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[PRICE ONE PENNY.

EMPLOYMENT CHART

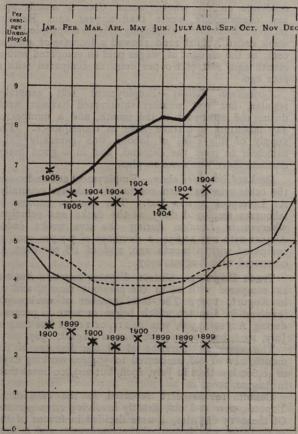
SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

- Thick Curve=1008.

Thin Curve=1007.

____ Dotted Curve=Mean of 1898-1907.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed during the years 1898-1907 with the dates thereof.



NOTE TO CHART.

The above Chart is based solely on Returns furnished direct to the Labour Department by various Trade Unions which pay unemployed benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked-out, sick or superannuated, are excluded from the figures. For August, 1908, the general and branch Returns of Unions related to 648,585, members in the following trades:—

ing 55.483 ... 35,185 ... 648,585

Building		63,620	Printing & Bookbind
Coal Mining		128,753	Woodworking and F
Engineering		153,363	
Shipbuilding	•••		Miscellaneous
Other Metal Trades		32,378	Total
Textiles	***	98,167	

STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN AUGUST.

[In addition to the 2,676 Employment Returns from Trade Unions used for the Chart, 3,725 were received from employers relating to 1,179,361 workpeople employed in coal and iron mining, the cotton, woollen, worsted and other textile trades, the building trades, the boot and shoe and other clothing trades, and the paper and glass trades. Besides these 6,401 statistical returns, a large number of returns of a non-statistical character were received from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, Local Correspondents, and other sources.]

EMPLOYMENT in August was, on the whole, not so good as in July.

As compared with a year ago employment in all the principal industries, excepting boot and shoe manufacture, showed some decline.

In the 268 Trade Unions, with a net membership of 648,585, making Returns, 57,912 (or 8.9 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of August, 1908, compared with 8.2 per cent. at the end of July, 1908, and 40 per cent. at the end of August, 1907.

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

Iron Mining.—Employment was good, and showed little change on the whole compared with a month ago and a year ago.

Pig Iron Industry. - Employment in this industry during August continued moderate. It was considerably worse than a year ago. Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters employing 21,000 workpeople showed 270 furnaces in blast at the end of August, as compared with 267 in July, 1908, and 346 in August, 1907.

Iron and Steel Works.—Employment at iron and steel works showed little change as compared with the previous month, and was worse than a year ago. The volume of employment (i.e., number employed multiplied by the number of shifts worked) during the week ended August 22nd, 1908, at the works from which Returns were received was 0.6 per cent. more than in the week ended July 25th, 1908, but 13.3 per cent. less than a year ago. than a year ago.

Tinplate and Steel Sheet Manufacture.—Employment during August continued very good. It was not quite so good as a year ago. At the works covered by the Returns 437 tinplate and sheet mills were working at the end of August as compared with 444 a month ago and 448 a year ago.

Engineering Trades. — Employment continued slack, with much short time. It was worse than a month ago, and much worse than a year ago. The dispute on the North-East Coast remained unsettled. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of August was 12.0,* as compared with 11.1* a month ago and 3.8 in August, 1907.

^{*} Members on strike are not included in these figures.

W. S. C.

Shipbuilding Trades.—Employment continued bad. It was worse than a month ago, and much worse than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of August was 25'2, as compared with 22'2† in July, 1908, and 9'3 in August, 1907.

Cotton Trade.—Employment was worse than a month ago and much worse than a year ago. At many spinning mills there was organised short time, and in the weaving sheds many looms were stopped. Returns from firms employing 124,975 workpeople in the week ended August 22nd showed a decrease of 3.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago, and of 14.9 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Woollen Trade.—Employment continued quiet, and was worse than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 30,988 workpeople in the week ended August 22nd, showed an increase of 1'1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 7'1 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Worsted Trade.—Employment continued quiet, and was worse than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 45,222 workpeople in the week ended August 22nd showed an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 8.6 per cent compared with a year

Linen Trade.—Employment during August continued dull, and was much worse than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 47,290 workpeople in the week ended August 22nd showed an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 15.1 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Jute Trade.—Employment was fair on the whole, but showed a decline as compared with both a month ago and a year ago. Returns from firms employing 18,310 workpeople in the week ended August 22nd showed a decrease of 2.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago, and of 3.6 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Silk Trade.—Employment was moderate, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 8,480 workpeople in the week ended August 22nd, showed a decrease of 1'1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 7.6 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Lace Trade. — Employment continued bad. It was about the same as a month ago, and considerably worse than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 8,535 workpeople in the week ended August 22nd showed an increase of 2·1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 20·0 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Hosiery Trade.—Employment continued moderate, and was not so good as a year ago. Returns from firms employing 17,663 workpeople in the week ended August 22nd showed an increase of 0.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 2.5 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Tailoring Trade.—Employment in the bespoke branch in London showed the usual seasonal decline, but was rather better than a year ago; in the provinces it was quiet. In the ready-made branch it was moderate, and slightly worse than a month ago and a year ago.

Hat Trade.—Employment in the Silk Hat trade was bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In the Felt Hat trade it was quiet, about the same as a month ago, and worse than a year ago.

Boot and Shoe Trade.—Employment on the whole was moderate, slightly worse than a month ago, but better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 63,373 workpeople in the week ended August 22nd showed a decrease of 1.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 4.5 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

+Revised figure

Other Leather Trades.—Employment was bad, but showed a slight improvement compared with a month ago. It was not so good as a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 3,418 had 7.5 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of August, as compared with 8.7 per cent. in July, and 5.0 per cent. a year ago.

Paper Making Trades.— Employment in these trades was only moderate. It was rather worse than a month and a year ago. Some short time was reported.

Printing and Bookbinding Trades.—Employment was bad generally, and worse than a year ago. With letterpress printers, as is usual in August, it was much worse than in July. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed in the printing trades at the end of August was 7:1, as compared with 4.6 a month ago and 5.8 a year ago. In the bookbinding trade the percentages for the same periods were 7.8, 8.3, and 6.3 respectively.

Building Trades.—Employment in August continued slack. It was slightly better than a month ago, but worse than a year ago.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades. — Employment continued bad on the whole, and was worse than a year ago. Trade Unions reported 8.4 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of August, as compared with 8.7 per cent. a month ago, and 4.3 per cent. a year ago.

Pottery and Brick and Tile Trades.—Employment in the Pottery trade continued bad, and was considerably worse than a year ago. In the Brick and Tile trades it was bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. Much short time was worked.

Glass Trades.—Employment in the glass trades was moderate on the whole, worse than a month ago, and considerably worse than a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 7,855 workpeople in the week ended August 22nd showed a decrease of 4'9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago, and of 8'0 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Agricultural Labour.—Employment was generally regular, but wet weather interrupted harvest work during the latter part of the month, and a number of day labourers lost some time in consequence. The supply of this class of labour was generally quite sufficient to meet the demand, and in a good many districts there was some surplus.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—Employment at London and the other principal ports continued moderate generally. At Liverpool it was bad. The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves in London during the five weeks ended August 29th was 11,834, a decrease of 3.7 per cent. as compared with a month ago, and of 1.8 per cent. as compared with August, 1907.

Trade Disputes.—Sixteen disputes began in August, as compared with 24 in the previous month, and 27 in August, 1907. The total number of workpeople involved in disputes which began or were in progress during August, 1908, was 24,211, or 11,692 less than in July, 1908, but 10,299 more than in August, 1907.

The aggregate duration of all the disputes of the

The aggregate duration of all the disputes of the month, new or old, amounted to 394,400 working days, or 40,600 less than in July, 1908, but 209,000 more than

in August, 1907.

Definite results were reported in the case of 15 disputes, new and old, directly involving 2,170 persons. Of these 15 disputes, 4 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 5 in favour of the employers, and 6 were compromised.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes taking effect in August affected 160,300 workpeople, of whom 400 received advances and 159,900 sustained reductions. The number whose wages were reduced included 123,500 coal miners in Northumberland and Durham, 20,000 puddlers and millmen in the Midlands, and 5,500 steel millmen, &c., in Scotland. The total computed effect of all the changes reported was a net decrease of slightly over £3,100 per week.

COURT OF ARBITRATION.

THE President of the Board of Trade is causing the following memorandum to be communicated to Chambers of Commerce and Employers' and Workmen's Associations:—

Memorandum.

- 1. Under the Conciliation Act of 1896 the Board of Trade has power to appoint a Conciliator in trade disputes and an Arbitrator at the request of both parties. These slender means of intervention have been employed in cases where opportunity has offered, and the work of the Department in this sphere has considerably increased of recent years. In 1905 the Board of Trade intervened in 14 disputes and settled them all; in 1906 they intervened in 20 cases and settled 16; in 1907 they intervened in 39 cases and settled 32; while during the first eight months of the present year no fewer than 47 cases of intervention have occurred, of which 35 have been already settled, while some of the remainder are still being dealt with.
- 2. It is not proposed to curtail or replace any of the existing functions or practices under the Conciliation Act, nor in any respect to depart from its voluntary and permissive character. The good offices of the Department will still be available to all in industrial circles for the settlement of disputes whenever opportunity offers; single Arbitrators and Conciliators will still be appointed whenever desired; special interventions will still be undertaken in special cases, and no element of compulsion will enter into any of these proceedings. But the time has now arrived when the scale of these operations deserves, and indeed requires, the creation of some more formal and permanent machinery; and, with a view to consolidating, expanding, and popularising the working of the Conciliation Act, I propose to set up a Standing Court of Arbitration.
- 3. The Court, which will sit wherever required, will be composed of three (or five) members, according to the wishes of the parties, with fees and expenses to members of the Court and to the Chairmen during sittings. The Court will be nominated by the Board of Trade from three panels. The first panel—of Chairmen—will comprise persons of eminence and impartiality. The second will be formed of persons who, while preserving an impartial mind in regard to the particular dispute, are nevertheless drawn from the "employer class." The third panel will be formed of persons similarly drawn from the class of workmen and Trade Unionists. It is hoped that this composition will remove from the Court the reproach which workmen have sometimes brought against individual Conciliators and Arbitrators, that, however fair they mean to be, they do not intimately understand the position of the manual labourer. It is believed that by the appointment of two Arbitrators selected from the employers' panel and two from the workmen's panel in difficult cases, thus constituting a Court of five instead of three persons, the decisions of the Court would be rendered more authoritative, especially to the workmen, who, according to the information of the Board of Trade, are more ready to submit to the judgment of two of their representatives than of one. As the personnel of the Court would be constantly varied, there would be no danger of the Court itself becoming unpopular with either class in consequence of any particular decision; there would be no difficulty in choosing members quite unconnected with the case in dispute, and no inconvenient labour would be imposed upon anyone who consented to serve on the panels. Lastly, in order that the peculiar conditions of any trade may be fully explained to the Court, technical assessors may be appointed by the Board of Trade at the request of the Court or of the parties to assist in the deliberations, but without any right to vote.
- 4. The state of public opinion upon the general question of arbitration in trade disputes may be very conveniently tested by such a voluntary arrangement. Careful inquiry through various channels open to the

Board of Trade justifies the expectation that the plan would not be unwelcome in industrial circles. The Court will only be called into being if, and in proportion as, it is actually wanted. No fresh legislation is necessary.

5. Steps will now be taken to form the respective

1st Sept., 1908.

RECENT CONCILIATION CASES.

Wagon and Carriage Works, Wednesbury.

On July 29th, 1908, the workpeople at the Old Park Works, Wednesbury, to the number of about 1,050, struck work as a protest against the dismissal of a fellow-workman. They also alleged other grievances, including reductions in the rates of payment for piecework. On August 10th, the employers received a deputation of the workpeople, but no settlement was arrived at.

On August 16th, Mr. C. J. Drummond, an officer of the Labour Department, proceeded to Wednesbury, and interviewed the parties.

On August 19th the employers again received a deputation from the workpeople, at which they undertook to investigate each of the grievances complained of, as soon as the men resumed work, and, at a mass meeting of the workpeople the same day, the workmen's committee recommended the acceptance of the terms, which were agreed to by a large majority. Work was resumed on the following Monday, August 24th.

Silk Power Loom Weavers, Macclesfield.

Sir Alfred Bateman, K.C.M.G., the arbitrator appointed in this case (see Labour Gazette for August, p. 240), issued his award on August 24th.

The dispute in this case had reference to a new price list, which the Trade Union had compiled, but which Messrs. Josiah Smale and Sons, the firm affected by the dispute, had declined to adopt. Sir Alfred Bateman decided as follows:—

- (1) That Messrs. Josiah Smale and Sons are not obliged to adopt forthwith the new Power Loom price list which was compiled by the Macclesfield Power Loom Silk Weavers' Association.
- (2) That it is desirable that a uniform Power Loom price list be paid to by all silk manufacturers at Macclesfield.
- (3) That, as offered by Messrs. Josiah Smale and Sons, that firm shall forthwith use their best endeavours to persuade the manufacturers at Macclesfield to adopt such a price list.
- (4) For the purpose of fixing such a list, it is desirable that a small number of manufacturers, say from 6 to 10, shall meet an equal number of representatives of the Macclesfield Power Loom Silk Weavers' Association, and discuss as a basis the list compiled by the latter with a view to adopt it, either as a whole or in part, making such modifications therein as may be found desirable by both parties.
- (5) In the event of both parties being unable to agree it is desirable that all questions in dispute shall be referred to an arbitrator, who shall previously have been mutually agreed upon, or failing agreement, to an arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade; and the decision of the said arbitrator shall be final and binding on both parties.

Iron Moulders, South Wales.

Mr. W. B. Yates, the arbitrator appointed in this case (see LABOUR GAZETTE for August, p. 240), issued his award on August 27th.

The iron moulders in the Neath and Briton Ferry district had struck for an advance in the minimum rate of wages from 36s. to 38s. a week, which rate was already being paid by employers in the Swansea district. The employers at Swansea then locked-out their moulders in support of a counter-demand for a reduction to a uniform minimum of 36s. Mr. Yates decided that the minimum rate for the Swansea, Neath, and Briton Ferry districts should be 37s. a week.

Tinplate Workers, South Wales.

Mr. W. B. Yates, the umpire appointed in this case (see Labour Gazette for August, p. 241), issued his award on September 3rd, deciding that the rate of

wages to be paid to men employed at annealing furnaces heated by gas should remain at 10s. 6d. per 100 boxes, the rate previously paid. The workpeople had sought an advance to 11s. 6d. per 100 boxes.

Box Makers, London, S.W.

On August 11th, 42 women and girls employed at a box-making factory at Summers Town, London, S.W., struck work as a protest against proposed reductions in the piece-work rates of payment for certain operations in one department; and on August 21st the Women's Trade Union League, on behalf of the workpeople on strike, asked the Board of Trade to intervene in the dispute with a view to effecting a settlement. On August 28th the Board of Trade appointed a conciliator with the consent of both parties, and Mr. W. B. Yates acted in this capacity.

Mr. Yates met the parties on September 1st and 3rd; and on the latter date an agreement was reached, and was confirmed by both parties later on the same day.

Music Hall Artistes.

Mr. G. R. Askwith, K.C., the arbitrator appointed in this case (see Labour Gazette for June, 1907), issued a supplementary award on August 19th, 1908.

He decided that certain contracts for 12 nightly performances and a matinee at an inclusive charge were breaches of the award, as infringing the matinee clause. In two other contracts, where the model form of contract had not been used and the clause providing for payment of matinees had been deleted, he decided that breaches of the award had taken place.

In a further case where it was alleged that commission was deducted on contracts made direct with artistes, and it was suggested that a discount of $2\frac{1}{2}$ or 5 per cent. was not the same as a commission, Mr. Askwith decided that, under the circumstances, the two could not be distinguished, and that such deductions ought not to be made

Lace Makers, Nottingham.

The Board of Trade, understanding that certain questions had arisen between the employers and workpeople in the levers branch of the Nottingham lace trade with regard to the carrying out of Mr. Askwith's award,* given in 1905, entered into negotiations with the parties. As the result of these negotiations, a joint meeting between representatives of the manufacturers and of the operatives (levers section) was arranged to take place at the Board of Trade, to discuss and draft a scheme of permanent machinery for the adjustment of those questions and any disputes arising in the trade. The meeting was held accordingly, on August 27th, under the chairmanship of Mr. G. R. Askwith, K.C., and draft terms were drawn up.

Boot and Shoe Trade, Stafford.

On September 3rd, a joint application was made to the Board of Trade by a firm of boot and shoe manufacturers at Stafford, and by the National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives (Stafford Branch), for the appointment of an arbitrator to settle a dispute between the firm and their workpeople; and on September 14th the Board appointed Mr. T. Smith, J.P., of Leicester, to act in that capacity.

Building Trades, Leicester.

On September 8th a joint application was made to the Board of Trade for the appointment of a mediator to consider a dispute between the Leicester and District Building Trades Employers' Association and the United Committee of Operative Bricklayers, Joiners, and Builders' Labourers, Leicester District, as to an alleged violation of the working rules relating to walking time and payment of standard rates of wages to builders' labourers.

On September 14th the Board of Trade appointed Mr. T. Smith, J.P., of Leicester, to act as mediator in this dispute.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR IN 1907.

THE Fifteenth Annual Report of the Labour Department of the Board of Trade on Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour in the United Kingdom has just been published.* The Report gives detailed information for the year 1907, with comparative statistics for 1898-1906, and preliminary figures for the first half of 1908.

The changes in wages recorded in the Report are those due to alterations in the rates of wages; changes in earnings caused by fluctuations in the amount of available employment or altered conditions of work not being included in the scope of the Report.

In the case of agricultural labourers, seamen, and railway servants the numbers of workpeople affected by changes are not known, and the figures quoted below are exclusive of these industries.

The Report states that the rise in wages which began towards the end of 1905, continued through 1906 and 1907. The net rise per week in 1907 was £201,000, and in 1906 £58,000, being rather more in the aggregate than the total fall (£229,000) in 1901-5. At the end of the year wages stood at a higher level than at the end of any previous year since these statistics were first recorded in 1893.

If account be taken of the various dates at which the changes in wages in 1907 came into operation, the net increase in the year's wages bill due to changes in rates of wages (as distinct from earnings) is estimated at £5,821,000, compared with an increase of £1,419,000 in 1906, and a decrease of £114,000 in 1905.

The number of workpeople whose wages were changed during 1907 was 1,246,000, which was also larger than that recorded in any previous year. Only 3,000 of these workpeople sustained decreases, the remaining 1,243,000 receiving advances in wages.

Every group of trades showed a net advance in rates of wages in 1907, but the greater part of the total net weekly rise was due to advances in the coal mining industry, coal miners receiving £174,000 out of the total of £201,000 per week. The textile group was responsible for £12,000, and the metal, engineering and shipbuilding group for £9,000 out of the remaining £27,000.

The following Table gives for coal mining and for other trades respectively the number of persons affected by changes in rates of wages in each of the last ten years, and the amount of the net weekly rise or fall:—

Number a	r affected.	Net Weekly Rise (+) or Fall (-) in Wages.		
	Coal Mining.	Other Trades.	Coal Mining.	Other Trades.
	l No.	No.	£	Į €
1898	660,000	352,000	+ 57,000	+ 24,000
1899	653,000	519,000	+ 51,000	+ 39,000
900	681,000	451,000	+164,000	+ 45,000
1001	705,000	224,000	- 57,000	- 20,000
1902	736,000	151,000	- 74,000	+ 1,000
1903	752,000	145,000	- 32,000	- 6,000
1904	658,000	143,000	- 31,000	- 8,000
1905	201,000	488,000	- 13,000	+ 11,000
1906	427,000	688,000	+ 27,000	+ 31,000
1907	806,000	440,000	+174,000	+ 27,000

The ascertained net weekly rise during the past ten completed years, according to the above Table, has thus been £266,000 in the coal mining industry, and only £144,000 in all the other trades taken together.

The number of workpeople whose changes in rates of wages were preceded by a stoppage of work formed in 1907, as in previous years, a very small fraction of the whole. In the coal mining industry such stoppages affected only about o'r per cent. of the workpeople whose wages were changed, while in all other industries the percentage was 2.7. As a rule changes in rates of wages are arranged by Conciliation Boards in the coal

mining industry, by sliding scales in the iron and steel trades, and by direct negotiations in the textile and engineering trades.

The changes in hours of labour recorded in 1907 affected 36,200 workpeople, chiefly in the building and textile trades, the total net reduction being about 79,000 hours per week.

WORK OF DISTRESS COMMITTEES DURING 1907—8.

A Return* recently issued by the Local Government Board gives an account of the proceedings during 1907-8 of the Distress Committees and the Central (Unemployed) Body for London, and of the Distress Committees (88) in the provincial towns and urban districts of England and Wales, which were set up by the Unemployed Workmen Act, 1905, for the investigation and relief of unemployment. Notwithstanding that some 19 provincial Distress Committees thought it unnecessary to take any action under the Act during the year—including such important centres of industry as Huddersfield, Cardiff, Blackburn, Merthyr Tydvil, Walsall, and Wigan—the aggregate number of applications from unemployed workpeople was slightly in excess of the number recorded in the previous year. The figures were as follows:—

at 15 to a son adjust		cations 907-8.	Rate per 1,000 of population		
Distress Committees.	Number.	Difference compared with previous year.	In 1907-8.	Difference compared with previous year.	
In London , "Outer London "† , Provincial Districts	32,624 15,832 41,601	+ 4,443 + 510 - 1,897	6.9 15.5 4.0	+ 0'9 + 0'1 - 07	
Total	90,057	+ 3,056	6.0	+ 0.3	

The increase thus occurred mainly in London. The number of applications in Bermondsey, Poplar, and Woolwich was noticeably high, being in each case over 12 per 1,000 of the population. In several of the more populous districts in the immediate neighbourhood of London the number of applicants was a good deal above the average, particularly in West Ham (13.6 per 1,000), Edmonton (27.0), Erith (23.0) and Tottenham (18.8). Outside London the most marked increase occurred in Sunderland, where, owing partly to depression in the shipbuilding trade and partly to industrial disputes, the number of applicants rose from 1,409 in 1906-7 to 5,421 in 1907-8; and increases occurred at Barrow-in-Furness, Birmingham, Bradford, Hull, Middlesbrough, Sheffield, South Shields, and Wolverhampton. It appears that about one-third (30,257) of the whole number of applications received during the year were renewals of applications made in one or both of the preceding winters since the Act came into operation.

The applications received were required to be investigated as far as possible, and classified by the Distress Committees; and of the 90,057 applicants, 54,613 were after investigation found qualified for assistance under the Act; the bulk of the residue were either rejected on the ground of unsatisfactory character, receipt of poor relief within the preceding twelve months, or receipt of assistance on relief works in the two preceding years, or were found to have quitted the district or to be already in employment. The return shows that most of the applicants found qualified on investigation were between the ages of 20 and 50 years, nearly one-third being between 30 and 40 years of age. More than one-half the whole number (53'3 per cent.) were, as in previous years, general or casual labourers, and nearly one-fifth (19'4 per cent.) belonged to the building trade—a slightly higher proportion than in

1906-7. The engineering, shipbuilding, and metal trades accounted for 8.6 per cent. of the total.

As far as possible work was found for qualified applicants by the Distress Committees and the Central (Unemployed) Body, either on relief works or through the agency of private employers. The total number of applicants who thus secured work was 37,092; 5,469 other persons who were offered employment either refused it or had obtained work independently.

Applicants who obtained work.	London.	"Outer" London.	Pro- vincial Towns.	Total.
By direct employment (from Central Body or Distress Committees) Through local authorities From private employers and other- wise	5,424 2,785 116*	6,126 3,912 638	6,441 10,768 3,018	17,991 17,465 3,772
Net Total†	8,016†	9,969†	19,107†	37,092†

Work in London was provided by the Central Body, either on the farm and labour colony works at Hollesley Bay (1,506 men) and at Fambridge (409 men), in the public parks, at the Alexandra Palace, and in laying out recreation grounds and other similar work for certain Borough Councils. The Central Body also provided work for a small number of women at sewing. The average number of men employed at any one time in the winter was 1,931, and of women 104. In Outer London and the provinces, work for 460 persons was provided by the West Ham Distress Committee on their labour colony at Ockendon in Essex, and work for 36 men was provided on a labour colony at Barton Moor established by the Manchester Distress Committee: apart from the labour colonies the work found for unemployed applicants was on rough work of various kinds, such as road making, sewerage work, snow clearing, street cleansing, trenching and laying out pleasure grounds, &c., either by direct employment of the Committees or through the local authorities.

The rates of pay for the ordinary unskilled work provided was 6d. per hour in London; it was very generally 5d. per hour in the provinces. On the labour colonies established by the Central Body and the West Ham Committee the rates of pay, including allowances to the men's families, were 23s. to 24s. and 16s. 6&d. a week respectively.

To assist unemployed applicants in obtaining work independently of special relief works, a Central Exchange and 25 local labour exchanges had been set up in all parts of London in 1906; these were maintained during the year, and a new Exchange was opened in the City of London. The total registrations numbered 116,034, and 22,096 situations were filled. A few provincial committees endeavoured to find work for applicants by similar means, apparently with some measure of success.

The total expenditure for the year of the Central Body and the Distress Committees amounted to £225,687, of which £138,098, or rather more than threefifths, was incurred by the Central Body and Distress Committees in London; £42,517 by Distress Committees in "Outer London;" and £45,072 by provincial Distress Committees. In addition West Ham expended £7,060, raised by loan, on the purchase of land for the farm colony. The total receipts amounted to £277,458, of which £127,671 was derived from the grant of £200,000 voted by Parliament for distribution by the Local Government Boards of England, Scotland and Ireland, and £112,581 was raised by rates. The Central Body and provincial Distress Committees expended £135,516 on labour colonies and other work provided for unemployed applicants, and £48,931 on emigration and removal of unemployed persons from one area to another. The number of persons (including their dependents) who were assisted to emigrate or to remove in the course of the year was 6,842.

^{*} See LABOUR GAZETTE for 1905, pp. 227, 260, 291-2 and 359; and LABOUR GAZETTE for 1906, pp. 5 and 73.

^{*}Cd. 4255, 1908. Wyman & Sons, Ltd. Price 9d.

^{*} H. C. 173 of Session 1908: price 3 d. Wyman & Sons, Ltd.

[†]Croydon, West Ham, East Ham, Hornsey, Edmonton, Erith, Leyton, Tottenham, Walthamstow, Willesden.

^{*} Not including persons who obtained work through the labour exchanges established by the Central (Unemployed) Body in London.

⁺ Counting once only persons who obtained employment by more than one of the agencies indicated.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS, 1907.

According to the Annual Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops for 1907* the total number of factories under inspection at the end of the year 1907 was 107,321, and of workshops 142,622, increases of 984 and 750 respectively as compared with the previous year. In addition there were 7,210 laundries, of which 2,955 had power machinery and 4,255 had no

The number of children and young persons medically examined during 1907 for certificates of fitness to work in factories and workshops was 427,075; and of these 419,422 were certified. Of those rejected, 4,407 were rejected on medical grounds, and 2,878 on account of insufficient age or want of evidence of age. The number of children and young persons applying for certificates of fitness has increased in every year since 1904, but in 1907 it was greater owing to the operation of a new Home Office Order requiring such certificates in the case of certain workshops as well as factories. The following Table shows the number certified in 1897, 1906, and 1907:-

nicino (o) 21 22 le para todio l	1897.	1905.	1907.
Children under 14 (half-timers) { Males Females Young Persons between 13 and 14 (Males (full-timers) Females	Males, 45,250; Females, 38,670	20,790 21,259 40,631 38,527	21,948 22,864 42,679 40,859
Young Persons between 14 and 16 { Males Females	159,689 118,903	139,722	146,600

Of the half-timers certified in 1907, 26,695 were in Lancashire and Cheshire, and 11,520 in Yorkshire; and of the young persons between 13 and 14 certified as fulltimers, 36,602 were in Lancashire and Cheshire, and 19,594 in Yorkshire. Several of the lady inspectors call attention to the increased employment of girls of 13 or 14, particularly in Yorkshire; they are being increasingly employed, not only in wrapping up, packing, and similar processes, but also in the tending of machinery.

The total number of accidents reported in 1907 was 124,325. Fatal accidents reported have increased from 658 in 1897 to 1,116 in 1906 and 1,179 in 1907—an increase of 80 per cent. in ten years. Accidents reported to certifying surgeons (including the fatal accidents) have increased from 15,985 in 1897 to 35,696 in 1906 and to 43,478 in 1907—an increase of 172 per cent. in the ten years. Other accidents increased from 24,489 in 1897 to 80,847 in 1907—an increase of 230 per cent. Much of this increase, however, is stated to be due to better reporting, partly owing to the requirements of insurance companies under the Compensation Acts, and partly to the increased vigilance of the inspectors. Much is also due to changes in the basis of reportability, new classes of accidents being constantly added by legislation, to the list of those required to be reported. Most of the accidents are sustained by males over 18, especially by those engaged in metal and engineering works; but in proportion to the numbers employed, young persons and children also suffer heavily.

There were 653 cases of poisoning or anthrax during the year, resulting in 40 deaths; the corresponding figures for 1906 were 708 and 55. The deaths from anthrax fell from 22 to 11.

The Report also deals with employment in china and earthenware works, and other dangerous trades; with employment in laundries, &c.; and contains special reports on the fish-curing industry, shuttle making, lace dressing, shipbuilding accidents, and match factories. It also summarises certain reports from H.M. Consuls in foreign countries as to the incidence of anthrax in certain districts (China, Persia, Asia Minor, South America, &c.); and contains an account of the regulations enforced in German grinding-works (at Solingen, Düsseldorf, &c.) with a view to reduce disease and mortality among metal grinders.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE COLONIES.*

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

Canada.

The only classes of emigrants wanted in Canada at the present time are farmers financially able to take homesteads or purchase lands, and female domestic

servants; there is an excellent demand for these. The demand for farm labourers is over till next spring, and neither these nor mechanics nor general labourers should emigrate to Canada till then on the chance of work. The regulation now in operation in Canada requiring every emigrant 18 years of age or over to have in his possession at least 25 dollars (£5) in cash at the time of landing, beside a ticket to his destination, is enforced strictly and impartially in the case of all emigrants, other than farmers, farm labourers and female servants. All emigrants sent out by British charitable societies or public funds must be certified as suitable by the Canadian authorities in London. In view of several recent cases of deportation it is necessary to bear in mind that any immigrant who within two years of his landing in Canada becomes a public charge, or an inmate of a penitentiary, gaol, prison or hospital, or other charitable institution may-after investigation of the facts-be deported together with those dependent on him. The manufac-turing industries have been much less busy than in 1907, but there have been exceptions, as at Sydney, Nova Scotia, where the steel works have been active. In many places there has been a surplus both of skilled and unskilled labour, more especially at Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver. In the province of Ouebec the cotton mills have been in partial operation only. The Nova Scotia collieries and the asbestos mines in Quebec have been busy. Railway construction has employed thousands of men throughout Canada, but no more workers are wanted now. No settlement is reported of the mechanics' strike on the Canadian Pacific Railway, which affects boilermakers, car makers, electricians, machinists, moulders, blacksmiths, fitters and helpers. It should be borne in mind that anyone going out now on a temporary engagement will run the risk of losing his employment in the winter months when all kinds of work in Canada are specially difficult

Australia.

There is an excellent demand for farmers, farm labourers and female servants, and New South Wales, Queensland, and Western Australia offer cheap passages to these classes. Application must be made to the respective Agents-General in London. Settlers in Queensland or Western Australia may obtain free grants of 160 acres on easy conditions of residence and improvement. There is little demand for miners, mechanics, or general labourers; but in Victoria skilled men and female apprentices and workers have been wanted in some of the manufactories.

New Zealand.

Reduced passages to New Zealand may be granted on certain conditions to farmers, farm labourers and domestic servants, for whom there is an excellent demand. Application must be made to the High Commissioner, 13, Victoria Street, London, S.W. There is not much demand for more mechanics, but competent men can get work. The Report of the Department of Labour for the year ending March, 1908, states:- "Throughout the Dominion skilled labour generally has had a successful year. The building trades especially have been in full swing of employment in the larger cities, whilst in the country towns there was even a shortage of the necessary hands. The boot trade, which a few years ago seemed destined to die out almost entirely, has regained its old footing of security, and promises exceedingly well in the near future. Engineering has not been buoyant, but in most places trade was fairly steady. Cabinet making, tailoring, dress-making, coachbuilding, agricultural implement making, confectionery and jam making—all these trades have been busy, and some of them have had a record year. Woollen mills have been running full time, and complain shortage of workers. In many occupations this shortage has been reported by employers, who state that the expansion of trade and business is impossible if some means cannot be found to promote immigration. Sawmilling generally has been brisk, but differs greatly with locality. For example, in Westland the industry is growing fast, whilst in the Forty Mile Bush (Dannevirke) it has almost disappeared, the bushman being replaced by the farmer. Flax mills, owing to the high price of flax, ran at full speed for the first part of the year, but the sudden fall in value of the staple has made only too many of the mills close down for a time.

"Unskilled labour has very fully and generally found employment. In spite of the large numbers of immigrants, milking hands and farm labourers are scarce, and town labourers have had almost continuous employment. The extensive building operations in the first and second class towns, and drainage works at places like Timaru and Nelson, account for the ease with which surplus labour has been provided with employment." The above statement is generally applicable to the present time.

South Africa.

Emigrants should not go to any part of South Africa at the present time in search of work. The supply of persons in all trades is equal to, or more often exceeds, the demand. In the Transvaal considerable distress exists at Pretoria and Johannesburg, though the Johannesburg Municipality has absorbed a large number of the unemployed by giving white men preference over blacks in the construction of sewage works. The supply of female servants is sufficient.

LABOUR ABROAD.

[NOTE.—The following reports include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment in foreign countries, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in these countries are, however, not the same as those for the United Kingdom, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot be properly used with those on p. 269 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that in foreign countries. (For further information on the subject of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries, see p. 104 of Cd. 2337 of 1904, and pp. 521-4 of Cd. 4032 of 1908.)]

FRANCE.

Employment in July.*—Employment in the building and accessory trades was good, except at Paris. In the metal trades it showed no appreciable change; the unemployment among tin-box makers on the coasts of Brittany was less severe owing to good catches of sardines. The depression in the textile trades continued in many centres in the Nord department and in Normandy a good deal of short time was worked, and in the Vosges there was a decline in employment; in the Ardennes, however, employment continued satisfactory. There was still considerable unemployment among silk workers in the Lyons and St. Etienne districts. In the garmentmaking trades there was a decline in employment. In the printing trades employment was satisfactory, although not so good as in June. There was still much unemployment among leather dressers and diamond workers, and among coopers in the vineyard districts and watch-makers in the Franche-Comté. Vineyard workers in the South of France were well employed in most centres. while woodcutters found abundant employment in field work, especially harvesting. Employment continued good for gardeners in the Paris district and for agricultural labourers in the Seine-et-Marne department.

Returns showing the number of members unemployed in July were received by the French Labour Department from 980 Trade Unions, with an aggregate

membership of 237,466. Excluding returns from the miners' Unions in the Pas-de-Calais, 80 per cent. of the members were described as unemployed, as compared with 7.8 in the previous month, and 6.0 per cent. in July, 1907.

Coal Mining in July.*—The average number of days worked per week by persons employed underground in coal mines in France during July was 5.92, as compared with 5.68 in June, and 5.91 in July, 1907. Taking surface and underground workers together, 78.61 per cent. worked full time (six days or over per week), and 21.32 per cent. from five to six days. In the previous month the corresponding percentages were 57.04 and 42.31, and in July, 1907, 57.77 and 42.23.

Labour Disputes in July.*—Seventy-five disputes (73 strikes and 2 lock-outs) were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in July, compared with 96 in the previous month and 125† in July, 1907. In 67 of the new disputes 6,223 workpeople took part, as compared with 7,216 workpeople who took part in 83 of the June disputes, and 16,207 who took part in 114 disputes in July, 1907. The trades in which the largest number of disputes occurred were the building (34), transport and warehousing (9), metal (7), mining and quarrying, textile, and pottery (5 each). Of 76 new and old disputes of which the results were reported, 8 terminated in favour of the workpeople and 33 in favour of the employers, while 35 were compromised

Conciliation and Arbitration in July.*—Seven instances of recourse to the law on conciliation and arbitration were reported to the French Labour Department in July. In four cases committees of conciliation met, and these succeeded in settling two of the disputes, while in one case the dispute terminated before the committee met. In the sixth and seventh cases the employers declined to take part in the conciliation proceedings.

Consultative Labour Councils: New Law. +- A law dated July 17th authorises the Council of State, wherever it may be considered useful, to establish bodies, under the name of "consultative labour councils," consisting of employers and workpeople in equal numbers. The duties of these councils will be to further the material and moral interests of their constituents, to express opinions on all questions affecting these interests, either of their own accord or at the request of the Government, and to reply to questions in connection with inquiries ordered by the Government. Each council will have two sections, one consisting of employers and one of work-people, and each section will elect its own president. The sections may deliberate separately. At meetings of the council the two presidents will preside alternately. In general there will be one council to each occupation, but in certain cases similar occupations may be grouped. The number of members in each section will be fixed by the decree establishing the council, and will vary from six to twelve, and the term of office will be four years.

Persons whose names appear on the political voting lists may take part in the election of members. For the employers' section such voters must be employers, or managers who have been engaged in the occupation for two years; for the workpeople's section, workpeople or foremen who have been engaged in the occupation for two years. Electors of twenty-five and upwards are eligible as members of the councils. Women who have peen engaged in a particular occupation for two years have a right to vote in the elections and are eligible for membership upon the councils under certain conditions.

Reduction in Hours of Labour at Government Workshops. §— By a decree of February 26th, 1897, the hours of labour of persons employed in workshops under the French Military Authorities were fixed at 10 per day. This has now been amended by a decree of August 7th, 1908, which fixes the effective duration of work in these establishments at 81 hours per day.

^{*} Cd. 4166, 1908. Price 3s. 11d. Wyman & Sons, Ltd.

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

^{*} Bulletin de l'Office du Travail Journal of the French Labour Department)

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

[†] Revised figure. † Despatch from H.M. Ambassador at Paris, dated July 22nd. § Journal Officiel de la République Frangaise, August 12th, 1908.

GERMANY

Employment in July.—The following is a translation of a statement which appears in the issue of the Reichs - Arbeitsblatt (the journal of the German Labour Department) for the month of August:—"The condition of the labour market in July showed little change from the previous month. It was effected by the usual agricultural activity, the holiday season, and the slack season in the printing trades. Employment in coalmining was uniformly good, except in the Saar district, where there were fewer orders from the larger industries. It was also good in lignite mining, and in the briquette industry. In the pig-iron industry buyers were holding back, partly owing to uncertainty as to the further continuance of the Pig Iron Syndicate. In ironfounding employment was good in most works in South Germany, but in the North and Central districts orders were moderate. In steel works and rolling mills employment was fair, and showed no change from July. In the construction of machinery generally, and in locomotive and railway carriage building, employment was good. It continued good in the electrical trades, and in the building trades was at the same level as in June. In the textile trades a further decline set in for nearly all branches, necessitating considerable reductions in the number of persons employed. In the garment making trades employment was only moderate, but feather cleaners and makers of artificial flowers were busy. In most branches of the larger chemical trades employment continued good, and in the toy industry there was a seasonal improvement. Inland navigation was much impeded by low water, and in many cases vessels could not be utilised to their full capacity."

Dispute in the Shipbuilding Trades at Stettin.—
Despatches from H.M. Consul at Stettin, dated August 9th to 18th, state that on July 17th the riveters employed at a shipbuilding works in that town (517 in number) were asked to work an hour and a-half overtime. A large number of the men refused to do so, both then and on the following day, with the result that on July 18th the works were closed, 7,800 men being locked out. On August 7th eleven other works of the Industrial Union to which the above works belongs discharged 60 per cent. of their men, about 4,000 being affected. On August 11th the riveters decided to terminate the strike, and on the 15th the employers were informed that the men accepted their terms (to work overtime four days a week to complete work in hand, and in case of repairs whenever necessary). The lock-outs at all the establishments thereupon came to an end on the 18th.

HOLLAND.*

Employment in July.—The unfavourable state of employment in the building trades continued, and a greater number of persons were out of work in July than in the previous month. In the larger metal and engineering establishments and in shipbuilding employment continued good. There was no improvement in the textile trades, and in garment making and dependent trades employment was slack generally. Boot and shoe makers were generally well employed, except in North Brabant, where employment in this industry continued slack. In the woodworking trades employment was worse than in June, especially for cabinet makers. There was some seasonal slackness in the printing trades. In bulb cultivation there was still full seasonal activity. Although employment in the diamond trade at Amsterdam was still slack, fewer persons were out of work than in June. In the cocoa and chocolate trades and in the margarine trade employment was slack, but workpeople were well employed in the brewing trades.

Labour Disputes in July.—Twenty disputes, 8 of which directly affected 622 workpeople, were reported to have commenced in July. Nineteen of these came to an end during the month, including 6 which had begun in previous months. The results were known in

13 disputes. Two of these resulted in favour of the work-people, and 3 in favour of the employers, while 4 were compromised. The results of the remaining 4 disputes were indefinite.

BELGIUM.*

Employment in July.—According to returns made to the Belgian Labour Department 4.7 per cent. of the 42,978 members of 206 Trade Unions reporting were unemployed towards the latter part of the month, as compared with 4.6 per cent. in June, and 1.5 per cent. in July, 1907. The above percentages do not include particulars with regard to the Antwerp diamond trades.

Labour Disputes in July.—Eight strikes, affecting 993 workpeople (484 directly and 509 indirectly), were reported to the Belgian Labour Department as having begun in July. The termination of 7 of these (involving 457 strikers) was reported, all of which resulted in favour of the employers.

SWEDEN.

Settlement of Labour Disputes.†—By a series of agreements made on July 19th the general lock-out threatened for July 20th (see July Gazette, p. 211) was averted, and the following disputes came to an end:—(1) dock labourers at Swedish ports; (2) stevedores at Norrköping; (3) building trade operatives at Kalmar; (4) painters at Stockholm; and (5) sugar workers at Skăne. As regards the first of these, employers will in future have the right freely to engage or discharge workmen, whether organised or not, while on the other hand a certain number of men are to be recognised as regular dock labourers at various ports, and to have priority of employment. Foreign stevedores engaged to take the place of strikers were to be sent home as soon as possible. The parties to the dispute at Norrköping mutually agreed that competition should be free between existing groups of stevedores. A wages list was fixed for the Skăne sugar workers, under which factory hands are to get 4½d., 4¾d. or 5d. per hour, according to locality; this agreement is to remain in force till August 1st, 1910. In the building trades the following wages per hour were fixed for Kalmar:—Painters 6½d., bricklayers 5d., joiners 5¾d., ditto (factory) 5½d., asphalters 6d., carpenters 5½d., labourers 3¾d., 4d., 4¾d. and 5½. The painters at Stockholm agreed to a proposal for arbitration, the conditions of work and wages laid down in the old agreement for March last to be in force in the meantime.

NORWAY.1

Employment in July.—The following Table shows the percentages of members unemployed in certain Trade Unions which made Returns to the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics for each of the three months July, 1908, June, 1908, and July, 1907:—

the said of the said	M	embersh	ip.	Percent	Percentage Unemployed at end of		
Group of Trades.	July, 1908.	June, 1908.	July,	July, 1908.	I'3	July, 1907.	
Metal Workers Carpenters, &c. Painters Boot and Shoe Makers Printers Bakers Wood Pulp & Paper Makers Sawyers and Planers Cabinet Makers	5,343 614 550 438 1,309 200 490 524 345	5,270 619 550 494 1,299 200 490 534 340	5,250 597 600 267 1,259 185 566 442 326	1'7 2'6 1'4 0'6 6'0 3!4 0'9	1'3 2'0 0'3 	0.6 1.7 3.0 0.2 1.2	
Total	9,813	9.796	9,492	1.6	1,0	0.0	

(As regards these figures see note under "Labour Abroad" on p. 275).

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES

IN AUGUST.

COAL MINING.

(Based on 473 Returns—430 from Employers, 29 from Trade Unions, and 14 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the coal mining industry continued fairly good during August. It was not so good as a year ago.

Returns relating to 1,366 pits employing 638,182 workpeople showed that the average number of days* worked per week during the four weeks ended August 22nd, 1908, was 4.93, the same as in July, 1908, as compared with 5.22 in August, 1907. In August, 1908 and 1907, about two-fifths of a day per week were lost on account of holidays, and in July, 1908, about one-fifth of a day per week was lost from the same cause.

Of the 638,182 workpeople covered by the Returns 427,240 (or 66.9 per cent.) were employed at pits working 20 or more days during the four weeks ended August 22nd, 1908, while 95,450 (15.0 per cent. of the whole) were employed at pits working 22 days or more.

The highest averages were in Ireland, 5:33 days; South Yorkshire and Fife, 5:31 days each; the Lothians, 5:25 days; and Durham, 5:24 days. The lowest averages were in Staffordshire, 4:16 days; and Lancashire and Cheshire, 4:28 days.

The following Table shows the average number of days worked per week by the pits during the four weeks ended August 22nd, 1908, together with the figures for similar periods in July, 1908, and August, 1907:—

Districts.	No. of Workpeople employed in August, 1008, at the	Average worked Collie We	Increase(+) or Decrease (-) in Aug., 1908, as com- pared with			
AND CONTRACTOR OF SAME	Collieries included in the Table.	Aug. 22nd, 1908.†	July 25th, 1908.†	Aug. 24th, 1907.†	A m'nth ago.†	A
ENGLAND & WALES.		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland	44,184	5'22	5'37	5'22	- '15	
Durham	113,008	5'24	5'28	5'32	- '04	- '08
Cumberland	6,702	4.62	5'13	5'28	- '51	66
South Yorkshire	65,025	5'31	5'05	5'57	+ '26	- '25
West Yorkshire	22,876	4'35	4'10	5'08	+ '25	
Lancashire and Cheshire	57,520	4.58	4.03	5'04	+ .10	- '76
Derbyshire	39,182	4.57	4'32	5.06	+ '25	CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF
Nottingham and Leicester	34,098	4'47	4'21	4'72	+ '26	100000000000000000000000000000000000000
Staffordshire	27,528	4'16	4'25	4.87	09	41
Warwick, Worcester, and			THE R		+ '01	- '38
Salop	11,042	4'52	4'51	4'90		The second second
Gloucester and Somerset	7,851	4.48	4'09	5'19	+ '49	SUPPLIES DESCRIPTION OF THE PERSON OF THE PE
North Wales	10.743	5'23	4'74	5'28	- '60	
South Wales and Mon	147,865	5'11	5'71	2 40		
England and Wales	587,624	4.91	4.98	5.21	07	- •80
SCOTLAND.						
West Scotland	26,388	4.00	4'11	5'20	+ '79	
The Lothians	4,149	5'25	4'75	5'45	+ '50	100000000000000000000000000000000000000
Fife	19,327	5.31	4'51	5'50	+ .80	- '19
SCOTLAND	49,864	5.09	4 32	5.35	+ .77	- •26
IRELAND	694	5'33	4'93	5'14	+ '40	+ .10
United Kingdom	638,182	4.93	4-93	5.22		- •29

Compared with a month ago, after making due allowances on account of holidays, there was an improvement in the Midlands and in the Lothians. In the other principal districts there was but little change. Compared with August, 1907, every district except

Northumberland and Ireland showed a decline, which was most marked in West Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire, Gloucester and Somerset, Cumberland, Staffordshire, and Derbyshire.

The following Table shows the numbers employed and the average number of days worked per week, according to the principal kind of coal produced at the pits at which the workpeople were engaged. At pits employing 208,704 workpeople it was not found possible to state which class of coal predominated, and they are entered in the Table under the term "mixed." As compared with a month ago there was some improvement at pits producing house coal. As compared with a year ago there was a decline at pits producing all descriptions of coal, most marked in the cases of gas and house coal pits.

Description of Coal.	No. of Workpeople employed in Aug., 1908, at the	Average number of worked per wee by the Collierie in Four Weeks en		ries (-) in		Aug,,
ENGIN	Collieries included in the Table.	August 22nd, 1908.*	July 25th, 1908.*	August 24th, 1907.*	A m'nth ago.*	A year ago.*
Anthracite	7,196 31,877 39,305 80,319 270,781 208,704	Days. 4'91 5'24 5'01 4'43 5'08 4'86	Days. 5'65 5'26 5'02 4'26 5'24 4'69	Days. 5'20 5'51 5'67 4'99 5'23 5'26	Days '74 - '02 - '01 + '17 - '16 + '17	- '66

The **Exports** of coal, coke, and manufactured fuel in August, 1908, amounted to 5,461,789 tons, or 669,579 tons less than in July, 1908, and 380,213 tons less than in August, 1907.

IRON, SHALE, AND OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING.

(Based on 86 Returns—69 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 3 from Trade Unions, and 14 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was good in iron mines, and showed little change, on the whole, compared with a month ago and a year ago. It continued good in shale mines.

It was generally fair in tin and copper mines and moderate in lead mines. In quarries it remained moderate on the whole.

Mining.

Iron Mining. — During the four weeks ended August 22nd, 1908, the average number of days per week worked by all mines and open works included in the Returns was 5.71, as compared with 5.62 a month ago and 5.78 a year ago. Time lost through holidays amounted to about one-tenth of a day in August, 1908 and 1907, and to about one-fifth of a day a month ago.

The Returns are summarised in the following

Districts.	No. employed in Aug., 1908, at the	Average Number of Days worked per week by Mines in 4 weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in August, 1908, as compared with	
	Mines included in the Returns.	in the 22nd, 25th, 24th,	A month ago.	A year ago.		
Date 15 Ann	01 2 30	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cleveland	7,547	5.88	5'76	5'94	+ 0'12	- 0.06
Cumberland and Lancashire	4,669	5'59	5.60	5'77	- o.o.	- 0.18
Scotland	740	5'43	4.87	5'53	+ 0.56	- 0.10
Other Districts	2,321	5'47	5'44	5.20	+ 0.03	- 0.03
All Districts	15,277	8.71	5-62	B•78	+ 0.09	- 0.07

^{*} The number of days worked in each of the three periods and the comparison with a month ago and a year ago are affected by holidays.

^{*} Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek (Journal of the Dutch Central Statistical Office).

^{*} Revue du Travail (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department).

[†] Based on a series of despatches from H.M. Chargé d'Affaires and H.M. Consul at Stockholm.

[‡] Information supplied by the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics

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

[†] The number of days worked in each of the three periods and the comparison with a month ago and a year ago are affected by holidays.

Of the 15,277 workpeople covered by the Returns 12,943, or 84.7 per cent., worked 22 or more days during the four weeks ended August 22nd, as compared with 83.2 per cent. a month ago and 90.7 per cent. a vear ago.

Shale Mining .- At the mines respecting which Returns have been received 3,374 workpeople were employed in the four weeks ended August 22nd, as compared with 3,291 in the previous month, and 3,173 a year ago. The average number of days worked per week by the mines included in the Returns in the four weeks ended August 22nd was 5.69, as compared with 5.53 in July, and 5.64 a year ago. Time lost through holidays amounted to about one-tenth of a day in August, 1908 and 1907, and to nearly two-fifths of a day a month ago.

Tin and Copper Mining.—Employment continued fair generally, but was bad at Gunnislake and Calstock.

Lead Mining.-Employment in North Wales was fairly good, but showed a decline as compared with a month ago. It was moderate in Weardale, where on the average four days a week were worked.

Quarrying.

Slate.—Employment continued slack in North Wales, and some short time was worked. It continued dull at Ballachulish (Argyllshire).

Granite.—Employment was fairly good in the macadam branch in Leicestershire. It continued fair in Aberdeenshire. It was bad on Dartmoor and in Cornwall.

Limestone.—Employment was good in North Wales, and fairly good in the Cleveland district. It was moderate in Weardale and in the Somerset blue lias quarries. It continued slack in Cumberland and in the Buxton and Plymouth districts.

Other Stone.—Employment continued good in the Clee Hill road material quarries. It was also good in building-stone quarries in the Forest of Dean, but continued slack in the Bath stone quarries. At pennant stone quarries in the Bristol district it was moderate. In the Sheffield district employment was fairly good. It was moderate with grindstone makers at Barnsley and Wickersley. It was fair in building and grindstone quarries in the Rowsley district. In sandstone quarries in the Ruabon district employment was good. It was moderate and worse than a month ago in freestone quarries in the Gateshead district. It was slack in chert quarries in Derbyshire, and it continued bad in Forfarshire.

Settmaking.—Employment was slack in Leicestershire, with much short time. It was fair at Glasgow and Airdrie, dull in Aberdeenshire. In the Sheffield district it was fair; it was dull in the Clee Hill district.

China Clay.—Employment continued good in the St. Austell and Lee Moor district.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

(Based on 113 Returns-108 from Employers, 3 from Trade Unions, and 2 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this industry during August continued moderate. It was considerably worse than a year ago.

The total number of furnaces in blast at the end of August, 1908, was 270, as compared with 267 in July, 1908, and 346 in August, 1907. During August 11 furnaces were re-lit (7 in Lanarkshire, 2 in Staffordshire, and 2 in Lancashire), and 8 were either damped down or blown out (4 in Staffordshire, 3 in the Cleveland district, and 1 in Yorkshire). The number of workpeople employed at the works respecting which returns were received was 21,000 in August, 1908; 21,300 in July, 1908; and 25,200 in August, 1907, a decrease of 0.9 per cent. in August, 1908, as compared with the previous month, and of 16.3 per cent. as compared with

The Returns are summarised in the following Table:-

Districts.	Number of the Retur	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Aug., 1908, as compared with			
	August,	July, 1908.	August,	A month ago.	A year ago.
			1		
Cleveland	74	77	89	- 3	-15
Cumberland & Lancs.	25	23	37	+ 2	-12
S. and S.W. Yorks	10	II	16	- I	- 6
Derby & Nottingham	27	27	42	•••	-15
Leicester, Lincoln, and Northampton	26	26	26		
Stafford & Worcester	30	32	37	- 2	- 7
S. Wales & Monmouth	10	10	16		- 6
Other districts	6	6	7	, .,	- I
England & Wales	208	212	270	- 4	-62
Scotland	62	55	76	+ 7	-14
Total	270	267	346	+ 3	-76

The Imports of iron ore in August, 1908, amounted

to 447,225 tons, or 93,998 tons less than in July, 1908, and 246,573 tons less than in August, 1907.

The Exports of pig iron from the United Kingdom in August, 1908, amounted to 117,997 tons, or 9,462 tons less than in July, 1908, and 46,097 tons less than in August, 1907. August, 1907.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET WORKS.

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

EMPLOYMENT during August continued very good, though

it was not quite as good so a year ago.

At the works covered by the Returns, 391 tinplate mills were working at the end of August, as compared with 398 a month ago, and 393 a year ago. The numbers of sheet mills working during the same months were 46, 46* and 55 respectively. The decline in August, 1908, is principally due to stoppages on account of breakdowns. The supply of and demand for labour continued about equal. The works to which these figures relate are chiefly in South Wales and Monmouthshire and employ about 22 occ workpeeple. Monmouthshire, and employ about 22,000 workpeople.

	Numbe	er of Work	s open.	Number of Mills in operation.			
	At end of August, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		At end of August,	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		
		Month ago.	Year ago.	1908.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Tinplate Works Steel Sheet Works	75 9	+ I	- r	391 46	- 7	- 2 - 9	
Total	84		- I	437	-7	-11	
		Ex	ports.				
		1			Increas	se (+) or	

Aug.,	July,	Aug.,	compared with a		
1900.	1900.	1907.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Ti	nned Plati	es and Ti	nned Sheet	s.	
Tons. 4,498 3,789 1,972 1,578 2,558 15,130	Tons. 8,657 2,584 2,955 1,962 1,804 16,594	Tons. 5,646 3,464 3,443 2,017 2,146 15,025 31,741	Tons 4,159 + 1,205 - 983 - 384 + 754 - 1,464	Tons 1,148 + 325 - 1,471 - 439 + 412 + 105 - 2,216	
Black Plates for Tinning.					
5,452	3,266	5,919	+ 2,186	_ 467	
	Tons. 4,498 3,789 1,972 1,578 2,558 15,130	Tinned Plat. Tons. 4,498 3,799 1,978 1,978 1,978 1,578 1,513 15,130 16,594 29,555 84,856 Black P.	Tinned Plates and Ti Tons. Tons. Tons. 4,498 8,657 5,646 3,789 2,584 3,464 1,578 1,578 1,802 2,145 2,158 1,802 2,146 2,158 1,802 2,146 2,025 2,	Aug., 1908. 1907. Compared 1908. 1908. 1907. Month ago. Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheet. Tons. 4.498 8,657 5,646 - 4,159 3,789 2,584 3,464 + 1,205 1,972 2,955 3,443 - 983 1,578 1,962 2,017 - 384 15,130 16,594 15,025 - 1,464 29,825 34,856 31,741 - 5,031	

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

(Based on 212 Returns—197 from Employers, received partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent; 5 from Trade Unious; and 10 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works during August showed little change as compared with the previous month, and was worse than a year ago.

The volume of employment (i.e., number employed multiplied by the number of shifts worked) during the week ended August 22nd, 1908, at the works from which Returns were received, was o'6 per cent. more than in the week ended July 25th, 1908, but 13.3 per cent. less than a year ago.

The aggregate number of shifts worked during the week ended August 22nd, 1908, by all the workpeople included in the Returns, was about 462,300, as compared with 459,300 a month ago, and 533,500 a year ago.

Number of Workpeople

		oyed by sing Reti	firms	Avera Shifts v	ge Num vorked p	ber of er man.
. smiringa man n	In week ended	decreas	e (+) or e (-) as red with	In week ended	decreas	e (+) or e (-) as ed with
	Aug. 22nd, 1908.	A month ago.	A year ago.	Aug. 22nd, 1908.	A month ago.	A year ago.
Departments.				may reight		
IRON: Puddling Forges	9,585	+ 110	- 1,056	4'76	+ 0.00	- 0.40
Rolling Mills	3,677	+ 45	- 827	4'57	+ 0.02	- 0'44
Forging	467	+ 7	- 80	5'41	- 0'09	+ 0'23
Founding	1,760	- 4	- 366	5'76	- 0.01	- 0.19
Other Departments	568	- 66	- 70	5'92	- 0'02	+ 0'23
Mechanics, Labourers	1,810	+ 94	- 7	5'43	- 0.03	- 0.11
Total, Iron	17,867	+ 186	-2,406	4.94	+ 0.04	- 0.32
STEEL:	30/20/15			The state of the s	200	
Open Hearth Melting Fur- naces	7,694	+ 125	-1,358	5.48	+ 0.03	- 0.11
Crucible Furnaces	520		- 39	4'11	+ 0'07	- 1'21
Bessemer Converters	1,610	+ 39	- 24	4.89	+ 0.31	- 0'04
Rolling Mills	13,999	- 106	-1,772	5.00	+ 0.08	- 0'40
Forging and Pressing	2,708	- 95	- 117	5.50	- 0.12	- 0.36
Founding	7,034	- 33	- 959 - 258	5'79	- 0.01	- 0.00
Other Departments Mechanics, Labourers	6,726 7,573	- 91 - 30	-1,150	5'70 5'84	- 0.08	- 0.00
Total, Steel	47,864	- 191	-5,677	8.47	+ 0.01	- 0.23
IRON OR STEEL (not dis- tinguished):				1891		
Rolling Mills	10,334	- 91	- 986	5.15	+ 0'15	- 016
Forging and Pressing	674	- 12	- 49 - 87	5'36	- 0.01	- 0.11
Founding	663	- 2		5'92 5'86	+ 0.02	- 0.03
Other Departments	2,891	- 146	- 24		+ 0.50	- 0.02
Mechanics, Labourers	5.954	+ 164	- 501	5.80	+ 0'02	- 0.03
Total, Iron or Steel (not distinguished)	20,516	- 87	-1,447	8-47	+ 0.12	- 0.09
Grand Total	86,247	- 92	-9,530	5.36	+ 0.04	- 0.21
Districts.			am3	1		
Northumberland & Durham	9,369	+ 94	-2,885	4'96	- 0.06	- 065
Cleveland	7,950	- 97	- 211	5'60	+ 0.10	- 0.03
Sheffield and Rotherham	16,138	- 125	- 516	5'38	- 0.06	- 0.27
Leeds, Bradford and other	4,363	- 127	- 232	5'30	- 0.08	- 0 27
Yorkshire Towns Cumberland, Lancs, & Ches.	7,321	- 71	-2,935	5'45	+ 0.08	+ 0,10
Staffordshire	9,631	+ 160	- 501	5'31	+ 0.00	- 0.10
Other Midland Counties	4,738	- 136	- 399	5'27	-	- 0 28
Wales and Monmouth	10,142	- 313	- 334	5'53	+ 0.53	- 0.19
Total, England and Wales	69,652	- 615	-8,013	5'36	+ 0.04	- 0'22
Scotland	16,595	+ 523	-1,517	5.38	+ 0.08	- 0.18
Carle Carlo Surpey State Control of the Control of	1393					
Total	86,247	- 92	-9.530	5.36	+ 0.04	- 0.31

Compared with a month ago there was, on the whole, little change in the number of workpeople employed. In Northumberland and Durham, Staffordshire and Scotland there were increases, but all other districts showed a decrease. As regards departments there were increases at iron puddling forges and open hearth melting furnaces; all other departments showed either a decrease or no appreciable improvement.

As compared with a year ago the number employed decreased in every district; the decline was greatest in the Northumberland and Durham, and Cumberland and Lancashire districts, and in Scotland. In the departments the decline was also general, and was most marked in steel rolling mills, steel open hearth melting furnaces, and iron puddling forges.

The average number of shifts worked per man per week was 5.36, as compared with 5.32 in July, 1908, and 5.57 in August, 1907. Compared with a month ago there were increases in the average number of shifts worked in the principal departments at both iron and steel works. The improvement was most marked in the Wales and Monmouth district. Compared with a year ago there were increases in iron forging and in "Other Departments" of ironworks; in all other departments there were decreases. Every district, except Cumberland and Lancashire, showed a decrease, most marked in Northumberland and Durham (0.65 of a shift per week).

The Imports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof during August, 1908, amounted to 80,227 tons, or 20,427 tons less than in July, 1908, and 2,024 tons more than in August, 1907.

The Exports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof (excluding pig and puddled iron, and tinned plates and black plates for tinning) during August, 1908, amounted to 188,601 tons, or 7,161 tons less than in July, 1908, and 44,016 tons less than in August.

ENGINEERING TRADES.

(Based on 971 Returns — 9 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 924 from Trade Unions and their branches, and 38 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued slack, with much short time. It was worse than a month ago, and much worse than a year ago. The dispute on the North-East Coast remained unsettled.

Returns received from Trade Unions having a membership of 153,363 show that at the end of August the percentage unemployed was 12'0 as compared with 11'1 a month ago, and 3'8 in August, 1907. The increase as compared with a month ago was common to all districts with the exception of Glasgow, Belfast and Dublin, and "Other Districts," where a slight improvement was shown. The most marked increase took place in the Notts, Derby and Leicester District, and in the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry District. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase in the percentage unemployed in every district, especially noticeable on the North-East Coast and in Scotland.

District.	No. of Members* of Unions at end of	turne	centage ed as U ed at er	nem-	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unem- ployed for Aug., 1908, as compared with a		
	Aug., 1908, included in the Returns.	Aug.,	July, 1908.	Aug.,	Month ago.	Year ago.	
North-East Coast	4,980	31'3†	30.04	68	+ 0.4	+24'5	
Manchester and Liverpool District	19,094	11.7	10.4	3'3	+ 1.3	+ 84	
Oldham, Bolton, and Black- burn District	13,446	10.0	8.3	2.3	+ 18	+ 7.7	
West Riding Towns	13,259	13'1	12'2	3.8	+ 00	+ 9'3	
Hull and Lincolnshire District	3,870	8'4	6.9	1.6	+ 1.5	+ 6.8	
Birmingham, Wolverhamp- ton, and Coventry District	7,586	10'7	7.3	5.8	+ 3.4	+ 4.9	
Notts, Derby and Leicester District	4,379	13'4	9.6	3'5	+ 3.8	+ 9.9	
London and Neighbouring District	12,043	66	61	4.0	+ 0.2	+ 26	
South Coast	4,237	5'9	5'0	1.7	+ 04	+ 4.2	
South Wales and Bristol	6,657	8.4	6.2	3'9	+ 1.0	+ 4'5	
Glasgow and District	16,264	24'0	24.6	48	- 0.6	+19'2	
East of Scotland	4,113	18'9	18.6	4'4	+ 0'3	+14'5	
Belfast and Dublin	3,648	13'7	13.8	1'4	- 0.I	+ 5'3	
Other Districts	6,059	11.4	11.2	2'4	- 0.1	+ 9.0	
United Kingdom (Including certain Unions for which District figures are not available)	153,353	12.0	11.1	3.8	+ 0.9	+ 8.2	

On the North-East Coast employment continued bad, being still greatly affected by the strike of turners, fitters and machinemen. With bridge builders and wagon builders at Darlington, however, employment was fair.

In Lancashire employment was slack generally, and short time was worked in general engineering shops; but at Oldham textile machine makers were fully employed, though less overtime was worked than in July. With ironfounders at Oldham employment was fair. Employment at Crewe was fair on the whole.

^{*} Exclusive of Superannuated members + Exclusive of members on strike.

In Yorkshire employment was slack generally, except with spindle and flyer makers, with whom it was reported to be fair. Employment was fair with engineers at Lincoln and Grantham.

In the Birmingham district and at Nottingham and Derby employment continued slack, but at Nottingham it was fair with brass bobbin makers, and at Derby boilermakers and bridge builders were well employed. At Leicester employment showed a slight improvement, and with shoe machinery makers it was good. At Coventry short time was general. Employment with engineers was fair at Colchester and bad at Bedford; with makers of agricultural machinery at Ipswich it was

Employment was slack in London, on the South Coast, and in the South Wales and Bristol district. In the latter district, however, some branches of ironfounders were fairly well employed. At the Royal Dockyards employment was fair on the whole.

In Scotland employment was bad generally, short time being worked to a considerable extent. At Belfast and Dublin employment continued bad.

The Imports of machinery in August, 1908, amounted to £293,374, as compared with £384,989 in July, 1908, and £456,751 in August, 1907; and the Exports for the same months to £2,245,893, £2,790,569, and £2,483,917

SHIPBUILDING TRADES

(Based on 366 Returns-6 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 344 from Trade Unions and their Branches, and 16 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued bad, and was much worse than

Branches of Trade Unions with 60,631 members had 15,255 (or 25.2 per cent.) unemployed at the end of August, 1908, as compared with 22.2+ in July, 1908, and 9.3 in August, 1907.

Compared with a month ago iron and steel shipbuilders showed little general change in employment, while shipwrights showed a decline. Compared with a year ago there was a decline in all branches, the most marked increase in the percentage unemployed being on the Wear, where more than half of the Trade Union members were reported as out of employment.

District.			No. of Mem- bers* at end of Aug.,1908, included	Une	rcenta turned mploye end of	as ed at	Increase Decrease percent Aug., 1 compare	a = (-) in age for $a = 0.00$, as
		1	in the Returns.	Aug., 1908.	July, 1908.	Aug.,	Month ago,	Year ago.
Tyne and Blyth			10,026	20.8	19'2	8.9	+ 1.6	+ 11'9
Wear Tees and Hartlepool			5,420	53'7	45'4 34'4	10.5	+ 8.3	+ 43'5
Humber			2,767	22.0	21'3	4.3	+ 1.6	+ 18.6
Thames and Medway			4,363	14'6	13'0	8.4	+ 1.6	+ 6.3
South Coast			4,734	2.8	2.7	3.7	+ 0.1	- 0.0
Bristol Channel Ports			2,786	23'5	17'4	19.4	+ 6.1	+ 4'1
Mersey			4,005	25'2	26'9	11.7	+ 2'0	+ 13'5
Clyde Dundee, Leith and Aber		***	12,925 2,540	25'I 42'8	30.1	9'4	+ 12'1	+ 15'7
Belfast			2,919	15.1	14.1	5'7	+ 1.0	+ 9'4
Other Districts			3,079	13.9	12.7	5.0	+ 1'2	+ 8.9
United Kingdom			60,631	25.2	22:2+	9.3	+ 3.0	+ 15.9

On the Tyne employment continued slack generally, but it was fairly good at Blyth, and with riveters, caulkers and platers at Elswick. On the Wear employment was very bad. It was bad on the Tees, on the Humber, and at Barrow.

Employment remained slack in London. On the South Coast it was fair. At the Bristol Channel ports and on the Mersey it continued slack.

On the Clyde employment was slack generally, but fair at Renfrew. There was a slight improvement with iron and steel shipbuilders, but other trades showed a decline. At the East of Scotland ports employment was bad, and much worse than a month ago and a year ago. It was slack at Belfast, Dublin and Cork, and also at Lowestoft and Yarmouth.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

(Based on 100 Returns—4 from Employers' Associations, 69 from Trade Unions, and 27 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during August continued slack, and was rather worse than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 16,980 had 3.8 per cent. unemployed at the end of August, as compared with 4.1 per cent. at the end of July, and 3.2 per cent. a year ago.

Brasswork, Bedsteads, etc.-Employment with brassworkers was bad at Birmingham, Manchester, Leeds and London. At Wolverhampton it was moderate. With bedstead makers at Birmingham it was bad, and short time was worked.

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

Wire.—Employment was slack, with much short time. With wire drawers at Manchester it was fair; at Sheffield it was moderate.

Locks, Keys and General Hardware.—Employment in the lock and latch trade at Wolverhampton was bad; at West Bromwich and at Wolverhampton it continued quiet in the hollow-ware trade, with some short time.

Stoves, Grates, etc.—Employment was slack, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. Much short time

Cutlery, Tools, etc.—Employment at Sheffield continued slack generally; it was, however, moderate with sawmakers, edge-tool and saw grinders, and fair with fileforgers. At Redditch employment in the needle trade was quiet, but was slightly better than a month ago; in the fish-hook trade it was fair on the whole.

Tubes.—Employment was good at Landore, and some overtime was worked. At South Staffordshire it was

Chains, Anchors, Springs, etc.—Employment at Cradley Heath continued bad. With railway axle, wheel and spring makers at Wednesbury a decline was reported; at West Bromwich it was fair with spring makers. With railway spring fitters and vicemen at Sheffield it was bad. At Dudley anvil and vice makers continued working short time. With chainmakers at Cradley Heath and Winlaton employment continued slack; and with anchor smiths on the Wear and at Cradley Heath it was bad.

Sheet Metal, etc. - Employment with braziers and sheet metal workers was quiet at Manchester and Bolton. At Aberdeen it was good, and at Belfast it was fair. With tinplate workers it was bad in London, Wolverhampton and Oldham; at Birmingham it was quiet, and at Edinburgh fair. With iron-plate workers at Dudley and in the Lye district employment was fair.

Gold, Silver, Britannia Metal, etc.—Employment in London and Sheffield was bad with silver and electroplate workers; in Birmingham it was quiet. It was slack in London with goldsmiths and jewellers. With watchmakers at Coventry employment was bad.

Farriers.—Employment continued fair generally.

Imports and Exports.

Description.	August,	July,	August,	Decreas August,	rease (+) or rease (-) in ust, 1908, as pared with a	
control of the contro	b-ali convid	tabile bare 1	1907.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Imports:— Cutlery Hardware Exports:—	£ 9,863 76,641	£ 8,913 74,839	£ 9,416 86,133	+ 950 + 1,802	+ 447 - 9,492	
Cutlery Hardware Implements and Tools	44,552 165,425 152,683	53,743 184,600 184,217	74,034 209,318 191,922	- 9,191 - 19,175 - 31,534	- 29,482 - 42,893 - 39,239	

COTTON TRADE.

(Based on 483 Returns—383 received from Employers, 91 from Trade Unions, and 9 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the Spinning branch was bad, and organised short time was worked in the American cotton branch: in the Weaving branch employment was also bad, and there was much waiting for warps. There was in both branches a decline as compared with both a month ago and a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 124,975 workpeople in the week ended August 22nd showed a decrease of 0.7 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago. As compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 3.1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 14'9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

	Wo	rkpeople		I	Earnings.	
PROPERTY AND	No. paid Wages on pay day in week	Increa or Decre as com wi	pared	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay day in week	Increa or Decre as con wi	ease (-)
10 7 00 - 1 600 C	Aug. 22nd, A A Aug. 22nd A		ended Aug. 22nd, 1908.	A month ago.	A year ago.	
		Per	Per		Per	Per
Departments.		cent.	cent.	£	cent.	cent.
Preparing	14,329	- 0'4	- 2'0	11,962	- 1'5	- 12'9
Spinning	25,193	- 0.8	- 2'4	22,348	- 1.7	- 14.6
Weaving	59,635	- 0.8	- 3.6	47,129	- 5'5	- 17'2
Other	11,037	- 0.3	- 4'3	11,950	- 1.4	- 9.5
Departments not specified	14,781	- 0.0	- 2.3	14,081	- 3'5	- 13'5
Total	124,975	- 0.4	- 3·1	107,470	- 3.6	- 14'9
Districts.	1000	Page 31 to				Since 8
Ashton District	8,517	+ 18	- 1.6	7,589	- 0.0	- 13'4
Stockport, Glossop, and Hyde	7,012	- 0.3	- 4'2	6,382	- 0.0	- 6.8
Oldham District	11,490	- 2.7	- 6.8	10,359	- 3.I	- 23.6
Bolton and Leigh	13,937	- 0.5	- 2.2	11,922	- 4'I	- 10.0
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden, & Todmorden	10,143	+ 0'4	+ 0'4	8,795	- 0.2	- 10 6
Manchester	9,088	- 0.7	- 6.8	6,084	- 9.2	- 24'7
Preston and Chorley	14,324	- 0.3	- 1.6	11,413	- 2'2	- 11.7
Blackburn, Accrington, & Darwen	17,607	- 1.7	- 3.0	16,373	- 5.8	- 10.7
Burnley, Padiham, Colne, and Nelson	16,155	- 1.3	- 2.6	14,442	- 7'9	- 25'3
Other Lancashire Towns	5,417	- 2'2	- 2'7	4,318	- 4'6	- 79
Yorkshire Towns	5,343	+ 0'3	- 4'0	4,678	+ 57	- 10'5
Other Districts	5,942	+ 0.2	- 1.7	5,115	+ 0'4	- 6.8
Total	124,975	- 0'7	- 3'I	107,470	- 3.6	-14'9

As compared with a month ago a decrease in the number employed and in the amount of wages paid was shown in every department; as compared with a year ago every department showed a decline in the number employed, and a marked decrease in the amount of wages paid.

The amount of wages paid showed a decline as

compared with both a month ago and a year ago in every district, except in the Yorkshire Towns and in "Other Districts," where there were increases as compared with a month ago. The greatest decreases were in the Burnley, Manchester, and Oldham districts, as compared with a year ago.

American Cotton.—During the month of August the average price of raw cotton "middling American" at Liverpool was 5.77d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 6.26d. per lb. and the lowest 5.23d. The price for July, 1908, was 6.15d. per lb., and for August, 1907, 7.35d. per lb. For the period from September 1st to 10th, the average price of "middling American" was 5.11d per lb. American" was 5.31d. per lb.

Egyptian Cotton.—The price of "good fair Egyptian" during August averaged 7:11d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being $7\frac{3}{16}$ d., and the lowest $6\frac{14}{16}$ d. per lb. The price for July, 1908, was 7:18d. per lb., and for August, 1907, 10:31d. per lb. For the period from September 1st to 10th, 1908, the average price of "good fair Egyptian" was 6.91d. per lb.

The visible supply of American cotton for the United Kingdom on September 11th, 1908, was estimated by the Liverpool Cotton Association to be 275,410 bales, as compared with 588,910 bales on September 13th, 1907.

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

Description of	Cotton.	August,	July,	August,			
				Shirt A	Month ago,	Year ago.	
STATE STATE OF THE	41273313	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	
American		119,376	182,996	179,003	- 63,620	- 59,627	
Brazilian		4,445	3,291	12,032	+ 1,154	- 7,587	
		3.739	8,863	5,409	- 5,124	- 1,670	
		16,483	17,197	17,207	- 714	- 724	
Miscellaneous		2,903	2,851	4,535	+ 52	- 1,632	
	Total	146,946	215,198	218,186	- 68,252	- 71,240	

Exports of Cotton Goods.

Description.	August,	July,	August,	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in August, 1908, as compared with	
				A month ago.	A year ago.
Cotton Yam and Twist— Grey Bleached and Dyed	3,513	1,000 lbs. 13,398 3,668	1,000 lbs. 19,234 2,569	1,000 lbs. - 532 - 155	1,000 lbs. - 4,368 + 944
Total	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Grey or Unbleached Bleached Printed Dyed or Manufactured of Dyed Varn		yds. 188,656 130,204 102,015 101,220	yds. 175,877 143,539 111,881 107,540	yds. - 19,189 - 9,230 - 7,746 - 7,658	yds 6,410 - 22,565 - 17,612 - 13,978
Dyed Yarn Total	478,272	522,095	538,837	- 43,823	- 60,5 65

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

Based on 417 Returns-388 received from Employers and Employers' Associations, 16 from Trade Unions, and 13 from Local Correspondents.)

Woollen Trade.

EMPLOYMENT continued quiet, and was worse than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 30,988 workpeople in the week ended August 22nd showed a decrease of 0.1 per cent. in the number employed, and an increase of 1.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 3.3 per cent. in the number employed, and of 7.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

10 mg		people co		1	Earnings.	
avoice and prevent	No. em- ployed on pay- day in week ended August	Decreas	se (+) or se (-), as pared th a	Aggregate amount of Wages paid on pay-day in week	Increas O Decreas comp	e (-) as
		Month ago.	Year ago.	ended August 22nd, 1908.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Departments. Wool Sorting Spinning Weaving Other Departments Unspecified	774 6,428 13,107 8,654 2,025	Per cent. + 1.4 + 0.7 - 0.7 + 0.2 - 0.2	Per cent 4'I - 4'0 - 4'5 - 0'9 - 1'7	£ 682 5,436 10,740 8,546 1,768	Per cent. + 0'9 + 1'4 + 1'8 + 0'9 - 2'6	Per cent 5.7 - 9.1 - 8.9 - 3.4 - 6.4
Total	30,988	- 0,1	- 3'3	27,172	+ 1.1	- 7.1
Districts. Huddersfield District Leeds District Dewsbury & Batley District Other Parts of West Riding Total, West Riding Sootland Other Districts	4,805 4,570 5,091 2,596 17,062 6,893 7,933	+ 0'4 - 0'5 - 0'0 - 0'5	- 6'I - 6'4 - 5'7 + 2'2 - 4'9 - 2'3 - 0'I	4,888 3,887 4,900 2,244 15,919 5,826 5,427	+ 2.7 - 0.5 - 0.0 - 1.1 + 0.5 + 5.0 - 1.2	-13'3 -11'2 - 7'7 - 3'9
Total, Woollen	30,988	- 0.1	- 3'3	27,172	+ 1,1	- 7.1

In the Huddersfield and Leeds districts employment was quiet; in the Dewsbury and Batley district it continued moderate; at Hawick, Selkirk and

^{*} Exclusive of superannuated members. + Revised figures.

Galashiels it was slack. In all these districts it was worse than a year ago, and some short time was worked. In many cases the usual holidays were extended.

Worsted Trade.

Employment continued quiet, and was worse than a

Returns from firms employing 45,222 workpeople in the week ended August 22nd showed a decrease of o 2 per cent. in the number employed, and an increase of o'3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 3.9 per cent. in the number employed, and of 8.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

		people c]	Earnings	
nt — 200 miles	No. em- ployed on pay-day in week	Decre as con	e (+) or ase (-) apared th a	Aggregate amount of Wages paid on pay-day		
	ended August 22nd, 1908.	Month ago.	Year ago.	in week ended August 22nd, 1908.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Departments. Wool Sorting & Combing Spinning Weaving Other Departments Unspecified	5,231 24,756 8,896 5,022 1,317	Per cent 0'9 - 0'2 + 0'4 - 0'4 - 0'7	Per cent 7'7 - 0'6 - 12'0 - 1'2 + 1'0	£ 5,173 13,253 7,454 4,884 749	Per cent. + 2'4 - 0'9 + 2'5 + 0'3 - 10'1	Per cent 8.4 - 3.4 - 16.7 - 6.1 - 21.2
Tota!	45,222	- 0'2	- 3.0	31,513	+ 0.3	- 86
Districts. Bradford District Keighley District Halifax District Huddersfield District Other Parts of West Riding	21,256 6,905 5,176 6,146 2,980	- 0'4 + 0'5 - 0'3 + 0'5	- 7.6 - 0.4 + 1.8 - 1.5	14,666 4,855 3,169 5,395 1,767	- 0'0 + 1'4 - 2'9 + 3'5 - 2'5	- 11.8 - 7.2 - 1.6 - 7.5 - 5.1
Total, West Riding Other Districts	42,463 2,759	- 0.0 - 0.5	- 4.2 + 0.4	29,852 1,661	+ 0.1 + 0.3	- 8·9 - 2·4
Total, Worsted	45,222	- 0.5	- 3.9	31,513	+ 0.3	- 86

Employment in the Bradford, Keighley, and Halifax districts was quiet, and worse than a year ago. In the Huddersfield district there was a slight improvement. Some short time was worked in all the above districts.

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

Salarance Ton Language Lo	August, 1908.	July, 1908.	August, 1907.
Average Prices: Lincoln Hoggs 40's Crossbred tops 60 s Super Botany tops	Pence per lb. 8½ 10 23½	Pence per lb.	Pence per lb, 121/4 161/4 288
Course of Prices during the month: Lincoln Hoggs 40's Crossbred tops	8½ 10¼, 9¾, 10¾ 24, 23, 24	8-8½ 10-10½-10∯ 23¼-24	121-12 16 281, 283

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

	August,	July, 1908.	August,	Decreas Aug., 1	e (+) or e (-) in 908, as ed with a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.	
Impor	ts and Ex	ports of	Raw Wool	(SHEEP OR	LAMBS').	
Imports 1,000 lbs. British Exports ,, Re-Exports of Imported Wool	34,043 4,629 44,257	42,296 2,652 12,387	22,712 4,036 24,968	- 8,253 + 1,977 + 31,870	+ 11,331 - 593 + 19,289	
Yarn:	British	and Iris	h Manufa	ctures Exp	orted.	
Woollen 1,000 lbs	181	236	220	- 55	- 39	
Worsted	3,805	4,565	4,888	- 760	- 1,083	
Alpaca & Mohair "	1,082	1,207	1,519	- 125	- 437	
Total, Yarn ,,	5,068	6,008	6,627	- 940	- 1,559	
Piece Goods:						
Woollen 1,000 yds.	7,734	9,143	9,420	- 1,409	- 1,686	
Worsted "	5,823	6,826	10,149	- 1,003	- 4,326	
Total, Piece Goods ,,	13,557	15,959	19,569	- 2,412	- 6,012	

LINEN TRADE.

(Based on 116 Returns—106 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 6 from Trade Unions, and 4 from Local Correspondents.) EMPLOYMENT during August continued dull, and was

worse than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 47,290 workpeople in the week ended August 22nd showed an increase of 0.9 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. As compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 3.7 per cent. in the number employed, and of 15.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

	Workp	Returns.	ered by	E	arnings.		
ina homist	Number paid Wages on pay-day in week	Decreas	se (+) or se (-), as red with	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay-day in week	Decreas	se (+) or se (-), as red with	
	ended August 22nd, 1908.	A month ago.	year ago.	ended August22nd, 1908.	A month ago,	A year ago.	
Departments.		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent	Per cent	
Preparing	6,463	- 0.I	- I.I	3,119	- 0'2	- 11.8	
Spinning Weaving	12,418	+ 0.0	+ 2.0	5,317 7,834	+ 0.6	- 13'7	
Other	7,302	+ 2.0	- 3'3	5,413	+ 37	- 20.6 - 8.2	
Not specified	6,716	+ 2'1	- 0.4	3,549	- 4.0	- 16.8	
Total	47,290	+ 0.0	- 3'7	25,232	+ 0.3	- 15.1	
Districts. Belfast Other Places in	16,732	Per cent. + 1.8	Per cent.	£ 8,518	Percent	Per cent	
Ireland	15,564	+ 08	- 2.8	7,733	+ 4.8	- 13'5	
Total, Ireland	32,296	+ 1.3	- 2.9	16,251	+ 0.6	- 17.1	
Fifeshire Other Places in	6,400	- o.1	- 7.6	3,793	+ 0'2	- 15'2	
Scotland	6,794	+ 0.1	- 3'3	4,117	- o.8	- 8.1	
Total, Scotland	13,194		- 5'4	7,909	- 0.3	- 11.0	
England	1,800	+ 1'4	- 4.6	1,072	+ 0'4	- 7'4	
United Kingdom	47,290	+ 0.0	- 3'7	25,232	+ 0.3	- 15.1	

As compared with a month ago the amount of wages As compared with a month ago the amount of wages paid showed little change, but as compared with a year ago there was a decline in every department, most marked in the weaving department. In the Belfast district employment continued bad, the majority of mills running only 32 hours per week. In other parts of Iveland employment continued department with peaks of Ireland employment continued depressed, with much short time; it was, however, slightly better than in July. In Scotland much short time continued to be

Imports and Exports

Aug.,	July,	Aug.,	Decrea in Aug	ise (-)
	265, 12	GHENON!	Month ago.	Year ago.
7,874	7,649	7,041	+ 225	+ 833
10,362	12,065	12,791	- 1,703 + 10,094	- 2,429 - 10,576
	7,874 10,362	7,874 7,649 10,362 12,065	Aug., July, 1908. Aug., 1907. 7.874 7.649 7.041 10,362 12,055 12,791	Aug., July, Aug., 1908. Increase in Aug as comparation of the second of

JUTE TRADE.

(Based on 32 Returns—31 from Employers and Employers' Associations, and 1 from a Local Correspondent.)

EMPLOYMENT was fair on the whole. It showed a decline

as compared with a month ago and a year ago. Some short time was reported.

Returns received from firms employing 18,310 work-people in the week ended August 22nd showed an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, but a decrease of 2.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. As compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 0.7 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Of the 18,310 workpeople covered by the Returns, 15,768 (or 86 per cent.) were employed in the Dundee district.

Compared with a month ago the amount of wages paid showed a slight increase in the preparing department; in all other departments there were decreases. As compared with a year ago there were decreases in the preparing, weaving and other departments; in the spinning department there was a slight increase.

	Workpe	Returns.	red by	Ea	rnings.	nings.		
Departments.	Number paid wages on pay-day in week		e (+) or se (-) as red with	Aggregate amount of Wages paid on pay-day in	Decrease as compared			
	ended Aug. 22nd, 1908.	A month ago.	A year ago.	week ended Aug. 22nd, 1908.	A month ago.	A year ago.		
Preparing Spinning Weaving Nother Not specified	4,282 5,265 5,926 1,946 891	Per cent. + 1'7 + 0'5 - 0'1 - 2'0 + 0'2	Per cent 0.1 + 2.2 - 3.2 - 2.3 + 0.7	2,727 3,176 4,306 1,976 668	Per cent. + 0.4 - 1.0 - 2.3 - 5.2 - 0.7	Per cent 4'2 + 0'7 - 6'9 - 3'2 + 0'5		
Total	18,310	+ 0'3	- 0.7	12,853	- 2'0	- 3.6		

Imports and Exports.

Description.	Aug.,	July,	Aug.,	Decreas Aug.	se (+) or se (-) in 1908, as ed with a
Entrance of the I	west copies of the same	Month ago.	Year ago.		
imports: Jute Tons	14,631	12,653	5,692	+ 1,978	+ 8,939
Exports: Jule Yarn 100 Lbs. Jute Plece Goods 100 Yds.	39, 6 92 125,419	41,206 141,154	44,104 166,671	- 1,514 - 15,735	- 4,412 - 41,252

LACE TRADE.

(Based on 93 Returns-86 from Employers, 3 from Trade Unions, and 4 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued bad. It was about the same as a month ago, and considerably worse than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 8,535 workpeople, and paying £7,504 in wages in the week ended August 22nd, showed a decrease of 0.9 per cent. in the number employed, but an increase of 2.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. As compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 8.8 per cent. in the number employed, and of 20.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Years and air fanons		people co y Return		1	Earnings	
Just her print of the orange o	No. paid wages on payday in week	Increase Decrea as con wit	ise (-)	Aggregate Amount of Decrease (+) Wages paid on pay day in week		se (-)
	ended August 22nd, 1908.	Month ago.	Year ago.	ended August 22nd, 1908.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Branches. Levers Curtain Plain Net Others	2,304 2,600 2,777 854	Per cent. + 0'9 - 5'7 + 2'9 - 2'3	Per cent 15'4 - 6'1 - 3'5 - 13'7	£ 2,397 2,531 2,004 572	Per cent. + 4'9 - 0'2 + 3'1 - 2'2	Per cent 35.7 - 5.1 - 12.0 - 18.7
Total	8,535	- 0.0	- 8.8	7,504	+ 2.1	- 20.0
Districts. Nottingham City Long Eaton and other outlying districts Other English districts Scotland	1,826 1,651 3,330 1,728	- 1'1 - 1'3 + 3'4	- 11.4 - 69 - 11.6	1,514 1,839 2,573 1,578	+ 2'3 + 11'1 + 2'9	- 22'I - 25'I - 10'8
Total	8,535	- 0.0	- 8.8	7,504	+ 2'1	- 20.0

At Nottingham employment continued bad in the levers branch; it was fair on the whole in the curtain and plain net branches. Much short time was worked. In the Long Eaton district employment continued bad, with a good deal of short time; there was, however, some improvement as compared with July. In the

West of England and in Scotland employment continued quiet.

Imports and Exports.

Descript	ion.	August,	July,	August,	Decrease	1908, as
					Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports : Silk Lace		£ 25,004	£ 19,230	£ 25,105	+ £	- £ 10
Exports:— Cotton Lace Silk Lace		274,138 4,481	323, 27 3 5,928	379,685 12,142	- 49,135 - 1,447	-105,542 - 7,663

HOSIERY TRADE.

(Based on 104 Returns—98 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 2 from Trade Unions, and 4 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued moderate, and was not so good

Returns from firms employing 17,663 workpeople in the week ended August 22nd showed a decrease of 0.5 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and an increase of 0.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. As compared with a year ago, the number employed showed an increase of 0.8 per cent., but the wages paid a decrease of 2.5 per

At Leicester and Hinckley employment was quiet, and much short time was reported; at Loughborough it was moderate. With power-frame workers at Nottingham and in Derbyshire employment was bad, and worse than a year ago; with hand-frame workers in the country districts round Nottingham it continued fair. At Hawick it continued good; at Selkirk it was fair, better than a month ago, but not so good as a year

ago.
The Returns are summarised in the following Table:—

Ace borocen a la li		people co y Return		E	arnings.	
District.	No. paid wages on pay-day in week	Increa O Decrea as com wit	r ise (-) ipared	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay-day	Increa Or Decrea as com wit	r ise (-)
	ended August 22nd, 1908.	Month ago.	Year ago.	in week ended August 22nd, 1908.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Leicester Using the Leicester Country District Notts. and Derbyshire Other Districts		Per cent 0'3 - 0'3 - 1'3 - 0'1 - 0'6	Per cent. + 2'4 - 1'7 - 1'6 - 0'1 + 3'2	£ 6,728 1,766 2,906 1,250 649	Per cent 0'1 + 1'9 + 1'3 - 1'7 - 2'7	Per cent 2'2 - 2'9 - 6'3 + 3'7 + 2'9
Total, United Kingdom	17,663	- 0.2	+ 0.8	13,299	+ 0.3	- 2.5

The Imports (less Re-Exports) of woollen and cotton hosiery in August, 1908, amounted to £24,306 and £140,104 respectively, as compared with £20,521 and £121,845 in July, 1908, and £32,417 and £119,643 in August, 1907.

The Exports of woollen and cotton hosiery in August, 1908, amounted to £116,025 and £38,631 respectively, as compared with £123,330 and £43,682 in July, 1908, and £147,358 and £50,117 in August, 1907.

SILK TRADE.

(Based on 53 Returns-48 from Employers, 2 from Trade Unions, and 3 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was moderate, and showed some decline as compared with a month ago. It was worse than a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 8,480 workpeople, and paying £5,610 in wages in the week ended August 22nd showed that, as comand of 1.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 5.7 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed and of 7.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

The Returns are summarised in the following Table:—

		people co			Earnings	
Tark Anam by the second	No. paid wages on pay-day in week	Decres as con	ase (+) or ase (-) apared th a	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay-day in week	Increa O Decrea as con with	r ise (-) ipared
Sept - Sept - 1987	ended August 22nd, 1908.	Month ago.	Year ago.	ended August 22nd, 1908.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Branches. Throwing Spinning Weaving Other	981 2,836 3,538 1,125	Per cent 2'3 + 1'1 - 1'3 - 2'3	Per cent 13'9 - 0'8 - 7'2 - 5'2	£ 400 2,079 2,305 825	Per cent 5.0 + 1.1 - 1.3 - 3.5	Per cent 14'3 - 2'0 - 10'6 - 8'7
Total	8,480	- 0.8	- 5'7	5,610	- 1.1	- 7.6
Districts. Lancashire and W. Riding of Yorkshire Macclesfell, Congleton and	3,395 gog	- 2.3	- 4'3 - 3'3	2,531 668	- 0'2 - 0'6	- 4'5 - 37
District Eastern Counties Other Districts, including Scotland	2,255	- 1'4 - 0'7	- 8.3 - 8.3	1,235 1,176	- 4.6 + 0.6	- 15'2 - 7'7
Total	8,480	- 0.8	- 5.7	5,610	- 1.1	- 7.6

With spinners employment was fair at Congleton's moderate at Macclesfield, and bad, with short time, at Leek. With throwsters it was fair at Macclesfield and Congleton, and bad, with short time, at Leek. With both handloom and powerloom weavers employment at Macclesfield was bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. With trimming weavers employment was bad at Congleton and moderate at Leek. In the Bradford district employment was quiet, and rather worse than a month ago. In the Eastern Counties there was a further decline.

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

Description.	Aug.,	July,	Aug.,		Decreas Aug.,	se (+) or se (-) in 1908, as ed with a	
	ASSET N		ora ora ora	N	fonth ago.		Year ago.
mports:— Raw Silk Lbs Thrown Silk Spun Silk Yarn , Silk Broad-Stuffs yards	90,081 36,996 18,499 5,142,401	33,624	22,784	++	19,921 3,372 4,902 118,703	Litte	68,730 19,217 4,285 128,524
Exports:— Thrown Silk Lbs Spun Silk Yarn ,, Silk Broad-Stuffs yards	4,923 55,094 354,812	61,176	3,551 74,445 498,608	+-+	2,050 6,082 31,258	-	1,372 19,35 143,790

OTHER TEXTILE TRADES.

(Based on 60 Returns—25 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 28 from Trade Unions, and 7 from Local Correspondents). Carpet Trade.

Employment in this industry during August was bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. Some short time was worked. Returns received from firms employing 5,893 workpeople, and paying £4,319 in wages in the week ended August 22nd, showed a decrease of 1.6 per cent. in the number employed, and of 16.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. As compared with a year ago the number employed decreased by 5.6 per cent. and the amount of wages paid by 17.4 per cent.

Printing, Dyeing, Bleaching, and Finishing.

Woollen and Worsted Dyers .- Employment in the West Riding was bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. The majority of the Trade Union dyers worked short time.

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

Silk Dyers.--Employment was reported as bad at Macclesfield and moderate at Leek.

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

Hosiery and Lace Dyers, Trimmers, &c.—At Leicester and Hinckley employment was bad, with much short time; at Loughborough it showed a further decline. With dyers at Nottingham employment showed a slight improvement and was moderate; with bleachers and hosiery trimmers at Basford and Bulwell employment was bad; on the whole employment in Nottinghamshire was worse than a year ago.

Calenderers, &c .- At Glasgow employment was dull, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. At Dundee it was fair

TAILORING TRADE.

(Based on 106 Returns—77 from Employers, 2 from Trade Unions, and 27 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the bespoke branch in London showed the usual seasonal decline, but was rather better than a year ago; in the provinces it was quiet. In the ready-made branch it was moderate, and slightly worse than a month ago and a year ago.

Bespoke Branch.

London,—Employment during August showed the usual seasonal decline as compared with a month ago; it was better than a year ago.

Firms paying £7,770 to their workpeople during the four weeks ended August 22nd showed a decrease of 26.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 1.5 per cent. compared

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

Ready-made Branch.

London.—Employment continued moderate, and was slightly worse than a year ago.

Leeds.—Employment on the whole was moderate, and slightly worse than a year ago. Firms employing 6,993 workpeople in their factories (in addition to persons employed on work for them in workshops) in the week ended August 22nd showed a decrease of 1.4 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 0.8 per cent. compared with a year ago. The Jewish operatives reported employment as worse.

Other Centres. — Employment at Manchester was moderate. At Bristol and Norwich it was moderate, and slightly worse than a year ago. At Glasgow it

The Imports of apparel, not waterproofed, in August, 1908, were valued at £246,471, as compared with £211,549 in July, 1908, and £256,171 in August, 1907; and the **Exports** for the same months at £460,504, £472,071, and £558,976 respectively.

HAT TRADE.

(Based on 13 Returns—3 from Employers' Associations, 10 from Trade Unions.)

EMPLOYMENT during August in the Silk hat trade was bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In the Felt hat trade it was quiet, about the same as a month ago, and worse than a year ago.

In the Silk hat trade the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of August was 16'1, compared with 13.5 a month ago, and 10.1 a year ago.

In the Felt hat trade the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of August was 2.7, compared with 2.6 a month ago, and 1.5 a year ago. Employment at Denton and Stockport was bad, with much short time. In Warwickshire it was fairly good.

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

Description.	Aug.,	July,	Aug.,	Increase Decrease(1908, as c	ompared	
The percentage of	1900.	1900.	1907.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Imports: All kinds	Dozens. 23,543	Dozens. 26,673	Dozens. 24,619	Dozens.	Dozens.	
Exports: Felt Straw Other Sorts	51,757 36,177 7,314	38,262 54,669 8,342	57,791 46,873 5,874	+ 13,495 - 18,492 - 1,028	- 6,034 - 10,696 + 1,440	
Total	95,248	101,273	110,538	- 6,025	- 15,290	

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

(Based on 507 Returns-491 received from Employers, partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 5 from Trade Unions, and 11 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT on the whole was moderate, slightly worse than a month ago, but better than a year ago.

Returns received from firms employing 63,373 workpeople in the week ended August 22nd showed no change in the number employed, and a decrease of 1.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 2.9 per cent. in the number employed, and of 4.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Employment at Leicester showed a further decline, but was better than a year ago. At Northampton employment showed little change compared with a month ago, and was better than a year ago; at Kettering it continued slack; with army bootmakers employment was worse than a month ago, and much short time was reported. At Bristol employment was quiet. In the heavy boot trade at Kingswood it showed a further slight improvement, and was better than a year ago. At Leeds it continued moderate. In Scotland employment continued fair on the whole, and was better than a year ago.

ment that is not		people c			Earning	3.
District.	No. paid wages on pay- day in week ended	Decreas	e (+) or se(-) as pared h a	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay-day in week	Increase Decrease comp wit	e (-) as
TO SET DESIGNATION OF SET	Aug. 22nd, 1908.	Month ago.	Year ago.	ended Aug. 22nd, 1908.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London Leicester Leicester Country District Northampton Country District Kettering Stafford & District Norwich & District Bristol & District Kingswood Leeds & District Manchester & District Other parts of England and Wales	2,489 13,160 3,133 9,668 8,884 3,555 2,639 3,392 1,886 1,913 2,221 2,718 1,045 2,603	Per cent 0'9 - 0'5 - 0'3 - 0'1 + 0'4 - 0'1 - 1'3 - 0'5 + 0'4 + 2'0 + 0'1 + 0'4 + 0'6 + 0'1	Per cent. + 4'5 + 3'3 - 0'7 + 0'1 - 0'9 + 3'6 + 1'3 + 7'7 - 0'2 - 4'9 + 2'0 + 5'6	£ 2,713 12,730 2,957 9,321 8,444 3,621 2,380 2,895 1,787 1,841 2,037 2,659 829 2,244	Per cent. + 0.6 - 5.5 + 3.2 + 0.5 - 0.1 - 1.0 - 3.0 - 3.4 - 3.7 - 0.2 + 0.5 - 3.8 + 5.3 - 0.8	Per cent. + 75 + 75 + 75 + 63 + 83 - 04 + 21 + 193 + 12 + 54 - 25 - 07 - 370 + 372
England & Wales	59,311	- 0.1	+ 2.7	56,458	– 1.4	+ 4.6
SCOTLAND IRELAND	3,775 287	+ 0.6	+ 7'1	3,554	- 0.3	+ 4'9
United Kingdom	63,373	- 0.0	+ 2.9	60,211	- 1.4	+ 4'5

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

s meentleyed the the	August,	July,	August,	Increase Decreas August, compare	e (-) in 1908, as.	
	1900.	1908.	1907.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Imports (less Re-Exports) Quantity Dozen pairs Value £	26,292 54,275	26,804 63,340	24,846 61,910	- 512 - 9,065	+ 1,446 - 7,635	
Exports (British and Irish) Quantity Dozen pairs Value £	94,025 207,712	94,999 209,486	110,603 233,736	- 974 - 1,774	- 16,578 - 26,024	

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

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

(Based on 166 Returns-155 from Employers, 8 from Trade Unions, and 3 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in London in the West-End dressmaking trades showed the usual seasonal slackness, and was worse than a year ago. In the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, &c., trades, and in the shirt and collar trade generally employment was moderate, and worse than a year ago. In the corset trade it was quiet, but slightly better than a year ago.

Dressmaking, Millinery, and Mantle Trades. — Returns from retail firms in London, chiefly in the West-End, employing 815 dressmakers in the week ended August 22nd, showed a decrease of 49.3 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 8'1 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was moderate. With Court dressmakers employment during the month was very quiet, many establishments being closed. With milliners in the West-End employment showed the usual seasonal decline.

In the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, underclothing and infants' millinery trades, firms in London employing 2,995 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended August 22nd showed an increase of 7.2 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 6.2 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was moderate.

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

In Manchester employment with mantle makers was fairly good. In the costume and skirt trade firms employing 1,765 workpeople in the week ended August 22nd showed a decrease of 1.9 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 1.4 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was quiet.

In Glasgow employment in the mantle trade was moderate, and worse than a year ago.

Shirt and Collar Trade.—Returns received from shirt and collar manufacturers in England, Scotland and Ireland, employing 6,194 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers), and paying £3,928 in wages, in the week ended August 22nd, showed a decrease of 3 o per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 10.9 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment on the whole was moderate.

Corset Trade.—Returns received from corset manufacturers, employing 2,615 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended August 22nd, showed a decrease of 4.1 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 2.3 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was quiet.

OTHER LEATHER TRADES.

(Based on 38 Returns—24 from Trade Unions and 14 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was bad, but showed a slight improvement compared with a month ago. It was not so good as a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 3,418 had 7.5 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of August, as compared with 8.7 per cent. in July, and 5.0 per cent. a year ago.

Skinners, Tanners, Curriers, Dressers.—Employment with skinners was bad in London, but showed an improvement at Birmingham. With curriers it was bad on the whole, and short time was worked; it was fair at Edinburgh and Leeds. With leather workers generally it was slack at Bolton, Bury and Wigan; bad at Leeds, and quiet at Manchester.

Saddle and Harness Makers.—At Walsall employment was bad, and worse than a month ago. It continued fair at Glasgow and good at Dublin.

Miscellaneous Leather Trades. — With fancy leather workers employment continued bad, and much short time was worked. With portmanteau and trunk makers employment was fair in London, and quiet but better than a month ago in Manchester.

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

Description.	August,	July, 1908.	August,	Decrease August,	e (+) or se (-) in 1908, as ed with a
redications of the				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:— Hides, raw, and pieces thereof, dry	cwts. 39,359	cwts. 29,717	cwts. 37,878	cwts. + 9,642	cwts. + 1,481
Ditto, wet	54,281	69,746	42,337	- 15,462	+ 11,947
Total, hides, dry and wet	93,643	99,463	80,215	- 5,820	+ 13,428
Goat skins, undressed (No.) Sheep skins ,, (value) £		878,414 173,585	785,491 301,210	+ 419,926 + 48,470	+ 512,849 - 79,155
Leather*	cwts. 112,565	cwts. 117,283	owts. 84,038	owts. - 4,718	owts. + 28,527
Exports: - Saddlery and harness (value)	£ 34,505	£ 34,724	£,478	- £219	- £

PAPER, PRINTING, AND BOOK-BINDING TRADES.

(Based on 430 Returns—136 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 275 from Trade Unions and their branches, and 19 from Local Correspondents.)

PAPER TRADES.

Employment in these trades was only moderate. It was rather worse than a month and a year ago. Some short time was reported.

Returns received from firms employing 22,496 work-people in the last week of the month showed that there was a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the total number of workpeople employed as compared with a month ago, but an increase of 2.1 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

The following Table summarises the returns from imployers:—

	Number of Workpeople paid Wages in last week of August,	Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in No. of Workpeople as compared with a			
	making Returns.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
Machine-made Paper and Milled Boards:		(1882), 2610			
Northern Counties Midlands, Wales, and Ireland	6,757	- 0°2	+ 1.2		
Southern Counties Scotland	7,081 6,016	- 0.6 - 0.1	+ 4.8		
Total, Machine-made Paper, &c.	21,634	- 0'4	+ 2.2		
Hand-made Paper	862	- 0'5	- 0.7		

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

Trade Unions in the machine-made paper trade with 1,689 members had 2.7 per cent. unemployed at the end of August, as compared with 2.1 per cent. both a month ago and a year ago. In the hand-made paper trade, Trade Unions with 588 members had 4.9 per cent. unemployed, compared with 6.0 per cent. a month ago, and 5.4 per cent. a year ago.

The Imports of paper in August, 1908, amounted to £460,037, as compared with £485,441 in July, 1908, and £441,978 in August, 1907; and the Exports for the same periods amounted to £170,268, £212,906 and £196,509, respectively.

PRINTING TRADES.

Employment was bad generally, and worse than a year ago. With letterpress printers, as is usual in August, it was much worse than in July.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Aug., 1908, included in the Returns.	Percent	age retu ployed at	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in per- centage unemployed as compared with a			
		Aug., 1908.	July, 1908.	Aug.,	Month ago.	Year ago.	
London	20,550	8.1	5.2	2.1 2.1	+ 2.9	+ 1.0	
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	5,370	6.4	3.2	5.6	+ 2.9	+ 0.8	
Lanes, and Cheshire	6,387	7.6	3'7	5.6	+ 3'9	+ 2'0	
East Midland and Eastern Counties		4'9	3.9	4'3	+ 1.0	+ 0.6	
West Midlands	2,541	6.4	3'5	6.8	+ 2'9	- 0'4	
S. & S. W. Counties and Wales	3,646	5'I	3.2	3.1	+ 2.6	+ 2'0	
Scotland	5,467	4.6	5'I	2.6	- 0'5	+ 2'0	
Ireland	2,447	10.4	3 .0	6.4	+ 1.4	+ 4'0	
United Kingdom	48,716	3.I	4.6	5.8	+ 2.5	+ 1.3	

London.—Employment was bad generally and worse than a month and a year ago, but electrotypers and stereotypers continued fairly well employed. At the end of August 8·1 per cent. of the Trade Union members were unemployed, as compared with 5·2 per cent. a month ago and 7·1 per cent. in August, 1907.

Other Centres.—Employment was slack generally, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. With letter-press printers at Edinburgh and Aberdeen, however, it was good until the end of the month, when it declined. At Dundee it was slack at the beginning of the month, but good at the end of the month. At Sheffield and Derby and in the Eastern Counties employment was fair. Lithographic printers at Birmingham were well employed.

BOOKBINDING TRADES.

Employment continued bad, with much short time, and was worse than a year ago. In London there was an improvement compared with a month ago.

1813		No. of Members of Unions at end of Aug.,1908,	Percen Unemp	tage retu ployed at	rned as end of	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in per- centage unemployed as compared with a			
		included in the Returns.	Aug., 1908.	July, 1908.	Aug.,	Month ago.	Year ago.		
London Other Districts		3,594 3,173	6·6 9·2	7.9 8.7	7'4 5'0	+ o.2 - 1.3	- 08 + 4'2		
United Kingdom		6,767	7.8	8.3	6.3	- 0.2	+ 1'5		

BUILDING TRADES.

(Based on 1,723 Returns—751 from Employers and Employers' Associations, received partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 917 from Trade Unions and their branches, and 55 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in August continued slack. It was slightly better than a month ago, but worse than a year ago.

Returns received from 696 firms employing 46,433 workpeople at the end of August are summarised below.

These Returns show that in London compared with a month ago there was an increase of 12.4 per cent. in the number of skilled tradesmen, and of 5.8 per cent. in the number of labourers employed; while compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 7.8 per cent. in the number of skilled tradesmen, but an increase of 16.1 per cent. in the number of labourers. In the provinces the number of skilled tradesmen showed an increase of 1.4 per cent. compared with a month ago and a decrease of 4.3 per cent. compared with a year ago, while the number of labourers showed decreases of 0.2 per cent.

September, 1908. THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The percentage of Trade Union carpenters and joiners unemployed at the end of August was 8.9, as compared with 9.9 a month ago and 4.6 a year ago; and for plumbers, at the same dates, the percentages were 12.2, 11.9, and 7.3 respectively.

and 4.8 per cent. respectively.

	Skille	ed Trade	smen.	I	abourers	1.			
District.	No. of Work- people paid wages	Decreas	e (+) or se (-) as red with	No. of Work- people paid wages	Increase Decrease compare	e (-) as			
	on the last pay-day of Aug.	on the last month		on the last pay-day of Aug.	A month ago.	A year ago.			
London Northern Counties and Yorkshire	8,512 2,581	+ 936 + 32	- 724 - 253	6,551 2,094	+ 356 - 28	+ 909 - 365			
Lancashire and Cheshire Midland & Eastern Counties S. & S.W. Counties & Wales	3,890	- 55 + 62 + 100	- 36 + 73 - 182	3,432 2,147 1,769	- 64 - 2 + 2	+ 398 + 117 - 587			
England and Wales	20,756	+ 1,075	- 1,121	15,993	+ 264	+ 472			
Scotland Ireland	3,199 546	+ 126 - 40	- 27 - 296	1,792 708	+ 109 - 41	+ 3 ² - 197			
United Kingdom	24,501	+ 1,161	- 1,445	18,493	+ 332	+ 307			
Table Sales	La	ds and B	oys.	Total.					
London Northern Counties and Yorkshire	518	- 14 - 1	+ 83	15,546 5,193	+ 1,278	+ 193 - 695			
Lancashire and Cheshire Midland & Eastern Counties S. & S.W. Counties & Wales	840	+ 7 - 3 - 5	- 31 - 45 - 72	8,162 5,204 8,260	- 112 + 57 + 97	+ 331 + 145 - 841			
England and Wales	2,616	- 16	- 217	39,365	+ 1,323	- 867			
Scotland Ireland	748 75	+ 10	- 119	5,739 1,329	+ 245 - 80	- 114 - 503			
United Kingdom	3,439	- 5	- 346	46,433	+ 1,488	- 1,484			

London.—Employment was slack generally, except with painters, who were fairly well employed. It was better than a month ago. Trade Union Returns relating to carpenters and joiners in the London district showed that 9'9 per cent. were unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 14'5 per cent. a month ago, and 5'1 per cent. in August, 1907. The corresponding percentages for plumbers were 11'5, 13'4, and 7'3 respectively.

Other Districts. — Employment continued slack in nearly all districts. It was slightly better than a month ago, but worse than a year ago.

An improvement in employment was reported at Leeds, but there was a decline at Sheffield and Hull. Employment was fair at Oldham, and moderate with painters at Manchester, plumbers at Bolton, and bricklayers at Stockport and Northwich.

Employment declined at Nottingham. At Leicester it improved with carpenters and labourers, but declined with bricklayers. Carpenters at Birmingham reported an improvement. At Cambridge employment was fair, and much better than a month ago.

At Plymouth bricklayers and masons were not so well employed as in July. Masons in South Wales continued to be fairly well employed.

At Edinburgh employment was fair with bricklayers and masons, and improved with plasterers. Painters and plasterers at Glasgow also showed an improvement. At Dundee a decline in employment was reported.

FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

(Based on 194 Returns—4 from Employers' Associations, 161 from Trade Unions, and 29 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued bad on the whole, and was worse than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 35,185 reported 8.4 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of August, as compared with 8.7 per cent. a month ago, and 4.3 per cent. a year ago.

Furnishing Trades.

Employment generally continued bad, and worse than a year ago. Trade Unions reported 10'4 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of August, as compared with 12'3 per cent. a month ago, and 5'6 per cent. a year ago.

The Imports of furniture and cabinet ware in August, 1908, were valued at £29,399, as compared with £31,696 in July, 1908, and £34,097 in August, 1907, and the Exports for the same periods at £54,755, £50,550, and £72,306, respectively.

Millsawyers and Woodworking Machinists.

Employment continued bad on the whole, and was worse than a year ago. It was fair, however, at Belfast, Hull, and Lincoln. Trade Unions reported 8.7 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of August, as compared with 8.6 per cent. a month ago, and 4.3 per cent. a year ago.

Imports.—The Table below shows the quantities of hewn and sawn timber, and the values of house frames, &c., imported for the months stated.

Description.	August,	July,	August,	Decreas August	e (+) or se (-) in , 1908, as ed with a
Andre Andre Andrea	Igot.	Igou.	2907.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Timber, hewn	Loads. 92,764 695,592	Loads. 113,356 921,602	Loads. 119,579 823,703	Loads. - 20,592 - 226,010	Loads. - 26,815 - 128,111
House Frames, Fittings and Joiners' Work (value)	£ 19,003	£ 16,297	£ 17,402	+ £,706	+ 1,601

Coopers,

Employment continued fair on the whole. At Burton, however, and at Belfast, it was reported as bad.

Coachbuilding.

Employment generally was bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions reported 8.2 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of August, compared with 6.3 per cent. a month ago, and 3.5 per cent. a year ago.

Miscellaneous.

Brushmakers.—Employment remained bad, and was worse than a year ago. Trade Unions reported 9.9 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of August, as compared with 8.5 per cent. a month ago, and 5.0 per cent. a year ago.

Other Trades.—Employment was slack, and worse than in the previous month, with packing-case makers. With skipmakers at Oldham it was good; with other basketmakers moderate.

The Imports of brushes and brooms in August, 1908, were valued at £27,116, as compared with £28,185 in July, 1908, and £31,516 in August, 1907; and the Exports for the same periods at £13,513, £17,265, and £16,864 respectively.

POTTERY AND BRICK AND TILE TRADES.

(Based on 30 Returns—8 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 9 from Trade Unions, and 13 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the Pottery trade continued bad, and was considerably worse than a year ago. In the Brick and Tile trades it was bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. Much short time was worked.

Pottery Trade.—Employment in Staffordshire was bad, most factories being on short time. It was also bad at Bristol and in Scotland. It was fair at Newcastle-on-Tyne, at Swadlincote, and in Devonshire. With earthenware makers in South Yorkshire employment was bad, and worse than a month ago, a good deal of short time being worked during the month. With insulator turners and throwers in the Potteries employment was dull, but showed some improvement on the previous month. With clay tobacco-pipe makers employment was fair at Manchester, dull at Gateshead, and

Brick and Tile Trades. - Employment was good in South Wales and Monmouthshire. It was fair at Sudbury and Chelmsford, and moderate at Ipswich and in the Tees and Hartlepools district. Employment was very slack at Peterborough. It was also slack at Stourbridge and in Leicestershire. It was dull in Devonshire and Shropshire, and quiet at Birmingham and in North Wales. Employment in South Stafford-shire, Scotland and Bedfordshire, and at Nottingham,

The Imports of chinaware or porcelain and earthenware in August, 1908, were valued at £67,497, as compared with £72,796 in July, 1908, and £85,734 in August, 1907; and the **Exports** for the same months at £191,317, £211,828 and £243,184, respectively.

GLASS TRADES.

(Based on 94 Returns-59 from Employers and Employers' Associations 23 from Trade Unions, and 12 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the glass trades was moderate on the whole, worse than a month ago, and considerably worse than a year ago.

Returns received from firms employing 7,855 work-people in the week ended August 22nd, and paying £9,481 in wages, showed a decrease of 5.0 per cent. in number employed, and of 4.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. The decline was principally in the glass bottle branch.

As compared with a year ago there were decreases of 9.5 per cent. in number employed and of 8 o per cent. in the amount of wages paid, the decline being general, and most marked in Lancashire

	Workp	eople cove Returns.	ered by	Ea	rnings.			
io lugadila kaa den dans	Number paid Wages on pay-day in week	Decre as cor	e (+) or ase (-) npared ith	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay-day in week	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with			
complete to	ended Aug. 22nd, 1908.	A Month ago.	A Year ago.	ended Aug. 22nd, 1908.	A Month ago.	A Year ago.		
Branches. Glass Bottle Plate Glass Flint Glass Ware (not Bottles) Other Branches	5,20t 704 1,594 356	Per cent 7'I - 0'I - 1'I - 0'3	Per cent 10'7 - 17'3 - 2'9 - 1'1	£ 6,488 867 1,706	Per cent 6'9 + 1'0 - 0'6 - 0'9	Per cent 9'1 - 11'5 - 3'5 - 2'1		
Total	7,855	- 5.0	- 9.5	9,481	- 4'9	- 8.0		
Districts. North of England Yorkshire Lancashire Worcester and Warwick Scotland Other parts of the United Kingdom	793 4,236 684 1,664 754 324	+ 0'4 - 6'9 - 3'5 - 0'7 - 8'5	- 8.6 - 7.8 - 22.4 - 7.1 - 12.2 - 1.5	902 5,320 761 1,275 906 317	- 5'4 - 5'1 - 8'3 - 2'2 - 5'7 - 0'6	- 12 8 - 4.8 - 23.5 - 4.2 - 12.5 - 2.5		
Total	7,855	- 5'0	- 9.5	9,481	- 4'9	- 8.0		

Employment with glass bottle makers was good at Bristol, and fairly good at Castleford; fair at Leeds, Barnsley and Dublin; moderate in the North of England and Scotland; bad in Lancashire. With medical glass bottle makers at Leeds employment was fair. With flint glass makers employment was fairly good on the whole. At Stourbridge and Wordsley, however, it was quiet. With flint glass cutters it was bad, much short time being silverers at Birmingham was bad. With sheet glass flatteners at St. Helens it was moderate, and slightly better than in the previous month. Employment with London glass blowers showed a decline. With pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear employment was moderate, and showed some improvement as compared with a month ago: a considerable amount of short time, however, was worked during the month. Employment with decorative glass workers was good at Liverpool and moderate at Manchester.

Imports and Exports.—The Table below shows the quantities of the various descriptions of glass imported and exported during the months stated :-

Description.	August,	July,	August,	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Aug., 1908, as compared with			
	2900	baita 8	-3-01	A Month ago.	A Year ago.		
Imports:	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.		
Window & German Sheet Glass,including Shades,&c.	87,137	95,152	102,950	- 8,015	- 15,813		
Plate	27,935	24,768	25,991	+ 3,167	+ 1,944		
Flint, plain, cut or orna- mental, &c.	60,418	60,331	67,469	+ 87	- 7,051		
Manufactures, other sorts	125	262	849	- 137	- 72		
	gross	gross	gross	gross	gross		
Bottles	100,193	108,733	108,077	- 8,540	- 7,884		
Exports:	cwts.	owts.	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.		
Plate	13,159	15,765	9,577	- 2,606	+ 3,58		
Flint	4,635	4,721	6,233	- 86	- 1,59		
Manufactures, other sorts	30,942	40,533	35,087	- 9,591	- 4,14		
	gross	gross	gross	gross	gross		
Bottles	55,905	51,109	72,220	+ 4,796	- 16,31		

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN ENGLAND.

(Based on 218 Returns from Correspondents in various districts.)

EMPLOYMENT was generally regular in August, but wet weather interrupted harvest work during the latter part of the month, and a number of day labourers lost some time in consequence. The supply of this class of labour was generally quite sufficient to meet the demand, and in a good many districts there was some surplus.

Northern Counties. — Employment was generally regular in Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmorland, and Lancashire, though rain somewhat interfered with work at the end of the month. Finishing the hay harvest at the beginning of the month caused a good demand for extra labour, which was, however, amply met by the supply. The supply of day labourers in Yorkshire was generally somewhat in excess of the demand, especially during the first part of the month. Before the corn harvest had begun, a number of these men, including many Irish migratory labourers, were unable to obtain regular work.

Midland Counties .- In Cheshire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, and Leicestershire some time was lost by day labourers at the end of August, when wet weather interrupted the corn harvest; the supply of this class of labour was generally equal to the demand. Potato lifting and the corn harvest caused a fairly good demand for extra labourers in Staffordshire, but in most districts the supply was more than sufficient. There was generally regular employment in Shropshire, after the corn harvest had begun. In Worcestershire there was a fairly constant demand for labour on account of fruit picking and the corn harvest, but the supply was ample. A demand for carters and cowmen was reported from the Pershore Union. The supply of labour for the corn harvest was more than sufficient in Warwickshire. Turnip hoeing and the corn harvest generally afforded full and regular employment in Northamptonshire. Day labourers were in excess of the demand in Oxfordshive, and rain at the end of the month caused some irregularity of employment for this class of men. The supply of and demand for labour were generally about equal in Bucking hamshire. Rain caused some interruption to men worked. Employment with plate glass bevellers and at harvest work in this county. Employment was

reported as regular in Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire, with the supply of labour generally about equal to the demand; in the Buntingford Union, in Hertfordshire, however, some scarcity of extra men was reported.

Eastern Counties .- Wet weather somewhat interrupted harvest work at the end of the month in Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire, where, otherwise, there was regularity of employment, the supply of and demand for labour being about equal. Similar reports come from Lincolnshive. Turnip hoeing at the beginning of the month, and afterwards the corn harvest generally provided regular employment in Norfolk. There was also fairly regular employment in Suffolk and Essex; rain, however, causing some interruption to harvest work at the end of the month. In each of the three last-named counties there was an ample supply of harvestmen.

Southern and South-Western Counties.-Correspondents in Kent report that the supply of day labourers was generally in excess of the demand, and that a number of men were unable to get regular work, particularly during the wet weather towards the end of the month. Hoeing and harvesting provided fairly regular employment in Surrey, where the supply of and demand for labour were about equal. Rain interrupted the employment of day labourers in Sussex during the last week of the month. In this county and in Hampshire, where some interruption of work from rain was also reported, the supply of labour was generally about equal to the demand. Similar reports come from Berkshire and Wiltshire. Correspondents in Dorsetshire state that the backward condition of the root crops somewhat affected the demand for day labourers, but this improved when the corn harvest began; there was, however, an ample supply of such men. Employment was fairly regular in Somerset, with a sufficient supply of labour. Wet weather caused some interruption to the employment of day labourers in Herefordshire, and there was not much demand for extra labour. Employment was generally regular in Gloucestershire, but there was some excess of day labourers, and rain interrupted the employment of this class of labour at the end of the month. Hoeing and the corn harvest generally provided full employment in Devonshire and Cornwall.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

Based on 140 Returns—116 from Employers and Employers' Associa-tions, 10 from Trade Unions, and 14 from Local Correspondents.) EMPLOYMENT at London and the other principal ports

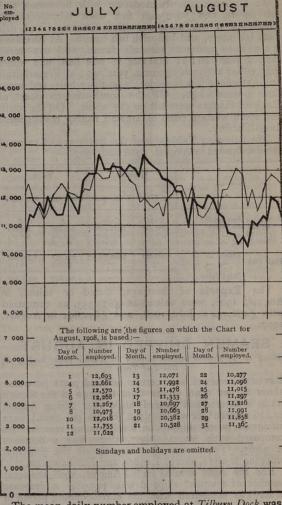
continued moderate generally. At Liverpool it was

London.*—Employment generally was moderate, a decline being reported during the latter part of the month, owing to a decrease in the deliveries of wool and in the imports of timber. The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves during the five weeks ended August 29th was 11,834, a decrease of 3.7 per cent. as compared with a month ago, and of 1.8 per cent. as compared with August, 1907. The daily numbers in August, 1908, ranged from 10,277 on the 22nd to 12,693 on the 1st. During August, 1907, the numbers ranged from 11,294† on the 14th to 13,071† on the 22nd.

organism de la deservad	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.								
		In Docks*							
Period.	By Dock Companies or through Contractors	By Ship- owners, &c.	Total.	At 110 Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.				
Week ended Aug. 1st 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	5,190 4,407 4,003 3,706 3,728	2,422 2,252 2,383 1,628 2,281	7,612 6,659 6,386 5,334 6,cog	5,527 5,489 5,437 5,313 5,405	13,139 12,148 11,823 10,647 11,414				
Average for 5 weeks ended Aug. 29th, 1908	} 4,207	2,193	6,400	5,434	11,834				
Average for July, 1907	4,702	2,184	6,886	5,402	12,288				
Average for Aug., 1908	3,907	2,598	6,505	5,549+	12,054+				

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 170 of the principal Wharves, for each day during the months of July and August, 1908. The corresponding curve for July and August, 1907, is also given for comparison.

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



The mean daily number employed at Tilbury Dock was 1,029 during August, 1908, as compared with 988 during July, and 1,104 during August, 1907.

At Liverpool employment was very dull with dock labourers, and bad with quay and railway carters.

Other Ports.—Employment with dock labourers was moderate at Newcastle, and bad at Sunderland and South Shields. It was worse than a month ago. Employment was slack at Hartlepool. It was moderate, and worse than a month ago, at Middlesbrough. It was moderate with dock labourers at Hull and Grimsby, and bad at Goole. Coal workers at these ports were fairly well employed. Employment was good at King's Lynn, Yarmouth, and Lowestoft, and slack at Harwich. It was moderate at Southampton, Plymouth, and Bristol. At the South Wales ports employment was slack, and worse than a month ago. It was moderate at Manchester. Employment declined with dock lal ourers at Leith and Dundee, and was bad at Glasgow and dull at Aberdeen. At Dublin employment was fair, and at Belfast bad.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

(Based on 16 Returns—2 from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, 8 from the Collectors of Fishery Statistics for England and Wales and the Fishery Board for Scotland, 1 from the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, and 5 from Local Correspondents.)

THE fish landed in August, 1908, showed a decrease in both quantity and value as compared with August, 1907. Employment at the principal ports during August was

At Yarmouth it was good with fishermen, fair with fish dock labourers, and moderate with fish curers. At Grimsby employment was good with all classes, and

better than a month ago and a year ago.

At Hull it continued moderate with fishermen and fish curers, and fair with fish dock labourers. At Lowestoft it was moderate with fishermen and fish dock labourers, and bad with fish curers. At Aberdeen it continued moderate with all classes, and was worse than a year ago; at Macduff it was bad, and worse than either a month ago or a year ago; at Fraserburgh and Peterhead it was moderate on the whole, and worse than a month ago. Off the south-western coast of England catches were fair on the whole. Off the south and south-western coast of Ireland fishing results were

The following Table shows the quantity and value of the fish landed in August, 1908 and 1907 :-

			Qua	intity.	Value.			
			Aug., 1908.	Aug., 1907.	Aug., 1908.	Aug., 1907		
Fish (other England Scotland Ireland	and Wa	ell): les	 Cwts. 1,023,522 1,280,325 42,124	Cwts. 1,310,488 2,282,962 47,411	£ 648,986 312,328 13,736	£ 679,082 698,515 17,765		
Shell Fish	Total	••• •••	 2,345,971	3,640,861	975,250 30,403	1,395,362 32,514		
	Total V	alue	 -10	_	1,005,653	1,427,876		

The Exports of herrings, cured or salted, in August, 1908, were valued at £675,353, as compared with £492,434 in July, 1908, and £692,891 in August,

SEAMEN SHIPPED IN AUGUST.

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

RETURNS received from certain selected ports (at which about 83 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared) show that during August 42,126 seamen*, of whom 3,798 (or 9.0 per cent.) were foreigners, were shipped on foreign-going vessels. As compared with August, 1907, there was a decrease of 3,365. There were decreases at all the principal shipping centres, except London and Southampton.

For the eight months ended August, 1908, the total number of seamen* shipped was 325,984, a decrease of 2,463 as compared with the corresponding period of 1907. The chief increases were at Southampton and Liverpool, and the chief decreases at Cardiff, Glasgow, Hull, the Tyne, and Middlesbrough.

Lascars are not included in these figures

				Numb	er o	f Sea	men* shi	ipped in		
Principal Po	orts.			Augus	t,		Jan	nuary-Au	gust,	400
bus sample or new			1907.	1908.	De	c. (+) or c.(-) 1908.	1907.	1908.	8. Inc.	
ENGLAND AND East Coast. Tyne Ports	WA	LES.	3,037	2,620		417	21,382	19,877	- I.	505
Sunderland	***	6 300	418	471	+	53	3,170	3,163	,	7
Middlesbrough	***		413	313	1	100	3,340	2,106	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	234
Hull			1,375	740	-	635	10,416	8,706		710
Grimsby			84	156	+	72	1,104	1,541		437
Bristol Channel. Bristol		373	685	480		205	5070	1, 200		
Newport, Mon.		***	1,025	754	-	271	5.032	4,723		309
Cardifft	***		4,918	4,398		520	7,393	38,486		916
Swansea			703	367	-	336	4,223	3,369		854
Other Ports.		100			2.7		rolon		600	
Liverpool	•••	•••	18,031	17,673	-	358	121,318	123,203		891
Southampton	•••	•••	5,692	5,695	+	3	48,197	48,394		197
Southampton			4,052	4,221	+	169	24,772	31,762	+ 6,9	990
SCOTLAN	D.	1000	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	1		10000	196000		12 27/19	
Leith			496	195	-	301	3,806	3,127	- (679
Kirkcaldy, Metl	hil	and	298	203	-	95	1,878	1,682		196
Grangemouth			100000	100000000000000000000000000000000000000		1	0.000	474 /30	13.00	3
Glasgow		•••	4,013	3,676	-	337	28,767	25,860	- 2,9	90
IRELANI	D. ·				199					
Dublin	***		58	32	-	26	446	438	-	8
Belfast	•••		193	132	-	61	1,801	1,736	-	65
Total			45,491	42,126	-3	,365	328,447	325,984	- 2,	163

^{*} It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate nagagements, and not of separate individuals.
† Including Avonmouth and Portishead.

† Including Barry and Penarth.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

(1) Trade Union Acts.

USE OF TRADE UNION FUNDS FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES.

It is provided by the Trade Union Act, 1871, that the rules of every trade union shall be registered, and that such rules shall contain (among other things) the whole of the objects for which the trade union is established, and the purposes for which the funds

trade union is established, and the purposes for which the funds are applicable.

A trade union of railway men was formed, the objects of which, according to the rules, were to improve the condition and protect the interests of its members; to obtain fair wages and reasonable hours of work, and to promote good understanding between employers and employed; to provide various benefits for its members; and to use every effort to provide for the safety of railway work and railway traffic. The rules of the union also provided that no new rule should be made, nor any existing rule amended or altered, except at the annual general meeting every third year. They also provided for the representation in Parliament of the society, and for subscriptions from members to pay the expenses of candidates for Parliament and to pay salaries to those who should be elected. The rules further contained this provision:—"All candidates shall sign and accept the conditions of the Labour Party and be subject to their Whip."

of the Labour Party and be subject to their Whip."

At the annual general meeting of October, 1905,5 the rules had been altered. At the annual general meeting of 1906 they had been again altered, and the words just cited had then been added. The conditions of the Labour Party referred to in those words

been again altered, and the words just cited had then been added. The conditions of the Labour Party referred to in those words were contained in a printed document issued by that Party. The rules as altered in 1906 were duly registered.

The secretary of a local branch of the union brought an action against the union for a declaration that it was outside the powers of the union to raise funds, or use them, for the purpose of supporting members of Parliament pledged to support a certain party, the policy of which might not be in accordance with the interests or general purposes of the union. He also alleged, that the alteration of the rules in 1906 was beyond the powers of the union, and he asked for an injunction to restrain the union and its trustees from using the funds in the manner objected to.

The judge decided that once the rules had been registered no one could go behind them, so far as regarded the question whether or not they had been properly passed by the society, and were binding upon its members. But the question whether or not they were within the powers of the society was one which the court would determine. In this case it was admitted that the application of the funds of the society towards procuring parliamentary representation in the interest of its members was within their powers. The society were entitled to use their votes in order to influence the course of legislation where it touched the relation between employer and employed, the safety of railway work, and the interest of the members of the society. In selecting candidates to represent the legislation where it touched the relation between employer and employed, the safety of railway work, and the interests of the members of the society. In selecting candidates to represent the society in Parliament, the members have to determine whether it is in their interest that such candidates should go to Parliament as independent members or whether they should go as supporters of some definite political party. A member of Parliament cannot bind himself, either legally or morally, by any pledge with regard to his future conduct, but must in all circumstances follow the dictation of his own conscience. It is a matter of discretion which must be left to the majority of the members of the union whether they shall require from their candidates or not the pledge to support a particular party. It is entirely a question of policy, the wisdom or folly of which is a question for those members, and which will not be inquired into by a court of justice. If they think it the best course, trade unions are entitled to affiliate themselves to, or support, any political party they choose. Therefore think it the best course, trade unions are entitled to affiliate themselves to, or support, any political party they choose. Therefore the court could not interfere with the using of the funds of the society in the manner alleged, and judgment must be for the defendants.—Osborne v. The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, Chancery Division, July 21st, 1908.

TRADE UNION; BRANCH SECEDING FROM PARENT SOCIETY: CONTROL OVER FUNDS OF BRANCH: JURISDICTION OF COURT.

It is provided by the Trade Union Act, 1871, that nothing in the Act is to enable any court to entertain any legal proceeding instituted with the object of directly enforcing or recovering damages for the breach of any agreement for the application of the funds of the union to provide benefits to members, or certain other

A trade union was duly registered under the Acts, and included several branches, the general management being vested in an Executive Council. In the year 1907 the society suspended from his duties its general secretary. Thereupon the members of one of the branches met and passed a resolution that unless the secretary was re-instated the branch would secede from the union and distribute the money in hand amongst the members. The secretary was not re-instated, and another man was appointed secretary in his place. The new secretary then required the officers of the branch to pay over the funds in their hands to the society. This the branch refused to do, and it was alleged that the officers threatened to immediately distribute the funds amongst the members of the branch. The head trustees of the union then brought an action against the trustees of the branch for a declaration that the resolution passed at the meeting of the branch was beyond their powers and of no effect, and claiming an injunction to restrain the defendants from distributing the funds or A trade union was duly registered under the Acts, and included

dealing with them otherwise than in accordance with the rules of the union. At the trial the defendants contended that the court had no jurisdiction to try the case. They also disclaimed any intention to distribute the funds among their members. The ey in hand was in fact made up of two funds, the trade fund

September, 1908. THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

and the sick fund.

The judge held that the action was not one for enforcing an agreement but to prevent the mis-application of the society's funds, and that, therefore, the court had jurisdiction to try the action. The judge further held that a distribution of the funds among the members of the branch would be beyond their powers, and contrary to the rules of the society, and a declaration was made to that effect. He did not however decide whether the funds belonged to the branch trustees or to the head trustees.—

Cohe v. Crossingham. Chancery Division, July 17th, 1908.

Cope v. Crossingham, Chancery Division, July 17th, 1908.

WHAT IS A TRADE UNION? RULES OF SOCIETY FORMED IN RESTRAINT OF TRADE: JURISDICTION OF COURT.

It is provided by the Trade Union Act Amendment Act, 1876.

It is provided by the Trade Union Act Amendment Act, 1876, that the term, "trade union," means any combination for regulating the relations between workmen and masters, or between workmen and workmen, or between masters and masters, or for imposing restrictive conditions on the conduct of any trade or business, whether such combination would or would not have been deemed, apart from the Act of 1871, an unlawful combination by reason of some one or more of its purposes being in restraint of trade.

A society was registered as a trade union. In its rules one of its objects was stated to be to regulate the relations between employers and workmen. The rules provided for various sick and other benefits for its members and also for the payment of strike pay, to be paid "in support of members endeavouring to secure an advance of wages, or resist a reduction of same, resisting an increase of the hours of labour, and, when desirable, endeavouring to secure a reduction of same." It was further provided that members should be entitled in case of a strike to strike pay for six weeks, but that the executive committee should have power to continue the pay for a longer period if they thought it necessary. The society was not restricted to the members of any particular trade, and in its main features it was merely a provident society.

A member of this society who had been in receipt of sick pay

main features it was merely a provident society.

A member of this society who had been in receipt of sick pay was fined 2s. 6d. under the rules of the society, for having been out of doors after a certain hour in the evening. In fact, he was consumptive and had been ordered by the medical officer of the society to be so out of doors; and if he had disobeyed the doctor's instructions he would, under another rule, have been liable to a larger fine for such disobedience. The 2s. 6d. having been deducted from sick pay due to him under the rules, he brought an action in a County Court against the society to recover that sum as having been illegally retained from him. The defence was that the society was not a friendly society but a trade union, and that therefore according to the provisions of the Act of 1871 the Court had no jurisdiction to entertain the proceedings. The County Court judge decided that this defence was good, and that he could had no jurisdiction to entertain the proceedings. The County Court judge decided that this defence was good, and that he could not try the case. The plaintiff appealed.

The High Court held that as strike pay was to be given only to The High Court held that as strike pay was to be given only to members endeavouring to secure certain objects, some of which were aimed at fettering the freedom of action of employers, so that such pay was only paid to members who were actually fighters in a trade war, one of the objects of the society would have been illegal but for the Act of 1871; and therefore although many of the objects were quite unobjectionable, and even laudable, the society was a trade union. Hence the Court had no jurisdiction to try the action. Therefore the County Court judge was right, and the action. Therefore the County Court judge was right, and the appeal should be dismissed.—Gozney v. Bristol, West of England and South Wales Operatives' Trade and Provident Society, King's Bench Division, July 4th and 14th, 1908

(2) Trade Disputes Act.

ACT DONE IN "CONTEMPLATION OR FURTHERANCE" OF DISPUTE: THREAT TO CAUSE STRIKE.

It is provided by the Trades Disputes Act, 1906, that an act done by a person in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute shall not be actionable on the ground only that it induces some other person to break a contract of employment, or that it is an interference with the trade, business, or employment of some other person, or with the right of some other person to dispose of his capital or his labour as he wills. The expression "trade dispute" is defined to mean any dispute between employers and workmen, or between workmen and workmen, which is connected with the employment or non-employment, or the terms of employment, or employment or non-employment, or the terms of employment, or with the conditions of labour, of any person; and the expression "workmen" means all persons employed in trade or industry, whether or not in the employment of the employer with whom a

whether or hot in the employment of the employer with whom a trade dispute arises.

A workman, employed as a boiler scaler, whilst a member of a trade union, was ordered by the union to pay a fine of 10s., which he refused to do. Some time later he became an employer, and ceased to be a member of the union. In 1907 he ceased to be an employer, and again, after an interval of some years, became a member of the union, the fine imposed upon him still remaining unpaid. In these circumstances a delegate of the union went to see the foreman at the works where the workman had obtained employment, and told the foreman that he had better stop the workman or else there would be trouble with the men, as there was trouble between the workman and the union about money matters. The workman was accordingly dismissed from his employment, and thereupon brought an action in the County Court against the delegate to recover damages from him on the ground that he had maliciously, by threats and coercive acts, procured his dismissal from the employment. The defence was that

the defendant had not been guilty of the acts complained of; and further, that if he had, there was a trade dispute, and he was protected by the Act. In answer to questions left to them by the judge, the jury found: (1) that there was not a trade dispute existing or contemplated by the men; (2) that the delegate had uttered a threat to the plaintiff's employer; (3) that what he did prevented, or was intended to prevent, the plaintiff from getting or retaining employment; (4) that it was done in order to compel the uttered a threat to the plaintiff's employer; (3) that what he did prevented, or was intended to prevent, the plaintiff from getting or retaining employment; (4) that it was done in order to compel the plaintiff to pay arrears of the fine; (5) that it was done in order to punish the plaintiff for not paying such arrears; (6) that what the de!endant did was not done only to warn the employers that the union men would leave in consequence of their being unwilling to work with the plaintiff; (7) that it was not done in consequence of the men objecting to work with the plaintiff; and (8) that the defendant did something more than act on behalf of the men employed along with the plaintiff. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff for £50 damages, and the County Court judge refused to order a new trial. The defendant appealed to the High Court, but the High Court dismissed the appeal. The defendant accordingly appealed further to the Court of Appeal. (See Labour Gazette, June, 1908, p. 190.)

The Court of Appeal held that the Act applies to any act done by any person, whether an employer or a workman, or unconnected with either. If there was no existing trade dispute the act is justified, whether it prevents a contemplated dispute from arising, or stimulates it. If a trade dispute has arisen, the act must be in furtherance of it. "In contemplation" includes an act done with a view of bringing about a trade dispute. It was plain from the fourth and fifth findings of the jury that there must have been an existing trade dispute, "in furtherance" of which the threats were uttered, for there clearly was a dispute between some workmen and the plaintiff arising out of the non-payment of the fine. The threat also might be considered as in contemplation of another trade dispute, namely, a dispute between the employers and the union men in case the plaintiff continued to work. Therefore the action against the defendant could not succeed, as he was protected by the Act. The appeal was therefore allowed. —Conway v. Wade, Co

Court of Appeal, July 30th, 1908.

(3) Miscellaneous. APPRENTICESHIP: RETURN OF PREMIUM.

APPRENTICESHIP: RETURN OF PREMIUM.

The Jexish Board of Guardians find the necessary money for apprenticing to trades a certain number of children in poor circumstances. They paid a premium of £10 for a boy to a master who signed an indenture covenanting that he would, to the best of his power and ability, teach the apprentice his trade. The indenture also contained the following words: "And it is hereby agreed that, if the apprentice shall absent himself from work without just cause, the master will, on the request of the chairman, take all such proceedings at law or otherwise to compel the attendance of the apprentice as the chairman may require." The indenture continued: "And further that, in case of the breach, non-performance, or non-observance by the master of any of the covenants and provisions herein contained, or if it shall appear to the chairman that from any cause whatever either the master or the apprentice is unable to fulfil the conditions on his part herein contained, then the master shall on demand repay to the chairman a proportionate part of the premium paid." Before the time of apprenticeship had expired, the boy was taken to America by his father, and the guardians demanded a return of a proportionate part of the premium paid by them. The judge of the City of London Court, however, refused to order any repayment, and decided in favour of the master. decided in favour of the master.

The guardians appealed to the High Court, but the High Court

The guardians appealed to the High Court, but the High Court dismissed the appeal.

They appealed further to the Court of Appeal, and it was contended on their behalf that the master was "unable" to fulfil his obligations under the indenture, and that therefore by the terms of his agreement he was bound to repay part of the premium. For the master it was argued, on the other hand, that, as he was ready and willing to carry out his agreement, and had all facilities for so doing, he was able to fulfil his obligations, though he was prevented. The Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, holding that, although it was by no fault of the master that he could not carry out his agreement, still, according to the agreement, he was bound to return part of the premium if from any cause he was "unable" to continue teaching the apprentice. As the boy had gone to America it was clear the master could not teach him; therefore, he was "unable" to teach him within the meaning of the indenture, and the judgments in the other courts were wrong.—Morley v. Baumgart, Court of Appeal, July 18th, 1908.

RAILWAY CONCILIATION BOARDS. LIST OF MEMBERS ELECTED.

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

LONDON, BRIGHTON AND SOUTH COAST RAILWAY.

Traffic (Passenger Department) Sectional Board.—Northern District.—Alfred Molyneux, passenger guard, London Bridge; Thomas Pecock, signalman, Battersea Park; John Ely Hart, ticket collector, Clapham Junction; William E. Whiting, goods guard, Horsham. Southern District.—Daniel Shawyer, passenger guard, Brighton Central; Tom Pargeter, signalman, Newhaven Harbour; Alfred James Lower, goods guard, Brighton; John Pile, passenger shunter, Portsmouth Harbour.

Traffic (Goods Department) Sectional Board.—Northern District.—Alfred J. Phillips, checker, Willow Walk; Herbert Watson, checker, Willow Walk; George Warren, parcels carman, London Bridge; J. Stimson, checker, Tunbridge Wells. Southern District.—Frederick Jenner, checker, Newhaven Harbour; Charles William Knight, goods porter, Portsmouth Town; Albert Smith, checker, Portsmouth Town; George Edward Overy, goods porter, Portsmouth Town; Edward Overy, goods porter, Portsmouth Town.

Locomotive Department Sectional Board.—Northern District.
Walter William Cooper, engine driver, Battersea Loco.; George Richard Pullen, engine driver, New Cross; John Plant, engine driver, Battersea Loco.; J. Frederick Brett, fireman, Tunbridge Wells. Southern District.—Alfred Gill, engine driver, Brighton; Henry T. Austen, engine driver, Brighton; Thomas William Taylor, shedman, Eastbourne; James Browning, engine driver, Newhaven

Engineering Department Sectional Board.—Northern District.
—James Harding, ganger, Horsham; Ebenezer Brown, ganger, East Croydon; Thomas Edward Jones, platelayer, Battersea Park; William Howard, signal linesman, West Croydon. Southern District.—Joseph Henry Clarke, ganger, Lewes; William Funnell, ganger, Newhaven; Edward Tulett, ganger, Newhaven Town; George Mason, ganger, Havant (Farlington).

BARRY RAILWAY.

Sectional Board A. Locomotive Department.—Thomas Smethurst Lee, fireman, Barry; Frank Evan Sharpe, engine driver, Barry; Howell Williams, engine driver, Barry.

Sectional Board B. Permanent Way Department —William Davies, platelayer, Barry; Owen Thomas, platelayer, Llantwit Major; Rees Williams, ganger, Trehafod.

Sectional Board C. Traffic Department.—James Cooper, signalman, Barry; Josiah Coleman Finch, mineral guard, Barry; Charles Lewis, brakesman, Barry; John Mirehouse Murgatroyd, goods checker, Barry.

MARYPORT AND CARLISLE RAILWAY.

Sectional Board A. Locomotive Department.—Thomas Hyslop, engine driver, Carlisle; William Kirkbride, fireman, Maryport; William Richardson, engine driver, Carlisle; Robert Brown, fireman, Carlisle.

Sectional Board B. Way and Works Department.—Porteous Briggs, platelayer, Mealsgate; James McCahy, platelayer, Wigton; Thomas Russell, platelayer, Maryport; Thomas Todhunton platelayer, Aspatria Todhunter, platelayer, Aspatria.

Sectional Board C. Traffic Department.—George Carruthers, goods guard, Maryport; William Irving, goods guard, Carlisle; William Mitchell, signalman, Maryport; John Scott, signalman, Dearham Bridge.

.GREAT NORTHERN AND CITY RAILWAY.

Group A. Trainmen.—T. S. Jarvis, guard, Drayton Park Depot; H. G. Pratt, driver, Drayton Park Depot.

Group B. Station Staff.—H. F. Hall, signalman, Drayton Park; E. J. M. Tuck, liftman, Finsbury Park.

Group C. Engineering Staff.—F. C. Wright, linesman, Drayton Park Depot; M. J. Seabrook, labourer, Drayton Park Depot. Group D. Power House.—A. Mossman, engine driver, Poole

GREAT' NORTHERN RAILWAY (IRELAND).

Sectional Board No. 1. District A.—A. Hanratty, engine driver, Dublin; P. Mathews, engine driver, Dundalk. District B.—W. Boland, engine driver, Belfast; C. H. Harris, fireman,

Sectional Board No. 2. District A.—N. Gaughran, goods guard, Dublin; M. Nolan, passenger guard, Dublin. District B.—P. McBride, signalman, Belfast: R. J. Greer, goods guard,

Sectional Board No. 3.—District A.—P. Walsh, ganger, Dublin; T. Walsh, ganger, Cavan. District B.—J. Burke, platelayer, Lurgan; W. J. Russell, platelayer, Lambeg.

Sectional Board No. 4.—District A.—T. Canning, goods foreman, Cavan; J. Woods, passenger porter, Dublin, District B.—J. Brown, goods porter, Belfast Goods; J. Hopper, ticket collector, Lisburn.

CHESHIRE LINES COMMITTEE.

Sectional Board A. District No. 1.—I. Warrington, signal-man, Walton-on-the-Hill; C. Lawson, goods guard, Brunswick. District No. 2.—S. R. Whitelegg, signalman, Stockport (Tiviot Dale); T. Blackwell, goods guard, Stockport (Heaton Mersey Sidings). District No. 3.—T. Wilkinson, signalman, Northwich; G. E. Young, goods shunter, Northwich.

Sectional Board B.—District No. 1.—T. Arden, relayer, Garston; D. Butler, steam crane driver, Brunswick. District No. 2.—J. Bradley, platelayer, Stockport (Heaton Mersey Sidings); G. Marsh, platelayer, Irlam. District No. 3.—J. Goodier, platelayer, Northwich; E. Malkin, telegraph linesman, Mouldsworth

Sectional Board C. District No 1.—G. Barton, loader, Brunswick; A. Jones, deliverer, Huskisson. District No. 2.—W. H. Wright, ticket examiner, Manchester Central; T. Hope, parcel porter, Stockport (Tiviot Dale). District No. 3.—T. F. Dudley, carriage washer, Chester (Northgate); G. Houldcroft, relief posters. Northwich relief porter. Northwich.

CARDIFF RAILWAY.

Sectional Board A. Locomotive Department.—G. Matthews, fireman; G. Rickard, engine driver; W. P. Willis, engine driver.

Sectional Board B. Permanent Way Department.— W. Davies, ganger; H. Milsom, platelayer; W. Toose, ganger. Sectional Board C. Traffic Department.—W. Prescott, signalman; R. Holmes, train foreman; S. Moger, guard; J. J. Littlefield, pointsman.

PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT, AND FLOUR.

RETURNS have been received from the principal Cooperative Societies and Master Bakers' Associations in Great Britain, and from local correspondents, showing the price of household bread per 4 lbs. on September 1st,

Returns from Co-operative Societies.

The figures in the following Table are based on 234 Returns from Co-operative Societies in England and Wales, and 132 from Scotland:-

District.	pric	domir e per Sept		price	edomir per 4 l June,	bs. on	Predominant price per 4lbs. on 2nd Sept., 1907.			
blunia estas as santres astron s ngri est establis	High- est.	Low- est.	Mean.	High- est.	Low- est.	Mean.	High- est.	Low- est.	Mean	
England and Wales.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	
N. Counties and Yorkshire	7	5	8.11	7	5	6.03	7	41	5.67	
Lancs. & Cheshire	61	41	5.64	73	41	8.76	6	4	5-34	
N. Mid. Counties	6	43	5-18	6	5	5-21	53	4	4-91	
W. do. do	6	43	5.50	6	41	5.50	6	43	5.23	
S. do. do	6	41	5-38	6	5	5.38	51	4	5-00	
Eastern Counties	6	5	B-63	6	5	5-63	6	5	B.50	
London	6	51	5.75	6	51	5.85	51	5	5.45	
S.E. Counties	6	51	5-91	61	50	5-94	6	5	8.61	
S.W. Counties, Wales & Mon.	6	5	5-52	61/2	5	5-59	6	41	5.30	
England and Wales	7	41	5-59	7½	41	5-63	7	4	5.30	
SCOTLAND.		1 2 5	10000	26.21	Section 1		on the			
N. Counties	7	58	6-18	7	51	6-11	6	5	5-60	
Eastern Counties	7	4	6-23	7	4	6.24	7	4	5.76	
Lanarkshire Other Southern	61/2	51/2	6.03	61/2	51/2	6.03	6	5	5.60	
Counties	7	6	6.36	7	6	6.38	612	51	5-91	
Scotland	7	4	6-22	7	4	6-23	7	4	5.75	
Great Britain	7	4	5-82	71/2	4	5.85	7	4	5-47	

The mean of the prices for September 1st, 1908, shows a slight decrease as compared with that for June 1st. As compared with a year ago, an increase of 29d. per 4 lbs. occurred in England and Wales, and of '47d. in Scotland.

The figures in the following tables are based on Returns received from Master Bakers' Associations and from other sources.

	ıst	Sept.,	1908.	ıst.	Aug.,	1908.	2nd	Sept.,	1907.	
District.		edomin es per			edomir es per		Predominant Prices per 4 lbs.			
	High- est.	Low- est.	Mean.	High- est.	Low- est.	Mean.	High est.	Low- est.	Mean	
London:	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d,	d.	d.	d.	
N. & N.W. E. & N.E	512 512 6	5 4 2 5 2	5.8	51515 6 6	5 5	5·4 5·3	51/2 51/2	5 4	5.2	
S.E S.W W. & W.C	6	5± 5± 5± 5±	5·6 5·6 5·7	6	50 50 50 50	5·6 5·6 5·7	555555555555555555555555555555555555555	5 5 5	5·1 5·3 5·3	
N. Counties & Yorks, Lancs. & Cheshire Midlands	7 6	5 5	5.7 5.4	7 6	5 43	5·7 5·4	6	5	8·3 5·1	
Eastern Counties	6	5	5.4	. 6	5	B-4	53	45	5.2	
Southern Counties S. Western Counties	6	42 5	5·5	6	4 2 5	8·9 5·5	6	5 4½	5·7 5·3	
Scotland and Wales	7	51	6.2	7	51	6.2	61/2	5	5-7	
Great Britain	7	41/2	5.6	7	41/2	5.6	61/2	4	5.3	

Compared with a month ago, the mean of the price remains unaltered. As compared with a year ago, an increase of '3d. per 4 lbs. is shown.

Price of Bread in 28 Large Towns.

September, 1908. THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

Place.		Predominant Price per 4 lbs.	Increase Decrease compar	e (-) as	Last Change.		
		at Sept. 1st, 1908	A Month ago.	A Year ago.	Date.	Am'nt per 4 lbs	
THE DAY	ROPE IN	OR	d.	d.	d	BEW DOL	d.
London		•••	5½		+ 1	Oct. '07	- ±
Birmingham		***	5 & 51	+ 1	+ 1	Aug. '08	+ 1
Bolton	***		6		+ 1	Oct. '07	+ 1
Bristol			51 & 6		+ 1	Sept. '07	+ 1
Cardiff	***		5 & 51	•••	- ł	Mar. '08	- 1
Derby			annabity is anna	D. S	SOLUTION OF	April '08	- 1
Huddersfiel	d ·	***	100 TO 10				***
Hull			50		+ 1	Mar. '08	- 1
Ipswich			6		+ 1	Oct. '07	+ 3
Leeds	100	***	6	10000	+ 1	Sept. '07	+ 1
Leicester	***	***	8051 3803	0 A 3		Feb. '08	1 - 5
Liverpool	***	***	56		+ 1	Sept. '07	+ 1
Manchester		***	5		+ 3	April '08	- 1
Middlesbro	ugh	***	56	3	4	April '08	- 1
Newcastle			55		+ 1	Jan. '08	- 1
Norwich	•••		5			Feb. '08	- 3
Nottingham		***	5 & 53		+ 1	Mar. '08	-1
Oldham	***	***	43	+ 1	OOL	Aug. o8	+ 1
Plymouth	***		6	1	+ 1/2	Sept. '07	+ 1
Portsmouth			6	***	+ 1	Sept. '07	+ 1
Potteries		•••	5	+ 1	+ 1	Aug. '08	+ 3
Wolverham	pton		on to greenly		COST TO	Feb. '08	3
Aberdeen	***	***	51	3000	Dre 0	May '08	- 3
Dundee		***	51 & 61			Dec. '07	- 1
Edinburgh	***	***	61		+ 1	Sept. '07	+ 1
Glasgow	***	***	6		+ 1	Sept. '07	+ 1
Belfast	200		6	100.00	+ 3	Sept. '07	+ 1
Dublin			6		+ 1	Mar. '08	- 1

The above Table shows that, compared with a month ago, the predominant price of the 4lb. loaf has risen d. at Oldham and in the Potteries. At Birmingham the predominant price is now 5d. and 5½d., instead of 5d. as in the previous month. As compared with a year ago, the predominant price of bread has risen in 18 of the towns. In three of these, including London, the increase amounted to \(\frac{1}{4}\)d., in 14 to \(\frac{1}{2}\)d., and in one to 1d. per 4 lbs. Nine of the towns showed no change, and one, Cardiff, showed a decrease of 4d. per 4 lbs.

II.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.

The following Table gives the mean London Gazette price of British wheat, the average declared value of wheat and flour imports, and the market price of London flour (Town Households) for the periods stated.

Month.	British Wheat. Mean London Gazette Price		ports.	Average Monthly Price of Flour(Town Households
	(England and Wales).	Wheat.	Wheat-meal and Flour,	cash.
July	Per cwt.* s. d. 7 10 7 2 7 3	Per cwt. s. d. 7 91 8 22 8 24	Per cwt. s. d. 9 81 10 41 10 62	Per cwt. s. d. 10 53 10 113 11 32

The imports of wheat during the twelve months ended August, 1908, amounted to 91,554,510 cwts., or 3,181,990 cwts. less than during the corresponding period of 1906-7. The imports of wheat-meal and flour during the twelve months ended August, 1908, amounted to 13,389,206 cwts., or 168,489 cwts. more than in the corresponding period of 1906-7.

CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETIES. Quarterly Returns of Sales.

RETURNS received from three Co-operative Wholesale Societies in the United Kingdom, for the second quarter of 1908, show total sales in their distributive departments amounting to £8,001,828, an increase of 2.1 per cent. on the corresponding period of 1907, and of 26.3 per cent. on the corresponding period of 1903 (i.e., five

The sales and transfers from the manufacturing to the distributive departments of the English and Scottish

*In accordance with Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, the rate of conversion from quarters to cwts. is made at the rate of 60 imperial pounds = 1 bushel of wheat.

Wholesale Societies amounted to £2,126,603, an increase of 3.5 per cent. on the second quarter of 1907, and of 65.6 per cent. on that of 1903.

The following Table gives details for the three

o i har zenos p	Sales.								
Names of Societies and	In sec	Percentage in- crease in 1908 as compared with							
Nature of Business.	1908.	1907.	1903.	A year ago.	Five years ago.				
English Wholesale	£	£	£	SECTION AND ADDRESS OF					
Society:— Distributive Departments Manufacturing ,,	6,084,012 1,413,761*	5,940,597 13 66,17 6*1	4.739,095 764,533*	2'4 3'5	28·4 84·9				
SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY: Distributive Departments Manufacturing ,,	1,892,618 651,821*	1,873,379 626,168*	1,570,870	1.0	20'5				
ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETIES' JOINT COMMITTEE:— Manufacturing Departments	61,021*	61,545*1	44,652*	0.98	36.7				
IRISH AGRICULTURAL WHOLESALE SOCIETY:— Distributive Departments +	25,198	20,746	25,262	21.2	0,38				
Totals—Distributive Depts ,, Manufacturing ,,	8,001,828 2,126,603*	7,834,722 2.053,889*1	6,335,227		26.3				
Grand Total	10,128,431	9,888,611‡	7,619,499	2.4	32.9				

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM. Summary for August.

IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL MERCHANDISE.

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

	August.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Aug., 1908, compared with		
	1906.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1906.	
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured IV.—Miscellaneous and Un-	14,009,458	14,709,014	12,867,944	-1,841,070	- 1,141,514 - 1,928,759	
classified (including Parcel Post)	230,174	107,500	170,017	- 10,743	- 59,357	
Total value of Imports	48,889,137	49,290,447	42,746,051	- 6,544,396	- 6,143,086	

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

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

		August.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Aug., 1908, compared with			
	1906.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1906.	
I.—Food, Drink, and	1,961,309	£ 2,340,336	£ 2,152,394	- £	£ 191,085	
II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanu- factured**	3,773,935	4,860,553	4,306,535	- 554,018	+ 532,600	
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured	27,293,644	29,500,636	23,339,250	-6,161,386	- 3,954,394	
IV.—Miscellaneous and Un- classified (including Parcel Post)	463,726	653,519	544,497	- 109,022	+ 80,771	
Total value of Exports of British produce.	33,492,614	37,355,044	30,342,670	7,012,368	- 3,149,938	

The exports of foreign and colonial merchandise amounted to £6,924,140 in August, 1906; £7,367,201 in August, 1907; and £6,819,707 in August, 1908.

* Sales and transfers from productive to distributive departments. † This Society has no manufacturing departments. † Revised figures.

Revised figures.

§ Decrease.

Raw cotton, wool, wood and timber, metallic ores, oils and oil-seeds, hides and skins, &c.

¶ Yarns and textile fabrics, manufactures of metal and leather, chemicals, &c.

† Yarns, textile fabrics and apparel, metal manufactures, chemicals, &c.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

THE total number of cases of poisoning reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshops Act during August was 61, consisting of 58 cases of lead poisoning, 2 of mercurial poisoning, and 1 of phosphorus poisoning. In addition to the above, 23 cases of lead poisoning (5 of which were fatal) were reported during August among house painters and plumbers. There were no cases of anthrax reported during August.

During the eight months ended August, 1908, the total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax was 515, as compared with 376 in 1907. The number of deaths during the same period was 27, as against 28 in 1907. In addition there were 136 cases of lead poisoning (including 22 deaths) among house painters and plumbers during the first eight months of 1908, as compared with 104 cases (including 26 deaths) in the first eight months of 1907.

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

Analysis by Industries.

	13000			-		MEDI
		CASES	10 100	L	EATHS	3.
Industry,	Month of Aug.,	Mo	ght nths ded	Month of Aug.,	Mo	ight nths ded
	Igoo.	1908.	1907.	19001	1908.	1907.
TOP AN SHOE STANDARD		L	ead Po	olsonin	g.	
Smelting of Metals	6	55	14	-	2	I
Sheet Lead and Lead Pining	=	4	3 2		=	1
Plumbing and Soldering	I	18	10	-	-	2
Printing	5	21	15	-	1	I
File Cutting	I	7	3	-	I	1
Tinning and Enamelling of Iron	2	5	16	-	Sec. 1	1000
Hollow-ware White Lead Works	4	53	45	_	_	_
Red and Yellow Lead Works	-	6	4	_	-	-
China and Earthenware*	9*	85	53	I	8	7
Litho-Transfer Works	-	1	5	-	-	7 -
Glass Cutting and Polishing Enamelling of Iron Plates Electrical Accumulator Works Paint and Colour Works	-	2	2	-	I	-
Enamelling of Iron Plates	2	5	I		800	Marie S.
Paint and Colour Works	75/75/75	20 16	9	10000	1	
Coach Making	3 7		45	100	1	I
Shipbuilding	I	57 8	15	_	Comment.	ī
Paint used in other Industries	6	28	29	-	-	ī
Other Industries	10	48	34	I	5	2
THE RESERVE THE PROPERTY OF STREET	F0	-	320	2	20	10
Total in Factories and Workshops	58	448			2.2.2	18
House Painting and Plumbing	23	136	104	5	22	25
	0	ther I	forms	of Poi	soning	g.
Mercurial Poisoning—	Texas I	. 1				
Barometer and Thermometer Making Furriers' Processes		2		-		Sec.
Other T. I. dele	2	3	4		100	
Other industries	4	3				7000
Total	2	8	4	_	-	-
Phosphorus Polsoning— Lucifer Match Works	1	1	1	-	-	I
Other Industries		1000		200	1	NEED BY
Total	1	1	1	-		1
Arsenic Poisoning— Paints, Colours, and Extraction of		16	4			_
Paints, Colours, and Extraction of Arsenic Other Industries		4	1	120	200	I
the same of the state of the same of the same	100	20	5	1000000	1	1
	3	29	10		1	2
Total, "Other Forms of Poisoning"		20	10			
100 (00) - 100 (00) at 100 (00)			Anth	rax.	alijon Hooga	
Wool	_	14	18	-	2	. 3
	1	10	14	-	I	3
TITE CATE Lala				100000000000000000000000000000000000000	I	I
Handling of Horsehalz	-	IO	9	-	-	Charles Co.
Handling of Horsehair Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.)	-					
TITE CATE Lala	_	4	5	_	2	1
Handling of Horsehair Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.)	-			-		

* Of the 9 persons affected in the China and Earthenware Industry, 5 were

Return of Deaths of Seamen .- A Return of Deaths of Seame reported to the Board of Trade is issued by the Registrar-General of Seamen each month, and copies may be seen at all Free Libraries, Mercantile Marine Offices, and Sailors' Homes

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN AUGUST.

(Based on information supplied by the Home Office and the Board of Trade.) Exclusive of seamen, the number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during August, 1908, was 274, an increase of 73 as compared with a month ago, and of 28 as compared with

The mean number for August in the years 1903-1907 was 232, the maximum year being 1907 with 246 deaths, and the minimum year 1905 with 214 deaths.

The total number of fatal accidents at mines and quarries in August, 1908, was 172, as compared with 88 in July, and 86 a year ago. The total number of fatal accidents reported under the Factory and Workshop Act during August, 1908, was 81, as compared with 72 in the previous month, and 113 a year ago. The corresponding figures for workpeople employed in the railway service were 21, 35, and 45 respectively.

The number of fatal accidents to seamen reported during August, 1908, was 80, as compared with 89 in July, 1908, and 158 in August. 1907.

During the eight months ended August, 1908, the total number of workpeople (exclusive of seamen) reported as killed in the course of their employment was 1,963, as compared with 1,916 in the corresponding period of 1907. The total number of seamen killed during the same period was 802 in 1908, and 941 in 1907.

Trade.		per of Worl		Aug.,	e (+) or e (-) in 1908, as ed with a
lo lestestbij o ga li way a dija bang nas	Aug., 1908.	July, 1908.	Aug.,	Month ago.	Year ago.
Railway Service—	2000	2	12 12 1	- 2	THE P
Brakesmen and Goods Guards Engine Drivers	 I	5	4 3	- 4	- 4
Firemen		I	5	- I	- 5 - I
Guards (Passenger) Permanent Way Men (not	6	7	8	- I	- 1
including Labourers)					
Porters Shunters	3	I	5 5	+ 1 + 2	- 3
Miscellaneous	7	17	14	- 10	- 7
Contractors' Servants	2	I		+ 1	+ 2
Total, Railway Service	21	35	45	- 14	- 24
Mines-		200000	NO ELS	10030	
Underground Surface	156	71	76 9	+ 85	+ 80
Total, Mines	164	81	83	+ 83	+ 79
Quarries over 20 feet deep	8	7	1	+ 1	+ 7
Factories—					
Textile—	2	1	2	+ 1	
Cotton Wool and Worsted	ī	i	5		- 4
Other Textiles	3	3	I		+ 2
Extraction of Metals Founding and Conversion of Metals	5 3	7	3 17	+ 5	+ 2 - 14
Marine and Locomotive Engineering	1	2	5	- I	- 4
Ship and Boat Building	6	7	9 3	- I + 2	- 3
Wood Chemicals	3 5	3	7	+ 2	- 2
Laundries				+ 2	
OtherNon-Textile Industries	25	21	30		- 4
Total, Factories	55	49	82	+ 6	- 27
Accidents reported under		P. Province	or bear	301 11	
Factory Act, Ss. 103-5— Docks, Wharves and Quays	11	7	15	+ 4	- 4
Warehouses	I	3	2	- 2 + I	- I
Buildings to which Act applies	14	13	14	T 1	
Total under Factory Act, Ss. 103-5	26	23	31	+ 3	- 5
Accidents reported under	- min	6	2	- 6	- 2
Notice of Accidents Act, 1894 Total, exclusive of Seamen	274	201	246	+ 73	+ 28
I Utal, CAULUSI X COLDCAINED	417	201	210	T 10	7-40
Seamen-			Service of the		
On Trading Vessels—		- Danke		1	199
Sailing Steam	6	62	2I 124	- II + 3	- 15 - 59
On Fishing Vessels—				10000	
Sailing	5 4	6	2	- I	+ 3
Steam	7.72	4	26.4		
Total, Seamen	80	89	158	- 9	- 78
Total, including Seamen	354	290	404	+ 64	- 50

TRADE DISPUTES IN AUGUST.*

Number and Magnitude.—Sixteen disputes began in August 1908, as compared with 24 in July, 1908, and 27 in July, 1907. By the 16 disputes, 1,836 workpeople were directly and 761 indirectly involved; and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople affected by old disputes which began before August, and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 24,211 workpeople involved in trade disputes during August 1908, compared with 35,903 in July, 1908, and 13,912 in August, 1907.

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

MAR TON MANY		No. of	No. of W	Workpeople involved		
Trades.		Disputes.	Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.	
Mining and Quarrying Textile Other Trades			8 4 4	1,327 148 361	502 259	1,829 407 361
Total, August, 1908			16	1,836	761	2,597
Total, July, 1908			24	14,622	7,072	21,649
Total, August, 1907			27	4,829	3,587	8,416

Causes.—Of the 16 new disputes, 1 arose on a demand for increased wages, 4 on objections to reduction in wages, 5 on other wages questions, 1 on details of working arrangements, 3 on questions of the employment of particular classes or persons, and 2 on questions of Trade Union principles.

Results.—Definite results were reported in the case of 8 new disputes, directly involving 634 persons, and 7 old disputes, directly involving 1,536 persons. Of these 15 new and old disputes, 4, directly involving 415 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 5, directly involving 262 persons, were decided in favour of the employers; and 6, directly involving 1,493 work-

people, were compromised. In the case of 3 other disputes, work has been resumed pending further

Aggregate Duration. — The aggregate duration in August of disputes that started or were settled in that month was 98,100 working days. In addition, 296,300 working days were lost in August owing to disputes which began before that month and were still in progress at the end of the month. Thus the total duration in August of all disputes, new or old, was 394,400 working days, as compared with 435,000 in the previous month and 185,400 in the corresponding month of 1907

Summary for the First Eight Months of 1907 and 1908.†—Summarised by trades, the number of disputes, the workpeople involved, and the aggregate duration in the working days for the circle months. Language August working days, for the eight months January—August, 1907 and 1908, respectively, were as follows:—

		JanAug.,	1907.	JanAug., 1908.			
Groups of Trades,	No. of Dis- putes.	Number of Work- people involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.	No. of Dis- putes.	Number of Work- people involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.	
Building	17	947	22,700	17	2,713	69,600	
Mining and Quarrying	71	59,061	402,600	89	43,913	772,700	
Metal, Engineering and	69	13,077	369,800	39	56,621	3,614,300	
Shipbuilding	1						
Textile	IIO	28,456	440,000	49	10,759	509,300	
Clothing	32	6,570	96,800	24	2,749	60,000	
Transport	21	6,761	87,700	13	2,223	16,700	
Other Trades	49	3,780	66,200	32	2,824	54,300	
Total	369	98,652	1,485,800	263	121,802	5,096,900	

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

Principal Trade Disputes.

Occupations.‡	Locality.	Workp		Number of Workpeople Involved. Date when Dispute		Alleged Cause or Object.‡	Result.‡
		Di- rectly.	Indi- rectly.‡	began in 1908.	ing Days.		
Coal Mining— Hewers, Shifters, Stonemen, &c other Workpeople	Chester-le- Street	443	385	13 July	26	For dismissal of a deputy	Matter to be referred to Emergency Committee of coal owners' and miners' representatives.
Miners and "offhand" labour	Workington (near)	517	218	10 Aug.		Against reduction of wages	No settlement reported.
Engineering - Engineers, Boilermakers, Moulders, &c.	Wednesbury	1,050		29 July	18	Dispute arising out of dismissal of a workman	Settlement effected under the Conciliation Act, 1896. (See p. 271).
Cotton Spinning - Ring Spinners and Card and Blowing-room Operatives; other work- people	Ashton- under-Lyne	175	7	g April	117	For payment by standard piecework price list	Amicable settlement effected.
Slipper Making - Slipper Makers (Sewers); Lasters Clickers, &c.	Rossendale	51	280	23 July	6	Against new uniform list, involving reduction of wages	Modified list accepted.
Woodworking— Coopers	Edinburgh	270		10 Aug.		Against employment of "headers- up" on work claimed by coopers	No settlement reported.

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

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

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

AGRICULTURAL HIRINGS IN SCOTLAND. INFORMATION respecting rates of wages agreed upon at the principal hiring fairs held in Scotland in the spring and summer months of this year has been received from a correspondent who made special inquiries on behalf of

this Department. The report shows that, on the whole, men's wages showed little or no change compared with a year ago.

Slackness in other industries, particularly in the building industry, caused a slight decrease in wages in some districts, but generally men were able to hold out for previous rates, owing to the backward condition into which the severe weather of the early spring had thrown field work. Women continued scarce, especially for field work and milking, and their wages still showed an upward tendency.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.*

Changes taking effect in August.—The net result of all the changes taking effect in August, 1908, was a decrease of £3,140 per week, as compared with a decrease of of £3,140 per week, as compared with a decrease of £17,144 per week in July, 1908, and an increase of £24,819 per week in August, 1907. The number of workpeople affected was 160,290, of whom 394 received advances amounting to £38 per week, and 159,896 sustained decreases amounting to £3,178 per week. The total number affected in the preceding month was 191,232, and in August, 1907, 265,328.

Two changes, affecting 24 workpeople, were settled by arbitration; two changes, affecting 124,500 workpeople, were arranged by Conciliation Boards; and six changes, affecting 26,058 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting 9,708 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives, without stoppage of work.

Summary for the eight completed months of 1908.—The total number of workpeople (separate individuals) whose wages were changed, so far as reported, in the eight months ended August 31st, 1908, was 871,352, as compared with 1,189,866 in the corresponding period of 1907. The changes arranged gave 420,928 workpeople a net increase of £21,980 per week, and 444,424 workpeople a net decrease of £58,563 per week, whilst the remaining 6,000 had upward and downward changes, which left their wages at the same level as at the beginning of the year. The net effect of the changes

was thus a decrease of £36,583 per week, as compared with an increase of £152,674 per week in the corres-

ponding period of 1907.

Summarised by trades, the number of workpeople affected by these reported changes, and the net result in their weekly wages, were as follows:—

		January—August.					
Groups of Trades.	19	07.	1908.				
		No.	£	No.	£		
Building		2,463	+ 165	11,058	+ 171		
Coal Mining		805,345	+130,478	643,750	-23,757		
Iron, &c., Mining		15,540	+ 1,722	14,318	- 2,870		
Quarrying		2,751	+ 104	2,413	- 253		
Pig Iron Manufacture		16,297	+ 1,290	17,050	- 1,979		
Iron and Steel Manufacture		52,231	+ 4,487	51,564	- 6,32		
Engineering and Shipbuilding		33,899	+ 1,745	89,683	- 3,386		
Other Metal Trades		673	+ 41	2,973	- 34		
Textile Trades		240,999	+ 11,083	12,024	+ 1,09		
Printing, &c., Trades		5,505	+ 374	10,751	+ 940		
Glass, &c., Trades		4,035	+ 406	5,992	+ 282		
Other Trades		6,193	+ 541	7,195	- 37		
Employees of Local Authorities	3	3,935	+ 238	2,581	+ 21		
Total		1,189,866	+152,674	871,352	-36,583		

Hours.

The changes in hours of labour taking effect in August, 1908, affected 4,404 workpeople, of whom 2,500 had their aggregate working hours increased by 12,500 per week, and 1,904 had reductions amounting to 4,717 hours per week. The total number of workpeople reported as affected by changes in hours of labour in the eight months ended August 31st, 1908, was 15,905. Of these, 3,099 had their aggregate working time increased by 13,186 hours per week, and 12,806 had reductions amounting to 21,934 hours per week.

PRINCIPAL	CHANGES IN	RATES OF	WAGES	AND HOURS	OF LABOUR	IN AUGUST.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change takes	n h ge		ximate ber of people ted by	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)		
Mother disputs in puest-s		effect in 1908.	ed ed to evolet away of	In- crease.	De- crease.	remedial verse decided in levent of the		
			I.—RATES OF	WAGE	es.			
	Northumberland	3 & 10 Aug.	Deputies		1,100 1,600 700	Decrease of 14d. per day (7s. 1d. to 6s. 114d.). Decrease of 14d. per day (5s. 11d. to 5s. 94d.). Decrease of 14d. per day. Wages after change: Winding Enginemen, 6s. 64d.; Hauling and Pumping Enginemen, 5s. 114d.		
Coal Mining	Durham	10 & 17	Firemen Hewers, other Underground Workers, Deputies, Enginemen,		250	Decrease of 2 per cent., leaving wages 35 per cent. above the standard of 1879. Decrease of 1½ per cent., leaving wages 51½ per cent. above the		
	Les The state of the	Aug.	Boilerminders, Mechanics, Coke- men and Banksmen Other Surface Workers		120,000	standard of 1879. Decrease of 1½ per cent., leaving wages 48½ per cent. above the standard of 1879.		
	Scotland	12 Aug.	Enginemen		2,000	Decrease of 3d. per shift. Decrease of 6d. per day.		
Ironstone Mining	Scotland	1 Aug. {	Underground, Oncostmen Surface Workers Enginemen		1,647	Decrease of 6d. per day. Decrease of 2d. per day. Decrease of 3d. per day.		
Pig Iron Manufacture	South Staffs	nst making- up day in Aug.	Blastfurnacemen		1,000	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 21 per cent.		
	Derbyshire and Notts.	ist pay Aug.	Blastfurnacemen		747	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 5 per cent., leaving wages 7h per cent. above the standard of 1905.		
7	Great Britain England and Wales	2 Aug. 2 Aug.	Steel Melters, Pitmen, &c Gas Producermen and Charge Wheelers		2,721 40 626	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 3\frac{3}{2} per cent. Decrease of 1\frac{1}{4} per cent.		
Iron and Steel	Midlands (including parts of S.	3 Aug. {	Iron Puddlers }		20,000 {	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 3d. per ton (9s. to 8s. 9d.) Decrease, under sliding scale, of 2d per cent.		
Manufacture	Lancs. S. Yorks.) South Wales and Monmouthshire	3 Aug.	Iron Puddlers, Iron and Steel Millmen, Enginemen, &c. Steel Millmen		2,750]	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 2½ per cent.		
	West of Scotland	8 Aug	Enginemen, Cranemen & Boilermen Gas Producermen and Charge Wheelers		1,750	Decrease, under Conciliation Boards, of 2\frac{1}{2} per cent. Decrease of 2\frac{1}{2} per cent.		
Printing	Norwich	I Aug.	Compositors and Machinement	370	A POLIE	Advance of 2s. per week (26s. to 28s.).		
		0.000	II.—HOURS	OF L	ABOUR	A STATE OF THE PARTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY ADDRESS OF THE PARTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY ADDRESS OF THE PARTY AND ADDR		
Engineering { Printing, &c	Nottingham Midlands Norwich	20 Aug. 31 Aug. 1 Aug.	Cycle Makers Fitters, Turners, &c Compositors, Machinemen, Bookbinders, Machine Rulers, Folders	2,500	1,000	Decrease of 3 hours per week (54 to 51). Increase of 5 hours per week (48 to 53). Decrease of 2 hours per week (54 to 52).		

Note.—Coal Mining.—Early in September it was arranged that the rates of wages of miners in the Federated Districts (Yorkshire, Lancashire, dlands, &c.) should be reduced by 5 per cent., leaving them 55 per cent. above the standard.

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

and Stitcherst

\$ See also under Changes in Rates of Wages.

PAUPERISM IN AUGUST.

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

THE number of paupers relieved on one day in August, 1908, in the 35 selected urban districts named below, corresponded to a rate of 215 per 10,000 of the estimated

Compared with July, 1908, the total number of paupers increased by 3,088 (0.8 per cent.) and the rate per 10,000 by 2. The number of indoor paupers showed an increase of 2,063 (1.2 per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers 1,025 (0.5 per cent.). Increases occurred in 22 districts, the most marked being in the Stockton and Tees district (18 per 10,000), and in the Stockton and Tees district (18 per 10,000), and in the Leicester district (14 per 10,000); in six districts there were slight decreases, and in seven there was no

Compared with August, 1907, the rate per 10,000 increased by 7. The number of indoor paupers increased by 9,543 (5'9 per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers by 7,660 (3'7 per cent.). In twenty-six districts there were increases, the greatest being in the Stockton and Tees district (114 per 10,000); in the remaining nine districts there were decreases.

Selected Urban Districts.	second w	0-1	August,	Rate per 10,000 of	Increase Decrease rate per of Popula compa	e (—) in ro,000 ation as ared
Diamon	In- door.	door.	TOTAL.	Esti- mated Popula- tion.	A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.*	BECK				6	
Metropolis.	11,468	3,239	14,707	173	+ 2	+ 1
West District	16,021	9,638	25,719	237	+ 4	+ 6
North District	6,503	2,413	8,916	481		- 18
East District	15,693	7,899	23,592	326		+ 20
South District	25,524	18,635	44,159	232		+ 4
Total, Metropolis	75,209	41,884	117,093	246	+ 1	+ 5
West Ham	4,291	11,299	15,590	213	- 3	- 3
Other Districts.				107		
Newcastle District	2,517	5,837	8,354	184	+ 18	+ 7
Stockton & Tees District	1,382	6,486	7,868	354 133	+ 3	+ 6
Bolton, Oldham, &c	2,210	5,925	8,135	200	1	- 2
Wigan District	10,264	8,802	19,066	196	+ 3	+ 13
Manchester District Liverpool District	12,638	11,466	24,104	228	+ 4	+ 20
Bradford District	1,990	2,606	4,596	124	+ 1	+ 6
Halifax & Huddersfield	1,293	4,068	5,361	146	+ 1	+ 5
Leeds District	2,843	4,866	7,709	156	+ 2	- 5
Barnsley District	724	2,844	3,568	141	- I	- 6
Sheffield District	3,400	3.576	6,976	153	+ 2	+ 9
Hull District	1,554	5,542	7,096	249	+ 4	- 13
North Staffordshire	2,272	7,221	9,493	246 195		+ 3
Nottingham District	2,208	6,081	5,814	245	+ 14	- I
Leicester District	3,837	11,939	15,776	B COLUMN TO SERVE	+ 2	+ 4
Wolverhampton District Birmingham District	5,091	4,166	9,257	C. S.	+ 3	+ 15
Bristol District Bristol District	2,884	6,309	9,193	2000	- I	- 3
Cardiff & Swansea	2,206	7,761	9,967	St.	+ 4	+ 7
Total, "Other Districts"	65,089	115,871	180,960	196	+ 2	+ 9
SCOTLAND.*	- 000		60	234	- 1	+ 14
Glasgow District	5,888	2,693		100	NO. SONOPINIONS	A CONTROL OF
Paisley & Greenock District	1,832	5,616		STATE OF THE PARTY	TOTAL DESIGNATION OF THE PARTY	The state of the s
Edinburgh & Leith District Dundee & Dunfermline	916	2,618		1011011	- 4	+ 5
Aberdeen	692	3,200	100000000000000000000000000000000000000			+ 3
Coatbridge & Airdrie	401	1,498	1,89	9 194	+ 4	+ 4
Total for the above Scottish Districts	10,583	33,422	44,00	5 211		+ 11
IRELAND.		1	1		1 11	2 + 2
Dublin District	6,973	-				
Belfast District	3,857	0.0000000000000000000000000000000000000		3		3
Cork, Waterford & Limerick District	4,341	4,88	6 9,22	7 37	8 +	1 + 1
Galway District	360	33	7 69	7 20	0 -	1 - 5
Total for the above Irish Districts	} 15,531	11,46	7 26,99	8 24	5 +	3 + 0
Total for above 35 Dis- tricts in August, 1908	} 170,703	213,94	3 384,6	16 21	5 +	2 + '

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

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

DISTRESS COMMITTEES IN AUGUST.

NOTE.—Labour Bureaux which are identical with Distress Committees are included in this Table. For particulars of other Labour Bureaux see page 298.

The following Table shows the number of applicants to Distress Committees returned as "known to be out of work" at the end of August, by those Committees whose registers were still open at that date. The Edmonton Distress Committee closed its register for the receipt of fresh applications during August.

The Committees were requested, in making up their returns, to exclude all who were known to have found work, or to have left the neighbourhood, since registration; and those who, on investigation, were found to be ineligible or disqualified.

No. returned as "known to be out of work" at end of Aug, 1908		No. returned as "known to be out of work" at end of Aug., 1908
. 1,381	Stockport Stockton Sunderland Wolverhampton Other Towns (4)	192 215 1,738 189 600
. 796 . 377	Total, England and Wales	17,380
736	Edinburgh Glasgow	1,029 1,911 256
60*	Greenock	272 312
222	Total, Scotland Total, Great Britain	3,780
	"known to be out of work" at end of Aug, 1908 2,827 1,381 553 713 796 377 238 1,625 736 601 60* 237 295 295 222 2133	"known to be out of work" at end of Aug, 1908 2,827 Stockport Stockton Sunderland Other Towns (4) 796 796 773 796 796 796 737 838 7601 601 602 736 601 603 737 602 736 601 736 736 736 736 736 736 736 736 736 736

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

Distress Committees.	No. given Employment- relief.†	Aggregate duration of Employment-relief.	Total Amount of Wages paid.
London (Central Body): At Hollesley Bay In Women's Workrooms In Parks, &c	162 119 109	Days. 3,193 2,500 2,043	£ 284 234 425
Total, London	390	7,735	943
Outer London (3 Committees)	197	2,649	420
Devonport	75 39 19 390 93	316 671 298 2,382 1,167	54 89 57 437 139
Total, England and Wales	1,204	15,719	2,139
Edinburgh	201	3,057 12,924 82‡	240 1,500 33
Total, Scotland	799	16,063	1,773
Total, Great Britain	2,003	31,282	3,912

It will be seen that the average number of days' employment-relief given was between 15 and 16, and the average amount of wages paid was about 39s. per man, or 2s. 6d. a day.

OLD AGE PENSIONS.

THE Local Government Board have issued a memorandum for the information of persons desiring to make claims for pensions under the Old Age Pensions Act, 1908. The memorandum deals with the conditions attaching to the pension, as regards age, length of residence, limits of income, &c.; disqualifications, such as receipt of poor relief, convictions for offences, &c.; and procedure for making claims and for making appeals against decisions of the Pensions Committees. Copies of the memorandum may be obtained, gratis, from the Local Government Board, Parliament Street, London, S.W.

Forms for claiming pensions will be obtainable at any post office about the end of September. Claims must be made on these forms only, and should be handed in to the post master of the post office where the pension is to be paid, or to the pension officer.

* This is the number on the register of the Distress Committee proper; the number on the "unemployed register" was 1,384.

† Including some not registered by the Distress Committees.

† The number given employment-relief includes 13 on piecework, the aggregate duration of whose employment cannot be stated.

LABOUR BUREAUX IN AUGUST.*

Note.—Labour bureaux whose registers are identical with those of Distress Committees are excluded from this Table. For statistics of the work of Distress Committees in August, see page 297.

to the Central Employment Exchange, and are under the control of the Central (Unemployed) Body for London.

The total number of applications for work during the

month was 19,219, of which 15,183 were in London, and 4,036 in the Provinces. The number of situations offered by employers was 4,011, and the number of situations filled through the Bureaux was 3,075, or 16.0 per cent. of the applications received, and 76.7 per cent. of the situations offered. The number of permanent situations filled was 1,968 (or 64 o per cent.), and temporary 1,107 (or 36 o per cent). The majority of situations found were in unskilled occupations. The persons for whom situations were found through the London Bureaux affiliated to the Central Exchange were divided by trades, as follows: building trades (artisans and labourers), 273; wood-working trades, 34;

Returns were received relating to the work of 48
Labour Bureaux during August; of these Bureaux 29
were in London (including West Ham), and 19 in the
Provinces. Of the 29 London Bureaux, 26 are affiliated

metal and engineering trades, 94; other skilled trades, 74; "transport and general," 242; other trades, men and boys, 546; women and girls, 615. The figures for the non-affiliated Bureaux are as follows: building trades, 127; metal and engineering trades, 39; carters and stablemen, clerks, warehousemen, porters and messengers, 192; general labourers, 78; bill distributors, 134; employees of local authorities, 113; charwomen domestic servants, 132; other occupations, 193. In addition, the Salvation Army authorities found work

At 44 of the Bureaux mentioned below, figures for 1907 are available. The number of applicants registered at these Bureaux was 18,803 in August, 1908, as compared with 13,117 in August, 1907. Employers offered 3,822 situations during August, 1908, of which 2,901 were filled. In August, 1907, 3,671 situations were offered, and 2,715 filled. The number of workpeople on the registers at the end of August, 1908, was 16,483, as compared with 10,992 in August, 1907.

TABLE SHOWING WORK DONE BY EACH BUREAU DURING AUGUST, 1908.

" and "Stanger - Jacob Japon"	1 20				8	ituation	s Filled	1.			Applie	cants R	emainir	g on t	he Regi	sters.
Name of Bureau.	New Appli- cants.		Build- ing	Metal and En- gineer-	Port	Other Occu- pations.	Women	All	Situati	ons.	Build- ing	Metal and En- gineer-	port	Other Occu- pations	Women	n Total
	10.50		Trades	ing Trades.	Genera	Men &	Girls.	Permanent.			Trades	ing Trailes	Canana	Mon &		
London Bureaux affiliated to	,															
the Central Exchange. Battersea (332, Park Rd., S.W.) Bermondsey (3, Fort Buildings, Southwark Park Rd.)	427 383	104 39	1 2	I	5 10	19	25 18	49 40	2 2	51 42	12 15	16	73 73	64 56	61 34	226 184
Bethnal Green (11, Green St., E.) Camberwell (131 Peckham Rd.S.E) Chelsea (91, Church St., S.W.) City of London (78, Temple	776 232	56 121 58 89	5 5 11 6	:::	1 11 2 5	19 59 19 48	21 37 19 22	41 78 39 71	5 34 12 10	46 112 51 81	23 52 21	31 5	114 117 66	231 137 51	117 72 31	507 409 174
Chambers, Temple Aven, E.C.) Deptford (13, Deptford Bridge) Finsbury and Holborn (48, Myddelton St.)	381 763	52 269	"4	10 6	3 10	24 51	9	41 151	5 11	46 162	15	25 16	57 57	74 71	33 77	184 237
Fulham (Effie Rd., Walham Green) Greenwich (10, Nelson St.) Hackney & Stoke Newington (24, Amhurst Rd.)	518 612 576	132 79 120	3 5 4	10	14 2 3	86 36 31	29 21 35	104 70 67	28 4 7	132 74 74	59 21 31	27 45 24	116 33 141	123 68 159	54 46 41	379 213 396
Hammersmith(20, Queen St., W.) Hampstead (210, West End Lane) Islington (93, St. Paul's Rd., N.) Kensington (155, Clarendon Rd.) Lambeth (120a, Lambeth Rd.)	188 716 539 466	58 39 103 122 97	10 11 71 31	5	20 7 69 9	12 13 19 18 26	13 11 6 7 21	35 31 32 94 84	25 11 63 11 6	60 42 95 105 90 28	48 32 69 69 42	16 6 22 6 39	64 66 331 89 136	75 37 140 63 107	22 19 32 38 31	225 160 594 265 355
Lewisham (246, High St.) Paddington (303, Harrow Rd., W.) Poplar (127, East India Dock Rd.) St. Pancras (19, Crowndale Rd.) St. Marylebone (25, Paddington St., W.)	356	98 87 93 84	3 4 35 5 13	 7 1 1	2 3 15 9	17 27 11 24 22	6 33 29 27 19	27 54 74 54 38	1 12 11 18 26	28 66 85 72 64	32 21 113 44 2	10 8 99 12 1	62 82 107 144 86	53 101 125 118 38	13 102 60 61 25	170 314 504 379 152
Shoreditch (134F, Kingsland Rd.) Southwark (23, New Kent Rd.) Stepney (463, Commercial Rd. E.) Wandsworth (213, Garratt Lane) Woolwich (20, Albion Rd.)	425 590 425 472 480	57 56 142	5 4 2 12 20	2 1 44	11 4 6	27 13 10 8 4	30 28 26 6 26	75 47 37 24 99	 9 5 3 1	75 56 42 27 100	17 8 36 35 21	30 10 17 15 48	96 80 230 60 71	107 83 113 93 47	41 51 87 39 42	291 232 483 242 229
Total of above	12,165	2,371	273	94	242	554	615	1,556	322	1,878	854	556	2,531	2,334	1,229	7,504
Other London Bureaux. Salvation Army (20-22, White-chapel Rd., E.)	2,486	436	18		1	417		3	433	436	67	28	209	239		543
West Ham (29, Broadway, Strat- ford, E.) Westminster (Caxton Hall, S.W.)	336	12	I	I	6	9	1	38	10	38	14	17	48	58	16	153
Total, "Other London"		495	19	1	7	447	12	43	443	486	95	71	292	635	202	872
Provincial Bureaux. Birmingham (144, Gt. Charles St.) Coventry (3, Market Hall Arcade) Croydon (Town Hall)	233 208 82 3 34 64	9 36 102 - 3 19	 8 39 1 16 7	2 12 7 	2 4 1	6 IO 45 I I I 4		3 32 31 1	5 68 2 16 6	8 32 99 3 17 13	31 52 232 14 3	261 501 21 29 5	149 60 104 163 16	106 128 73 26 5	 13 3 64	547 741 443 232 32 75
Manchester (King St., West Deansgate)	658	135	6	3	14	19	62	62	42	104	80	214	167	237	286	1,384
Newcastle-on-Tyne (22, Royal Arcade)	124	23	I		3	6	8	9	9	18	7	19	309	52	26	413
Norwich (Free Library Buildings) Nottingham (Shakespeare Villas) Plymouth (Municipal Buildings) Reading (Abattoirs Rd.) Salford (Town Hall) Warrington (Bank House, San-	249 129 103 19 49 159	45 39 41 27 1 59	11 5 1 1 1	3	22 12 18 25 	10 27 11 1 		17 14 13 2 	29 25 21 25 1 21	46 39 34 27 1	77 69 33 6 30	24 194 5 4 10	173 410 85 22 35 67	309 36 4 10 66	14 22 151	423 995 259 36 107 341
key St.) Aberdeen (1, Adelphi) Dundee(DudhopePkor TownHall Edinburgh (27, Jeffrey St.) Glasgow (15-17, Duke St.) Govan (Town Hall)	60 22 99 1,725 16	6 2 15 569	 I 10	2	3 2 91	 6 43	1 2 6 62	1 2 • 7 147	3 8 61	4 2 15 208	10 8 100 148 3	14 7 63 244 139	57 107 487 117	7 101 242 6	15 5 41 228	103 20 412 1,349 265
Total, Provincial Bureaux	4,036	1,145	108	32	210	193	168	369	342	711		1,798		1,565	868	8,078
Grand Total 1	9,219	4,011	400	127	459	1,294	795	1,968	1,107	3,075				4,534		17,150

^{*}The figures for the London Bureaux affiliated to the Central Exchange relate to the 4 weeks ended August 28th, 1908; for the other Bureaux the

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN AUGUST.

During August 652 fresh applications (372 from domestic servants, &c.) for work were registered by 9 Bureaux furnishing returns, and 539 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 134 persons, of whom 86 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 134 situations found for applicants, 98 were of a more or less permanent character, while 36 were temporary only.

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

The work done by the Bureaux during August is shown in the following Table:-

difficult und lein	Applications by Work-		Situa				Workpeople y Employers		
nebol midding a	people during		Empl		Perma- nently.				
	Aug., 1908.	Aug.,	Aug., 1908.	Aug., 1907.	Aug., 1908.	Aug.,	Aug., 1908.	Aug.,	
odrestens design		2 3 60	Sum	by Bu	reaux	13 450	est.		
g, Southampton Street, High Holborn. Y.W.C.A.:—	87	95	76	52	24	16	6	5	
26, George Street {(1) Hanover Sq., W. {(2)	311 49	281 63	292 32	23I 23	35	30	2I I	17 8	
Dublin:— 30, Molesworth Street Other Bureaux (Liverpool, Manchester, Watford,		86	44	45	7	6		3	
Edinburgh and Glasgow)		143	95	100	22	33	8	13	
Total of 9 Bureaux	652	668	539	451	98	91	36	46	
	arriva	39/	Summ	ary b	y Occu	pation	18.		
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc. Shop Assistants Dressmakers, Milliners, etc. Secretaries, Clerks, Typists Apprentices and Learners Domestic Servants Miscellaneous	5 27 45 6 372	57 7 45 44 5 320 190	22 3 20 26 5 389 74	14 5 17 22 6 305 82	8 3 7 11 4 58 7	5 2 8 4 58 14	2 1 4 28 1	8 9 24 5	
Total	652	668	539	451	98	91	36	46	

In addition to the above registered applications, the Returns show that 34 persons in London and 11 in Edinburgh were referred to other Agencies; 151 persons in London and 54 in Dublin were given advice as to training, &c., but were not registered.

RAILWAY GOODS AND MINERAL TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

THE goods and mineral traffic receipts of twenty of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended August 29th, 1908, amounted to £3,988,527, a decrease of £263,947 (or 6.2 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period

During the thirty-five weeks ended August 29th, 1908, the receipts amounted to £36,208,075, a decrease of £1,573,233 (or 4.2 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1907.

offering your bushings	4 week August 2	s ended 9th, 1908.		35 weeks ended August 29th, 1908.			
Traver or business	Amount.	Increase(+) or Decrease (-) as compared with 1907.	Amount.	Increase (+ or Decrease (-) as com- pared with 1907.			
English Lines :—	£	1 £	£	£			
L. & N. W., Midland, Gt. Central, N. London and N. Staffs.	1,429,593	-127,679	13,445,294	- 719,483			
Gt. Northern, Gt. Eastern, and London & Tilbury	442,229	- 15,061	3,925,316	- 139,155			
Lancs. and Yorks., and N. Eastern	735,525	- 59,497	6,687,747	- 342,738			
L.& S.W., and Gt. Western	593,200	- 19,500	5,505,400	- 34,000			
L. B. & S. C., and S. E. & C.	151,517	+ 1,901	1,261,603	- 47,767			
Glasgow & S. Western, N. British, and Caledonian	523,731	- 41,432	4,370,962	- 290,984			
Gt. Southern and Western, Midland G.W., and Gt. Northern	112,732	- 2,679	1,010,753	+ 894			
Total	3,988,527	-253,947	36,208,075	-1,573,233			

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING AUGUST,

UNITED KINGDOM.

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

Report from the Select Committee on Home Work, with Proceedings,

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

Report from the Select Committee on Home Work, with Proceedings, Minutes of Evidence and Appendix. Appendix contains London County Council schedule of minimum prices to be paid by contractors to workpeople in clothing contracts, memorandum on legislative regulation of Home Industry in certain Foreign Countries, &c. [H.C. 246: pp. 1 + 216: price 2s. 1½d.]

Agricultural Statistics, 1907. Vol. XLII. Part III. Prices and Supplies of Corn, Live Stock, and other Agricultural Produce. Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. [Cd. 426: pp. 173: price 8½d.]

Annual Report of Proceedings under Acts relating to Sea Fisheries for the year 1906. Quantity and value of fish landed; number and tonnage of fishing vessels in certain foreign countries, and persons engaged. [Cd. 4064: pp. xcvii. + 123: price 1s. 11d.]

Interim Report of Proceedings under the Small Holdings and Allotment Acts for the six months ending June 30th, 1908. Administration of the Act of 1907. Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. [Cd. 4245: pp. 92: price 5d.]

Departmental Committee on Agricultural Education in England and Wales. Minutes of Evidence, with Index. Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. [Cd. 4207: pp. xiii. + 645: price 5s. 3d.]

Report from the Select Committee on the Hop Industry, with Proceedings, Evidence and Index. [H.C. 213: pp. 19: price 5s. 4d.]

Report to Home Office on the causes of and circumstances attending an Underground Fire which occurred at Hamstead Colliery on March 4th, 1908. By R. A. S. Redmayne. [Cd. 4231: pp. 19: price 1s. 6d.]

Report to Home Office on the circumstances attending an Explosion at Washington "Glebe" Colliery, in the County of Durham, on February 20th, 1908. By J. B. Atkinson. [Cd. 423; pp. 2: price 7d.]

Thirty-second Annual Report of H.M. Inspector of Explosives, 1907. Explosives in coal mines. accidents, list of explosives authorised for manufacture or importation,

pp. xlix. + 179: price 2s. 7d.]

Report of the Irish Land Commissioners for period April 1st, 1907, to March 31st, 1908. Proceedings under the Labourers (Ireland) Acts, 1883 to 1906, fair rents fixed, &c. [Cd. 4242: pp. iv. + 151: price 1s. 3d.]

BRITISH COLONIES.

BRITISH COLONIES.

Victoria. Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories, Work rooms and Shops for the year ended December 31st, 1907. [Melbourne: J. Kemp, Government Printer: pp. 125: price 3s. 3d.]

Victoria. Determinations of Wages Boards. Cycle Trade Board, dated May 26th, 1908, cancelling Determination of August 6th, 1907. Coopers' Board, dated March 20th, 1908, cancelling Determination of October 11th, 1907. Shirt, &c., Board, dated May 30th, 1908, cancelling all previous Determinations.

State Regulation of Labour and Labour Disputes in New Zealand. A description and a criticism. Henry Broadhead. [Whitcombe & Tombs, Ltd.: price 7s. 6d.]

Canada. The Labour Gazette, July, 1908. Proceedings under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act during June; Nova Scotia legislation affecting labour, 1908, &c.

New Zealand. Journal of the Department of Labour, July, 1908. Condition of employment and trade; cases under the Workers' Compensation for Accidents Act, &c.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

United States.

United States Department of Commerce and Labour. Bulletin of the Bureau of Labour. No. 75. March, 1908. Wholesale prices, 1890 to 1907; industrial hygiene, by G. M. Kober, M.D.; decisions of Courts affecting labour, &c. [Washington: Government Printing

Courts affecting labour, &c. [Washington: Government Printing Office: pp. 380.]

New York Department of Labour Bulletin. No. 37. June, 1908.

Unemployment and wages in first quarter of 1908; trade unions, March, 1908; labour laws of 1908; children's wages in New York factories, 1908, &c. [Albany: J. B. Lyon Co., State Printers.]

Quarterly Publications of the American Statistical Association.

Vol. XI. June, 1908. Contains "Problems of Social Statistics and Social Research," by Frederick L. Hoffman; "Strike Statistics," by Ira Cross.

France.

France.

Journal of the French Labour Department, July, 1908. "Conseils de Prud'hommes" in 1905; employment and labour disputes in June. [Paris: Berger-Levrault et Cie.: price 2d.]

Higher Council of Labour. Proceedings of the 17th Session, November, 1907. [Paris: pp. xvi. + 220.]

Germany.

Journal of the German Labour Department, July, 1908. Unemployment in the second quarter of 1908; strikes and lock-outs in 1907.

Germany-(continued.)

August, 1908. Social-Democratic and Christian Trade Unions in 1907; employment in July. [Berlin: Carl Heymann: price 1d. each.]

each.]
Journal of the Statistical Office of Saxony. Part II., 1907. Housing statistics (Inquiry of December 1st, 1905), sickness insurance in Saxony up to 1906. [Dresden: Von Zahn & Jaensch.]
Strikes and Lock-outs in Germany in 1907. Imperial Statistical Office. [Berlin: Puttkammer & Mühlbrecht: pp. 92: price 2s.]
Sickness Insurance in Germany in 1906. Imperial Statistical Office.
[Berlin: Puttkammer & Mühlbrecht: pp. xxxiii. + 81: price

[Berlin: Puttkammer & Mühlbrecht: pp. xxxiii. + 81: price 2s. 6d.]

(1) Employers' Associations: their history, organisation and activity.
(2) The history and statistics of the Christian Trade Unions. The Workmen's Library. Parts 11 and 2. 1908. [München-Gladbach: Verlag der Westdeutschen Arbeiterzeitung: pp. 30 and 112 respectively: prices 2d. and 4d.

Statistical Yearbook of Wiesbaden, 1907 (first year). Municipal Statistical Office. [Wiesbaden: J. F. Bergmann: pp. 65.]

Report of the Miners' Insurance Association for 1907. Supplement to Der Kompass, No. 16, 1908. [Berlin N.W. 23: pp. 81.]

Statistics of Magdeburg, 1907. Statistics of employment, population and housing. Municipal Statistical Office. [Magdeburg: pp. 59.]

Statistical Handbook of Wurtemberg, 1906 and 1907. Statistics of employment registries, labour disputes, trade unions, co-operation, savings banks, workmen's insurance, prices, &c. Statistical Office of Wurtemberg, 1908. [Stuttgart: W. Kohlhammer: pp. 286.]

Austria.

Austria.

Journal of the Austrian Labour Department, June, 1908. Labour disputes in Austria in May, and in Hungary in 1906. [Vienna: A. Hölder: price 2d.]

Austria in 1906. Austrian Labour Department.

Labour Agreements in Austria in 1906. Austrian Labour Department 1908. [Vienna: A. Hölder: pp. vi. + 145.]

Overtime worked in Austrian Factories in 1907. Austrian Labour Department. [Vienna: A. Hölder: pp. 31.]

Italy.

Higher Council of Labour. Proceedings at Session XI., February, 1908. Italian Labour Department. [Rome: pp. 204.]

Journal of the Italian Labour Department, July, 1908. Statistics of chambers of labour (beginning of 1908). [Rome: Fratelli Treves: price 2d.]

Journal of the Belgian Labour Department, July 31st, 1908. Labour disputes in June. August 15th, 1908. Employment in July; prices of commodities on July 31st. [Brussels: F. Vanbuggenhoudt: price 1d. each.]

Price Id. each.]

Report for 1906 on Railway, Post, Telegraph, Telephone and Marine Services. Statistics of savings banks and accidents to railway servants. [Brussels: J. Goemaere, 21, rue de la Limite.]

Statistical Yearbook of Belgium. Statistics of industrial accidents, trade unions, friendly sccieties, workmen's dwellings, prices of meat, cereals, &c. Ministry of the Interior, 1908. [Brussels:

Holland. Journal of the Dutch Central Statistical Office, July, 1908. Factory inspection in 1905 and 1906, employment and labour disputes in June. [The Hague: Gebreeders Belinfante: price 2d.]

Census of Occupations of August 9th, 1905. Vol. I. Number of establishments and persons occupied. Part 8 (last). Summary for whole of Switzerland. Federal Statistical Office, 1908. [Berne: A. Francke: pp. 172 + 626: price 4s.]

Journal of the Swedish Labour Department, No. 5, 1908. Prices of articles of food in March, 1908. [Stockholm: P. A. Norstedt &

Labour Agreements in Sweden: (1) List of Agreements in force; (2) Selection of Texts of Agreements in Various Trades. [Stockholm: P. A. Norstedt & Söner: pp. 479.]

Journal of the Spanish Labour Department, July, 1908. Industrial accidents in 1907; employment registries and prices in March, 1908. [Madrid: Calle Mayor 93: price 2½d.]

Portugal.

Journal of the Portuguese Labour Department, No. 14, 1908.

[Lisbon: Imprensa Nacional.]

Labour Statistics: their history, nature and scope. Ministry of Public Works, 1908. [Santiago de Chile: pp. 66 + 14.]

Argentine Republic. Journal of the Labour Department of the Argentine Republic, June 30th, 1908. Cost of living and wages in Buenos Aires in 1908 and 1903. [Buenos Aires: price 1s. 9d.]

CONSULAR REPORTS.

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

Consular Reports. Annual Series. No. 4084. Trade of the Consular District of Frankfort for the year 1907. Cost of living, industrial census of June 12th, 1907, strikes, trade unions, syndicates, state of labour market, &c. [Cd. 3727-167: pp. 130: price 6½d.]

No. 4093. Trade, Commerce and Agriculture of the Consular District of Chicago, 1907. Statistics of industries, agricultural and industrial education, immigration, &c. [Cd. 3727-176: pp. 74: price 4d.]

[Cd. 3727-176: pp. 74: price 4d.]

the year 1907. Emigration, rents, &c. [Cd. 3727-162: pp. 25:

Consular Reports—(continued.)

Consular Reports—(continued.)

Consular Reports. Annual Series. No. 4089. Trade and Commerce of Denmark, 1907. Industries of towns, co-operative production and distribution, &c. [Cd. 3727-172: pp. 38: price 2½d.]

No. 4095. Trade and Commerce of Pomerania, 1907. Increased cost of living, old age and accident insurance, contributory pension scheme at Vulcan Works, Stettin, &c. [Cd. 3727-178: pp. 53: price 3d.]

No. 4097. Trade of South Italy (Supplementary), 1907. New law regulating work of women and children, workmen's compensation law, &c. [Cd. 3727-180: pp. 32: price 2d.]

INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED DURING AUGUST.

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

(1) REGISTERED.

THE total number of Industrial Unions and Societies registered in August was as follows:-Under the Trade Union Acts, 3; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 12; under the Friendly Societies Act, 40 (including 20 Branches); under the Building Societies Acts, 1; in all, 56.

Among the new Societies registered in August were the following:-

Trade Unions,—England.—2, viz., Street Traders' Brotherhood Trade Union, 36, Beresford Street, Woolwich; National Iron Ore Miners' Assoc., 22, High Street, Cleator Moor, S.O. Cumb. Scotland.—1., viz., Scottish Trades Union of Steam, Hydraulic and Electric Workers, 11, Stewart Street, Mossena. Ireland.

—Nil.

Industrial and Provident Societies. — England. — II, viz., Cooperative Productive Societies: (2) Tyme inwr Builders' Scc., Ltd., I, Ffaldau Villas, Victoria Street, Pontycymmer, Bridgend, Glamorgan; Portsmouth Printers, Ltd., 38, Middle Street, Southsea, Portsmouth. Co-operative Agricultural Society: (1) Pumpsaint and Dist. Agricultural Co.-op. Soc., Ltd., Taulan, Llansawel, Llandilo, S.O. Carm. Working Men's Clubs: (5) Sunderland East End Workmen's Social Club and Inst., Ltd., 166, High Street East, Sunderland; Catchgate Excelsior Club and Inst., Ltd., Club House, Front Street, Catchgate, Annfield Plain, S.O., Durham; Burnhope and Holmside Workmen's Club and Inst., Ltd., Club House, Peartree Cottage, Holmside Lane, Burnhope, Durham; Medomsley Pretoria Working Men's Club and Inst., Ltd., Pretoria Club House, Medomsley, S.O., co. Durham; Tantobie and Dist. Union Club and Inst., Ltd., Club House, Tantobie, S.O., co. Durham. Miscellaneous: (3) including 2 Small Holdings Societies). Scotland.—I, Miscellaneous. Ireland.—Nil.

Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—20, viz., Cleator Moor

S.O., co. Durham. Miscellaneous: (3) including 2 Small Holdings Societies). Scotland.—1, Miscellaneous. Ireland.—Nil.

Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—20, viz., Cleator Moor Working Men's Independent Club and Inst., Cleator Moor, S.O., Cumberland; Norman Workmen's Social Club, Old South Moor, Chester-le-Street; West Humberstone Working Men's Constitutional Club, Leicester; Mile End Reform Club and Inst., London, E.; Triers Cricket Working Men's Club, King's Norton, Birmingham; Adwick-le-Street and Carcroft Working Men's Club and Inst., Adwick-le-Street, Doncaster; Four Lane Ends Working Men's Club, Girlington, Bradford; Leicester Perseverance Allotments Soc., Leicester; Aspatria and Dist. Friendly Soc., Aspatria, S.O., Cumb.; Weardale Lead Company, Ltd., Miners' Union and Benefit Soc., St. John's Chapel, S.O. co. Durham; Basingstoke and Dist. Medical Aid Soc., Basingstoke; Musicians' General Sick Provident and Burial Soc., Rusholme, Manchester; Baltic Mercantile and Shipping Exchange Friendly Soc., London, E.C.; London and Suburban Mutual Benefit Assoc., London, W.C.; Pride and Peasedown Independent Friendly Soc., Peasedown, Camerton, Bath; Old Stone Cross Sick and Dividend Soc., Dale End, Birmingham; Porchester Musicians' Sick and Dividend Soc., Aston, Birmingham; Forge Tavern Sick and Dividend Soc., Birmingham; Cinder Bank Sick and Funeral Soc., Netherton, Dudley; Rose of Airedale Peaceful Dove Friendly Soc., Bingley. Scotland.—Nil. Ireland.—Nil.

(2) SOCIETIES AND UNIONS CEASING TO EXIST.

	Notices Receiv		
	Commence- ment of Dissolution or Winding-up.	Termination of Dissolution or Winding-up.	Registry Cancelled.
Trade Unions Industrial and Provident Societies		4 as	To a T
Friendly Societies Building Branches	125.00	13 27	A

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