux furnishing returns registered 1,850 fresh applications for work, as compared with 1,466 in May, 1901, an increase of 384, which is accounted for by the larger number of applications received at the Salvation Army Bureau. Work was found by these Bureaux for 1,266 persons, of whom 1,010 (861 males and 149 females) were engaged by private employers, and 256 by the Salvation Army. The number engaged by private employers in May, 1901, was 673.

The number remaining on the registers at the end of May was 578, as against 572 a year ago.

(I.) Work done in May.

Table showing work done in May by Labour Bureau, categorized by Name of Labour Bureau, No. of Fresh Applications, No. of Situations offered, and No. of Workpeople found.

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

Table showing employment found for workpeople during May 1902, categorized by Engaged by Private Employers, Engaged by Local Authorities, and Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities.

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

Table showing usual occupations of workpeople on registers at end of month, categorized by Occupation, No. on Registers at end of (May, 1902, May, 1901).

\* Engaged by Salvation Army.

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 showing the number of cases of Lead, Mercurial, Phosphorus, and Arsenic poisoning, and Anthrax, categorized by Disease and Industry, Cases (May 1902, 5 months ended May 1902, 1901), and Deaths (May 1902, 5 months ended May 1902, 1901).

\* House Painters and Plumbers.—In addition to the cases included in the Table, 21 cases of lead poisoning (including 4 deaths) were reported during May among house painters and plumbers. The number of such cases reported for the five months ended May, 1902, was 56 (including 15 deaths), and for the corresponding period of 1901, 49 (including 12 deaths).

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 May.

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

The value of the Imports in May, 1902, was £43,353,705, an increase of £926,946, or 2.2 per cent., as compared with those in May, 1901, whilst the total Exports amounted to £28,088,721, showing a net decrease of £13,041,170. The Exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures alone show a decrease of £504,688, or 2.1 per cent., as compared with May, 1901, whilst there is a decrease of £799,482, or 13.2 per cent. in the Exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

Imports.—The following table shows the value of the Imports for May, 1902, as compared with the corresponding month of

1901 and 1900, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

Table showing the value of imports for May 1902, compared with 1901 and 1900, categorized by I. Animals, living; II. Articles of food and drink; III. Metals; IV. Chemicals, dyestuffs and tanning substances; V. Oils; VI. Raw materials for textile manufactures; VII. Raw materials for sundry industries and manufactures; VIII. Manufactured articles; IX. Miscellaneous articles.

NOTE.—Sugar and other cognate articles became liable to duties on the 15th April, 1901, and are included in Section II. (B) of the above Table. Corn, grain, flour, &c., which became subject to duty on and after the 15th April, 1902, are for this month, included in Section II. (A).

Comparing the imports of the principal articles last month with those of May, 1901, the chief increases are the following:—bacon, £216,748, meat, preserved otherwise than by salting, £98,706, butter, £129,613, fish, cured or salted, £168,081, margarine, £60,686, wheat, £1,217,126, barley, £74,799, maize or Indian corn, £125,525, rice, rice meal and flour, £82,529, iron ore, £65,951, quicksilver, £77,514, tin (blocks, ingots, bars, or slabs), £98,333, zinc, crude, in cake, £83,938, petroleum, illuminating, £205,902, flax, dressed and undressed, £66,694, nitrate of soda (manures), £178,034, tallow and stearine, £136,755, cotton manufactures, £62,473, machinery and mill work, other than steam engines, £121,983, ribbons, silk, or satin, £60,347, silk manufactures, unenumerated, £61,935, seeds—flax or linseed, £256,353.

As between the same two periods, the principal decreases are as follows:—cattle, £75,424, cheese, £61,796, lard, £58,968, cocoa, £51,782, wheat meal, and flour, £175,282, oats, £57,160, sugar, refined and sugar candy, £419,278, copper ore, £73,454, copper regulus, £130,901, cotton, raw, £543,545, jute, £85,631, sheep or lambs' wool, £301,675, caoutchouc, £83,046, feathers, ornamental, £68,972, wood pulp, £78,597, goat skins, undressed, £88,512, wood and timber, hewn, £68,582, sawn or split, £537,110, silk manufactures, broad stuffs, £102,367, cotton seed, £78,211.

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

Table showing the value of exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures for the month of May 1902, compared with 1901 and 1900, categorized by I. Animals, living; II. Articles of food and drink; III. Raw materials; IV. Articles manufactured and partly manufactured; V. Yarns and textile fabrics; VI. Metals and articles manufactured therefrom; VII. Machinery and millwork; VIII. Ships, new (not registered as British); IX. Apparel and articles of personal use; X. Chemicals and chemical and medicinal preparations; XI. All other articles, either manufactured or partly manufactured.

Comparing the exports of the principal articles in May, 1902, with those of May, 1901, the chief increases are in the following:—Cotton manufactures (other than piece-goods), £59,110, iron, unwrought and wrought, £329,579, steam engines, £101,210, machinery—other descriptions, £115,415.

The principal decreases in May, 1902, as compared with May, 1901, are as follows:—Coal, coke, and fuel, £674,237, cotton piece-goods, £128,725, jute piece-goods, £61,028, copper, unwrought and wrought, £73,413, telegraphic wires and apparatus, £208,910.

**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 May, 1902, amounted to 3,162,315 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,904,901 tons, as against 3,035,345 tons entered and 3,960,815 tons cleared in the month of May, 1901. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during May, 1902, amounted to 2,661,600 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,618,452 tons, as against 2,627,174 tons entered, and 2,568,727 tons cleared in May, 1901.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

**Total Emigration.**—The number of passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during May was 40,723, as compared with 32,989 in May, 1901. Comparing the five completed months of 1902 with the corresponding period of 1901, there is an increase of 29,698, viz., from 111,539 in 1901 to 141,237 in 1902.

**British and Irish.**—Of the 40,723 passengers in May, 19,756 were of British or Irish origin, an increase of 1,770 as compared with a year ago. For the five months of 1902 the total number was 70,741, as compared with 60,141 in the corresponding period of last year, an increase of 10,600, chiefly accounted for by the larger numbers bound for British North America and South Africa.

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

Destination. (Country in which passengers contracted to land.)	May, 1902.	May, 1901.	Total for five months ended	
			May, 1902.	May, 1901.
United States ... ..	11,233	12,702	38,407	39,778
British North America ... ..	3,908	2,254	10,477	4,346
Australasia ... ..	757	835	4,674	5,245
South Africa ... ..	3,179	1,419	12,123	6,207
Other Places ... ..	679	776	5,060	4,565
Total, British and Irish ... ..	19,756	17,986	70,741	60,141

**Foreign.**—The remainder of the 40,723 passengers in May, viz., 20,967, were foreigners or other persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being 5,964 more than in May, 1901. For the five months ended May, 1902, their number was 70,496, as against 51,398 in the corresponding period of 1901, the difference being chiefly due to an increase in the numbers proceeding to the United States.

**Alien Immigration.**—During May 23,182 aliens arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent. Of these, 15,791 were stated to be *en route* to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, an increase of 4,862 as compared with May, 1901. Those not stated to be on their way to America or other places out of the United Kingdom numbered 5,880 (exclusive of seamen) or 136 more than a year ago. The figures for May, 1902 and 1901, and also for the five months ended May in each year are as follows:—

	May, 1902.	May, 1901.	Total for five months ended	
			May, 1902.	May, 1901.
Aliens not stated in the Alien lists to be <i>en route</i> to other countries (Seamen)	1,511	1,261	6,594	6,447
Others	5,880	5,744	21,743	20,675
Aliens stated in the Alien lists to be <i>en route</i> to other countries ... ..	15,791	10,929	54,477	37,714
Gross Total ... ..	23,182	17,934	82,814	64,836

FIVE HOURS' SPELL IN HOSIERY FACTORIES.

The Home Secretary has made an Order\*, dated May 12th, 1902, under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, extending to Hosiery Factories the exception mentioned in Section 39 of that Act, by which a woman, young person, or child may be employed continuously for 5 hours without an interval for a meal, provided that (a) the period of employment fixed by the occupier and specified in the notice begins at 7 a.m.; and (b) the whole time between that hour and 8 a.m. is allowed for meals. It is further directed that the limitation of this exception to the period between November 1st and March 31st following shall not apply to Hosiery Factories; provided that the exception shall apply to any Hosiery Factory only during such period of the year as may be specified by the occupier in the notice which an occupier availing himself of a special exception is required by Section 60 of the Act to serve on the Inspector and to exhibit in the factory.

The Order revokes so much of the Order of December 20th, 1882, as applies to Hosiery Factories.

\* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1902; No. 379 (Eyre & Spottiswoode). Price 1d.

INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN MAY.

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

UNIONS AND SOCIETIES REGISTERED.

The total number of Industrial Unions and Societies registered in May was as follows:—Under the Trade Union Acts, 6; under the Industrial and Provident Societies' Acts, 29; under the Friendly Societies' Act, 62 (including 21 branches of existing Societies); under the Building Societies' Acts, 2: in all, 99.

Among the new Unions and Societies registered in May were the following:—

**Trade Unions.**—*England*—3, viz.:—Gateshead and District Builders' Labourers Union, Grey Nag's Head Inn, High Street, Gateshead; City of Liverpool Society of Foremen Tailors, Stork Hotel, Queen Square, Liverpool; Coppull Miners' Labour and Checkweigh Assoc., Old Oak Tree Inn, Coppull, Chorley. *Scotland*.—None. *Ireland* 3, viz.:—City of Dublin Stone Cutters, 37, Wellington Quay, Dublin; Belfast Carmen, 3, Rosemary Street, Belfast; Ind. Stationary Steam and Gas Engine Drivers, Steam and Hydraulic Crane Drivers, Greasers, Firemen and Trimmers, 107, Talbot Street, Dublin.

**Industrial and Provident Societies.**—*England and Wales*—18, viz.:—Colwyn Bay and District Co-op. Soc., Colwyn Bay; Amble Beehive Co-op. Soc., Society's Store, High Street, Amble, Acklington; Sheffield Builders, 22, Broad Street, Park, Sheffield; Bedford Progressive and Indus. Co-op. Soc., 16, Mill Street, Bedford; Llansamlet Co-op. Soc., Bane Bonymaen, Swansea; Nantyllyon Builders Soc., 42, Hermon Road, Maesteg, R.S.O. Glam.; St. Ives Cornwall Co-op. Soc., St. Andrews Street, St. Ives; Llandilo Dairy Soc., The Dairy, Fairfach, Carmarthen; Co-op. Boot Stores and Leather-sellers Soc., 106, London Road, Brighton; Crowborough Indus. Co-op. Soc., Barcombe House, Crowborough, Tunbridge Wells; Wetherby and District Co-op. Soc., St. James's Street, Wetherby; Alleyenes, Ltd., 51, Sherwood Street, Nottingham; Vicar's Farm, Ltd., Vicar's Farm, Far Forest, Rock, Worcester; Yorkshire Traders Co-op. Buying Assoc., 2, Piccadilly, Bradford; Beckford Farmers' Assoc., Beckford Towers, Tewkesbury, and three Workmen's Clubs. *Scotland*.—None. *Ireland*, 11, viz.:—Belfast Tailors' Co-partnership, 5, Bridge Street, Belfast; Ballina Co-op. Boot and Shoe Soc., Ballina, co. Mayo; Knockavilla Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Knockavilla, Cashel, co. Tipperary; Clarina Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Clarina, co. Limerick; Carrickaslane Divisional Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Corrintra, Castleblayney, co. Monaghan; Broomfield and Mullaghance Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Bloomfield, co. Monaghan; Ahascragh Dist. Beekeepers' Assoc., Ahascragh, co. Galway; Ballybay Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ballybay, co. Monaghan; Drumquin Co-op. Beekeepers' Assoc., Drumquin, co. Tyrone; Boyle Industrial Technical Schools, Abbeystown, Boyle, co. Roscommon; Drumcondra Working Men's Co-op. Building Soc. and Loan Fund, Clonturk Road, Drumcondra, co. Dublin.

UNIONS AND SOCIETIES DISSOLVED.

The total number of Industrial Unions and Societies reported as having commenced to "wind-up," or had registration cancelled in May was as follows:—Under the Trade Union Acts, 1; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 4; under the Friendly Societies Act, 25 (including 8 branches of Societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 26; in all, 56. The Unions and Societies removed from the Register in May included the following:—

**Trade Unions.**—*England*—1, viz.:—Huddersfield and District Male and Female Card and Blowing Room Operatives Assoc., Friendly and Trade Societies Club, Northumberland Street, Huddersfield. *Scotland*.—None. *Ireland*.—None.

**Industrial and Provident Societies.**—*England*—3, viz.:—Horsmonden Indus. Co-op. Soc., Bassets, Horsmonden; North-East London Ind. Co-op. Soc., 17, Victoria Park Square, N.E.; Newcastle-on-Tyne Co-op. Cabinet Makers' Soc., Hammond Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. *Scotland*.—None. *Ireland*.—1, viz.:—Lower Lecale Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Strangford, co. Down (*Dissolved by Instrument*).